



Weekly Newsletter
24th February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust that you had an enjoyable February half term. The children have been telling me about all the exciting activities they took part in and the fun things that they did. Thank you to all of the children and families that attended the Masquerade disco. It was lovely to see all of the masks on display and the effort everyone went to. Thank you to the PFA for organising the event.

This week we introduced our new Behaviours for Learning expectations to the children and linked it with our value of the week, Responsibility. The children were very excited about taking an even greater role in being ready to learn and the fact that staff will be acknowledging this in our weekly Celebration Assemblies.

Our Behaviours for Learning are:

- Listening to learn
- Being kind and polite and showing good manners
- Being equipped to learn
- Putting in 100% effort

Our new style Celebration Assemblies will begin on Friday 3rd March at 9:05am. Parents and family members are warmly invited to attend. If your child is to receive an award, we will contact you so that you have the opportunity to join us in our celebrations, but remember to keep it a surprise! Children will also have the opportunity to bring in awards and certificates to share what they have been doing outside of school.

Next week is World Book Day (Thursday 2nd March). Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character and bring in their favourite book. The theme for all classes for the day will be books!

This term promises to be another busy affair and details of the class topics and themes are detailed below.

I wish you an enjoyable week.

Thank you,

Kerry Whitham

Diary Dates

March

Thursday 2nd – World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite character and bring in your favourite book

Friday 3rd – 9:05am - Celebration Assembly – parents welcome

Monday 6th – 3pm - Y2 SATs briefing for parents

Thursday 9th - 3pm – Y6 SATs briefing for parents

Friday 10th – 9:05am - Celebration Assembly – parents welcome

Friday 17th – 9:05am - Celebration Assembly – parents welcome

Wednesday 22nd – 3:40pm – 6:30pm – Parents' consultation evening (more details to follow)

Friday 24th – Red Nose Day – Non-uniform day – 'Wear something red' - £1 donation

Friday 24th – 9:05am - Celebration Assembly – parents welcome

Friday 31st – 9:05am - Celebration Assembly – parents welcome

Friday 31st – End of term 4 – school closes at 3:30pm

April

Tuesday 18th – start of term 5 – school reopens for children and staff

Messages from the School Office

School Office - Please note that the school office and telephone is staffed between 8.45am and 3.45pm. An answerphone service operates outside these hours. If your child is ill or unable to attend school, then please let Mrs Blackburn know by 9:30am.

Leave of absence - If you need to take your child out of school (other than medical appointments), please complete a Leave of Absence Form (available from the school office). If the absence request is for a holiday, evidence of it being an 'exceptional circumstance' **must be submitted with the request**. Please return forms with a minimum of six weeks notice.

Appointments – If your child needs to attend an appointment for doctor, dentist, opticians or hospital during school time – I would be grateful if you could bring in the appointment card/letter.

Class themes and topics for Term 4

Class 1

This half-term Class One's topic is 'Down on Kelsey Farm.' We shall be looking at Oliver's Vegetables, The Hungry Caterpillar, Little Red Hen, A Squash and a Squeeze, Supertato and Jack and the Beanstalk. The children will also be learning about where fruit and vegetables come from and how they are grown, as well as about the daily life on a farm including all the different animals.

Year 1 and Year 2

We are focusing on all things Spring this half term. We will be looking at signs of Spring and the story of Jack and the Beanstalk linking this to as many areas of the curriculum as we can. We will be enjoying lots of themed days as there are many exciting events to look forward to – Pancake Day, World Book Day, Red Nose Day, Mother's Day and Easter. In our topic lessons, we will be continuing to look at animals and their habitats, food chains and bone structures. We will also be focusing on two different artists – Lowry and Kandinsky.

Class 3

This term, we will be finishing our topic about the U.K. before moving onto learning about the Anglo-Saxons. We are looking forward to learning about Anglo-Saxon kings, making swords and shields and creating our own jewellery. In maths, we will be learning about area and perimeter of shapes and continuing with our work on all 4 operations. In English, we have begun to create a comic strip about what the children did in the half term. We will be extending and improving sentences by adding on fronted adverbials and will be moving on to poetry for World Book Day.

Class 4

In English, Class 4 are considering spelling, punctuation and grammar in detail with a special emphasis on spelling rules or patterns, rather than lists of words. In Maths we are shifting their emphasis to problem-solving through word problems and choosing a method to solve problems at speed. In Science, Class 4 are going to be studying forces in motion and friction. In History we will be looking at the history of the British monarchy, and in RE, we continue to examine Christianity. Art sees the class studying fashion and design. And in Computing we will be looking at data handling. The PE coach is teaching the basics of netball. In German, the class will continue to learn basic words and simple grammar. Class 4 will also be studying Music and performance. Overall, for Year 6 there is an additional emphasis on SATs preparation and there will be a SATs booster club at lunchtimes from next week. Staff continue to offer homework support to all pupils at lunchtime on a Monday.

