BLAKENEY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO: 3
06.10.2023

We have lots happening and lots to look forward to at the moment. In school preparations are well underway for our Harvest Festival and the children are busy learning songs and poems. We also hope to have a performance from our newly formed choir who meet at lunchtime to practise - they are very dedicated!

If you are able, please could you send your child in to school with a donation (however small) for our Harvest collection? We are happy to store them at school until the 20th when we will hand them over to the church. The donations will be given to the Church for their Food Bank. The service at St Nicholas', begins at 2.00pm and will be followed by a scarecrow walk through the plantation. The children will be placed in mixed age groups and then charged with making a scarecrow of a famous person from literature, sport or History. It should be fun to see how many we can recognise!

Another event coming soon is our Firework display. Hindringham school are hosting the annual Federation Firework event onFriday 3rd November. Each school is holding a non-uniform day to collect prizes for the tombola stall. Non-uniform day at Blakeney will be on Thursday 19th October. Please could the children bring in a prize suitable for the stall and they can forgo their school uniform. It is always a fun event and we hope to see as many of you as possible. We have been told that parking will be at a premium so please lift-share if you can. The funds raised from this event go towards the Federation pantomime visit so all of the children benefit from this.

As the weather has turned, please could you remind the children to bring a coat to school? We will always try to get them over to the Plantation for breaks and it gets a little chillier under the canopy of the trees.

I am hoping for chilly but dry weather for the Blakeney Bonfire Night. The children are drawing and painting their entries for the annual competition and the winners will press the button to start the firework display and the bonfire. We have had some lovely entries!

It was lovely to see and talk to so many of you at Parent consultations. The children are lucky to have such support at home and it undoubtedly helps with their learning and success. Please don't wait until the next consultations to come in for a chat, we are always available and are here if you need us.

Have a lovely weekend.

Team Blakeney

Hedgehogs News



The weeks are passing by and we are nearly at the end of the first half term! We have been super busy learning lots related to our topic and also going on our first trip to Morston Quay. Despite it being a rather cloudy day, the children created some fantastic watercolour seascapes from the Morston Tower.
The children's artworks are proudly displayed on the corridor board so please do take a look when you're in school.



For the Harvest Festival we will be retelling a popular story with a 'twist'. **Your child will be given a part and may require a costume. We will be letting you know your child's part as soon as possible.**
We (Hoglets that attend on a Monday AM session and Hedgehogs) will be going pumpkin picking on Monday 30th October. If you haven't yet returned your consent form then please do so. Just a reminder that if you wish for your child to purchase a pumpkin we do ask that you send them in with the appropriate money – thank you.

Foundation Subjects

The children have been avid scientists this half term and have undertaken various investigations to explore the states of matter. Our most recent investigation explored liquid as a solid and the children had to melt ice within warm water. The children have learnt about the different particles within an atom for a solid, liquid and gas, showing a great understanding of this.
The children have been learning new notes in music with Miss Furnell and we look forward to our lessons each week. The children are getting to grips with the ocarina and can now play B, D and A.

English

Little Red Riding Hood was a very popular text choice and the children sequenced and retold the story extremely well. We have now moved onto a non-fiction text called The Big Book of the Blue where we are focusing on adjectives and description. We are writing our own riddles based on a sea creature and have enjoyed working with our friends to solve their riddles. In EYFS, the children have been developing their phonic knowledge and are able to write some recognisable letters. They have continued to practise writing their names and some children have already cracked this. Great stuff!

Maths

In EYFS, the children have moved onto learning the numbers 1, 2 and 3. They have been practising reading, writing and counting these numbers. They have enjoyed watching Numberblocks to assist their learning and are developing their confidence with counting. Our KS1 children have now finished place value and have moved onto addition and subtraction. The children have been exploring number bonds to 10 and above, recognising the pattern within fact families and representing these using part-whole models.

Hoglets

The children in Hoglets are now used to the daily routine and they all come in smiling and happy! They are enjoying socialising with their friends and engage well with the older children too. They are joining the Hedgehogs for some carpet sessions and are sitting for a good period of time, listening carefully.

Each child has their own personalised learning plan with targets on and the children are working hard to achieve these. Children are becoming more confident with toileting, their fine motor skills are developing and some children can now write the initial sound of their name. We have been practising counting 1, 2 and 3 and have enjoyed singing nursery rhymes and songs to assist our learning.



Some of our Hoglets attended their very first school trip to Morston to paint their seascapes with the Hedgehogs. They behaved impeccably and enjoyed learning at a new setting.

After October half term the children will begin **Foundations for Phonics** *sessions. Further information regarding this can be found on Class Dojo.*

Samphire News

This week, the NSPCC visited upper KS2 to give a talk on Safety and to present an assembly to Years 3 and 4. The children listened carefully, engaged with the discussion and were welcoming to our guests. I was incredibly proud of the maturity they displayed while discussing some sensitive topics.

We have all been busy preparing for our French breakfast and I will apologise if all of the children are singing the French nursery rhyme at home - I have been told that it can become quite repetitive! If you are unable to make it on Thursday 12th October at 8.50am, please send a family friend or other family member along. The children are working so hard and will appreciate the audience to go along with their pain au chocolat.

Alongside this curriculum enhancement, normal lessons remain our focus. In Maths, we are all now learning calculation methods and consolidating our skills with word problems and missing number questions. The children have been reminded to use inverse operations to check answers.

In English, Years 3 and 4 are reading Leon and the Place Between and have been writing persuasive posters. Years 5 and 6 are currently typing up their newspaper reports. There is a display of the children's writing up in the classroom, should you wish to pop in and see it.

In Science, we have been looking at how muscles work and trying new fruit and vegetables. I'm not sure how much of a success "purple week" was but I can safely say that Beetroot is an acquired taste among Samphire class! I feel next week will be an orange or yellow week - prepare yourselves Samphire Class!

Samphire News (continued)

Our theme of Healthy Body, Healthy Mind continues and next Wednesday we will go on a Mindful Walk. The children will be in PE kits and wearing outdoor trainers but please remind them to bring in a coat.

PTFA News

The Blakeney Parish Council have kindly given us a generous opportunity to fund raise for our school by allocating us space to run a Tombola stall at the Blakeney Fireworks night on Sat 21st Oct. This is a really fun night where most of our local youngsters watch the display from Mariners Hill and the Quay is usually jam packed with locals and visitors. We would be super grateful if you would ask your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues if they might like to consider donating tombola prizes (we are aiming for 100 items!) such as: foods, alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages, tidy unused gifts, little toys, confectionary, toiletries etc. Please place your donations in the box marked 'Tombola' next to school reception or pass them to myself or other PTFA members.
We also need helpers on the night to cover 30 mins slots - this can be a mixture of adults, Samphire students and ex Blakeney students and family from 5 pm to 8pm. Please contact me, Michala (07770243397), if you would like to join our jolly team on the night to show how much we love our school.



October

Tues 10th	3.30pm	PTFA Meeting (in school)
Weds 11th		Samphire Mindfulness Walk
Thurs 12th	8.50am	Samphire Class French Breakfast
Tues 17th	9.30am	Y6 Crucial Crew Event @ Gresham's
Thurs 19th		Mufti Day for Fireworks and Tombola Prizes
Fri 20th	2.00pm	Harvest Service @ St Nicholas Church (followed by Scarecrow Walk)
	3.15pm	Break up for Half Term
Sat 21st		Blakeney Fireworks on The Pastures
Mon 30th	8.45am	Back to school
	9.30am	Hedgehogs Class Pumpkin Picking

November

Fri 3rd	10.40am	Y5/Y6 Swimming @ Greshams
	2.00pm	Reading Café - Fireworks Topic
	5.30pm - 7pm	Federation Fireworks @ Hindringham
Wed 8th	9.00am	2024 Reception Open Morning
Tues 14th	9.00am	Tempest Individual Photographs
Weds 15th - Fri 17th		Y6 Residential @ Norfolk Lakes
Fri 17th		Children in Need Day
Thurs 23rd	9.30am	KS2 Fed Sports Morning @ Hindringham