BLAKENEY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO: 7
January 2024

Welcome back - and if we are yet to see you - Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and a good break with family and friends. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and these past 2 days have shown us that they have settled back into the swing of things brilliantly.

We have several more events planned for this month and there are the day to day activities which all feed into our busy curriculum. With such an exciting term ahead of us please do keep up to date by regularly checking the "dates" section of our monthly newsletters and Class Dojo. If you have any queries at all - please get in touch. We have an "open door" policy so you are welcome to pop in and see us at any time.

Each class has different homework requirements for the children but reading at home is required of all children in the school. The more our children read, the better readers they will be and the better writers they become. I know that we all want the children to be successful in their academic careers and sharing books is the easiest way to support them. If you would like a book list of recommended texts please just contact Miss Collison or myself and we will happily supply one.

Collective Worship

Our whole school collective worships for the coming weeks will focus on our school values of Enthusiasm and Confidence. We will spend time thinking about what these words mean to us and how we can demonstrate this in our school and our lives. Children are invited to take part in collective worship, as much or as little as they like or their parents and carers are comfortable with. Our newly formed Collective Worship Council will lead our school worship for the first time on Thursday, January 11th and we are looking forward - with enthusiasm - to what they have planned! Initially, this is for pupils only but as they gain in confidence, it would be great to see them lead our whole school community worships too.

Team Blakeney

Hoglets & Hedgehogs

Happy New Year! The Hoglets and Hedgehogs Team hope that you have all had a wonderful festive period. As always, the Christmas holidays flew by and we are back at school ready for the Spring Term.

Hoglets & Hedgehogs (Continued)

We have lots planned for this term already as we begin our new theme of 'Superheroes and Holes'. We are looking forward to welcoming lots of visitors, as we discover real life superheroes and we will also be having a visit from the National , where they will be completing an immersive learning experience with the pupils. We also hope to continue to strengthen our relationships with those in the community, and we will be welcoming back the Reception children from Langham Village School and we will also be inviting Miss Ahmed and Class 1 over from Kelling.

English

To kickstart the term and our new learning theme, we will be exploring the text 'Supertato'. We will be creating wanted posters, inventing our own villains and writing our own adventure stories.

Maths

As we move into the Spring Term, each year group begins a new unit in mathematics. Our youngest children, in EYFS, will begin with the theme 'Alive in 5'. They will be introduced to the number zero, explore different ways to represent the numbers 0 to 5 and develop their confidence of conceptual number. Our Year 1 children will begin by exploring Place Value, developing their knowledge of numbers to twenty through ordering, comparing and estimating. The oldest children within Hedgehogs will begin learning about money. They will count money in pence and pounds, make the same amount with different combinations and find change.

Foundation Subjects

In RE, we will be focusing on the religion of Judaism studying the celebration of Passover. We will learn about Moses as a leader and discover the importance of this festival in the Jewish religion. Geography will be the focus for the first half of the Spring term, where we will complete mapwork and develop our map skills to locate caves across the world. In Science, we will be focusing on habitats, recognising how plants and animals are adapted to suit the places that they live in.

Important Reminders:

- It is an expectation that you hear your child read every day for at least five minutes and record this within their reading record. Reading records are checked **daily.**
- Children are expected to complete their homework and spellings. This enables your child to consolidate prior learning.
- Children need to bring a coat to school every day.
- PE days remain on a Monday and a Friday so please send your child to school in their PE kit on these days.
- Your child is required to bring a water bottle to school every day please.

Samphire News

Our literacy lessons have begun this term with our focus on texts related in some way to our learning theme of the Maya. Years 3 and 4 are studying explanation texts about the making of chocolate while Years 5 and 6 are reading a Mayan story based around the tale of a boy who must defeat the Rain God in a ball game to save his people from disaster.

Maths lessons begin with formal multiplication and division methods or learning to understand the ratio symbol (Y6). If your child is in Year 3 or 4, please use any spare moments to revise multiplication tables. These are so important to their understanding of other areas of Maths and they all children take the national multiplication test in Year 4.

Our theme of the Maya is history and geography based and unsurprisingly, will focus much of our learning on Central and South America. There is a wonderful free website (https://world-geography-games.com/) which enables to the children to test themselves on the location of the countries within the continent and their capital cities. After a few weeks and if you are feeling brave, you might like to challenge the children!

In RE, our big question is "Where do Christian religious beliefs come from?" We will look in detail at the parable of The Prodigal Son and look for links between the Old and New Testament.

In French we will begin our topic of talking and writing about our holidays and hobbies. This will involve being able to talk about the weather.

Homework and spellings will continue to be allocated on a Friday and is expected to be handed in by Thursday of the following week.



January

Fri 12th		Y3/Y4 Swimming recommences @ Greshams
Tues 16th	1.30pm	Federation Pantomime @ Blakeney Village Hall
Weds 17th	9am-10.45am	Bring Your Grown Up to School Day (Further details to follow)

February

Tues 13th	PM	Pancake Races on Friary Fields (All welcome)
Fri 16th	3.15pm	Break up for Half Term
Mon 26th	8.45pm	Back to School

March

Fri 1st	Y5/Y6 Swimming recommences @ Greshams
Mon 4th	Parents Evening (Miss Collison/Mrs Thoday)
Tues 5th	Parents Evening (Mrs Thoday)
Weds/Thurs 6th/7th	Y5/Y6 Bikeability
Thurs 7th	Parents Evening (Miss Collison/Mrs Thoday)