BLAKENEY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO: 10
April 2024

It seems strange to be breaking up so very close to Easter, after a very short but eventful half term. The season of Lent has seen all of the children out in the Plantation more often for breaks, Hedgehogs and Hoglets class in their outdoor area and the whole school on the treadmill. The children managed to walk over 40km and Ben assures me that the total distance walked was 40.2km. Well done everyone!

We are using the spring weather to tidy our playground. A wonderful team of PTFA volunteers have already painted the wooden fence and after Easter, when the metal railings have been fixed, we are also hoping to paint that too. The vegetable and flower beds will also be a wonderful addition to the top playground and a fitting tribute to Eddie Ray, who left the children a legacy in his will. I can't wait to see how many of the children have "green fingers."

The children have completed their NFER assessments, which are used by staff to assess progress and learning and most importantly, to highlight any gaps. We have used this data to inform our planning for next term. Please read the Samphire and Hedgehogs sections of the newsletter to find out the learning themes and intentions for your child's class. Often, there are conversations to be had with the children, books to read and places to visit which can all contribute to your child's understanding of the topic.

Collective Worship

The first of our themes for collective worship this half term is the school value of Kindness. We will be talking about how we show kindness to ourselves, others and to our planet. The quote from the Bible we are using as a basis for our worship is from **Ephisians, 4:32.**

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ - God forgave you."

Clubs

On Mondays after half term, Mrs Thoday will be running SAT's club for Year 6. All Y6 children will be expected to attend. This will begin at 3.15pm and finish at 4.00pm. After May half term, Monday will also be after-school club.

On Tuesdays, teachers will supervise an informal After School Club until 4.00pm. Crafts, Lego and Board Games will be on offer. After May half term this will be available Mondays and Tuesdays.

Football Club is also on offer on Tuesdays after school. Wednesday afternoons is Angel Voices Choir 3.15pm - 4.15pm.

Cooking Club will continue to run on Thursdays but is full until the end of Summer Term. We will be re-opening applications in the Autumn Term.

Thank you so much for supporting the school and your children's learning this last term. We are all very lucky to have such a supportive community around the children, holding them in our care. We hope that you and your family have a relaxing and joyful Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming you all back for the Summer term.

Happy Easter!

Team Blakeney

Hoglets & Hedgehogs



This term has been a busy one and the weeks have flown by! We have enjoyed our topic of 'Superheroes and Holes' and we have had the opportunity to welcome many visitors and attend many excursions. These have enabled us to learn first-hand and each experience has enhanced our learning and knowledge.

As we move into the Summer Term, it will no doubt be just as busy, but the sunshine should appear and the weather will enable us to get outside more. Our topic is 'Our Bodies, Growing Things and Life Cycles'. We will learn about personal hygiene and balanced diets, life cycles of humans and different animals, and will begin to plant different seeds and bulbs so that we can observe their growth.



We will be welcoming new children to Hoglets after Easter and we are very excited to have new families joining our wonderful school community.

English

The children enjoyed reading and listening to different Tales of Peter Rabbit. Our older children, finished by writing some imaginative fantasy stories which involved mythical creatures and settings. Our youngest children, have been working towards achieving their Literacy ELG, which involves writing a simple sentence using a capital letter and a full stop. Next term our first text is 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle, before we move onto 'Tadpole's Promise' by Jeanne Willis.

Maths

In EYFS, the children have been looking at patterns. They have focused on ABAB, AAB and ABC patterns, initially copying these, noticing them within the environment and recognising errors in patterns before moving onto creating their own. In Year 1, our children finished their last White Rose Maths unit, and they have been consolidating their learning. They have revised addition and subtraction to 20 and number lines to 50, making estimations as to where missing values belong. It has been full steam ahead for our Year 2 children, ready for their test period after the Easter holidays. They have begun the unit of fractions and are enjoying finding fractions of shapes and amounts.

Foundation Subjects



Our RE learning this half term has focused upon the story of Easter and the children had the opportunity to make hot cross buns. A very lengthy process we found, our patience being tested, but one that had a splendid outcome! In Science, we have looked at various different inventions and inventors learning about the works of Louis Pasteur, Alexander Graham Bell and talking about medicinal safety. Our Art sessions have been particularly enjoyable as we have used clay to sculpt. We have created our own sitting down statues in the style of Gormley and painted these to represent ourselves. You will find them on the shelf above the sink in our classroom, so please do take a look!

Samphire News

Our learning theme next term is World War II.

In English, Years 5 and 6 will be reading Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carrol. Their main writing task will involve writing a description of a London Street after a bombing raid. Other useful stories for the older children to read are: Once by Morris Gleitzman, When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr, Arctic Star by Tom Palmer and Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian. Years 3 and 4, will focus on reading The Lion and the Unicorn by Shirley Hughes. This will extend their knowledge of the period we are studying and also culminate in them writing their own story of evacuation. I can't wait to read them! Again, if you are visiting your local library, you might want to check out Tail End Charlie by Mick Manning (the story of a WW2 RAF Gunner) or Operation Banana by Tony Bradman.

In History, we will look at how the War began and the timeline of events which led to D-Day and the end of the War. Significant events such as food rationing, the Dig for Victory directive and the evacuation of children from cities will be studied.

In Maths, Year 3 will revise mass and capacity before joining Year 4 for lessons on time. Year 4 will continue with decimals, money and finally time with Year 3, while Year 5 move onto Shape and Direction. Year 6 will complete their final learning topic of angles and shape, before revising previous learning. I believe that the Y6 children are very well placed to take their SAT's exams later this term but I have given them some practice papers to complete over the holidays to maintain knowledge and skills. Please ensure that they complete these.

In Religious Studies, our big question takes on a philosophical theme. What do we mean by Truth? Is seeing believing? We will look at the concept of miracles and explore the Christian concept of God as Father and Creator. I look forward to some great discussions and know how much the children of Samphire Class love to debate!



March

Weds 27th	2.00pm	Easter Service @ St Nicholas Church
	3.15pm	Break up for the Easter Holidays

April

Mon 15th		Back to School
Weds 24th	AM	Tempest Class Photographs
Fri 26th		Federation Founding Day @ Walsingham
Mon 29th	9.00 - 10.00	Schools Mental Health Team Coffee Morning

May

Mon 13th - Thurs 16th		Y6 SATs Week
Tues 21st	PM	Y6 Steam Event at Greshams
Fri 24th	3.15pm	Break up for Half Term

June

Mon 3rd		Back to School