BLAKENEY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO: 6
February 2025

Happy February!

We have noticed that the extra daylight minutes are becoming more apparent and I think they will help us all to shake off any lingering bugs and illnesses so we can begin to feel better. We are going to herald these seasonal changes with a Snowdrop walk at Walsingham Abbey with Walsingham Primary School on Friday. We will be back for normal collection time but there will be no Celebration Worship that afternoon.

We would like to say a big thank-you to those grown-ups who were able to join us for lessons last week. It is so important to us that you feel welcome in school and for the children to realise that we work in partnership with you to help them learn.

If you were unable to make it to school last week, we hope that you are able to make it for parent consultations this week. If you are yet to arrange an appointment, please do not worry, we will do our very best to accommodate you with an appointment at a convenient day and time.

The children have been amazing in lessons, working hard and coping so very well when we had our recent SIAMS inspection. This report will be published soon and we hope to share the findings with you before half term.

There are a number of dates in the diary section to note. You are all invited to the Pancake races on Tuesday 4th March and there will of course be a grown-ups race if you would like to start practising?!

Team Blakeney

Hoglets & Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs and Hoglets have embarked on an exciting journey of outdoor learning, blending the natural world with their curriculum. From exploring the plantation's ecosystems to conducting practical experiments with soil samples, children have greatly enhanced their understanding of science and design technology. Each exploration not only sparked their curiosity but also provided a real context for applying the knowledge acquired in the classroom.

In recent weeks, Year 1 and 2 students have been conducting various science investigations in their outdoor classroom. They examined local flora and fauna, which not only connected to their science curriculum but also involved the use of DT skills in creating bug hotels from recycled materials. This hands-on approach has allowed them to understand scientific concepts while fostering their creativity and problem-solving abilities.

Hoglets & Hedgehogs

We have also been focusing on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. This challenging task has led to an impressive demonstration of resilience among the children. When faced with difficult problems, they encouraged each other, showcasing teamwork and a growth mindset. Their ability to tackle challenges reflects a positive attitude towards learning, illustrating how they are developing essential life skills.

In English, the children have delved into Anthony Browne's book, "Gorilla." The story captured their imaginations, and their subsequent writing has been phenomenal, boasting creativity and depth. Each child produced unique interpretations, demonstrating their understanding and personal connection to the text. This exercise not only improved their writing skills but also developed their ability to express emotions and thoughts articulately.

The children in Hedgehog class are settled and content within the classroom environment, which fosters a sense of safety and belonging. They are all thriving in both outdoor and indoor activities, confidently expressing their ideas and embracing new challenges.

Samphire News

The children in class have been so very busy with their learning. The standard of their writing and artwork is of particular note but our Design and Technology day last week showcased many other skills too. The children were sensible using the tools and showed real resilience when things didn't always work out the first time. The older children helped the younger ones and everyone managed to complete their catapults. Mrs James came in for the day especially to help with the technical aspects and Mrs Regis and I were very grateful for the additional help. With saws and hot glue guns employed, the extra adult was so welcome!

We were joined last week by Lizzie Henderson from the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. The children were welcoming, polite and asked some carefully considered and thoughtful questions. They spoke so eloquently about their RE learning with the Church Schools inspector last week and the visitor from the Institute was equally impressed. Not quite as impressed as the children were when Mrs Henderson (intentionally) set her hand on fire!

We are continuing with our Romans learning theme until the Easter holidays and much of our history and literacy learning is tied in with this. In Science, we delve into the work of Carl Linnaeus and in Geography we look at the effects of flooding and water pollution.

In our Maths lessons, Years 3 and 4 finish their multiplication and division lessons before a move onto the length and perimeter of 2D shapes. Years 5 and 6 make the jump from fractions to decimals and then also move onto area and perimeter.

Samphire News (continued)

In ICT, the children are looking at video production. They have already looked at different filming techniques and experimented using them on the chrome books.

In Music, we are playing the Steel Pans. If your child is going on the Steel Pans group visit to Suffolk, you will have already received a letter from myself.

I am looking forward to speaking with you all at Parent Consultations this week.



February

Weds 5th		Big Breakfast @ St Nicholas Church
Wed 5th/Thurs 6th/Fri 7th		Parent Consultations
Fri 7th	PM	Snowdrop Walk @ Walsingham (NO CELEBRATION WORSHIP)
Mon 10th/Tues 11th		Y5/Y6 Bikeability
Tues 11th	3.30pm	Messy Church @ St Nicholas Church
Fri 14th	3.15pm	Break up for half term
Mon 24th	8.45am	Back to school
	9.15am	Y5/Y6 Swimming @ Greshams Prep
Tues 25th	3.15pm	Football Club (Every Tuesday)
Wed 26th - Fri 28th		Y5 How Hill Residential (3 days)

March

Sat 1st	6.00pm	PTFA Quiz @ Blakeney Village Hall
Tues 4th	2.30pm	Pancake Races on Friary Fields
Thurs 6th		World Book Day
	9.20am	Reading Café (Book Swap)
Tues 11th	1.30pm	Y6 STEAM Event @Greshams Prep
Fri 14th		KS2 Firebird Concert @ Snape Maltings
Weds 19th	9.00am	Tempest Class Photographs
Fri 21st		RED NOSE DAY