



# Barford St. Peter's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

## Together we love; together we learn

### Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Final call for Curriculum Feedback!

This half term seems to have gone by in a flash! The children have continued to demonstrate a really impressive attitude towards their learning and have made some incredible progress. This half term we have been monitoring each curriculum subject through 'deep dives' where we have reviewed learning in books as well as talking to children to ascertain their views on their learning. They have all spoken so positively and enthusiastically about their learning and we immensely proud of them.

Please could we ask all parents to consider giving us feedback on our curriculum. To date we only have a handful of responses and we would really love to know what you as parents feel we are doing well and what would you feel could be improved. If you are able to spare a few minutes to complete the survey please use the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/9VqQBc10He>

Thank you for attending your child's parent meeting this week. I know the teachers have enjoyed sharing your child's progress with you. Please do remember to make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher at any time if you have any questions or concerns. We value the close working relationship we have with you as parents; thank you for your support.

#### It's a Boy!

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that baby Feldman has arrived! Wilfred Edward Feldman was born on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 19.15 weighing 6lbs 15oz. Both mum and baby are doing well. Our heartfelt congratulations to Mr and Mrs Feldman as they enjoy becoming a family of 4!

In collective worship this week we have been thinking about Shrove Tuesday traditions around the British Isles. We also talked about how Christians often choose to give up something for Lent. This year we would love children to get involved in taking up something instead – acts of kindness. Attached to this email are two separate ideas (one for KS1 and one for KS2) that you might like to start over half term and continue throughout lent. For KS1, this involves making a kindness jar with ideas to choose out of the jar each day. For KS2, children can choose an act of kindness each day and tick them off the list. I look forward to hearing about their kindness acts and have promised them rewards if they complete some!



I would like to wish you all a very happy Half Term and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

#### Year 2 Cake Sale

Thank you to year 2 for providing cakes for the cake sale on Friday which raised £175! This will be a huge help for us to buy much needed resources for the school.

Very best wishes,

Mrs M.A. Baker

## World Book Day

World Book Day this year will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. School council have been discussing what they would like to do to celebrate!

Children are welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. We will also be holding a book swap during the day. If you'd like to send in a book with your child that they no longer read, they can choose a new book to bring home and keep. More information to follow after half term.

## Volunteers for Clubs!



In school council sessions each class has been discussing which extra curricular activities they would like to have the opportunity to take part in at school. They came up with a comprehensive list which included gardening, knitting/ sewing, computing/ coding, craft, photography, science, well being, chess, drama and many different sports clubs too. We do not have enough adults in school to be able to run all of these clubs so children thought it would be a good idea to ask you as parents if you or anyone you know could spare one hour per week over a lunchtime to run any of these clubs? If you do, please contact the office [admin3587@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3587@welearn365.com) thank you.

## What we've been learning

### Reception

This week Reception have been learning all about Chinese New Year which is celebrated this weekend. This year is the Year of the Dragon and we have looked at the story to find out how the animals were chosen for each year. After we listened to the story, we answered questions and used our sounds to write our answers in sentences.

All the children have continued to work so hard with their phonics and we have been looking at double letters this week e.g. carrot, rabbit. We have been practising our letter formation and we wrote super sentences about the different animals in the story.

In our Maths we have been comparing the size of amounts, using the language of more than, greater than, less than and fewer than. The children have loved using the balancing scales to compare amounts and create equal groups.

We had great fun in PE creating our dragon dance for Chinese New Year. We used ribbons and scarves to create a sequence of movements. We have been thinking about the pitch and the tempo of the music, sang along and responded using different movements. As part of Art, we created Chinese dancing dragon puppets this week using folding techniques to make the body. We took the puppets to the hall to include them in our dance.

The children have been thoughtful when reflecting on our school value, 'Respect' and we have been thinking about ways we can show respect to others around us. As part of R.E. they designed their own prayer mat, with very thoughtful designs.

### Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been very busy. In maths we have been learning how to solve missing number problems. These are quite tricky. We are also finishing our work on addition and subtraction. We have been using part whole models to help us with our addition and subtraction.

In RE, we have been learning about the Jewish festival of 'Hanukkah'. We have been thinking about how Jewish people think about miracles during Hanukkah. We learnt about all the different things that are used in Hanukkah like a dreidel which is a spinning toy that they play with.

In English, we have been writing some rhyming poems about penguins! We have been writing about penguins because they are an important part of our topic 'The Polar Regions!' We have also been working on our reading comprehension skills.

In Geography, we have been learning about different directional languages; we had to use a map and find the different objects like a penguin and a whale.

In Computing, on Safer Internet Day, we learned all about how we can be safe online. It is important that we are nice and kind to each other every day but also online too.

## Year 2

In Maths, we have been learning how to multiply and divide by 10. This can be quite tricky and we have to really think about the place value of the numbers. We have also started multiplying by 5.

In English, we have been learning about poems and the features of poems. We have been thinking about and trying hard to use similes, alliteration and rhyming words. We wrote our own success criteria for what we think good poems will look like and then we wrote our very own poems about 'The Moon'. We published our poems with Mrs Horsman and made them look beautiful.

In Computing, we thought lots about online safety with Mrs Gourlay. We thought about how important it is to stay safe online and make sure that we are only using apps and games that are for children our age.

In Science, we have been learning about John McAdam and we created profile fact sheets on him, all about his work, his impact and his early life.

In RE, we have been thinking about special holy places and what makes a place special or holy. We looked at Mosques and how Muslims make the mosque a special, holy place of worship using prayer mats and making sure that they wash their hands and feet.

## Year 3

In year 3 our week started by seeing if we could make a penguin without any resources. We found out that we couldn't do that but that was how we sometimes felt in maths! Maths can be frustrating and tricky, so we looked at the steps of success and how sometimes when we were making the penguins or we are in maths lessons, we feel that we can't do it and that could be for many reasons (such as not having enough resources).

In English, we have been looking at a non-chronological reports about Chinese New Year. Chinese New Year takes place this weekend on Saturday! It signifies the beginning of Spring and so is sometimes called the Spring Festival.

In Science, we have been looking at reflections and shadows. A shadow is when a light source beams onto something and the object it is shining on to is stopping it from reaching where it wants to go and creates a shadow. If you put an object closer to the light source,

it creates a bigger shadow and when it is further away it creates a smaller shadow.

In PE, we have been developing our gymnastic skills with Miss Ruby. We have been practising different gymnastic skills like bridges, shoulder stands and the splits!

In computing, we thought about Safer Internet Day and how we can be safe online. We thought about and created some ideas for future technologies.

## Year 4

This week in maths we have been learning all about short division and the 'bus stop' method. We also practised the formal method for short multiplication. We then applied these methods to solve different problems.

In music we are making up our own song using the notes G and C to make a fanfare.

In English we have been making up sentences in one scene of 'The Lost Thing' by writing present sentences to past-tense sentences. We have also composed some descriptive writing based on a setting from our book. We have been working hard on our reading comprehension skills and how we can easily locate our answers in the text.

In RE, we have been very busy writing our new prayers for our new class prayer book. Our prayers could be about anything we wanted to, and we thought about what we would like to pray for.

In Computing, for Safer Internet Day, we got to play games all about internet safety, we thought about how we can be safer online. We also spoke about 'influencers' and thought about key terms and connecting vocabulary to their definitions.

We had an art day and learnt all about continuous line drawing, which means you cannot lift your pen off the paper when you draw an object of your choice! We used water crayons, water paints and wax pastels to do this.



## Year 5

This week in Year 5 we have been writing our own myths. Our myths have been inspired by our class text 'The Monster Slayer'. We have been thinking about heroes and heroines and creating our own mythical creatures.

We have been busy in maths, looking at our arithmetic skills and how we can independently apply the 4 operations to the multi-step word problems. We then went back through our arithmetic assessments to see if we had made any mistakes and see if we could spot them!

In Art, we explored 'tone'. We made different colours and had a go at mixing lighter and darker colours together to see how this affects them. We made 'swatches' that demonstrated our tone. We then explored the Bayeux Tapestry which is considered a primary source of evidence of how William the Conqueror became the King. It shows the battle of Hastings and the death of Harold Godwinson, we each chose a section to recreate.



In Computing, we explored search engines. We learnt about different search engines like google, bing and duck duck go! We learnt the difference between private search engines like duck duck go and search engines like google that withhold your information and recent searches to align and tailor the advertisements you see to your interests.

In science, we have been timing how fast the sugar dissolves into different temperatures.

In dance, we have been practising gymnastic moves and putting them into a sequence and sharing what we can do with our peers to celebrate our successes!

## Year 6

In Year Six this week we have been learning about percentages and angles in maths. We recalled the key angle facts, for example, there are 90 degrees in a right angle, there are 360 degrees around a point and there are 180 degrees on a straight line. We made connections between percentages and fractions, for example, 25% is the same as  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

In English we have been focusing on our book called Goodnight Mr Tom, we have been reading and discussing the best ways to describe this, using similes, metaphors and adjectives.

In Computing, we focussed on Safer Internet Day. We made an online safety poster. We also looked at our digital footprints. We drew around our own feet and thought about how we can have a good online reputation and leave a good footprint. We also thought about different technologies and how we can best use them safely. We also discussed how we can store and capture information, for example, through screenshots. In PE, we have been creating dances about our WW2 topic, thinking about the horror of WW2 and how we can reflect this through movements and dance, synchronised movements and being connected.

### FABS Easy Fundraising

Did you know FABS are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's completely FREE! and these donations really mount up, so please consider signing up to support FABS by downloading the free App and registering. We will also get £2 for every new registration before the end of February.

## Safer Internet Day



This week, our school has joined with a multitude of others across 170 countries to participate in Safer Internet Day. A key annual event for our school, this year's theme has been looking at how technology has changed through time and understanding how our lives have become more influenced by our use of technology.

The link below not only provides further information about Safer Internet Day, but also provides some very useful answers and guidance for parents and carers to common questions about their child's use of technology and the internet. Such topics include:

- Things change so fast online, it's hard to keep up with what my child is doing
- My child keeps asking to play a game or download an app that I don't know about - what can I do?
- My child is asking for a new device and I'm not sure they are ready for one.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers>

If you ever have any questions or concerns regarding online safety or your child's use of technology, please speak with me or any senior leader so we can provide further support and advice.

**Mr. Swards - Online Safety Lead**

### This Week's Prayer

"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If a person remains in me and I remain in him, then he produces much fruit. But without me he can do nothing."

John 15:5

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for this term and how we continue to learn and grow together. Provide us all with your blessing so we may continue to learn new things, develop new skills, and love each other more every day.

**Amen**

## Spring Term Dates 2024

Date & Time	Event
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 8.45am	Year 6 Class Assembly
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 8.45am	Year 5 Class Assembly
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 8.45am	Year 4 Class Assembly
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	FABs Disco
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 8.45am	Year 3 Class Assembly
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2pm	Easter Service @ St. Peter's Church
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Break the Rules Day End of Term

**Final INSET day this academic year is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April.**

### Family Service at St. Peter's Church

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February will be the family service at St. Peter's. It would be wonderful to see you there – all are welcome! Mr Swards will be giving a talk about his faith and how it has impacted his journey.

