



12th February 2020

## Pride Ambition Excellence Integrity Respect

### Note From Mrs Robinson

It has been a very busy half term in school and each Key Stage has detailed all the amazing things that have been happening in school for the children. The children have been earning many reward points for many aspects of development over the half term. Next half term we will be focusing on 'Excellence'. Please read about all that is planned for next half term too.

Over the next few months we will be developing our work as a nurture school. We have joined an organisation called Nurture UK and commenced our journey. We will be talking to the children and yourselves as stakeholders in looking at improvements so please help us make this a successful journey.

Thanks to all those attending the Parents Forum meetings so far. There have been some great discussions already and a really beneficial group to help drive school and standards forward. Please come along to the next meeting on Friday 13th March at 3.30pm if possible. There are refreshments and a great chance to meet other parents and carers.

A few notices : Please ensure uniforms are to the highest standard at all times. We talk about being smart and having pride in our appearance often in school. Also a plea to drivers to school - a number of vehicles are using the area at the school gates to reverse and turn vehicles. This is very dangerous. Please set off a little earlier and allow time to park a little further away to ensure everyone's safety. Attendance and punctuality really do make a difference to children's learning and attainment. Please ensure children are in school every day and on time . We have a top class award every week now and the children are striving hard to be that top class!

Finally, have a wonderful school break and we look forward to seeing everyone at 8.45am on Monday 24th February. Enjoy your family time!

### Whole School Attendance Overall is 94.2%

Nursery - 88.7%

RB - 95.4%    RG - 95.4%

1B - 96.0%    1G - 95.7%

2B - 94.7%    2G - 95.5%

3B - 93.6%    3G - 94.4%

4B - 94.9%    4G - 95.0%

5B - 94.5%    5G - 91.9%

6B - 90.4%    6G - 94.7%



**Well Done to 1B for the highest attendance this half term.**

**Congratulations to those children who had 100%**

Class Charts has been in use for our KS2 children for a number of weeks now, informing parents on their child's behaviour each day.

There are however still many parents not yet signed up. Below is a run down of the number of parents engaging with our new system.

3B - 11 parent accounts

4B - 18 parent accounts

3G - 26 parent accounts

4G - 10 parent accounts

5B - 14 parent accounts

6B - 13 parent accounts

5G - 13 parent accounts

6G - 16 parent accounts



**Well Done to 3G for the highest parent uptake**

If you have not yet signed up to the app please ensure you get your parent log in code from your class teacher and log in to Class Charts at <https://www.classcharts.com/account/login/share>

### Spring Term

10/2/20 School Alive Evening Performance

11/2/20 Year 2 - parents SATS meeting 2.45-3.30pm

13/2/20 Reception - parent craft afternoon 2.00 3.00pm

**14/2/20 School closes for half term - normal time 3.15pm**

**24/2/20 School opens**

24/2/20 Year 3 -trip to The Bee Centre

2/3/20 Whole school class photos

4/3/20 Year 6 -trip to Blackpool Zoo

5/3/20 World Book Day

5/3/20 Year 5 -Taming of the Shrew performance at the Grand Theatre

11/3/20 Year 6 - trip to Blackpool Zoo

16/3/20 School of Dance Evening Performance

1/4/20 Year 4 Easter Production

2/4/20 Year 1 Easter Production

**3/4/20 School closes for half term - 2pm close**



### Spring Term 2 clubs

Monday 3.30-4.15

Colouring Club Y1/Y2

Craft Club Y3/ Y4

Games Club Y1/ Y2

Tuesday 3.30-4.15

Choir KS2

Games KS2

Science Y1/Y2

Wednesday 3.30-4.15

Jewellery Making Y6

Needle work KS2

Thursday 3.30-4.15

Cookery Club Y5

Judo KS1

Art KS1

### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Friday 3.30-4.15

Lego Y3

**\*\*\*New \*\*\***

**Y2 and Y6 SATS Booster Clubs will also be running in Spring 2 - Please see separate letters for details.**

**Y5/Y6 football with Mr. Kenny - more details to follow**



# Gateway Gazette



## Teaching and Learning News

### EYFS — Nursery and Reception

#### Nursery

We started this half term with watching an exciting performance of Snow White. Then we had a whole week dedicated to maths. We learned about 2D and 3D shapes and also used technology to help us.

This term we have started our Read Write Inc learning - we are learning letter sounds and trying to find items with that initial sound.

We have enjoyed investigating and learning about Chinese New Year - we have learnt dragon dancing and enjoyed lots of tasty Chinese food, we even used chopsticks!

Finally Nursery have been enjoying Supertato - look at our fabulous creations!



In Spring 2 we look forward to even more exciting learning including looking after chicks and learning about Easter.

#### Reception

This half term we have had an amazing time learning all about 'Castles and Dragons'. We all enjoyed the Snow White Performance and we spent lots of time acting out the story back in our classrooms.

Next a mysterious egg appeared in our classroom, we had to ask lots of questions and we found out that a dragon had laid it there to keep it safe. We have been learning to write in sentences using a full stop and a capital letter.

We then began experimenting mixing colours, we looked at how the colour from sweets came off in milk, used coloured plastic to make new colours and made lots of new paint colours too!

To end our Spring 1 half term Reception celebrated Chinese New Year. We learned how to find China on Google maps by using the search button and using a globe. We also enjoyed making dragons, making up our own dragon dances and tasted lots of Chinese food. We all had a fortune cookie and wrote good luck messages in Chinese too. We even found time to make and fly kites on a windy day!



### KS1 — Year 1 and Year 2

#### Year 1

We really enjoyed watching Snow White at the start of the term and we were able to write a short recount of the fairy tale. Year 1 have really enjoyed learning about Space and we are now able to discuss and write about space stations, stars, meteors and planets. We also looked at some of the most famous astronauts.

Next half term we will be looking at how transport has changed over the years. Our main focus will be around our phonics so please read daily and practise with your children at home.



#### Year 2

Year 2 have had a very exciting half term in Spring 1. We loved watching the Snow White pantomime and managed to write about the different characters through our English lessons. We have also enjoyed learning about castles this half term. We have been looking at some of the first castles ever built in the UK and have even explored some of them using our schools virtual reality kit.



Next half term we will be learning about significant explorers and events from the past. We will look in particular at Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus.

Reading is a whole-school focus for us this year and it is essential for your child to be able to read for pleasure both in school and at home. Please ensure your child is reading a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction and talk to your child about their reading. Remember to keep logging in to your Oxford Reading Buddy. **Please also remember write a comment in their reading record to let us know how they are getting on with their reading with you at home!**

**SATS - Please remember to use your Parents SATS Packs given out at the Parents SATS meeting.**

Useful websites for fun learning activities include:

[www.transum.org/Tables/Times\\_Tables.asp](http://www.transum.org/Tables/Times_Tables.asp)

[www.coolmath4kids.com/](http://www.coolmath4kids.com/)

[www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/math/](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/math/)

[www.maths-games.org/](http://www.maths-games.org/)

[www.mathsisfun.com/games/index.html](http://www.mathsisfun.com/games/index.html)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/math/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/math/)

<https://www.oxfordreadingbuddy.com>



### Lower KS2 — Year 3 and Year 4

#### Year 3

In Year 3, we have learned all about the Stone Age: writing diaries; creating mammoths and cave paintings! The children have also enjoyed investigating plants, observing them grow and finding out about the different parts of a plant.

Next half term, in Year 3, we will be writing some exciting stories based on Eric Appleby: Zero to Hero. In Science, we will be continuing our plant topic which includes a fun-filled day at The Bee Centre at Samlesbury Hall. In Geography, we will be exploring why Greece has always been in the news.

As an extra task during the holidays and to impress us when you return, it would be great to see some posters designed to show off any learning/research done at home on these topics!

#### Year 4

This term in Year 4, we have loved learning about 'Polar Regions' and how to make bread. The children have shown great enthusiasm when planning and writing a detailed non chronological report on their chosen polar animal too. In Science, the children have been learning about 'States of Matter' and we ended this topic by experimenting how different solutions affect the time taken for ice to melt.

Next term, Year 4 are going to be learning about London and the importance of the River Thames. Our Science and DT will be based around music and how sound travels through the air to reach our ears.

To support your child with their learning, they should research London and make a factual poster about this brilliant city.

Websites to access for Reading:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Websites to support times tables:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<http://www.teachingtables.co.uk/>

### Upper KS2 — Year 5 and Year 6

#### Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy half-term learning about Forces in Science and Rivers in Geography. They have enjoyed reading How to Train your Dragon and have produced some lovely writing from this.

Next half-term the children will be investigating the properties of different materials in Science. They will also be heading back to the rainforest to build on their knowledge from year 4 and considering how important the rainforest is to our planet. They are also looking forward to a trip to Bring Yer Wellies where they will do some preparation learning for their Ancient Egyptian topic in the Summer Term.

This is a great website for reading and learning more about the subjects your child is covering in school!

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

Over the holidays, please encourage your child to use TTRockstars and Reading Buddy daily. This will help build fluency!

#### Year 6

Thank you to all those parents who came to the SATs Survival meeting and Parent's Evening. It was lovely to see so many of you there and see the support you are willing to give your child. Please see a member of the Year 6 Team if you have any concerns about the forthcoming tests.

Year 6 enjoyed a welcome rest from the SATs prep as they visited the Imperial War Museum. We had a great day and learnt lots about WW1 and WW2! The children were a credit to you throughout the day.



In Science, we have been learning about electricity and investigating what makes a bulb brighter and whether the length of the wire affects brightness. We have also been busy designing and building our own Anderson Shelters and are hoping to complete these soon!

Over the holidays, please encourage your child to use TTRockstars and Reading Buddy daily as well as the revision books they have been given! Don't forget to set a revision timetable to structure learning times with play breaks too - all revision will help ensure your child feels confident in their learning over the next few weeks.

Next half-term we will be learning about Evolution in Science; we will be visiting Blackpool Zoo to find out how animals are adapted to their surroundings and how they have evolved over time. We will be continuing with the War for our History looking at The Blitz, rationing and the Homefront. This will also be combined with lots of preparation work for SATs!

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<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>