



Packington

Church of England Primary School

November 2014

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

Well the darker months are now upon us but everything is bright and cheerful in school. The children are busy rehearsing their plays for parents and it won't be long before the stage goes up and costumes start to appear. I've been really proud of the friendly and polite way pupils are welcoming visitors in and around school, particularly impressing a group of head teachers when they came to visit. I would also like to thank parents for your support towards all our special events and fund raising activities this month – it has been very much appreciated.

Please do enjoy reading our news!

NEWS HEADLINES

***ARTIST VISIT** ~ Artist, Peter Massey visited school to work with pupils to make a Roman style mosaic for the floor of the Jubilee Wood Visitors Centre which will be built in the Spring.

***PALS THEATRE GROUP VISIT** ~ This year we are pleased to welcome a new theatre group into school. The group will visit on 2nd Dec to perform Dick Whittington. Please look out for further details as we are just arranging timings and the event may run over/ finish very close to the end of the day.

***ST JOHN'S FIRST AID TRAINING** ~ All pupils in KS2 will take part in First Aid training delivered by St John's Ambulance Service. The training will cover how to do a primary survey, the recovery position and how to deal with scalds and bleeding. This activity forms part of our work to provide pupils with the skills to help them be courageous in emergency situations.

***EAGLES TO VISIT TESCO** ~ The Eagles will take part in a Farm to Fork workshop at the Tesco store in Ashby thanks to the PSA who have helped organise the event..

***HOUSE NEWS** ~ The winners of our first half terms 'House' competition were Normanton and Mill. Staff will now arrange a reward in House time.

Air Ambulance Service Visit

Sophie from the Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Rutland Air Ambulance Service visited school and enthralled pupils with her talk about the courageous work that they do. Our Head Boy and Girl presented Sophie with a cheque from our Harvest Festival fund raising on behalf of the school.

Children in Need

It was great to have a whole school full of 'courageous characters' all putting in a great effort to raise money for Children in Need. And thanks to your donations, the sponsored silence by Alice, Maddy, Daisy, Georgie and Katie, as well as Mrs Braithwaite's cake sale, we raised a fantastic £233. Well done you marvellous people! Congratulations also go to Sophie Meadows who was the winner of our talent show with her rib tickling comedy routine.



'An Awesome Art Gallery'

Our exhibition of courage art work was a great success with a high turnout of visitors. The pupils certainly enjoyed sharing their work with each other and their parents, and our exhibition guides did a great job explaining the stimulus for the art. We will now organise the art into a permanent display in school so there will still be a chance to view the work.



"Some thought provoking work. Well done!"

"Your artwork is very impressive. It shows careful consideration of so many topics. It shows a great deal of creativity. Well done everyone, you should be proud!"

"What a lovely display of artwork."

Sainsbury's Silver Sports Award

Following a verification process we are pleased to announce that the school has been awarded with a silver kite mark for the quality and quantity of our sports provision. Mr Emery was also praised for his commitment, organisation and communication with the Sports Partnership.



Remembering the Fallen

It was a poignant week in school as we commemorated the 100 years since the start of the First World War and remembered the fallen. Every child in school made a poppy to help them remember the courage of those who lost their lives and these are on display in the entrance hall. During the week we encouraged the pupils to think about how the Bible encourages us to forgive and the courage that is needed for forgiveness and reconciliation. At 11 am on the 11th November we listened to the last post and held a two minutes silence. Please do pop in to look at our poppy display.

Posada

This year our Year 2 pupils have been asked to participate in Posada. This is when Mary and Joseph go on a journey and visit different homes before returning to the church. Mary and Joseph will start their journey on 1st December and each day the pupils will pass them on to another pupil in worship time. Mary and Joseph will return to the church at the Carol Service.



TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE – with Jesus as our guiding light!

CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

After a long wait we finally got to host our own Unity Cross Country event. It was a perfect day, the weather remained dry and we had over 400 pupils running from thirteen schools. The day was a great success thanks to the combined efforts of school staff, the PSA, parents and villagers and our visitors commented on the smooth running of the event, the interesting course and the refreshments. The best news was the number of runners we had from Packington so well done to all who took part. We would like to thank you all for helping to make the Packington event a friendly and welcoming success. We would especially like to thank Chris Miles for his hard work in setting up the spectator area and Mr Plant and Mr and Mrs Page for letting us use their land.

Finally we would like to say congratulation to all our runners especially Iona Dring, Harrison Eaton and Ania Tebbett who all achieved second place in their respective races.



Club Activ8 Scheme

Can I remind you all about the Club Activ8 scheme that school funds for pupils. This is a scheme where pupils collect points for undertaking P.E lessons, participating in school sporting clubs, workshops and competitions. As **all** pupils take part in P.E at Packington they quickly accumulate points which can then be "spent" on activities at three of our local leisure centres (Hood Park, Hermitage and Measham).

As an example children can swap points for a free swimming session (2 hours of P.E in lesson times = 23 points and 1 swimming session costs 23 points). All points collected in one term can be spent over the next term eg points collected in autumn are valid to be spent in the spring term up to the end of the Easter holidays.

As a school we hope this will help many families access our local sporting facilities and encourage healthy lifestyles for our children.

It's easy to join the scheme – just go along to the leisure centre to sign up.

WEBSITE - Please do remember to take a look at our website as we have lots of new photos on there from this terms events in school.

Forest Way – Heath Check

I'm pleased to report that our annual heath check with the teaching school alliance went well. The assessor analysed school data, observed lessons and examined books. We now await our written report.

Christingle – Come and light up the Church!

We are delighted to hear that Bishop Tim will attend this year's Christingle Service on 7th December at Holy Rood Church. The pupils have been asked to sing at the service and Mrs Rogers will be teaching the children the songs over the next few weeks. It will be great if we can put on a good show for the Bishop so please do save the date and come along to the service and the mince pie and mulled wine get together at the school afterwards.

Parking and Voluntary One Way

Could I please remind parents to drive with caution when dropping children off at school. Remember the one way system is voluntary so do be aware of traffic coming towards you as well as pupils walking to school.

Also please be considerate when parking. I especially ask you to park so our neighbours can get out of their drives easily and are able to see if pupils are in the road. I also ask you to be mindful about parking at the very end of Mill Street on the corner as this is a dangerous spot and I am concerned that an accident could happen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- W/c 17th Nov ~ National Anti-bullying Week
Visit by Artist Peter Massey
- 21st Nov ~ Tree Planting Workshop for the eagles
Anti-bullying Achievement Assembly
- 27th Nov ~ Open the Book Visit
- 2nd Dec ~ PALS Theatre Group visit to perform Dick Whittington
- 3rd Dec ~ Eagles Class Assembly 9.15 am
- 4th Dec ~ Rev Vivien visits / Yr 1 Christmas Festivals Workshop
- 5th Dec ~ Christmas Jumper Day/ Christingle Making/
Christmas Creative Time

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

- 6th Dec ~ Cross Country at Viscount Beaumonts
 - 7th Dec ~ Christingle Service in Church- 4pm
 - 10th/11th Dec ~ KS2 Christmas Concert
 - 11th Dec ~ Christmas lunch
 - 12th Dec ~ Christmas Party
 - 15th Dec ~ Christmas Experience Visit Yr 2
 - 16th/17th Dec ~ KSI Nativity
 - 17th Dec ~ St John's First Aid Training for KS2
 - 18th Dec ~ Whole School visit to the Pantomime
 - 19th Dec ~ Carol Service in Church/ End of Term
- The spring term starts on Tuesday 6th January 2015 for pupils.**



Christmas 'Jumper' Day

Friday 5th December is Christmas jumper day in school. Pupils can wear their Christmas jumper (or any Christmassy clothing if they haven't got one) for the donation of a bar of chocolate for the chocolate tombola at the **Christmas Fayre**.

We would like to say well done and thank you to John, our lollipop man, for running the Nottingham Half Marathon and raising £260 for the school .

CHURCH INSPECTION

THE SCHOOL WILL HAVE ITS CHURCH INSPECTION ON THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER.

The inspection will look at our effectiveness as a Church of England Primary School and will assess the school on how well, through our distinctive Christian character, we meet the needs of all our pupils.

It will also look at the impact of collective worship on the school community and the effectiveness of RE teaching and leadership and management.

An inspection report will be sent to all parents in due course– this is likely to be in a few weeks time, but we will keep you up to date with information as we know it.

Please remember we have an open door policy so should you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher or myself. You can contact us either in school, by phone (01530 412425) or e-mail (headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk). Remember if you are coming into school please report to the school office.