



Packington

Church of England Primary School

October 2017

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

Well the trees are now turning into wonderful colours and the nights are drawing in. We've all enjoyed watching our friendly squirrel and his acrobatic exploits as he prepares for the winter. This first half term really has gone so fast and it certainly has been busy.

So please have a happy break and do enjoy reading our news.

Harvest Festival

Many thanks for all your support with our Harvest Festival. The quantity and range of donations for the Harvest Hampers was truly fantastic and then on top of that everyone dug deep into their pockets in these difficult times to buy raffle tickets. As a result, we have raised a marvellous **£190** to give to Cancer Research.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Our Year of Hope has had a great start with a Macmillan Coffee morning that exceeded our wildest expectations. Our aim was to give some hope for those suffering the effects of cancer. However, we were simply amazed by the support we received. There were cakes galore and so many visitors from parents, grandparents to local residents. We were especially delighted that Mrs Swindell's daughter popped in for a chat and a coffee and she was delighted that we had dedicated the event to her mum. The pupils rose to the challenge to welcome our guests and ensure that they were all well looked after. Our team of receptionists signed them in, whilst our waiters and waitresses took the orders. It was great to see our young people showing such confidence, taking their jobs so seriously. The school hall seemed constantly full and a hive of activity. So thank you everybody for your support and generosity. We can't thank you enough, the **£750.66** we raised was fantastic!



STONE AGE WORKSHOP

The Owls had a super session working with one of the Education Library Services museum educators on a Stone Age Workshop. There were some budding archaeologists showing super observational skills.



NEWS HEADLINES

***FOCUS GROUP** ~ Ceriann, our church worker, has met with pupils to find out the kind of activities that they would like to do with her. She was impressed with their ideas and is currently putting together her plans for a lunchtime club that will start after half term.

*** PARENT SURVEYS** ~ The Governors have asked me to thank you for taking the time to fill in their annual questionnaire which was handed out at our parent evenings. As we have had to postpone and re-arrange one of the evenings for the Eagles, the governors have decided that they will analyse returns once all the parent evenings are complete. They will write back to you in due course with their response.

***OUR YEAR OF HOPE** ~ The power point presentation introducing our Year of hope is now on the school website.

***UNITY TRIAD SCHOOL TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT WORK** – Head Teachers within the Unity Learning Partnership regularly work together on collaborative projects. Over the last few years we have worked in triads to visit one another's schools to carry out school improvement work. On the 18th October we welcome heads and senior staff from Woodcote and Viscount Beaumonts who will help us in reviewing opportunities for challenge in classrooms.

***FOREST WAY HEALTH CHECK** ~ At the start of November, Christine Tarpey, an external consultant employed by FWTS, will visit the school to carry out our annual health check. During the visit she will review school data, observe lessons and look at books.

Packington Cross Country is on 4th November – first race 10.30 am sharp.

CONKERS VISIT

The Owls will visit Conkers on 9th November to continue their exciting topic work with a hands on Stone Age day.

YEAR 6 INTERVIEWS

Mr Emery and myself have started to carry out our first round of pupil interviews with our Year 6 pupils. We do this each year to help prepare pupils to be ready for secondary school. The meetings give us time to talk individually with each pupil and to jointly set end of year targets and they help us to bespoke any support and guidance to each pupils need. The interviews will be repeated at key points over the coming year.

Dobroyd Visit

The Eagles had a fantastic week on their residential visit to Dobroyd Castle, enjoying a host of challenges from caving to the piranha pool! It was a marvellous experience for all the pupils and it has been a delight to hear the pride in their voices as they talk about their achievements. Once again pupils from Packington were praised for their outstanding behaviour and their ability to build positive relationships with pupils from Newbold and Worthington Primary Schools. **WELL DONE EAGLES!**



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

Forest School Training

We were really pleased to hear that Miss Twigg has successfully completed the first part of her training to become a Forest School Leader in school. She now has to complete a series of tasks both in and out of school.

RE Week – Creation

Our first RE week of the year took the theme of Creation. Our younger pupils have learnt to retell the story and produced some fantastic artwork to help them do this. Our pupils in year 3/4 considered what humans learn from the story and wrote some rules about looking after our world. The Eagles then compared the Creation story against the scientific views of how the earth was formed. They had a debate and agreed to disagree respectfully.



Governor Corner

We are pleased to announce that Andy Wilson has agreed to transfer over from his role of parent governor to become a community governor. Andy's children have now left the school and although he could have remained on the governing body until his tenure ends this means we can keep his experience for longer. As a result, we now have a vacancy for a new parent governor. Details have been sent out but should you be interested please do contact the school and either myself or one of our governors would be happy to talk to you.

Governors can be contacted via the office e mail.

TAG RUGBY

We have had two teams from KS2 attend this year's Tag Rugby Festival at the Ashby Rugby Club. Both played extremely well. The Yr 5/6 team won two of their matches but did not do quite enough to progress to the finals. The Yr 3/4 team also won two games and lost two very tight matches, making it through to the quarter finals.



CALKE VISIT

“Come and see all the things we found for our nature table.”

Pupils from Year 1 and 2 had a super day at Calke Abbey exploring the nature, woodlands and kitchen garden. The visit was fully funded by the National Trust. The good news is that the National Trust has agreed to provide us with the funding to support another visit next year.



Cross Country Success

The Unity cross country season has begun with the first race at Bosworth Country Park. Mrs Dyche reported that although it was very muddy the children did very well. Congratulations go to Katie Sisman who came first in the girls Yr 3/4 race. The next race is at Packington on Saturday 4th November. We are aware that it is the Packington bonfire later that day. As always, we would appreciate help with setting up and marshalling the course. If you can lend a hand on the day, then please speak to myself or Mr Emery. It's always a great event so please put it in your diary – it's a super opportunity to give cross country a go!



The Owls in training with Mr Emery

DONATIONS FOR THE RAFFLE BOX

Every week we hold a prize draw for the children who have earned a raffle ticket for their good attitude in school or for reading at least three times at home and getting their planner or home school book signed by an adult. This is very popular with the children and they enjoy dipping into our treasure box of gifts. Most of the prizes are items you might find in a party bag. We are always very grateful for any donations to our box of treasure so if you have any party bag or other desirable items that you need to rehome then please do send them into school. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 17th Oct ~ Open the Book
- 20th Oct ~ School Closed for an INSET Day followed by the Half Term Holiday**
- 31st Oct ~ Final date to apply for Secondary Schools (Yr6)
- 1st Nov ~ Rev' Vivien visits
- 4th Nov ~ Packington Cross Country
- 9th Nov ~ The Owls visit Conkers
- W/c 13th Nov ~ National Anti-bullying Week
- 14th Nov ~ Re-arranged Parents Evening for the Eagles
- 17th Nov ~ Children in Need
- 3rd Dec ~ Christingle Service in Church- 4pm
- 6th/7th Dec ~ KS2 Production
- 8th Dec ~ Xmas Creative Time & Christmas Fayre TBC
- 13th/14th Dec ~ KSI Nativity
- 15th Dec ~ Whole school visit to the pantomime
- 18th Dec ~ Christmas lunch
- 19th Dec ~ Christmas Parties
- 22nd Dec ~ Carol Service in Church/ End of Term



TWITTER

Remember to sign up to the school twitter account for regular updates of what is happening in school

SCHOOL APP

Just go to the App store and search Packington C of E PS and you can download it from there.

PACKINGTON WIN SUMMER READING CHALLENGE AGAIN !

There were smiles all round when we received a telephone call to say that we have won the Library Services Summer Reading Challenge again. That means that Packington had the highest percentage of pupils who signed up and completed the challenge to read 6 books from the library over the holidays. Well done to all the pupils who took part – it is a great achievement. We have been presented with a cup which is now on display in the school library.

CHILDREN IN NEED- Friday 17th November

We will once again participate in Children in Need – so get ready for some dressing up! As the day falls during the national anti-bullying week which takes the theme of 'All different, All equal', we have opted to combine both activities. So, just to give you the heads up we have decided to ask pupils to wear as many different colours as possible on the day. We hope this will give you time to prepare.

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.