



Packington

Church of England Primary School

November 2017

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

Well our thoughts are turning to Christmas. Yes, the stage is up and the sounds of rehearsals for the concert and nativity can be heard around school and the baubles are on sale for our annual competition. Do read my separate letter about the PSA for more information about Christmas events. *Please enjoy reading our news.*

Packington Cross Country

We had a fabulous day at our Packington Cross Country for all the Unity Schools at the beginning of November. Our thanks go to all the parents, staff and community members who worked in the rain to set up the course and refreshments and make the event possible.



Fortunately, the rain stopped in time for the first race and there were some great races, some of which resulted in some very muddy, but happy, children. We would like to say a special well done to all our runners and especially Samuel Sharpe, Anna Mitchell and Poppy Mathias who all came first in their races. Overall it was a great success for Packington with our best results for a while; lots of Packington pupils gained places. It was a proud day!



Finally, we would like to thank Mr Sharpe, Mr Dring and Mr Brocklehurst for being our fantastic hares and all our parents and ex pupils who turned up to help with refreshments, marshalling and pacing slower runners. What a team response!

CHILDREN IN NEED 2017



It was great to have a whole school full of 'colourful' children, all demonstrating that we are 'all equal and all different' and putting in a great effort to raise money for Children in Need.



During the day pupils proved that they really have talent at our 'Children in Need Talent Show'. We enjoyed a whole variety of acts that included piano playing, singing, dancing and even a football act! It was fabulous to see so many pupils demonstrating their creativity. Well done everybody for your super effort. This year we had three winning categories and congratulations go to the following children: Karyn Brocklehurst, first in singing, Oliver Mitchell, first in the musical instrument section and Leo and Archie Griffiths who won the miscellaneous category with their brilliant version of 'Going on a Bear Hunt'.

At the end of the day every class gave a presentation in Growing and Glowing Time to share what they had learnt about during **Anti-bullying week**. The Robins showed a film trailer they had made, reminding us how to play together. The Blackbirds presented a role play about how to accept difference and include others. The Owls used a jigsaw to explain how they are all equal but all different and the Eagles used a C'beebies film to consider difference and equality and shared posters they had made to encourage positive relationships. Thanks to the super support by the whole community we raised a stunning **£232.50**.

NEWS HEADLINES

***FWTSA HEALTH CHECK~** We are delighted to say that our FWTSA Health check went well. The consultant agreed with our areas for development. She praised the school for its strengths in leadership, opportunities for pupil voice and behaviour and attitudes to learning. The full report can be read on the website.

***CHRISTMAS CREATIVE TIME ~** Our first creative workshop of the year will take place on Friday 8th December. Pupils will take part in a Christmas craft activity led by an adult in school.

***REMEMBRANCE ~** Pupils marked Remembrance Day with a two minutes' silence on Friday 10th November.

Help us to be considerate to our Neighbours

As a school, we are aware that we have no jurisdiction over parking outside of school. However, we have been made aware that the roof of the thatched cottage has been damaged by a large vehicle that struggled to get down Mill Lane because of parked cars. The lady at the house understands people need to drop off and pick up children but kindly requests that cars park considerately to allow sufficient access and keep the lane clear. Large vehicles do visit the school so if you are parking for a long period please use the Recreation Ground car park – it is much safer for your car too!

We have also had reports of vehicles parking on the zigzag lines when dropping off and collecting children. These lines are there for your children's safety so please do not ignore them!

EYFS DEVELOPMENTS- MUD KITCHEN AND DEN BUILDING!

This term the staff and myself have reviewed the provision and facilities in the outdoor area. As a result, we are putting together plans to renovate the area, improve the resources and storage and provide increased access for pupils in the Blackbirds for outdoor learning. We already have a member of staff being trained to be a Forest Schools Leader and pupils in the Robins have enjoyed working with some of the new equipment starting to arrive in school. There have been some 'tasty' Gruffalo crumbles made in the mud kitchen, fabulous outdoor writing using the new table top boards and some great team work to build outdoor dens using the new multi-purpose crates.



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

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Please can I remind parents not to walk through the carpark when bringing children to school or after collecting children at the end of the day. Staff regularly use the carpark at these times and are concerned that the carpark is used as a short cut. They are also concerned that children who walk to school independently may copy an adult. So please help us avoid any accidents. Thank you.

Governor Corner

It has been a busy term for the governing body with elections for a new parent governor, monitoring visits, meetings for all the sub-committees and a full governing body meeting. First thank you to Louise Turner and Lenka Bosma for their applications to become a governor. On this occasion, Louise was elected and she will begin her induction shortly. This term the governors have also worked hard to review the decision making process and have reviewed the powers that are delegated to the sub-committees in order to further improve the efficiency of the governing body. In addition, governors have reviewed and agreed the interim budget and were satisfied that the budget, although tight, like most schools, is being managed effectively and remains positive. Governors have also reviewed data analysis and been involved with school improvement planning. They continue to share their monitoring and evaluation on a half termly basis and use this to hold the school to account and to monitor the impact of improvement work. Now that all the parent surveys have been collected governor's plan to review these at the next Strategic Committee meeting and will write a letter back to inform parents of the outcome.

Governors can be contacted via the office e mail.

INTRODUCING CERIANN

Hello, my name is Ceriann, I am the children's worker for the Woodfield team of churches. Packington is one of the parishes within the Woodfield team so, as part of my job, I am going to be coming in to Packington School to run a Bible based lunch club with children in KS2.

I have been working with children within churches and schools for several years, running after school clubs and teaching lessons as well as Sunday schools.

I am really looking forward to this opportunity to work in Packington School.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2nd Dec ~ Unity Cross Country at Viscount Beaumonts
3rd Dec ~ Christingle Service in Church- 4pm
W/B 4th Dec ~ RE Week Incarnation
6th/7th Dec ~ KS2 Production
8th Dec ~ Xmas Creative Time
13th/14th Dec ~ KS1 Nativity
15th Dec ~ Whole school visit to the pantomime
18th Dec ~ Christmas lunch
19th Dec ~ Year 2 Christmas Story visit, Christmas Parties
22nd Dec ~ Carol Service in Church/ End of Term
9th Jan ~ Spring Term starts for pupils
12th Jan ~ Growing and glowing Time for the Eagles

NEXT UNITY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP EVENT **Viscount Beaumonts Cross Country is on 2nd December** **- first race 10.30 am sharp.**

Owls Class Assembly

The Owls did a super job telling us all about their topic on the Stone Age. It was clear to see that they have acquired a good knowledge of the historical period and really enjoyed the opportunity to take part in the Stone Age workshops organised by the Museum Educators and Conkers. We particularly enjoyed the classes passionate rendition of 'We Will Rock You'.



Route to Resilience Project

The school have been accepted onto a project being organised by the Local Authority to deepen Character Education in school. We were delighted by the news and Mrs Dyche and myself have already attended the introductory session. This project will enable us to continue the next phase of our character education work in school. So far the schools taking part have had an opportunity to share their good practice and have discussed plans for the next stage.

House Afternoon – Learning Characteristics

Earlier in the year, as part of this work, the pupils helped us to decide which learning characteristics we will focus on during the autumn term and this month they have worked together in their Houses to think about child friendly definitions for **all** our chosen learning characteristics. As part of the work, the pupils designed some fabulous emojis to represent each characteristic. These will now be used with the pupils to help them set individual Learning to Learn targets. Once completed, we plan to put the emojis on display in the entrance hall, so do take a look over the Christmas period. Next week Mrs Dyche, myself and two Year 5 pupils will meet with the other schools to take part in our first training session.



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. You can now access school meals via the app.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE **- COME AND LIGHT UP THE CHURCH !**

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER 4pm

EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO THE CHRISTINGLE SERVICE AT HOLY ROOD CHURCH.

THE PSA WILL SERVE REFRESHMENTS IN THE SCHOOL HALL AFTER THE SERVICE.

(All the Pupils in School will help make the Christingles on Friday 1st December)

Christmas Jumper Day **In support of our Christmas Tombola**

Friday 8th December is Christmas Jumper Day in school.

Pupils can wear their Christmas jumpers for a donation to our Christmas tombola.

If you haven't got a Christmas jumper don't worry you can come in non-uniform and you could always wear something else that has a Christmas theme instead.

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.