



Packington

Church of England Primary School

January 2018

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

Well we normally expect to have a quiet start to the Spring term after the excitement of Christmas, but this year it has been a little different. It had been over 4 years since our last inspection so it wasn't too much of a shock to get the telephone call from OFSTED. We are pleased to say it went well and the outcome was positive. The report should be with us in about 2 weeks and as soon as it is finalised we will send it out to parents with some information about the new inspection process. In the mean-time we are trying our best to catch up with tasks, including the writing of this newsletter, that were delayed because of the work involved with the inspection. **Please do enjoy reading our news.**

Meet Our New Head Girl and Boy for the Spring Term



Roman Museum Opens in the Robins

Mrs Price was delighted to be asked to cut a purple ribbon to open the Roman museum that pupils in the Robins have set up. She was particularly impressed with the artefacts and the information recorded by pupils on special recordable postcards. The menu for the museum café was also very tempting!

Parking on Mill Street

We have been informed that the Council came to look at the parking problems near the thatched cottage on Mill Street. The roof of the cottage was hit again over Christmas so the council have now agreed to put some concrete bollards on the small path next to the cottage. This should help but we politely ask you to continue to park with consideration on Mill Street and remember to allow space for other vehicles, including the emergency services, to pass through.

MINDFULNESS PROJECT

We were delighted to be 'the' primary school selected to take part in a pilot project organised by the Local Authority to introduce mindfulness into school. It probably helped us that we have a governor who is involved in delivering the scheme to schools. As part of the project, staff have received training and they now have to deliver a short mindfulness session to their class on a daily basis. The idea is to encourage pupils to concentrate on the present moment and have time for their own thoughts and feelings in order to improve their mental well-being and relationships. It has many benefits, including, helping us to understand ourselves better and reducing anxiety and stress. Currently, the children are learning different exercises to help them use their breathing to help them focus on themselves rather than re-living past worries or pre-living future worries.

It's early days but it is going well and staff report that pupils concentrate better on their learning after a short session of mindfulness.



Beaumanor Visit - The excitement is building in the Owls classroom as their overnight visit to Beaumanor Hall gets ever closer and they look forward to trying a range of different activities, including the climbing wall, as well as the super food!

NEWS HEADLINES

***IN THE NET** ~ The Owls had a fantastic morning at Ashby School when they went to watch 'In the Net', a play which addresses issues of e-safety and cyber-bullying. The play was performed by the Alter Ego Theatre Group as part of a joint police, NHS and council project to support children to stay safe on-line.

***DEVELOPING LINKS WITH INDIA** ~ In the past the school has developed links with a number of schools in different parts of the world including France, Germany, the Czech Republic and Rwanda. These links have played an important role in helping our pupils to develop a global perspective and understanding of diversity and difference. We are now hoping to find a partnership with a school in India through a Diocese link with the Diocese of Trichy. We have put together a power point presentation about our school which will be shared with schools in Southern India and we hope it will help us find a partner school.

***NEW SCREEN** ~ School can be a busy, active environment and we often wish we had more space. An extension would obviously be expensive so we have tried to look at alternative solutions. As a result, we have now purchased a portable screen for the hall so we can divide it into a flexible teaching space. The screen is already in use and enabling us to have two focussed teaching groups in the hall at the same time.

***NEW AGE CURLING** ~ Mrs Morris will once again be taking a group of pupils to a New Age Curling session at Forest way later in the term.

Club Activ8

Mr Emery and myself would like to remind you that the school pays for every pupil to join the Club Activ8 scheme at Ashby and Measham Leisure Centres. Parents need to register their child's membership at one of the leisure centres by completing a simple form. Each term the children will collect points for participating in school P.E lessons and extra-curricular sports clubs. Points can then be used to pay for free swimming and selected sports sessions; they can even be swapped to hire a badminton court for a family game. Children quickly collect points so it is well worth joining the scheme. Further details are available when you join.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far, the list of families keeps growing. So please remember to sign up and let's see if we can make it a full house?

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

Goodbye and Good Luck to Josh

At the beginning of term Josh, our sports coach who delivers the KS2 multi-sports club, announced that he is leaving Finding Fitness at the beginning of February and moving to a better job. Josh has been working at the school for nearly three years delivering different sporting activities to pupils, pre-schoolers and parents. He will be sorely missed, but we wish him well in his new position. His place will be taken by Nathan. Finding Fitness have informed us that there will be a handover period and Josh will introduce the children to Nathan and show him the ropes during a session before he leaves.

Christian Values Art Work

We were impressed by the art work that the children produced to express our British values so this year we have decided to challenge each class to produce a piece of art to represent two of our Christian values. The work will be completed by the end of the spring term.

REMEMBER OUR ASHBY FOOD BANK COLLECTION

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FOOD BANK COLLECTION DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Items needed include:

- * Tinned Meat/Fish
- * Custard
- * Tinned Vegetables
- * Powdered Milk
- * Sugar (500g)
- * Fruit Juice Cartons
- * Tinned Pies
- * Tinned Puddings
- * Tea bags/Instant Coffee
- * Instant Mashed Potato
- * Rice/Pasta
- * Tinned Fruit



This year the pupils have decided to have a competition to see which class can collect the most.

GOOD LUCK LAURA!

We were delighted to hear that one of our ex pupils, Laura Hewitt, has been selected to represent Britain at the Commonwealth Games in Australia. Laura will compete in the Ladies 58 kg class weightlifting competition. Laura always enjoyed sport whilst at Packington and she is now a two-time British champion. We wish her every success and good luck for the summer.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 8th Feb ~ Rev Vivien to lead worship
- 8th/9th Feb ~ Year 3/4 Residential Visit to Beaumanor
- 20th Feb ~ E Safety Awareness Sessions for parents and Yr 5/6 pupils
- Open the Book visit
- 21st Feb ~ Rev' Joanne to lead worship
- 23rd Feb ~ House time/Creative Time
- 26th Feb ~ Y1/2 Art Rocks Workshop
- 28th Feb ~ Open the Book
- 1st March ~ World Book Day – info to follow
- 6th March ~ Eagles Class Assembly 9:15am
- 7th March ~ Rev' Vivien to lead worship
- W/B 12th March ~ RE week
- 13th March ~ Ashby Youth for Christ
- 14th/ 15th March ~ Parents Evenings
- 20th March ~ Open the Book
- 23rd March ~ End of Term, Easter Service in church 2pm.

Governor Corner

We are only a few weeks into the term but the governors have already been busy. The Strategic Committee have met to discuss the parent questionnaires and the Monitoring and Curriculum Committee have shared the outcomes of recent monitoring and discussed the swimming policy. The Health and Safety Committee have reviewed the school's risk assessment and the Finance Committee will review proposed spending projects for the coming year before half term.

Governors can be contacted via the office e mail.

New Books for Pupils

We are delighted to inform you that Peveril Homes, the company currently building houses in the village, have agreed to pay for the purchase of a new reading scheme for our KS2 pupils at a cost of around £520. The books have now arrived in school and are being used by pupils. They tell us it's great to have some new books.

House Captains

Staff have recognised the hard work of our House Leaders. In our last Growing and Glowing they were given the new title of House Captain and a badge to recognise their important role in school. They were also given a new challenge to choose the theme of our next house day.

Cerian's Bible/ Faith Club Gets Started

Pupils have voted our new club run by Ceriann and Rev' Joanne a great success. The children say 'We like the fun games and the best bit is when we act out the bible stories. Codey was a great Noah's wife!'



PARENTS EVENINGS ARE Wednesday 14th March and Thursday 15th March

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO CLUBS THAT WEEK THAT ARE RUN BY CLASS TEACHERS. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW OF ANY CLUBS THAT WILL RUN IN THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE PARENT INTERVIEWS.



E' Safety Awareness Sessions for Parents Tuesday 20th February, 9.15 am or 6 pm

Please come along to one of our E' Safety Awareness sessions led by David Barsby (CSE Prevention Officer). Coffee and refreshments will be available.

David will give a presentation and offer advice on matters relating to your child's digital resilience, privacy settings, parental filters, apps children use on phones and tablets, gaming, appropriate screen times for your child or indeed any other matter you may wish to seek guidance on. Do come and have a chat! More details to follow.



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.