

Newsletter No 7: Term 3

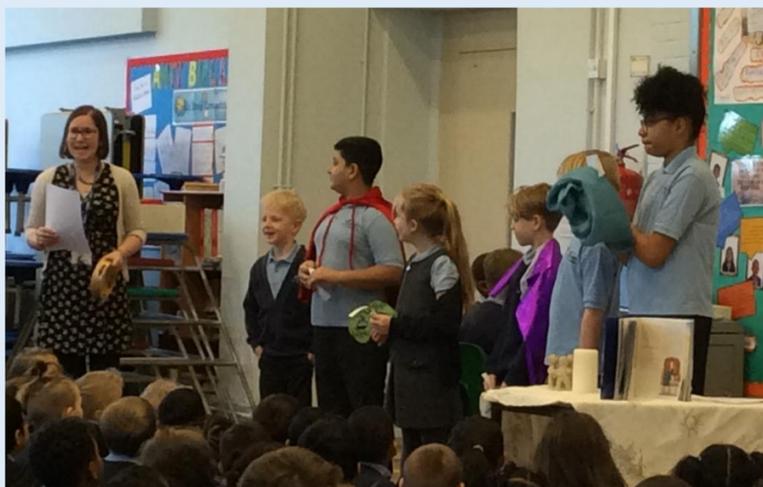
January 2019

Principal: Mrs Debbie Coker

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Trish Dodds

Dear Parent/ Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! It has been good to see all the children come back this week and get stuck back into their learning. A new Year is often a time of reflection and a chance to make a change. As a staff we spent part of our INSET day focussed on the school's vision and values. It was a brilliant day supported by Rev Lizzie, and was followed up with the children in school through our first collective worship led by Mrs Watts (Our RE Lead). See further information later in the newsletter.



Staffing

We have welcomed some new faces to our team as well this year. Mr Justin Brown has now started as our new Site Manager. Miss Henrietta Dunne has started as maternity cover for Miss Whitaker. Mr Sam Picton has started in Year 5 replacing Mrs Brown and Mrs Sadler (who will start Maternity Leave at the end of January). We have also appointed 2 new Reading Assistants due to internal promotions - Mrs Siti Lai and Mrs Corinna Little will also cover lunch time supervisor roles as part of their roles. Miss Gemma Reddick has begun as a Teaching Assistant in place of Mrs Long who is now a Nursery Teaching Assistant. Much of Miss Reddick's work will support social, emotional and mental health needs in KS2.

Learning

The children have started their new topics as listed in the curriculum letters given out at the end of last term. These can also be downloaded from the school's website. There is a wealth of information about our curriculum and home-learning opportunities. Please go to <http://www.fishpondschurchacademy.bristol.sch.uk/> and hit the drop down menu 'what we are learning' and you will find up to date information there. KS1 are visiting the M shed and harbour area, Y3/4 will be looking at exploding volcanos and Y5/6 will be having some inspirational speakers to come and inspire them to make a difference.

Attendance

Thank you to all of you who have made sure that your children come to school on time. It is making a difference and we are getting closer to meeting our target. Please continue to support the school by ensuring that holidays are not taken in term time and that you bring children to school on time. Thanks for your continued support in this.



Value of the term: Love

As you know, we place our values at the core of our Academy. We focus on a different question each week in our collective worship sessions

Questions of the week:

7/1/19: How would you describe love?

14/1/19: Can you think of ways to measure love?

21/1/19: Can you think of a good way to show love and support others?

28/1/19: What will you secretly do to make someone's day this week?

4/2/19: What helps you to forgive and forget when someone hurts your feelings?

11/2/19: What do we learn about love and friendship from the story of the paralysed man?

Please let the office know if you or anyone on house or changed their mobile number.

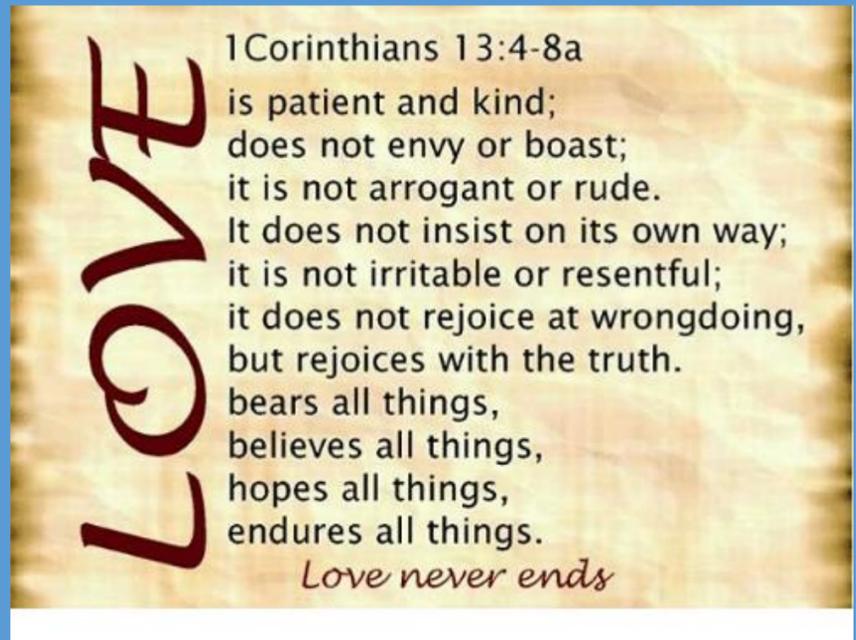
It is important that our records are kept up-to-date in case your child is sick or we need to contact you.

Don't forget, school begins at 8.45am!

Did you know you can text us as well as ring us about your child's absence before 9.30am? Please state the full name of your child, their class name or teacher and reason for absence in your text.

Our text number is **07786 208896**

New Underpinning of Vision and New Values for 2019 onwards.



' Loving to learn, learning to love'

As a school we have been looking at our vision and purpose. The word 'Love' stands out in our vision as the most important value and we have been thinking about what love is and what this should mean for us as staff and families of Fishponds Church of England Academy.

The Bible passage that we have chosen to underpin all that we do in school is :1 Corinthians 13 v 4-7. (listed above). The passage gives a really clear explanation about what 'love' is. I am sure that you would agree that if we all abided by the principles of this text, all people in our world and local community would live life in harmony! We have adjusted a couple of our values on order to align with the passage.

Essentially, as a school, our purpose is to teach the children in our care to love one another, develop skills that enable positive relationships to blossom. We maintain hope and believe that all children can be successful in learning the skills and knowledge needed to flourish in life. We will continue to persevere and believe that we can make a positive difference to all who come through the doors of our school.

As a staff we used our creative talents (?!) to show our reflections about what the passage means to us. Some of our creations are below. We will be doing creative activities around the idea of 'love' with the children over the next few weeks so that they can reflect on what it means for them too as we all join together to 'Love to learn and learn to love each other'.



School Lunches 'Theme Days'

We are delighted to announce that we will be included in four theme days over the coming months.

The dates are as follows:

Thursday 17th Jan – 'Build a Burger!'

Wednesday 6th February – 'Chinese Day'

Tuesday 5th March – 'Pancake Day'

Wednesday 27th March – 'Italian Day'

Chartwells will provide more information nearer the day. Lunches cost £2.10 and can be paid online at 'school Gateway' or via the office.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs in the Old Fishponds Library (blue building) from 7.45- 8.45am. The club is run by our support staff. Children can play, socialise and have breakfast. Costs - £2.30 per session. Payable on the door on arrival.

After School Club Provision

We have two after school club provisions – Fishponds After School Club is run from 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm each school day and information can be found on www.oldburycourtclubs.org.uk

Premier Sports also run an hour's sporting activity every evening from 3.15 pm – 4.30 pm and information for this can be found on their website www.premier-education.com

Online Safety 'Parents Vs Kids' Competition!

The NSPCC are working with O2. They are running an online health competition to highlight the need for online safety. Give your child a run for their money and see who is the most savvy online!

Log on to <https://www.o2.uk/help/nsppc/paretns-vs-kids> to find out more!

Dates for your diaries, with best wishes, Debbie Coker (Principal)

Tuesday 8 th January	First day of Term 3 for children. 8.45am
Tuesday 29 th January	KS1 trip to M shed and Harbour side.
Monday 4 th February	Online Safety Week.
Friday 15 th February	Non uniform Day (FOFA)
Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February	Half Term Holiday – School Closed
Wednesday 27 th February	Nursery Open Day 10 am
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day (dressing up as book character!)
Tuesday 12 th March (3.30–5.30pm) and Thursday 14 th March (3.45pm – 6.45pm)	Parents' Eves (details to follow)
Wednesday 13 th March	Y2 sharing learning 2.30pm
Friday 15 th March	Science Day
Monday 25 th March	Parents' Meeting re Y1 phonics Test (Y1 parents)@3.30pm
Tuesday 26 th March	Parents' Meeting re KS1 Sats (Y2 parents) @ 3.30pm
Wednesday 27 th March	Parents' Meeting re KS2 Sats (Y6 parents) @ 3.30pm
Friday 29 th March	Y1 Sharing Learning 2.30pm
Thursday 4 th April	Year 5 leading our Easter Celebration 10 am (Parents welcome!)