

Headteacher Update 1.3.24

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first newsletter of March. Let's hope the spring weather really will make an appearance soon.

Lenten Reflection

In their chapel visit this week, the children heard scripture where God told the disciples to listen to Jesus. As we all prepare for Easter throughout Lent, we were thinking of ways we can listen to Jesus. Here are some ideas:

- We can hear Jesus speak to us through readings from the Gospels.
- We can hear Jesus speak to us through those who care about us: family members who keep us safe and happy; teachers who help us learn; priests and nuns who help us to know God; and friends who are kind to us.
- We can hear Jesus in our hearts; not in the way we hear someone speaking to us through our ears. Jesus speaks to us when we think about ways we can help someone in need, or when we think of a person who needs our prayers.
- Another special way we can hear Jesus is through prayer. Prayer is a conversation. In prayer just like in any conversation we have with our friends, we talk to Jesus and listen to him in our hearts. Let's talk and listen to Jesus now as we join with our prayers of intercession.

Big Lent Walk

Despite the bad weather, your children have continued to do laps of their playground during break times, PE lessons, buddy times and any spare moment that can be found! Thank you to everyone who has donated to CAFOD so far, whether that be through parent pay or any change you had in the CAFOD envelopes. The children will continue to walk throughout Lent to raise as much as they can for our global neighbours. Please see below the prayer CAFOD have shared for schools to be saying throughout Lent.

**Loving God,
your Son, Jesus,
calmed the storm
that frightened the disciples.
You keep us safe too,
even when we are afraid.**

**Show us how to follow you, and help us
to be there for one another.
Teach us to share whatever we have fairly
so that we, and our whole global family,
may look to the future with hope.**

Amen

World Book Day

Next Friday 8th March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. I look forward to seeing all the amazing costumes on the day and I am very excited to wear my new costume too! As part of the day the children will be asked to share with another child either their favourite book, the book character they are dressed as or just a book they really enjoyed reading. If you are able to, please send your child in with a book they would like to share with someone.

There will also be an email sent today with book review templates on. There are ones for EYFS, KS1, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 for fiction and non-fiction. There will be a part of the day where children will be asked to share their book review with the class to explain why they liked the book and why they would recommend it to others.

Please choose a template that you can complete with your child and send it in with them on world book day. Merits will be given for reviews brought in and a display will be made in the school so others can see what books other children are enjoying reading. This day is always such an exciting day for the children and really helps build that love of reading.



Big Walk and Wheel

Please see attached a letter from the School Travel Plan team promoting the Big Walk and Wheel which takes place from 11-22 March. It will be amazing if as many of you as possible are able to walk, scoot or cycle even some of the way to school during this period.

Meetings with teachers – making appointments and sending in photos

Thank you to all of you who made appointments with your child's class teacher for parents evening. The notes from these meetings will be coming home shortly so please look out for them.

Please note that if you wish to speak to a class teacher about a particular concern, it is important to make an appointment through the school office. The same is true if you require a meeting with a senior member of staff. Schools are very busy places and it is important that staff can prepare for the day ahead. There are also often meetings at the end of the day, so please respect these demands on staff and recognise that appointments will be made as soon as possible at mutually convenient times.

If you notice a mark on your child, please do not send photos to the school. For safeguarding and data protection reasons we will not look at these. We are vigilant as a school in tending to injuries which may occur as part of the school day, and these are recorded and shared with you. If you have any queries about something that has happened in the school day, please make an appointment to speak to the class teacher in the first instance.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Mrs Machin



Reception

We have been learning: how to write a simple sentence. We know we need a capital letter at the beginning, finger spaces and a full stop at the end.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to write a simple sentence e.g. I can see a cat.

Year 1

We have been learning: how to make colours lighter and darker.

You can help at home by: allowing your child to mix black and white paint into other colours to make them lighter or darker.

Year 2

We have been learning: about Lent during our RE lessons.

You can help at home by: speaking to your child about the special days in Lent - Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday.

Year 3

We have been learning: different ways of describing a setting e.g. simile, 2 Ad sentence, Ad same Ad sentence.

You can help at home by: asking your child to write down a sentence describing Egypt and the strategy they used to write it.

Year 4

We have been learning: about how plastic pollution is a huge issue and how it impacts the sea.

You can help at home by: asking your children to recite the poem they have written about this issue.

Year 5

We have been learning: the formal written method to multiply.

You can help at home by: asking your child to multiply a 2 digit number by a 2 digit number and explain the method.

Year 6

We have been learning: about what foods were important to the Maya.

You can help at home by: asking what different types of farming techniques the Maya used.

