

It has been a very busy start to the academic year, and I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support throughout. ☺ As we are on the run up to Christmas there are a few things we want to share with you.

### **Portacabin**

Over half term we have had the delivery of our portacabin. This will allow us to have an additional space to complete small group activities and meetings. ☺

### **PE Kit**

Please can every year group bring their PE kits in on a Monday, and they will come home at the end of the week or after their last PE lesson. We have many children who are not bringing any PE kits to school and we don't have enough spare kit for them all.

### **Christmas Production**

KS1 will be sharing their Christmas Nativity on **17th and 18th of December** at 9.15am. Tickets are £1 each and a maximum of 2 per family can be bought from the school office. It is crucial that you don't just turn up on the day as we must ensure we stick to the correct numbers for fire safety and risk assessments.

### **Forest School**

Year 5 had a great time at Forest School and Year 3 are currently enjoying these sessions. After Christmas Reception will be participating in forest school sessions on a Friday afternoon. A letter with more details will follow soon. ☺

### **Pembroke Panto**

We have been asked to attend a dress rehearsal of the exciting Pembroke Panto on **18th December** during the afternoon - this will be for Years 4,5 and 6. If you do not wish your child to walk to Pembroke please inform your child's class teacher.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

We will be having our Christmas Jumper Day on **12th December**. The children are welcome to wear anything Christmassy on this day and will be non-uniform. We ask for a donation of £1 please. ☺ The Friends of School Hamper raffle be drawn on this day as well – good luck!

### **Rudy's Run**

We have been contacted by St Barnabas to see if we would participate in Rudy's run. We will complete the run around the field on **16th December**. We will send the donation envelopes home when they arrive. ☺

### **Christmas Dinner**

We will have our school Christmas dinner on **20th December**. This can be ordered through [www.kidzKitchen.co.uk](http://www.kidzKitchen.co.uk)

### **Dates for your diary!**

**Odd Socks Day** – 12<sup>th</sup> November  
**Children in Need** – 15<sup>th</sup> November **See information that was sent on a separate e mail**  
**Flu vaccine** – 19<sup>th</sup> November  
**Non-Uniform – Hamper exchange** – 6<sup>th</sup> December **Information to follow**  
**Christmas Jumper Day** – 12<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Rudy's Run** – 16<sup>th</sup> December  
**KS1 Christmas Nativity** – 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December  
**Last Day of Term** – 20<sup>th</sup> December  
**INSET Day** – 2<sup>nd</sup> January  
**Children back** – 7<sup>th</sup> January

## Class News!



### **Reception**

Reception have had a fun filled and exciting first half term!

The children have settled in really well. They launched straight into areas of the curriculum, starting with phonics and maths and moving on to our topic work in the afternoon.

In the first half term our focus was 'all about me'. This gave the children the opportunity to share their interests, dislikes, and talk about their families and friends. They talked about what makes them unique, what they can do and they are encouraged to make choices and express their thoughts and feelings! Alongside this, we have learned about all the ways to keep your body healthy. From, brushing your teeth, eating a balanced diet, drinking lots of water and getting the right amount of sleep!

Linking with our 'all about me' enquiry, in art we have been looking at the knowledge, materials and techniques required to create a self-portrait. We have looked at the different features on the face and emphasized the similarities and differences between us.

We thoroughly enjoyed our Autumn walk around our community, looking at the beautiful changes this season.

### **Year 1**

This term Year 1 have been very busy at school. We have been learning about materials in Science, what things are made from, how to group them using their properties and then testing them in various ways. The children have been learning to log on in Computing and then using the Paintz program. During the first term we have been doing History, looking at how lives have changed within living memory. The children had a great fun doing washing using a wash board and posser and were fascinated by some toys that their parents used to play with. We have also been practising our numbers, writing them, putting them in order and counting up and down. In Art we have been practising colour mixing and making shades and tints. We are looking forward to the new term and using all our new talents!

### **Year 2**

Year 2 had a wonderful and productive first half term!

The children transitioned smoothly into their new classroom and were ready to dive into learning. Along with Phonics, Active Spelling, English and Maths, the children thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon lessons. From exploring materials and conducting several hands-on experiments in Science, to linking William the Conqueror to Lincoln castle through the Battle of Hastings, we have been very busy in Year 2. In RE we explored the Islamic religion, and we will be making comparisons to other religions this term. Art was another highlight, where children created fantastic portraits using different materials, one of those being an app on an iPad! We love to create cross curricular links throughout our learning and another favourite has been introducing atlases to explore the UK, its countries and surrounding seas, then accessing iPads to research these further online.

It was a fantastic half term filled with curiosity, creativity, and a passion for learning! We look forward to sharing with you what we achieve this term in Year 2.

### **Year 3**

Last term, the class really settled in well, diving into a range of exciting learning activities. We read a wonderful variety of books that captivated our imaginations and boosted our reading comprehension and writing skills. Some of our favourites included: The Lost Spells, Leon and the Place Between, The Heart in the Bottle, and the class favourite, I Say Ooh, You Say Ahh. In science, we explored the fascinating topic of light, learning how shadows are created and investigating ways to protect ourselves from the sun. We also began our Romans topic, stepping into the shoes of Roman soldiers and discovering what they wore, how they prepared for battle and what made them such a powerful force. In DT, we designed and created puppets with linkages and levers, which was a fantastic hands-on challenge.

Alongside these activities, we've also done many other exciting things that enriched our learning and brought the subjects to life. The class worked extremely hard, and we can't wait for you to hear all about our adventures next term!

### **Year 4**

In year 4 last term, we started our focus on Vikings both in History and English. The children learnt about Viking boats, runes and settlements in their history lessons, whilst writing descriptions and persuasive texts in English. The books we used and read together were called 'Odd and the Frost Giants' and 'Norse Myths'. In maths the focus was mainly on place value to start with and this moved towards addition and subtraction at the end of the term. We started concentrating on times table facts and this will continue to be an important focus for the rest of the year. Art saw us study an artist called Rosa Bon Heur, and

the children tried to draw animal pictures in the same style as her; Science gave the children the opportunity to learn about sound, how we hear and how sounds are made through vibration. In computing, they learnt about using the internet safely and ways in which networks function, whilst PE focussed on handball and team games. We did a lot of singing in music and learnt a song called 'Viking Rock' which related to our history topic. PSHE related to friendships and diversity which helped us to think about our values. We look forward sharing our learning from term 2 later in the year.

### **Year 5**

During our first term in Year 5, we focused on place value in maths, before moving on to addition and subtraction. This has involved questions requiring exchange and we have also looked at a range of word problems, including those with missing digits.

In English, we used two different versions of the book "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly, which focus on the lives of four African-American women and their role as mathematicians working for the NACA, which then became NASA. We used the information from the book to produce a number of letters and diary entries.

Our Science topic has been Properties and Changes of Materials, and the children have enjoyed conducting a number of investigations. We have looked at how salt crystals dissolve in water to form solutions and how the salt can be retrieved. The children also used a range of equipment and their knowledge of the properties of materials to separate pasta, rice, salt and staples.

In Geography, we produced a map showing the countries of South America and then another locating the position of the Amazon Rainforest. This led us into looking at biomes, habitats and climate, and the children have learnt about the four layers of a tropical rainforest and the plants and animals that can be found in each layer. Our focus in PSHE has been setting goals and faces challenges positively. We have also looked at our rights and responsibilities as citizens of our country and members of our school. The children also enjoyed a session on Conflict Resolution from the Lincolnshire Stay Safe Team.

During Art lessons, we have focused on the work of Henri Matisse and produced a timeline identifying different periods in Art. In PE we have completed a block of lessons on TAG Rugby and during Synergy the children have focused on Handball. We have also been the first class to enjoy a number of Forest School sessions.

### **Year 6**

In year 6, during term 1, the children have started off by learning about the 4 key operations in Maths – addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. Whilst in English they have used their class text, *The Arrival*, to write their own narrative linked to the main character. The children worked hard to include a range of SPAG skills including adverbials, expanded noun phrases and dialogue. Other learning included discovering all about life in Tudor times. They found out all about different hobbies that the Tudors had including bear baiting, playing football with a pig's bladder and jousting. They also found out about many key dates linking to Henry VIII and his six wives. In Art, year 6 have learnt a range of pencil skills including stippling, hatching and cross hatching. This has then been combined with various shades and tones with different colours. The outcomes were magnificent – they have created some fantastic realism art based on different fruits. As well as this, they have also been working well in teams during their PE sessions – working towards applying their skills in football, dodgeball and bench ball. A brilliant term!

