

Mrs Mary King's Church of England Primary School Newsletter 10th February 2016

Term 3 Issue 1



Carndyke Federation



We have some exciting events to look forward to this spring; Mrs Roulston has arranged for a climbing wall to visit the school on the 16th March. This will give all the children an opportunity to do something really adventurous. There are trips coming up for a number of classes. Over the last few years we have built up a really good relationship with the Lincolnshire Airfields Association through our visits to the Metheringham Visitors Centre. This year they have very kindly offered to fund three visits to various sites for Class Four as part of their World War Two local history project. Class Three will be visiting Cadbury world as part of their topic on the Mayans and chocolate. These visits will hopefully provide the children with inspiration for a wide range of follow up work.

Parental Voice

Following the parent survey last term, I have spoken to the governors about arranging opportunities for parents to meet with them. The first of these will be after the parents' assembly on 26th February, following this they will be at parents evening on the 9th March. I appreciate that there is sometimes a reluctance for parents to share opinions and ideas with governors who are parents at the school, and for this reason they will make sure there is at least one governor who doesn't have a child at the school.

We would particularly like to collect parents' views on the type of end of year report you would like to receive. At the moment they are fairly descriptive but there is an opportunity to have a more factual approach, which might give more clarity about attainment and progress as we move to a new assessment system.



On Christmas party day BBC radio Lincolnshire came to interview children about the new kitchen.



Governor, Councillor Patricia Bradwell came to officially open the new kitchen and enjoyed dinner with the children.

Value for the term: Creativity

Generosity

Trust

Understanding

Simplicity

Responsibility

Generosity

Respect

Responsibility

Simplicity

Understanding

Trust

Generosity



Outdoor education specialists Newby Leisure have started to landscape the area next to the kitchen. This includes new pathways, a tunnel, digging area, mud kitchen, stage and raised beds for a herb garden. This will provide an outstanding learning environment for Class One.

If there are any parents who would be interested in helping to develop the herb beds and vegetable patch, please let me know; the aim is to grow some produce that can be used by Chef.

Car Parking

Car parking remains a problem, and one that really divides parent's opinion. In the past I have worked on the possibility of the school having a car park on the field next to the cemetery. The land owner is open to the idea of renting a portion to the school. Things haven't progressed for a number of reasons:

1. The legal costs of drawing up a rental agreement are high.
2. The governors can't justify using the school budget for something that is not part of the school site.
3. The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership is against the idea, as it would mean more children crossing the road between cars and traffic. The car park would be dangerous because of the need for cars to reverse within a limited space.

If a group of parents and residents want to take this on as a community project, then I would support it. If there is anyone interested in managing this please let me know.

In the meantime parents can help by parking considerately. **Please do not park across the white line** that marks a pedestrian pathway behind the staff parking bays. Please avoid parking on the grass verge outside our neighbour's house. **Do not reverse into the playground gate area**, this extremely dangerous and there have been several occasions when I have witnessed near misses. If you can, park a little further from school and walk. This spring we are going to run a golden boot challenge. (see separate article)

What the Governors have been up to...

A number of parents have said they don't know what the governors do. I have asked them to begin writing a short description of jobs they have done as a regular article.

- A small group of governors undertook Mr. Sewell's Performance Management. This is where the Governors look at how the Headteacher has performed against the targets set for him, to improve the teaching and learning and the school environment over the year. They also look at the school development plan and set targets for the Headteacher for the coming year.
- The Governor with responsibility for Special Needs has met with staff from both schools to work on developing the SEN policy.
- Governors met with the Headteacher to discuss the new assessment methods that are being developed and undertaken at both schools. This is a massive undertaking and I have to say that a brilliant job has been done so far. The staff are developing a new method of reporting that shows exactly what a pupil has achieved, the progress they are making and the areas that a pupil needs to work on. This method will reap huge benefits this year and in future years for all pupils, parents and staff in both schools.
- Reverend Beth has worked with children to discover their views of collective worship, she has also observed Mr Sewell leading collective worship.

Steve Bradbury (Vice Chair)



Headteacher Awards



Attendance
 Reception 97.7%
 Year 1 96.7%
 Year 2 94.3%
 Year 3 97.9%
 Year 4 98.2%
 Year 5 98.7%
 Year 6 98.7%
Overall 97.5%

Attendance remains very good, well done to everyone.

Golden Boot

After half term there will be a golden boot, 'walk to school' challenge. Classes will complete a daily record of ways children travel to school.

We would like to encourage more families to walk to school. If you currently park outside school, then we would like to encourage you to try parking beyond the school safety zone and walking the short distance to school.

I have been to look at the High Street and can see that you would have to park quite a long way from the bend to be safe, so I appreciate that doing this is not an easy option. Quite a few people are parking in the Timberland Road which is also a good idea, provided children are walked across the road safely.

However if only a few people did this on some days, it would make a big difference to Linwood Road parking.

Grammar

This year, children in year two will take a grammar and punctuation test in the summer. As part of a longer term plan, to prepare children throughout the school for the increased expectations in this area, staff will be receiving training at Easter. We are working with Witham St Hughes School to implement 'Active English', a highly interactive approach, which will hopefully provide our children with an excellent understanding of this demanding area.

Situated next to Mrs Mary King's School, TimTin Playgroup and Kids' Club is open 8am to 6pm, 50 weeks of the year, offering full daycare, sessional care, out of school and school holiday care for children from 2 to 11 years.

For more information contact
 01526 378627 • www.timtin.co.uk
timtinplaygroup@tiscali.co.uk



SCoRE Project

We are taking part in a carbon reduction project to discover whether we can reduce our fuel bills. A group of year five children from both schools attended a briefing afternoon on the 21st January. The children were taught about the types of lighting and heating within the schools. The children have been given the job of carrying out an energy audit to identify where savings can be made.

Next term there will be a launch week during which the children will teach the rest of the school about the project. So if the school is looking a bit darker than normal it will be because children are turning off lights that aren't needed!



Diary Dates

- 12th February Term Ends
- Monday 22nd February Term 4 begins
- Friday 26th parents invited to assembly (Followed by coffee and cakes with governors)
- Tuesday 1st March Class Four visit to East Kirkby Aviation Museum.
- Wednesday 2nd March Class Three trip to Cadbury World/ Church Assembly.
- Thursday 3rd March World Book Day
- Friday 4th Class Four at Waddington in the morning
- Wednesday 9th March Parents Evening
- Thursday 10th March Esafety day.
- Monday 14th March Class Four trip to Metheringham Airfield Centre.
- Tuesday 15th March Class Four First Aid Workshop.
- Wednesday 16th March Climbing Wall.
- Thursday 17th March Climbing Wall.

KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE

Dear Parents

I am sure that you are aware of the need to send your child away from London as an evacuee. An evacuee is where a child is sent to a safer place while the war is commencing.

Firstly your child is at risk of being bombed; remember life is more important than comfort. If your child was to get seriously injured in London and your house was far from a hospital, what would you do? Your child could even be hurt by buildings that are in danger of falling down.

Although you don't want to send your child away, it will be a great experience for them to see what the countryside is really like. For your child to meet new animals is a truly amazing experience that will make their jaw drop. They can visit new places such as woods and fields.

How would you feel if your child made new friends? Meeting new people develop their personality. They would be in touch with each other and might be able to visit each other's houses once the war is over.

How could you possibly say no to your child being safe and away from Germany's target. So please send your child away from the horrors of war.

Yours faithfully

Neville Chamberlain (Prime minister)
Or actually.....George C and Chloe H
Written as part of their work on WWII.

- Friday 18th March Sports Relief Day.
- Monday 21st March Rhubarb Theatre-Adventures of Librarian Lil
- Thursday 24th March end of Term Four / Holy Communion Easter Service 2.00pm
- Tuesday 12th April Term Five starts.
- Friday 15th April Parents invited to celebration assembly
- Week commencing 9th May SATS Tests for Y6 pupils.
- Wednesday 18th May Church Schools Festival
- Friday 27th May parents invited to celebration assembly / end of Term Five.
- Monday 6th June Term Six begins
- Tuesday 5th July Year Five taster day at St George's.
- Thursday 7th July Year Five taster day at Banovallum.
- Friday 21st July Term Six ends.

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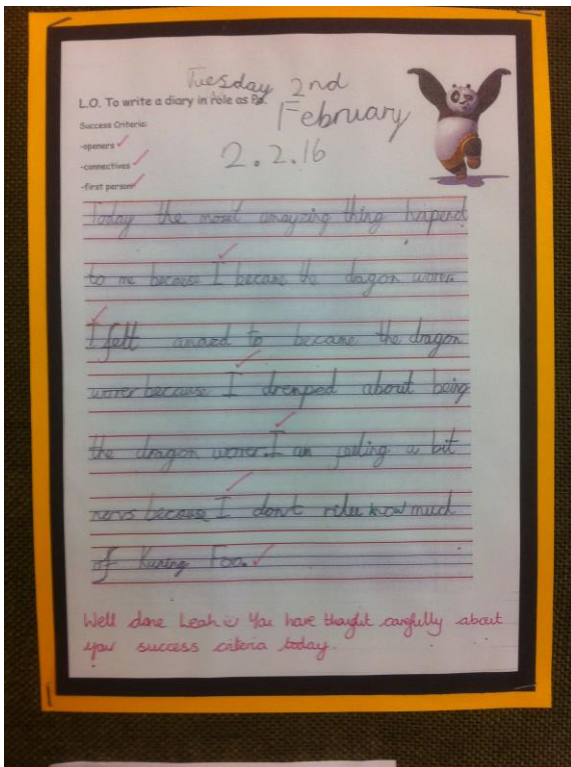
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Pancake Day Fun

Where has Mr Churchward's pancake gone?



Class Two's topic has been China this term. They have enjoyed producing work inspired by different books and films with a Chinese theme. Leah has written a diary entry as Po from Kung Fu Panda!

You will notice that Class Two children are now working on handwriting paper for lots of their work. This is part of the 'Active English' approach we are going to be adopting.

Children in Class Two and Three will be working in new English books that use handwriting lines and have symbols down the side that relate to sentence types. We are already seeing a big improvement in handwriting and fluency.

