



Weekly Newsletter

Week ending 27/01/2023

‘Top Doodlers of the Week!’

A special mention for our highest scoring ‘Doodle Maths’ superstars in each class:

Reception – Nikara

Year 1 – Luca

Year 2 – Owen

Year 3 – Marcus

Year 4 – Cillian

Year 5 – Neave and Eliis

Year 6 – Tifa

Doodle Class of the week: YEAR 5

A message from the Headteacher;

I must start this week with a huge ‘thank you’ to our PTA members and those that came along to help at last Saturday’s Pre-Loved Sale. Thank you too, to everyone that donated items to the sale or came along on the day and hopefully went home with a bargain or two ! It was quite astounding to see the volume of offerings you had brought in and lovely to have a line of customers at the door before it even opened. With over £500 raised it also made a super contribution to our ‘special extras’ fund. The PTA also plan to meet this coming Tuesday, at 7.30pm, at the New Inn, Cliffe, should you wish to come along and get involved in their Easter event planning. Next week sees the first open event of 2023, with our Year 6 families invited into school on Friday the 3rd, at 3.00pm for the first of this year’s Open Assemblies. We can’t wait to see what Year 6 have to share with us ! Looking further ahead, the week beginning February the 6th sees national Children’s Mental Health Week being celebrated in school. With a focus on ‘Making Connections’, we are looking forward to welcoming in our family members, Cliffe Pre School, Rev. Horner and Kings Church Assembly Team. We would also warmly welcome any other local groups or organisations that would like to come and visit. So should you be part of a local dance group, book club, allotment society or any other local gathering please do get in touch if you would like to pop in. Family visit schedule for the week is as follows –

Mon 6 th Feb	Tues 7 th Feb	Weds 8 th Feb	Thurs 9 th Feb	Fri 10 th Feb
Rec/ Y1 parents & carers invited into the hall for a fun workout session 8.45/9.15am	Y2 / Y3 parents & carers invited into the hall for a fun workout session 8.45/9.15am Year 4, 5 & 6 Grandparents invited into school for tea and biscuits and a performance of songs. 2.30/3.30pm.	Y4 / Y5 parents & carers invited into the hall for a fun workout session 8.45/9.15am	Y6 parents & carers invited into the hall for a fun workout session 8.45/9.15am	All pupils asked to bring in a board or card game they can play with other pupils.

Just a final reminder that school is closed to the vast majority of pupils on Wednesday the 1st of February, as myself and many of our teachers participate in the NEU’s strike action. Those pupils entitled to childcare provision have been made aware via phone call.
Have a super weekend.

Reception/Year 1 Class News;

Reception and Year 1 have continued to celebrate Chinese New Year this week, but we have also started to explore the theme of 'People who Help Us'. We started the week by working together to create a big list of all the people that we feel are there to help us in our daily life! The list was BIG! Then we chose to focus on people who work in the NHS. We now have a doctor's surgery role play area and the children have been taking care of the babies and other patients! Over the week, we have watched a series of 4 episodes of Topsy and Tim when Topsy is in hospital, discussing what had happened each time, and predicting what we thought might happen next! Some of the children decided they wanted to make 'get well soon' cards for Topsy! We have also found out about a special nurse from the past, Florence Nightingale, who is still remembered today for her amazing contributions to the healthcare system. The children have found her intriguing and have retained a lot of information about her! In phonics, Year 1 have learnt the digraphs /ow/ brown cow and /ai/ snail in the rain. They have also learnt about vowels and consonants, starting to recognise the 5 vowels. I have introduced them to DoodleSpell this week and everyone has had a go on their account! (See home learning for more) Reception have recapped /sh/ /ch/ /th/ and we have been writing cvc (consonant vowel consonant) words! In maths, Reception have been exploring the composition of 5 and Year 1 have been working on their recall of number bonds to 10 and using this in their strategies for adding!

I have sent home the pack for the Big Garden Birdwatch in book bags, which is this weekend! If you get chance to do some birdwatching out of your window, then take some photos and pop into seesaw! Thank you!

Home learning this week:

- Enjoy your phonics reading books at least three times and record in your home/ school journal.
- Stay in the yellow and reach for green on Doodlemaths.
- Year 1 complete your doodle assignment (extra) on DoodleSpell. It is the same login as Doodlemaths and is a separate app or can be accessed the internet. The expectation for DoodleSpell is different to Doodlemaths. You don't need to worry about the yellow or green zones, just complete the one activity, which should take around 5 minutes.

Have a lovely weekend! Mrs Wilson

Year 2/3 Class News;

Year 2 and 3 have been busy as usual this week, enjoying the crisp January days as the first month of the year draws to a close. Our daily thermometer reading has shown a slight rise in temperature and the children have now been able to grow cress on our windowsill as part of their Science experiment! We evaluated our findings and summarised that although the cress seeds germinated well in the dark, they then failed to thrive without sunlight. The dry seeds didn't germinate at all so we concluded that plants needed water and light (and some warmth!) in order to thrive.

In our English lessons we've continued reading this term's text, 'Winter's Child', ordering the events and thinking about how we could use the amazing story as a basis for a non-fiction report. We're going to be journalists in the coming weeks, reporting on the story events by interviewing Tom, the central character and taking witness statements from others. In addition the children have practised the graphemes tion, i-e and igh, as well as command sentences and using punctuation in our Read Write Inc lessons.

Our Maths learning has been working on our addition and subtractions skills, with two and three digit numbers. Our mastering number sessions have focused on number bonds to 9, and how these relate to our column addition and subtraction skills. The daily morning task revisits maths learning from the last 6 months and covers all topics from shape to fractions, so our skills are always being refreshed.

The children are enjoying learning about UK in Geography, with our focus this week on Wales. We learned about the population, famous landmarks and the capital city of Cardiff, as well as human and physical features.

Mrs Townend continued her French lessons, which the children enthusiastically relay to me in their flourishing accents! Mrs Moulds from the music service taught the children to play a short fanfare on their ukuleles, followed by a play-a-long to the Australian Kookaburra song.

All children in school should now have brought home a joke book entry page; please do help your child to choose a joke, write and illustrate it, so they can be included in the School Council's fundraiser as part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week (6th February).

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Pears and Miss Waddington

Homework this week:

Doodle – stay in the yellow, reach for the green

Doodle Spell – complete the extra assignment by next Friday

Home-school journal – read and record 3 times a week, strive for 5!

Year 4/5 Class News;

This week in English we have written the opening to our Jabberwocky stories. We re-drafted these and worked hard to improve the organisation of our writing and the vocabulary that we used. We have also planned and written the build-up, paying particular attention to building suspense and tension.

In Maths we have checked our understanding of what a fraction is and have looked at how fractions can be equivalent. We have also found out our own equivalent fractions. We then moved on to counting in fractions and changing from improper fractions to mixed numbers.

We have enjoyed finding out about the Rainhill Trials this week in History and how the Rocket won against the other competitors. We imagined that we were there and completed speech bubbles for different scenarios.

In Art we have experimented with watercolours and completed our own gradient landscapes in our sketchbooks.

In RE we have talked about Baptism and the symbolism involved for Christians. In particular we looked at the promises made during a Christening by the parents and Godparents and by the participant during believer baptisms. With these in mind we wrote our own promises for our class community. In Science we had a great session learning about the digestive process. The children created their own comic strips following a food's journey through the digestive system. In groups, we even modelled the digestive system using bread, scissors (incisors), a potato masher (molars), a zip bag (stomach), then into the tights (small then large intestine), then out into the toilet! The children really enjoyed this, despite it being very disgusting!

Homework this week:

Doodle – stay in the yellow, reach for the green

Doodle Spell – complete the extra assignment by next Friday

Home-school journal – recorded reading at least three times with at least one signature.

Year 6 Class News;

This week in maths we have been learning how to understand percentages and we think we understand them comfortably now. In English we did a Greek live lesson on how to build up our own Greek story. To make our story we had to pick our male character and our female character and the places where all the exciting, eventful parts of the story will happen. My characters were Paris and Athena. In Science we used the Linnaean system to classify animals and find out their scientific name. We also designed a mnemonic to help us remember the order of the classification system. My mnemonic was: King Philip Came Over For Good Spaghetti. In Art we had to complete a sketch of a picture where one side was the actual picture and we had to draw the other side. I chose a leopard snarling. See you next week. Lucas B ☺

Y6 Homework

Doodle Maths– stay in the yellow, reach for the green by next Friday

Doodle English– stay in the yellow, reach for the green by next Friday

Doodle Spell – complete the extra assignment by next Friday

Home-school journal – Read 3 x weekly and record it in your Home School Journal

Dates for the Diary -

Fri 03/2/23 – Year 6 Open Assembly – Y6 families welcome !

Mon 06/02/2023 to Sun 12/02/2023 Children's Mental Health Week – Theme week in school.

Mon 13/02/23 to Fri 17/02/2023 Half Term

Mon 27/02/23 to Fri 03/03/2023 - World Book Day – Theme week in school.

Thur 02/03/2023 - World Book Day– Dress up day.

Fri 24/03/23 – Year 4/5 Open Assembly – Y4/5 families welcome !

Tue 28/03/23 – Home/School Consultation Evening 3

Wed 29/03/23 – Home/School Consultation Evening 4

Mon 03/04/2023 to Fri 14/04/2023 Easter Holiday
17/04/2023 Training Day - Holiday for pupils

May 2023 Key stage 1 test period

Mon 8/5/23 – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tue 9/5/23 / Fri 12/5/23 – Year 6 SATS week

Fri 19/5/22 – Year 2/3 Open Assembly – Y2/3 families welcome !

Mon 29/05/2023 to Fri 02/06/2023 Half Term

Mon 12/06/2023 to Fri 16/06/2023 – Year 1 Phonics screening check week

Fri 23/6/23 – Rec / Y1 Open Assembly – Rec/Y1 families welcome !

Thur 6/7/23 – Sports Day

Wed 19/7/23 – Y6 Leavers celebration evening in school – all Y6 pupils invited.

Fri 21/7/23 – PM - Y6 Leavers Assembly- Y6 families welcome !

Mon 24/07/2023 to Tue 25/07/2023 Staff Training Day
Wed 26/07/2023 to Sun 03/09/2023 Summer Holiday

****FURTHER DATES FOR TRIPS ETC TO FOLLOW !****