



NEWSLETTER

20/11/20

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ARTS AND CULTURE WEEK

Next week, the school will be breaking from its normal curriculum to have an 'Arts and Culture' Week.

Each afternoon the children will be working on art techniques, particularly the elements of art (shading, cutting, modelling etc). A variety of activities will take place and we intend to showcase the children's work with some form of virtual gallery at the end of the week.

Tuesday is National Film Day and we normally celebrate this with a visit to the cinema. Whilst this isn't possible, the children will be watching a film chosen by their teacher and carrying out related activities.

On Wednesday, it is 'No Pens Day'. As well as art, the children will be doing practical maths activities and drama rather than the normal English and Maths; the challenge being to avoid writing in pens and pencils.

On Thursday Y1/2 and Y3/6 will both be taking part in a virtual author event via Zoom. The authors will talk to the children about their books and how they became successful writers. Information has been sent by e-mail about 'Unpiggie' and 'The Great Dodo Comeback' and how to order a book if required.

It will be good to have a busy week which I'm sure will have something for everyone in it. PE will take place on the normal days as usual.

FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

In the absence of football practice, Mr Hall has arranged a football challenge for any children who want to take part in Y3 – 6. This will take place on 1st, 2nd and 3rd December and children have a number of challenges to complete (hit the crossbar, speed dribble, 'keepy uppies' etc). We will collect all the scores from the attempts to have a football challenge champion. Most of the challenges will take place on PE days, but having trainers in school on those days may be an idea for any keen footballers. It is also intended to have some form of mini tournament in school following this. More details will be given to the children nearer the time.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

There is some uncertainty about the final weeks of term in school, but at this stage they are only rumours so we plan to do the following in school:

Christmas Dinner: This will take place on Wednesday 9th December. It is quite a logistical challenge, but we hope all children will join in. Further details about ordering a dinner if you don't normally have one will come in the next newsletter.

Infant Nativity: Rehearsals will start soon for 'The Wonky Donkey'. Reception, Y1 and Y2 will prepare a performance as normal with music, drama and costumes and this will take place on Tuesday 15th December. We will film this and make sure that it is available for parents to watch either at the time or later that day. Further details will come nearer the time.

Pantomime: The children will be watching a virtual pantomime on Wednesday 16th December in the absence of our usual trip to Newcastle. We will try and make this as fun as possible and it could well involve popcorn and ice creams!

Christmas Parties: These will take place on Thursday 17th December with R, Y1 and Y2 in the morning and Y3 – 6 in the afternoon. The day will be non-uniform with party clothes, Christmas jumpers, anything festive being worn.

BREAK THE RULES DAY – Friday 4th December

Look out for further information from the PTA about this crazy day. However, I expect that one rule that everyone would like to break is uniform which will definitely be possible on that day!

READ, WRITE, INC. AND NEW READING MATERIALS

Many thanks to all the parents who attended the Zoom presentation the new reading materials last night. We were very pleased with the response. New reading books will start to come home from Monday. However, we feel it's important for all parents to have seen the presentation before reading books are sent home and would appreciate it if those parents could view the presentation, which will be on the school website by Monday, in order to get the best out of hearing their children read.

When books do come home, it is also important to return these by Friday each week.

FANTASY FOOTBALL

There is a new leader at the top of the Fantasy Football League with Mr Travers' 'Hakuna Juan Mata XI' taking the lead by just one point from Steven Scott's 'Frodo'. Louis Hindmoor top scored with 84 points last week which moved him to 5th and he is now the best placed pupil. I suspect there might be a bit of rivalry in the Whyte household with both Mr and Mrs Whyte tied in 9th place after 7 games. A few team changes might be necessary for some after the international break. Good Luck!

ATTENDANCE

Attendance continues to be good throughout the school. Y5 lead the way still with 99.18% overall, but Y4 and Y2 who have had 100% this week aren't far behind.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

This week's **Pupil of the Week** is **Zack Rankine (Y2)** for trying his hardest in all areas. Last week's winner was **Harry Menery (Y5)** for some splendid research done at home and his enthusiasm for the the World War II topic in class. **Mrs Vickers Kindness Cup** this week goes to **Olivia Whyte (Rec)** for always listening, following instructions and being a super tidier. Last week this went to **Jayden Johnston (Y6)** for his hard working attitude in class.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23-27/11/20	Whole School Art and Culture Week
25/11/20	No Pens Day
4/12/20	Break the Rules Day
4/12/20	Family Quiz Night (Virtual)
7/12/20	Flu Immunisation
9/12/20	School Christmas Dinner
15/12/20	Christmas Nativity (R, Y1, Y2)
16/12/20	Christmas Pantomime (Virtual)
17/12/20	Christmas Parties (R/1/2 (am) and Y3/4/5/6 (pm))
18/12/20	End of Term (1.15pm)