



NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Whitehead

Friday 19th January 2024



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome to our first newsletter of 2024!

We have all enjoyed our first week back in school after the holidays and we concluded the Christmas story with the Epiphany assembly on Friday. The Faith Ambassadors led assembly with the help of our actors from KS2. It emphasised the message that God sent Jesus for all mankind and his message to Love One Another is for all peoples.

We welcome our new Year 4 teacher, Mrs Jenkinson to our school. Please do say hello if you see her on the playground or in assembly. Mrs Jenkinson is mother to Ralph who is in our Reception class; and she brings with her 13 years teaching and school leadership experience. She is a great addition to our super staff team.

We have some other new faces in school this term. We welcome Dawood, brother of Hannah in Reception class, to Year 4. Dawood has quickly settled into Park Hill life and has made lots of new friends. We are also thrilled to have Grayson, Jumaimah, Jessie, Erin, Harper who have joined our Pre-school.

Christmas is a time for fundraising and charity and I would personally like to thank you for your generosity. We managed to raise an astounding £1771 for Pendleside Hospice and in this Friday's assembly, Leah from the Hospice is visiting school and telling us all about the wonderful work they do because of donations like ours. PTA funds which are used to buy resources and enhance the provision for the children, were boosted by the £830 from the raffle and £399 from the Christmas disco and stalls. In addition to all that, we also gave an enormous amount of food to Burnley Community Grocery throughout November and December. Thank you so much for your generosity and support. We continue to collect for the Food Bank and any food items are gratefully received. Many of you will not be fans of social media, nor am I, however we put some brilliant photographs on Facebook and Instagram of your children. It is a quick and easy way to give you a snapshot of some of the exciting lessons and activities your children are enjoying. If you currently do not follow school on Facebook or Instagram, then can I please urge you to do so - you will be pleasantly surprised by what you see.

There are many bugs and viruses around at this time of year and it is inevitable that some children will fall ill and have to take time off school. Please can I refer you to the NHS guidance, "Is my child too ill for school?" In most instances where your child has a cough or cold, then they can attend school and we can administer any medication which you advise us of.

Please follow the link for the guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Best wishes, Mrs Whitehead



Panto Fun!

Last Thursday was filled with drama as the whole school made their way to the Hippodrome in Colne to watch Jack and the Beanstalk. It was hilarious! Mr Bailey gained an admirer - Dame Trot. And Mr Davies was a brilliant sport agreeing to let the children throw a pie in his face, quite a few times.

A Well done to Fatimah, Alice and Ashton for getting up on stage and joining in the fun. We had further drama after the panto when one of our coaches broke down so a third of the school had to wait at the theatre to be rescued! Oh no, they didn't! Oh yes, they did!

Thank you to Mrs Grillo (Miss Grillo's lovely mum) and Paul for volunteering to help on the trip.

A wonderful time was had by all and we are already planning next year's trip to see Sleeping Beauty.



Poetry Vanguard and ESB

Our junior classes have begun their preparations for national speaking awards. Years 3 and 4 are preparing for a Poetry Vanguard examination in March. Years 5 and 6 are preparing for their English Speaking Board examination in February. These examinations are designed to help the children become more confident public speakers and are excellent preparation for what awaits at secondary school and thereafter, developing skills in speaking, listening, recitation, research, and performance. We look forward to seeing them shine for the external examiners who visit school to assess the examinations. Good luck juniors!

Label uniform

Yet another plea to parents to label your child's uniform. Winter means more clothes and it means more unlabelled uniform to find. We cannot find what has been misplaced by the children if their name is not in it.

Wellbeing Champions

As you all know, Miss Grillo is our Pastoral Lead and Child Mental Health First Aider. She devotes lots of her time to talking to and supporting children who just need a little extra nurturing. Now she has some able assistants!! Fatimah and Joseph in Year 6 have trained as Peer Wellbeing Champions. Both children have volunteered their time to helping their peers with any worries or concerns they may have. We are very proud of our Wellbeing Champions and will keep you updated about their work.



Forest School Lessons

Mrs Taylor has resumed Forest School lessons with all classes. Please can you ensure that your child has wellies, thick warm socks, waterproof trousers, school coat, hat and gloves on their day:

- Monday Y1
- Tuesday Y2
- Wednesday Y3 and Y6
- Thursday Y4
- Friday Y5

It is too cold and too wet to go out without the correct clothing. Anyone forgetting their kit will have to miss the lesson and stay inside.

Pre-school enjoying some fun in the snow!

