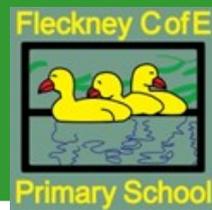


Fleckney School Newsletter

February 2024



Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

Thank you to those of you who completed the recent parent questionnaires or spoke to the visiting inspectors during last week's Ofsted Inspection. We were very pleased by the way the inspection was carried out and could not fault the team that were with us on Tuesday and Wednesday. I was really impressed by the way all of the children and staff pulled together to achieve an outcome that we are very pleased with. The final report becomes public and will be shared with parents later in March.

Thank you to all of you who attended parent's evenings two weeks ago. It was lovely to see so many of you face to face to discuss and share your children's progress and achievements.

I am delighted to be handing over to the new head teacher, Mr. Richards, who was appointed by our governing body at the beginning of January, and takes charge of the school after Easter. The school has been through a huge period of change and I am delighted that Ofsted finally visited us under my reign, as it has been twelve years since our last inspection.

I am very much looking forward to my last half term working here at Fleckney. This time of year always goes so quickly, and I am sure that the 22nd March will be here before we know it. Please also remember that Mrs. Marriott and Mrs. Romaine will also be moving on at the same time, and we wish them both every success in the future.

Best wishes for a relaxing half term,

Mr. Leah

The Kindness Cup

This half term the kindness cup was presented to Sophia L in 6JO. Sophia is calm, friendly and always embodies our golden rules - be ready, be safe and be kind.

Kindness is something that she exudes. She always gives her all in the classroom and can always be relied upon to work hard and do her very best. Never seeking the spotlight, she displays modesty and does everything in a calm but considered way.

Sophia quietly looks after her friends and supports them when and wherever she can without the need for thanks or any recognition. She is polite, courteous and always demonstrates gratitude towards all adults in school.

There was a recent situation, in which Sophia took her role in school as well being ambassador seriously, demonstrating the bravery and courage to challenge the behaviour of others. She is an advocate for kindness; insisting on positivity and respect.

In our recent inspection, Sophia talked proudly about our school to the inspectors. She mentioned that the teachers were kind and caring and worked hard for the children. Sophia, we are so proud of you, you are a very worthy recipient!



Mrs. Allen

Year 3 Update

Our Year 3 children have excelled themselves in many areas and we are very proud of their achievements.

Our English units are themed 'Heritage and Belonging' this half term and we have been reading some wonderful books and writing our own short stories based on a Japanese fable. In maths, we have become skilled at dividing using short division and have started studying fractions.

We've been doing some exciting work with plants in science and are looking forward to a day trip to Leicester Botanic Gardens next term to consolidate this work. In History, we've continued on from our Stone Age learning and have been looking at why the Bronze Age started – ask your child how bronze is made; they will impress you! Our RE lessons have included finding out about what festivals are celebrated in the Islamic faith and why these are important to Muslims. Also in RE, we found out about Candlemas, celebrating the presentation of the baby Jesus at the temple. The children made their teachers proud by superbly leading the whole school in a Candlemas collective worship on 2nd February.

We have all thoroughly enjoyed this half term and can't wait for all we have in store after the break.



Mrs. Fremmer and Mrs. Styles

Year 4 Update

The Year 4 children have been exploring the theme of 'Magic and Wonder' in English – looking at the texts: '*The Day I fell into a Fairytale*' by Ben Miller and '*Revolt Rhymes*' by Roald Dahl. Both these units have allowed us to look back at some of the most well-loved Fairy Tales and given us the opportunity to unleash our creativity through writing rhyming poetry. We have been particularly impressed with the children's skills of 'recital' and performance – as highlighted in our poetry circle.

In Art, the children have been looking at Patterns in Nature, looking closely at the natural world and the patterns within it.

The children have looked at artists who use collage to create images, combining these two elements to create a collage of their own.

During PSHE, the children have been looking at aspects of 'working together'. We have explored talents within us, helping each other to recognise what we are good at and what our strengths are. In addition, we have learned about 'communication' and the attributes needed to be a good communicator.



Mrs. Galpin

STEM Conference

On Saturday 3rd of February, some of our children joined nearly 200 others from the Market Harborough area and had a wonderful day at the 12th annual Market Harborough STEM Partnership's STEM conference. They spent their day experiencing a variety of workshops including Skittle chromatography, making snot and designing catapults! They enjoyed building with spaghetti and marshmallows, sending teddies down zip wires and testing acids and alkalis. As always, their behaviour was a credit to our school and we are incredibly proud of them!



Mrs. Koria

Year 1 Update

Children in Year 1 had a great visit from Mrs Ravat, who talked to all of the children about road safety. Now all of the children know that they need to stop, look and listen before crossing the road with a grown up. They also learned about the importance of a helmet when riding a bike, scooter or skateboard. Thank you Mrs Ravat!

When you came in for parents' evenings, you may have noticed some of the colourful art work that children have been producing. Mrs Pullen and Miss Williams have taught the children to use different mediums such as pastels, paint, sketching pencils and crayons. We have been reading a very popular book, 'Tilly and the Time Machine' by Adrian Edmonson, which all the children are enjoying. We have asked them where they would time travel to if they could. Some said they would go back to the 'really olden days' when we were young and phones had wires!

In Maths we have now moved on to place value to 50, and have been using lots of resources to help us learn, the children have really impressed us with their knowledge of tens and ones.



Mrs. Romaine, Mrs. Pullen and Miss Williams

Year 6 Update

In English, year six wrote some brilliant flashback stories about the events at Dunkirk in May 1940. They produced some fantastic, emotive writing and captured the intensity of this huge moment in history. The children have also been learning about the skills needed to be a good journalist and are working on newspaper articles about the issue of plastic waste.

During Maths lessons, we have been working hard on decimals and fractions. We have also introduced fifteen minutes of Maths fluency into morning registration time and our arithmetic skills are getting sharper by the day. In Science, we have studied light, learnt about how light travels, how shadows are formed and how to split light through a prism. We have done lots of fun, practical activities and the children have enjoyed this topic.

Our outdoor PE unit has been basketball this half term. We have some really enthusiastic players in our year group who have been showing off their dribbling, passing and shooting skills. In Art we have been looking at dragon eyes and practising using tones of colour to make them look more realistic. The children have enjoyed this process and come up with some great ideas. Well done!



Mrs. Korias

Christmas Jumper Day

We were pleased to again support the Save the Children 'Christmas Jumper Day' on Friday 15th December. Children and staff could be seen wearing Christmas jumpers, tops, tinsel and many different accessories. We raised the fantastic sum of £262.77. Thank you to everyone who supported this worthwhile charity.



Cost of Living Increase

As we know, the cost of living continues to increase, and we are conscious that this is impacting our community.

The Well Food Bank

As you will be aware, there is a donation basket in our reception area for our local food bank, The Well. We can also refer families to The Well for support. Please contact the school office team, in confidence, if you need any support.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding

If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may also be eligible to receive benefit-related free school meals for your children.

You can check if you qualify for this support by clicking on the below link to the Leicestershire County Council website, you will need to have your National Insurance number to hand.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals>

If you are eligible for this financial assistance, we will be able to help you with the cost of trips, residential visits and other enrichment activities.

Mrs. Jones

Year 2 Update

This term, the children have had great fun in Art, exploring colour mixing and creating shades and tints. We took inspiration from artists Mondrian, Rothko and Klee to create our artwork. The children have created mosaics using the primary colours, colour wheels by mixing the primary colours and explored what would happen if we added white or black gradually to a primary colour. There was definitely a sense of wonder and amazement as the children mixed the colours and watched them change!



The children have also been learning about plants and what they need to survive. They have taken part in an experiment to find out which plant would thrive and which wouldn't. Each class has 4 plants: one that gets water and sunlight, one with sunlight and no water, one with no sunlight and water and one with no sunlight and no water. The children have been fantastic at looking after the plants and taking on the responsibility of making sure the ones that need watering are watered. The children have been making predictions about what they think will happen to each plant and were excited to find out if their predictions were correct.



Mrs. Webb

Dojo Points

Our Dojo point totals are impressive. All children are working so hard and have achieved high totals of reward points. It's been great to see so many new winners this time around – Well done children!



In this half term, we have welcomed many special visitors into school. Lots of positive praise has been directed towards our children and the positive behaviour on display in our classrooms. I couldn't be prouder of our hard-working pupils.



Here are the Year 1 winners for this half term. Along with the other winners from across the school, the children received a reward of doughnuts with Mr Leah – yummy!

Mrs. Allen

Foundation Stage Update

This term the children have been exploring hot and cold places, looking at the globe and talking about where different animals live. We have learnt that polar bears and penguins never ever meet as they live in different places! We have been investigating ice and making observations about what happens to it? The children explored the language of "melting," "freezing" using words like "hard", "slippery", "cold" to describe it.



In our African safari we went on a journey in our jeep! The children used a compass and the binoculars to find and spot animals that live in this type of place.

Mrs. Teear

Year 5 Update

In year five we have been studying the book *Kensuke's Kingdom*, by Michael Morpurgo. It is a great adventure story and the children have really enjoyed it. We have written character descriptions and diary entries from different points of view. To finish, the children used their imaginations to create their own ending for the story, before hearing the author's. It was amazing to read so many different ideas.

In maths we have completed our work on fractions and have moved on to decimals and percentages. We have been carrying out practical work in our materials science topic.

The children discovered which materials were electrical conductors, which were transparent and opaque and which were attracted to a magnet. We investigated thermal insulators and found that a metal mug does not keep water warm as long as a ceramic or even a paper cup.

In RE we have studied Judaism, and the importance of the Torah. In Geography we have studied the landscape and volcanoes of Iceland. This links well with art, as we are creating work in the style of Icelandic artist Louisa Matthíasdóttir.



Mr. Pullen

Sports Update

Basketball Competition

On Tuesday 23rd January, a team of ten year 6 children travelled to Robert Smyth Academy to compete in a basketball competition against local schools. They played really well, demonstrating great passing, dribbling and shooting.

It was great to see such enthusiasm and energy from every single player. They had some good shots at the hoop and were unlucky not to have more on target.

It was wonderful to see all of the children supporting each other and showing really good teamwork. At the end of the competition, we finished seventh out of eight teams, against some really confident players. Well done to all who took part.

Mr. Pullen

Girl's Football

On Wednesday 24th January our year 5/6 girl's football team went to the Leicester City Football Training Academy in Seagrave to play in the county finals of the premier league stars competition. It was a truly

fantastic experience and the girls were so excited to have the opportunity to play at such a remarkable facility. We played 3 league games in the first half of the morning and

won all 3 games not conceding any goals! In the semi-final we went through to play Hope Hamilton and won 2-0. The final was against The Pastures who were a very talented and experienced team. We battled very hard but unfortunately conceded a goal early into the game. The girls persevered and played some of the best football I have seen them play but sadly lost 3-0. We finished second place across the whole of Leicestershire

which is just an absolutely incredible achievement. The girls received LCFC medals and thoroughly enjoyed their experience! Well done girls!

Mrs. Thurman



Fleckney Out of School Club

We have limited spaces for before and afterschool club



For more information please contact us on

07791259905

or

Foscle8@yahoo.co.uk

Year 4 Edale Residential

Fun, excitement, teamwork, resilience, confidence ... and of course SNOW!! 56 children ventured to the Peak District for 3 days of the outdoors and nature. What an amazing experience was had by all!

Day one consisted of off-site activities – weaseling and abseiling. Both activities were challenging and nerve wracking; we were so proud of the children’s determination and ‘gumption’ which they showed. On the first evening, we all ventured outside in the dark for a night hike. WOW!

Day 2 took us by surprise!! SNOW ... and lots of it! Our activities needed to be changed as we were unable to carry out any offsite activities. The children therefore took part in: snow orienteering, crate stacking, snow walks and of course playing in the snow - building snowmen and making snow angels! There were lots of giggles and laughter (and snowballs!).

Overall, it was a very busy and wonderful trip. The children were a joy to take and we hope they have taken away some great memories of their time in Edale.

Mrs. Galpin



Diary Dates

February

Weds 14th	First 3JS swimming session
Fri 16th	Last day of half term Wellbeing Pyjama Day
Mon 19th to Fri 23rd	Half term
Mon 26th	School reopens after half term

March

Weds 6th	9.45am FS Carers' assembly
Thurs 7th	World Book Day
Fri 8th	Easter Church Services
Tues 12th to Weds 13th	Yr2 Beaumanor residential
Thurs 14th	FS & Yr6 National Child Measurement Programme
Fri 15th	Red Nose Day
Mon 18th	Final KS2 science club
Weds 20th	Final 3JS swimming session
Friday 22nd	Last day of term
Mon 25th to Fri 5th April	Easter holiday

School Terms and Holidays 2023—2024

Dates 2023-2024

Spring Term 2024

School Opens

Mon 8th January

Mid Term Break

Mon 19th—Fri 23rd February

School Closes

Fri 22nd March

Summer Term 2024

School opens

Mon 8th April

May Day Bank Holiday

Mon 6th May

Mid Term Break

Mon 27th — Fri 31st May

School Closes

Tues 9th July **1.30pm**

Dates 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2024

School Opens

Tues 27th August

Mid Term Break

Mon 21st—Fri 25th October

School Closes

Fri 20th December **1.30pm**

Spring Term 2025

School Opens

Mon 6th January

Mid Term Break

Mon 17th—Fri 21st February

School Closes

Fri 11th April

Summer Term 2025

School opens

Mon 28th April

May Day Bank Holiday

Mon 5th May

Mid Term Break

Mon 26th — Fri 30th May

School Closes

Tues 8th July **1.30pm**

