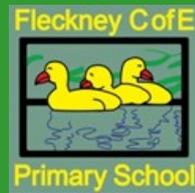


Fleckney School Newsletter

Christmas 2016



Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

It's been another busy and eventful term. The half term before Christmas is the longest and always one of the busiest terms of the year. As you will see from this newsletter it has been a fun-packed time. I have been delighted to see the children working so hard, behaving so well and taking advantage of so many of the opportunities offered to them throughout the last eight weeks.

As many of you will be aware Mrs Turner is leaving us at Christmas. She has been a fantastic Business Manager and Bursar for the school for the last six years. She is often the first port of call for many of you calling at the office and we know you will all miss her helpfulness and efficiency in dealing with all number of issues. Jo will be greatly missed by us all and we wish her every success in her future academic and university venture.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very restful and Merry Christmas. We look forward to seeing you again in 2017.

Mr Leah
Headteacher

KS1 Production

On 6th and 7th December, the KS1 children performed 'Tinsel and Tea Towels' to delighted parents and proud teaching staff. They did such a fantastic job, speaking loudly and clearly, singing beautifully and acting with enthusiasm and enjoyment.

Thank you to everyone who came and also to all parents for helping the children learn their lines. We hope that you enjoyed it!



Mrs Headley

Christmas Services

We always feel Christmas has arrived when we sing our Christmas Carols in St Nicholas Church. As we heard the readings by Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 telling us the Christmas story, our younger children, dressed in costume, formed a tableau of the Nativity. It just wouldn't be the same without them.



A special thank you to Father Philip who led all three services and reminded us to think of those less fortunate at this Christmas season. The choir sang a beautiful song "There's a song in the air" with a special solo by George. We were blessed with 2 pianists this year. Thank you to Mr Baum who supports the school so well with his musical talents and especially to Alice who played at the beginning, the end and during each service. How wonderful to see and hear the children celebrate the birth of Jesus in such a special way.

Mrs Binczak

Advent Service

At the beginning of December, Fleckney School were invited to Leicester Cathedral to



share in the Advent Service. Our Year 6 children, Jack, James, Molly and Emily went along with Mr Leah, Mrs Marshall, Mr Baum and Mrs Binczak.

The Cathedral has been offering a warm welcome to groups of refugees arriving in Leicester and we were asked to take a gift of baby items for these people in need.

The behaviour and participation of the children was excellent, they were a credit to our school. We were fortunate enough to be given a short talk after the service on Richard III and even fitted in a visit to the Guild Hall.

Geography Quality Mark

We are very proud to tell you that we have been awarded the silver Primary Geography Quality Mark by The Geography Association. This award recognises our high-quality geography curriculum and the vast enrichment activities we offer. We believe global learning is vital to children's developing minds and encourages them to engage with and understand the world in which they live.

Miss Panter and Mrs Galpin



Foundation Stage Blog

We have set up a new blog for Foundation Stage which allows us to keep parents updated with everything that happens in our Foundation Stage.

The blog is updated regularly with new pictures of our exciting role play areas, special events and activities and pupils of the week.

To find our blog just go to our school website, click on Useful Information, Key Stage Information and then the Foundation Stage blogger link.



Miss Bennett

Application for First-time Admission to Primary School 2017

All parents need to apply to County Hall for a school place for their child, even if they live in our catchment area. If your child is 4 years old before 1st September 2017 and therefore starting school for the first time, **the closing date for applications is 15th January 2017.**

Parents are encouraged to apply online at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions where you will find an online application form and guidance notes. This is quick and easy and an emailed receipt is sent so you can be sure the application has gone through. For more information, contact School Admissions on 0116 3056684 or email: admissions@leics.gov.uk

N.B. Applications received after the closing date will be dealt with after those received on time; if the closing date is not met it may not be possible to offer your child a place at their local school if all available places have been filled.

KS1 and FS Theatre

Visit

During the last week of term Key Stage 1 and Foundation



Stage enjoyed an exciting afternoon at De Montfort Hall watching a wonderful performance of 'Jack and the Beanstalk', starring Leicester's very own Sam Bailey.

The children and staff were enthralled by the amazing costumes, dancing and singing. The staff particularly enjoyed seeing how involved the children were with lots of shouting 'he's behind you', 'oh no you didn't', booing, cheering, dancing and clapping.

The children's behaviour was exceptional as always.

A fun filled afternoon was had by all!

Mrs Headley

Christmas Dinner

Children and staff enjoyed a delicious traditional Christmas lunch on Thursday 8th December. Christmas songs were playing, lunchtime staff wore festive hats and decorations, and support and teaching staff were in the hall to help, many sporting Christmas jumpers too!

A huge thank you to our superb cook, Ann, and her team.

Thanks to all children having a set meal pattern, we were able to ensure that everyone had their full complement of turkey, sprouts and pudding!



Book Fair

The magnificent sum of £1086.59 commission was raised which will enable us to have even more books in school. Thank you to everyone for your support.

KS2 Cinema Visit

On Wednesday 14th December, KS2 went to the cinema to see 'Moana' for their annual Christmas treat. This animated adventure had enough drama, humour and emotion to keep all the children glued to their seats. A huge thank you to all the staff who helped ensure the trip ran smoothly and, once again, the children represented Fleckney brilliantly.

Year 1 Diwali Afternoon

At the end of October Year 1 experienced an enjoyable afternoon learning about the celebration of Diwali.

Mrs Kearney, who has widely travelled in Asia brought us many artefacts to look at. She and the children acted out the story of Rama and Sita.

We learned about Hindu hospitality and the Asian culture.

Mrs Binczak

Royal Ballet Performance

Wow what an incredibly privileged opportunity it was to visit the Royal Opera House to see the 'Nutcracker' ballet performed on stage by some of the world's best ballerinas. Everything was incredibly opulent, decadent and covered in glitter! The whole experience was breathtaking.

We were fortunate enough to be given front row seats and were so close to the orchestra that the music resonated from our toes! The performance was spectacular and all the children sat engaged and open mouthed.

The children had a great day and received compliments on their behaviour. Well done to all who went.



Mrs Allen

Design and Technology in Year 5

Year 5 have been looking at moving toys. We have explored how cam mechanisms work and the children designed their own cam toys. We were so impressed with how well the Year 5s worked and there were some exceptional moving toys made.

Mr Scranage



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We were pleased to be able to support this year's Poppy appeal.

We raised the fantastic total of £389.14.

We held a Remembrance assembly which included a two minute silence on Friday 11th November.



Children in Need

To offer our continued support to 'Children in Need', this year children were invited to come to school wearing something spotty or wearing something different.

We raised an impressive £376.20!

Several of the Year 6 children organised a cake sale after school and raised a further £91.81. Well done.



Year 6 Geography Quiz at RSA

Two teams of year 6 pupils went to Robert Smyth



Academy to compete in a really challenging geography quiz. Well done to Rio, Jack, Matthew, Alex, Daniel

and George, who represented our school brilliantly and knew the answers to some incredibly tough questions!



Miss Panter

St Nicholas Assembly

December 6th can only mean one thing in the Year 4 calendar – St. Nicholas Day. Year 4 celebrated St. Nicholas Day in style by performing a special assembly to parents and the school.

The children had lots of fun learning about St. Nicholas, the stories about him and how children across the globe prepare and celebrate him.

The children dramatised a couple of the many legends that surround St. Nicholas, sang a song and presented a video of their recent trip to St. Nicholas church. Robson and Alistair both said, "Exploring the church was both fun and exciting!"

The assembly highlighted St. Nicholas' messages of the importance of giving to those in need without seeking thanks or praise. The children did a fantastic job of sharing their knowledge with the audience and we were very proud of them.



Mrs Hipkin and Mrs Allen

Musical Notes

The KS2 choir have been kept very busy over the past few weeks, carolling and spreading some Christmas cheer around the village! Our first performance was at the school's Christmas Fair, where the children sang a variety of traditional carols and favourite songs to an appreciative and supportive audience. We then sang to the Age UK charity's 'Wellbeing Group', who meet at the Library. This was a lovely occasion, and appreciated by all involved.

Miss Hamilton

New Walk Museum and Leicester Market Visit

On Friday 2nd December, the Year 2 staff and children went on a very special day trip to the New Walk Museum and also Leicester Market. Half of the day was spent exploring the museum, finding facts and investigating Dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, the Wild Space and listening to the Christmas choir. The children learnt a lot and particularly enjoyed seeing the mummies!



The other half of the day involved a fun visit to Leicester Market. We were met by the Market Officer who showed us around the market, telling us all about the different produce. The children were also given the opportunity to go behind a stall and pretend to be a market trader before purchasing some fruit to take back to school. We chopped the fruit during our Design and Technology cutting skills lesson.

A wonderful day was had by all! We were very impressed by the behaviour and enthusiasm of the children during the day and received some very complimentary feedback from the market staff, as well as members of the public. Well done Year 2!

Mrs Headley

Stop Press! Result of the Year 6 v. Staff football match was 3:3. The staff team was depleted through injury and illness. Luckily three Year 6 players offered to play for the staff team, thank you to Maisie, Anya-Grace and Jack for helping out the staff! A good, competitive match and well done to both teams. Thank you to Mr Baum, Governor, for his skills in refereeing the match. Mr Baum's Player of the Match was Maisie.

Diary Dates

December

Fri 16th Last day of term

January

Thurs 5th First day of term
 Mon 9th First gym club Yr 2,3,4
 Tues 10th First Yr 5 Japanese lesson
 Girls' football club restarts
 7.30pm FSA meeting
 Weds 11th First Yr 2 swim session
 First cooking club for group 3
 Yr 5/6 Football club restarts
 Thurs 12th First Yr 6 touch typing club
 Yr 5/6 netball club restarts
 Tag rugby club restarts
 Yr 3/4 football club restarts
 Sun 15th Closing date for FS 2017
 primary school admissions
 Mon 16th British Values Week
 Tues 17th Yr 6 workshop with Leics Police
 Fri 20th FSA Family Bingo
 Thurs 26th ASD support group
 Sat 28th Ogden Trust Science

February

Thurs 2nd Yr 3 Candlemass assembly
 Weds 8th Yr 4 Edale residential
 to Fri 10th
 Weds 8th Final Yr 2 swim session
 Fri 10th School closes for half term
 Mon 13th Half term
 to Fri 17th
 Mon 20th School reopens after half term
 Tues 21st Final Yr 5 Japanese lesson
 Weds 22nd First Yr 5 swim session
 Thurs 23rd FS & Yr 6 National Child
 Measurement Programme
 ASD support group

School Terms and Holidays 2016–2017

Autumn Term 2016

School Closes

Fri 16th December

Spring Term 2017

School Opens

Thurs 5th January

Mid Term Break

Mon 13th—Fri 17th February

School Closes

Fri 7th April

Summer Term 2017

School opens

Mon 24th April

May Day

Mon 1st May

Mid Term Break

Mon 29th May—Fri 2nd June

School Closes

Fri 14th July

Autumn Term 2017 (Provisional dates—to be confirmed)

School Opens

Tues 29th August

Mid Term Break

Mon 16th—Fri 20th October

School Closes

Weds 20th December

Spring Term 2018 (Provisional dates—to be confirmed)

School Opens

Tues 10th January

Mid Term Break

Mon 12th—Fri 16th February

School Closes

Fri 23rd March

Summer Term 2018 (Provisional dates—to be confirmed)

School opens

Mon 9th April

May Day

Mon 7th May

Mid Term Break

Mon 28th May—Fri 1st June

School Closes

Fri 13th July