



Fleckney School Newsletter

Dear Parents, Governors and Friends

The 'Toy for Haiti' Appeal

May I say a really big 'Thank You' to all the parents and carers who supported our recent Haiti Appeal. The hall was full of the generous gifts which the children donated and we had a huge turnout for the morning and afternoon sales. The few sale items left at the end of the sales will be sent, along with our other donations, to our partner school in Belarus.

Not only did we raise £510 towards the charity funds but the event itself produced a really positive atmosphere. Many of the children bought gifts for younger brothers and sisters and others were wide-eyed with their own purchases.

Well done to everyone involved!

Kilby Road Crossing Patrol

Mr Stretton is still absent from duty and we are very grateful to Mr Birch who is able to provide some cover, but please be aware that there will be times when there is no-one on duty on the Kilby Road crossing.

Mr Birch will be on duty on:

Tuesday 2nd and Monday 8th February in the morning and afternoon;
on Friday 5th in the morning only.

There will be no-one on duty on Wednesday 3rd or Thursday 4th February.

Road Safety Assemblies

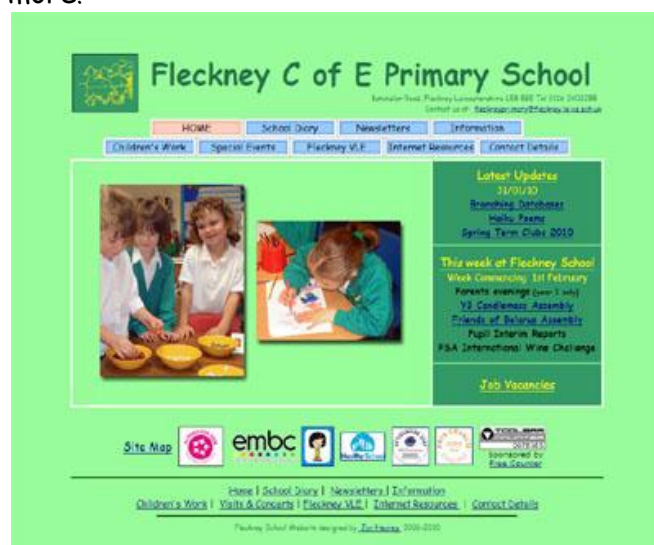
On Thursday 14th January the Police Road Safety Officer, Mr John Budulis, came to lead two assemblies, one for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children and one for Key Stage 2 children. He talked to the children about how they can keep themselves and others safe on the road. The children listened really carefully and were excellent at answering questions and repeating the Green Cross Code.

Remember STOP, LOOK, LISTEN!

The School Website

Up to date information on school news and events is just one click away when you visit the Fleckney School website. You can also find examples of children's work, pictures of recent events and everything you need to know about life at our school.

Visit www.fleckney.leics.sch.uk to find out more!



Don't forget to visit our school website at www.fleckney.leics.sch.uk for all the latest information, examples of the children's work and photographs of special events and school trips.

Swimming Success

On Thursday 7th January we celebrated our Year 5 swimming success. The children in Year 5 have been swimming with the school since they were in Year 2. In fact they were the first ever Key Stage 1 children to go swimming with the school.

All of the children who attended the lessons at Evington Pool achieved at least Level 4 Water Skills which is brilliant and shows the value of starting them young. Each child received a certificate and badge. Well done to all of you.

Also many thanks to the many parents who have supported us by helping us on our visits to the pool especially Mrs Ashman, Mrs Prior, Mr Butler and Mr Milligan.

This term we have already begun swimming sessions with children in Year 4 and 2 and we are grateful for the support of the parents who are accompanying us with both year groups. Next term, Year 3 and Year 1 children will begin their swimming sessions.

Safety Information

Bottle caps and Packed Lunch

Many of you will be aware that children's soft drinks bottles often have small loose-fitting plastic caps covering the plastic 'spout'. The tops often fit very tightly and many children are in the habit of removing these tops with their teeth. There is a real possibility that the tops could fall into the child's throat and present a choking hazard even though they are deliberately perforated. You may wish to ensure that the plastic cap is removed from any drink bottle before it is brought to school or loosen it so that the children can remove them by hand.

Music Notes

The FSA kindly agreed to provide funding for Year 2 to have a year group set of ocarinas. The children are really enjoying learning to play the instrument as well as the valuable

experience of playing as part of a group.

Eleven musicians from Year 5 and 6 played a lovely carol arrangement as parents and friends of the school arrived at St Nicholas Church for our three carol services. Well done!

A group of Year 6 children and staff visited Brookside Gardens Care Home again this year to sing carols and Christmas songs. The event was enjoyed by both children and residents. The Key Stage 2 choir has begun rehearsals and I am pleased to report great enthusiasm and lovely voices all round! We look forward to our first performance.

Art, Modern Foreign Languages and Internationalism

We have been awarded the 'International School Award' (ISA) Foundation level. We are now working towards the Intermediate level.

Japanese Club - we received an overwhelming response from Years 3 and 4 and are now running two lessons per week after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are currently establishing a link school with Gunma Prefecture, Japan.

We have been shortlisted by Leicestershire County Council in our application for a substantial grant. If awarded, we plan to use this for a Japanese arts and culture day in the summer term. We took four children from Years 4 and 5 to present our ideas to a panel of judges on Saturday 30th January. The children gave a super presentation and we are waiting to hear if we have been successful.

Due to another successful grant application, awarded by the Japan Society, we will be hosting a Japanese Taiko drumming day in March. This will include expert-led workshops and culminate in a performance in the afternoon.

Other important events will be Chinese New Year Day (11th February), International Day (24th February), British Arts and Culture Week (15th - 19th March).

Extra-curricular Clubs

We are very pleased to be able to offer many children the opportunity to attend a wide range of after-school interest clubs and we are grateful to all the staff who give their time to run these activities.

The following clubs are running this term: Touch typing (Mrs Binczak) for Year 6 children, Drama Club (Miss Matthews, Miss McNeil) for Years 5 and 6 children, Craft Club (Miss Matthews, Mrs Marriott, Mrs Tudor, Mrs Goddard, Mrs Grant) and Japanese Club (Mrs Galpin, Miss Thorpe) for Years 3 and 4 children, and Choir (Miss Hamilton) for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 children.

There are also 6 extra-curricular sports clubs being offered to the children: tennis for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (Mr Bradfield), football for Years 5 and 6 (Mr Ager), football for Year 2 (Mr Hodges), netball for Years 5 and 6 (Miss Baum, Mrs Holman, Mrs Farrow), cross-country for Key Stage 2 (Mrs Pullen, Mr Ager), Chess for Year 6 (Mr Harvey) and short tennis for Year 3 (Mr Hodges).

All these clubs are extremely popular.

Football Shorts

On Wednesday 20th January the 7-a-side team played Ridgeway School in the final of the Christmas Cup. We played under floodlights at the Harborough Town all-weather pitch.

Ridgeway played very well and won 4-2 but the Fleckney team all did their best and finishing as runners-up in the area is no disgrace.

The team received medals at the end of match presentation. Thank you to all the supporters and to Mr Hodges.

Personal possessions

Please remind children that they should not bring expensive personal possessions into school e.g. mobile phones, i-pods. We have had one or two older pupils who have 'forgotten???' that they have had a phone in their pocket and been embarrassed when it has rung at an inappropriate time.

Support for 'Friends of Belarus' Charity

Last week in two assemblies, Mr and Mrs Sharman told the children about the work of this charity in Belarus and about the schools they support. Our school has a long-standing relationship with Mr Sharman in supporting the 'Friends of Belarus' charity and he is departing shortly for Belarus with donations collected for the children.

The charity is asking if each child in the school would donate one creme egg and one piece of stationery. The stationery items could include: a pack of colouring pencils or felt tip pens, a small notebook, a rubber, a pencil sharpener or a ruler. Mr Sharman will come to assembly on Wednesday morning, 3rd February, to collect any donations and to thank the children for their help and support.

Thank you for your continuing support for our charity work.

Charity Fundraising

Four girls from Year 4, Abigail W, Olivia H, Mollie T and Georgia B, organised a Dot to Dot competition in aid of Rainbows Hospice for Children and Young People and raised £10.71. They have received a letter from the charity thanking them for their support. Well done.

Candlemass Assembly

As you will know, the children have daily assemblies either for the whole school or for each Key Stage in turn. These are led by school staff, local clergy or visiting speakers and children are occasionally involved in leading these too. As part of a school initiative, each year group leads a special assembly at various key points during the school and religious year. These feature significant input from the children themselves.

Year 3 presented their assembly to the school and to parents on Tuesday 2nd February. The assembly was to remember Candlemass, which is a special time in the Christian calendar.

Building Work

Plans have been agreed to commence internal building work at the school over the Easter holiday period. This will involve re-modelling the reception and office areas, classroom 4JO, disabled toilet and corridors. Although the bulk of the work will be completed by the end of the Easter break (including all classroom improvements), it is likely to take another two weeks to fully complete the work. Children's education should not be disrupted and we have made considerable savings by avoiding the summer holiday's peak demand. The project will be paid for by government grants set aside for this purpose (DFC).

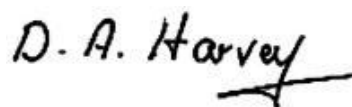
Dates for your Diary

February

Tues 2nd	Year 1 Parents' evening Netball match at Great Glen
Wed 3rd	Belarus assembly - collection of donations
Fri 5th	Interim Reports out (Not Y1)
Mon 8th	Parents' evening
Tues 9th	Parents' evening
Thurs 11th	Chinese New Year Day Netball match versus Church Langton at home

Mon 15th -	Half term holiday
Fri 19th	
Tues 23rd	Netball match at Meadowdale School
Wed 24th	International Day Book Fair in Hall
Thurs 25th	Book Fair in Hall
March	
Tues 5th	Japanese Drumming workshop
Thurs 4th	World Book Day Netball match at Sherrier
Tues 9th	Netball match versus Kibworth at home
Thurs 11th	Netball match FSA Disco
Mon 15th -	British Arts and Culture Week
Fri 19th	
Wed 17th	Netball match at Farndon Fields School
Fri 19th	Last swimming session - Year 2
Tues 23rd	Easter Services in St Nicholas Church
Wed 24th	Last swimming session - Year 4
Fri 26th	School closes for Easter break
April	
Mon 12th	School opens for Summer term

Yours sincerely



David Harvey