

Newsletter

26th May 2017

St Nicholas Church of England School

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A Note from Mrs Peacock

It has been an exciting time in school this week as we have interviewed for a new teacher for Tiger Class. Sadly Mrs Marley will be leaving us at the end of the term but we had a very successful day on Tuesday and we have appointed Mrs Jennifer Duffy, who is an experienced EYFS/KS1 teacher, to teach alongside Miss Mandelson in Tiger Class starting in September. Mrs Duffy will be coming into school over the next few weeks to get to know the children.

Thanks to Susie and Jennie for leading the Amnesty Junior Action session (see over for more information). It was a great opportunity for our children.

We have also had some work experience students with us this week. They have been a great help - thanks to Phoebe and Susie for all they have done (plus credit to Phoebe for her help in writing the articles for this week's newsletter).

Halfway Through Term

As we have now reached half term, the pupils have made lots of progress in their work. Tiger Class has been looking at the book 'Handa's Surprise', and learning lots about Africa. This week they have written fact files about different African animals on a word document, practising their typing skills and lots of difficult new words like 'elephant' and 'ostrich'. They have also had fun tasting the unusual fruits which feature in the story, including guava which were kindly provided by Mrs Carrick.

Jaguars and Lions are currently studying the Second World War so have been designing victory posters and 'digging for victory' to create a vegetable garden in the area behind the outdoor classroom. Soon the fun will begin as the children prepare for this year's summer production, 'Edith's Wartime Memories'. This is always a busy time as children are learning their lines, organising costumes and making props.

Headteacher's Award

Reece Walker

...for excellent contribution to the tennis team!

Tiger Class

Maisy Gillies-Hewson

...for working hard on her handwriting.

Lion Class

Rowan Norfolk

...for great weeding and planting this week.

Jaguar Class

Ellie Lynch

...for using number bonds to calculate missing angles.

Junior Amnesty Project

We were delighted by the huge turn out to support the Junior Action Project led by Susie Sanders and Jennie Holt this week. It made us very proud to see so many of our children keen to do their bit and stand in solidarity in support of the human rights of others.

Archie reports:

"It was a really interesting project, we had a whole group discussion on why Kamal Foroughi was arrested, and whether he should have been sent to prison. We also discussed what a fair trial was, and why they are important. It made me feel a bit sad because of how badly he was treated, and also that he has not been allowed to see his family for over six years. We wrote postcards and pictures to Kamal to show him he has not been forgotten, and letters to the leader of Iran to ask for his release. It was really good to help someone else, and stand up for human rights. I'd like to do more projects in the future."

More Tennis!

This week it was the turn of the Y5 and Y6 children to visit Ripon Tennis Centre along with children from other local schools.

Reece reports: "We sat and waited for the tennis to open, and were numbered and put into groups. We were assigned to play matches against different primary schools. There were four tennis courts inside where the proper matches were taking place, whilst other people were training on the outside courts. I enjoyed playing against Kirkby Malzeard because there was a range of abilities that provided exciting matches. I won three out of four matches and really enjoyed the day, even though it was very hot! Thank you to Mrs Sharp, Mrs McNamara and Mrs Oldham!

Pantomime Problem

We are already looking ahead to Christmas as the time has come to book this year's tickets for the pantomime! This year we would like to seek your views before making a firm booking as we are increasingly aware of the financial pressures on families. Cuts to school budgets also mean that we are unable to subsidise the cost of such treats for the children. It would be very useful to get an overview of the feeling amongst parents and carers about whether or not you would like to see this annual tradition continue, and if parents are happy to cover the cost, before we decide whether or not to book tickets. Please let us know your thoughts. You can leave a comment in the suggestion box in the front entrance or contact us by email.

Coming up...

Friday 26th May

3.25 Break up for half-term

Monday 5th June

School re-opens

KS2 Cross Country at Newby Hall

Wednesday 7th June

AM: Tigers visit Tesco, Thirsk

Thursday 8th June

6pm Meeting for parents of new starters

Monday 12th June

PM: KS2 Athletics at Outwood Academy

Wednesday 14th June

KS2 Countryside Day

Mondays 19th and 26th June

Bikeability Training for Lion Class (please look out for information coming home separately)

Ice Cream Friday

Many thanks to all those who have kindly signed up to help serve ice creams after school on Fridays, including those who have already taken a turn. As you can see there are still a few spaces on the rota below, so if you can spare a little time to lend a hand, please do let us know.

May

Friday 26th - Ruth Smirthwaite and Tori Brennan

June

Friday 9th - Carol Gilpin

Friday 16th - Jackie Welford and Helen Ramsay

Friday 23rd -

Friday 30th -

July

Friday 7th - Suzanne Gilpin and Laura Carrick

Friday 14th - Tracy Stapylton and Suzanne Gilpin

Ideally it would be good to have two helpers each week. As well as providing a lovely treat for the children at the end of the week, all proceeds will go towards funding the whole-school trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park later this term.



Wishing everyone a lovely half-term break!