

SISSINGHURST (VA) CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Friday 25th January 2019 - Issue 11

Enjoy, Achieve and Celebrate Together in Faith

SCHOOL PRAYER

Dear God,

We ask that you would bless us in our school, give us the strength to learn, to be kind, to be fair and to look after others.
We are thankful for all your gifts **Amen**

Dear parents and carers,

The children have been working very hard at their studies this term. I have seen a real shift in mind set for some of our reluctant learners and they are now keen to 'have a go' with the tasks set, becoming more and more independent, which is great to see. All classes are focusing on developing greater independence by giving pupils opportunities to work in pairs and small groups to develop ideas before writing. This is proving to be very successful.

The staff attended writing moderation with other local schools on Monday. During this session the teachers from the various schools looked at the books and discussed whether the work showed age-expected, deeper understanding or working towards. I am pleased to say that the judgements made by Sissinghurst staff were all agreed and the books compared favourably with the other schools. (It is always good to get an outside view!)

Our next assessment week will be the week beginning 4th March and your child's progress will be discussed at the Child Learning Reviews on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March.

Car Park

Please can I remind all parents about the etiquette of our car park:

Please refrain from parking on the zig-zag lines on the road outside school and on the coned area inside the gate. The first is dangerous to cars on the road and the second is restrictive to those who are trying to leave the car park.

Always fill up all the parking spaces BEFORE double parking or parking along the log wall. This will enable more cars to park safely. If you are concerned about being able to leave the car park, then reverse in as it is always easier to drive out forwards.

Finally, the four car spaces at the top of the car park are for disabled badge holders only. We now have as many as three families who need these spaces. I know it can be frustrating when they are empty and there is nowhere else to park but spaces do clear and your child will always be safe at school until you arrive.

Malawi

Following on from our successful 'Grow a Pound' fundraiser with Leopard Class, this term Eagles and Zebras will be carrying out an enterprise project to raise money for Malawi. The classes will be communicating with you in due course as to what that is and when children need to bring some money into school. Holly Nicholls, linking co-ordinator for Starfish Malawi, will be leading worship on Thursday 31st January at 9.00am. If anyone would like to join us on that morning, please feel free to do so!

Mrs Penfold

Governors

Resources

The Governors' Resources team met on Monday, 14th January. Ensuring that the long-term financial position of the school is secure and that the school spends its money well remain the top priorities for the team. We reviewed the spend so far this academic year, feedback from the Local Authority and from a governor's monitoring visit, and a comparison of our spend to that of other, similar schools. All reassured us of the continued health and careful management of the school finances.

Peter Denyer -Resources

Learning and Development

With the new spring term comes the opportunity for the learning and development team to review data and progress from terms 1&2. On Friday 11th Jan L&D met to do just that. As well as assessing data on core academic progress, the meeting looked at governor monitoring visits and discussed more broadly the learning experience of all children at Sissinghurst. A large proportion of these discussions revolved around the Curriculum and its future development, an area highlighted for growth in our Ofsted inspection; and forming a key principle to Ofsted's new line of focus for more broad, relevant and rich learning. The school has considered carefully how to approach this and we look forward to reviewing the outcomes later in the year.

Scott Martin - Learning and Development



FOSS

Are there any events that you think FOSS could run? Something for parents as a get together, social thing? Or for the children to do? We're always on the look out for new ideas, and of course feedback on what we already organise. So if you have any thoughts or ideas please let us know.

Anna Bourne - 07989 414426

News from the Classes



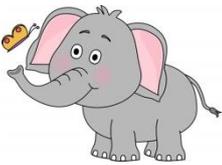
Lion Class have been busy learning more facts about bears. We have been using musical instruments to add sounds to the Bear Hunt story. We have also been taking it in turns each week to make bear biscuits, baking with Miss Sands. Please may we request school tights donations for Lion Class if you have some as we do not have any spares left for little accidents.

Mrs Lyon



Giraffes have been writing their own Fairy Tales this week. We have been thinking about adjectives we could use to make our work even more exciting! We are low on junk modelling materials so would be grateful if you could send in any interesting recycling. It is Giraffe Class's turn for Forest School next week - please can you send your children in with warm clothes and wellingtons. Many thanks.

Mrs MacFarlane



We enjoyed creating tally charts to find out Elephant Class's favourite Minions. Several children say they have really enjoyed learning about inventors and in particular Thomas Eddison. Forest School activities were very exciting - the children made a fire and then made toast. We have particularly liked working as a team for independent learning in English and Maths.

Mrs Delorie



Zebras have been learning about the water cycles, using the scientific terms to explain how the process works. We have also been using the computers to find out about the two Olympic Games that took place during the 1970s and the achievements of some of the sportsmen and women who took part.

Mr Martin



Eagles are very proud of their dragon stories 'The Dragon Slayer'. Children worked very hard and have produced some exceptional stories. We are enjoying and challenging ourselves with solving problem and finding patterns in investigations in maths. We loved learning about reproduction in plants, which generated lots of interesting questions in class discussion.

Mrs Desai



This week in Leopard Class, we worked remarkably hard in PE, testing our cardiovascular fitness levels with short bursts of exercise throughout the lesson. Many of us were aching the following morning!

Mr Boyles



Week Ending 25th January 2019

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------|
| Lion Class | - | 98.2% |
| Giraffe Class | - | 99.0% |
| Elephant Class | - | 99.0 % |
| Zebra Class | - | 99.2 % |
| Eagle Class | - | 94.8% |
| Leopard Class | - | 96.0% |
| Whole School | - | 97.6% |

Well done Zebra Class
an amazing week!

Government Target Each Academic Year is 96%

LEARNER & CITIZEN AWARDS

Friday 25th January 2019

Lion Class – Eliana/Oliver
Giraffe Class – Finley/Polly
Elephant Class – Henry/Richard
Zebra Class – Fleur/Meg
Eagle Class – Lilly/Leah
Leopard Class – Katie/Isabel



It was lovely to see the following team; Braxton, Finley M, Mai, Gracie-May, Richie, Cooper, Evelyn, Finley B, Lucy H, and Caitlin for taking part, competing and having fun representing Sissinghurst in this years Infant Agility. As a team they worked around several activity stations, the most favourite being 'The Launcher'. Finishing a fantastic 3rd! Well done team.

Congratulations also to our swimming team; Tilly, Zoe C, Violet, Harry H, Ronnie S, Lucy L, Katie L, Molly-May, Harrison and George for competing in this years Swimming Gala.

Many single races with our team finishing 1st or 2nd. They all swam fantastically in both their single and relay race. Well done to Harrison and Harry H swimming two single races and twice the length of the pool in the relay.

We are very proud of them all, especially congratulating each other after their swim. Finishing a magnificent 2nd!

Up and coming tournaments this term are Sports Hall Athletics and New Age Kurling for years 3 and 4. Well done all.

Mrs Saxby



It was Zebras' turn to be in Forest School last week. Following Mrs Penfold's advice to the children to make healthy choices regarding food, we cooked fruit kebabs and potato wedges on the campfire. Pupils also made individual fires – we now have many expert fire-lighters.

Elephant Class continued with the cooking theme. Pupils enjoyed toast cooked on the campfire, made their own fires and returned to a favourite activity: climbing trees. Some members of Eco Club were also in Forest School to take part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch.

Mrs Hutchings

CHURCH SERVICES



27 JAN

8.00am

Holy Communion (1662)

Rev Fred Olney

11.00am

Morning Worship – Rev Fred Olney

CALENDAR DATES

| Date | Day | Event | Time |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|
| TERM 3 | | | |
| 05.02.19 | Tuesday | Chinese New Year (new lunch menu for the day) | |
| 05.02.19 | Tuesday | WOKKSA New Age Kurling (Y3/4) | 4.00-6.00pm |
| 06.02.19 | Wednesday | Y3-Y6 Hairspray Performance at Cranbrook | 1.30-4.30pm |
| 07.02.19 | Thursday | Sportshall Athletics (Y3/4) | |
| 14.02.19 | Thursday | HWA Humanities Challenge Y5 (selected pupils) | 10.00-12.00pm |
| 15.02.19 | Friday | Last Day of Term 3 | |
| TERM 4 | | | |
| 25.02.19 | Monday | Start of Term 4 | |
| 12.03.19 | Tuesday | Hockey Tournament – Marden | 3.00-5.00pm |
| 14.03.19 | Thursday | HWA Science Challenge Y5 (selected pupils) | 10.00-12.00pm |
| 14.03.19 | Thursday | YR/Y1/Y2 Peter & The Timber Wolfe – Bethany School | 1.30-3.00pm |
| 19.03.19 | Tuesday | Netball Tournament HWA | 4.00-6.00pm |
| 20.03.19 | Wednesday | Child Learning Reviews | 3.30-6.00pm |
| 21.03.19 | Thursday | Child Learning Reviews | 5.30-8.00pm |
| 23.03.19 | Saturday | Spring Flower Show | 2.30pm |
| 05.04.19 | Friday | East Service at Trinity Church | 9.30am |
| 05.04.19 | Friday | Easter Egg Hunt and Sponsored Bounce | |
| 05.04.19 | Friday | End of Term 4 | |
| TERM 5 | | | |
| 23.04.19 | Tuesday | First Day of Term 5 | |
| 25.04.19 | Thursday | HWA French Challenge Y5 (selected pupils) | 10.00-12.00pm |
| 01.05.19 | Wednesday | Zebra Swimming | 2.15-3.00pm |
| 07.05.19 | Tuesday | Tag Rugby – Cranbrook Rugby Club | 3.00-6.00pm |
| 08.05.19 | Wednesday | Travelling Book Fair (1 week) finish 15.15.19 | |
| 11.05.19 | Saturday | May Fair | 12.30pm |
| 13.05.19 | Monday | SAT's Week | |
| 21.05.19 | Tuesday | WOKKSA Cross Country (Y3/4/5/6) | 4.00-6.00pm |
| 24.05.19 | Friday | Last Day of Term 5 | |
| TERM 6 | | | |
| 03.06.19 | Monday | INSET DAY | |
| 13.06.19 | Thursday | School Games Day with family picnic | 10.00-1.00pm |
| 15.06.19 | Saturday | Summer Flower Show | |
| 24.06.19 | Monday | Hardelet Residential Trip to France – 28.06.19 | 1 week |
| 12.07.19 | Friday | Pupil Reports Home | |
| 15.07.19 | Monday | New Reception Class Starter Picnic | 12.00-1.00pm |
| 15.07.19 | Monday | Transition Day | 1.00-3.00pm |
| 15.07.19 | Monday | Open Evening (All Parents) | 3.00-4.00pm |
| 17.07.19 | Wednesday | Transition Day | 1.00-3.00pm |
| 19.07.19 | Friday | Leavers Service and Family Picnic | 10.00-1.00pm |
| 22/23rd July | Mon/Tues | INSET DAYS | |