



Newsletter 8 11th January 2019



Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 7-I hope this communication finds you well. First of all, can I wish you all a Happy New Year-I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed the festivities. The children have been so eager to share their news and tales; we are all so pleased to be back in school with the children, working hard together! We have now begun our latest curriculum topic of 'Let's Investigate' which is a science based topic and we are all excited to bring this learning to life. All classes have sent out a curriculum map and letter today, detailing the latest information from the class and the learning due to take place this term-we hope you find this information useful. These documents can be found on the school website pages should you misplace your copy. We have many more exciting activities planned for the coming terms and I look forward to sharing these with you in future newsletters. Have an enjoyable 2 weeks and I look forward to seeing you in and around school.

Best Wishes, **Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)**

Share and Shine Time!



This term, family sharing will take place in the sessions outlined below. This is the children's opportunity to share with you the learning that has taken place across the curriculum. The dates for these sharing opportunities are as follows;

Class Ireland -12th Feb at 9.10am
Class Kenya-15th Feb at 9.10am
Class Egypt- 8th Feb at 9.10am
Class Brazil- 13th Feb at 3pm
Class Portugal-14th Feb at 3pm
Class Nepal-7th Feb at 9.10am

Snow

As the winter months continue, the threat of snow is always upon us. We will always endeavour to stay open in all but the most extreme conditions. Please keep up to date with the latest information on school closures and check the school website; this will be updated as soon as any decision has been made, listen to Lincs FM and look out for communication from school.

Christmas Fayre



Our Christmas Fayre, held in December, has continued to evolve as we took it outside to add to the festive feel. There was such a lovely buzz around the event and we appreciated the brilliant feedback we have been given.

Thank you to everyone who supported us-as a result of all of the hard work of everyone involved, a mammoth £550 was raised!



At the Parent Consultations held in November, we asked via the Parent Questionnaire a series of questions related to communication. One of the areas we asked about was the interest level from parents for an online app which parents would use to gain information from the school. With 99% of all respondents stating that they would prefer an online application, we are now in the position to be able to inform you that this has now been sourced and is ready for parents to activate.

The way the app works is for all parents and carers of children within school to be able to sign up to receive information from the school via different channels. The main channel is where information will be sent from the school office with letters, newsletters etc and will be the place to find all of the latest information. The class channels will allow you to subscribe to your child's class and only receive information that is relevant to you and your child(ren). You will need your own username and password.

One of the main benefits of this way of communicating is that you will no longer have to keep receiving emails into your email inbox and all of the information sent by school will be able to be stored in one central place. We will aim to eventually use Parenthub for all of our communication.

All that is needed to be able to get started is a smartphone device that connects to the internet. You will need to search for Parenthub in the app store, create an account and 'add school'-our handle is @ancasterprimary. An email will be sent to parents and carers with login information but we will begin updating this properly from next week. We hope you find it useful and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Welcome

This term we welcome two new members of staff, Mrs Rickard and Miss Heaney into Year 1 as 1:1 Support Assistants and they will be supporting individual pupils with their learning. We are delighted to welcome them into our school family!

Music Tuition

Mrs Glendinning, our Foundation Stage Teacher is also our Music Subject Leader and she is currently putting together a musical concert that will take place before Easter. She would like to know if there are any children who undertake any private music lessons, who would like to perform at the concert. If your child undertakes private tuition and would be happy to perform, please could you let Mrs Glendinning know by emailing enquiries@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk and marking the email for her attention.

We are in the process of asking our school provider to do a refresher session for parents to sign up new children for music lessons. More information to be sent in due course.



School PE Kit

Each class has their own days in which PE is taught, and these can often change if other events take place so for this reason, it is useful if PE kits could stay in school all week. Please be reminded of the school PE kit expectations-we will be informing you if your child is repeatedly without their kit as at least 2 hours of Physical Education per week is statutory within the curriculum.

Indoor: Plain white T-shirt & Navy/black shorts or skirt (gym and dance is in bare feet)

Outdoor: Plain white T-shirt, navy/black plain tracksuit top & bottoms, spare socks, trainers

Times Tables Rock Stars

All children within Key Stage 2 have been given a login for an online website (and app) called Times Tables Rock Stars. The aim of the website is to improve the children's knowledge of times tables and related facts. The National Curriculum has an expectation that children confidently and competently know and understand all of the times table facts up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. We are attempting to get as many children accessing this brilliant site as possible and hope that you will support your child in logging in and taking part.

<https://trockstars.com/>

Starting School in September 2019?



If your child, or someone you know is due to start school next September, please be aware that the application round is now open and closes on **January 15th 2019**. Should your child have a sibling in school, make sure that this criteria is outlined in the application as this will strengthen the application and secure a place at the school. If someone you know is interested in sending their child to our school we would love to hear from them and will be happy to show them around. This year we have had a record number of enquiries again for places and look forward to welcoming the newest intake of children into school ready for the next academic year.

Value of the Term

In our drive to be more focused by values, in addition to our school values of friendship, achievement, respect, creativity and honesty, we continue to have a 'value of the term'. This term, the value is 'Tolerance' and we will be exploring this throughout Collective Worship each week as well as in class. Please follow this learning up at home by discussing the value of Tolerance and what this means for you and your family.

Informing the School Office of changes to picking up arrangements



We recognise that changes can occur with respect to collection arrangements at the end of the school day. However, we have recently noticed, once again, that the number of calls the school receives in a day asking us to inform children of changes has increased dramatically.

To reduce the additional burden this administration is placing on the school; please can we ask that, where possible, arrangements are made prior to the school day starting and changes are only communicated via the school office as a last resort. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Happy New Year from all at Ancaster Church of England Primary School-Let's make 2019 the best year yet!