

Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 10. I hope this communication finds you well. We are having a wonderful Term 4 so far and there is such a lovely atmosphere and positive vibe around school. The focus and determination of all of our children is plain to see and the learning opportunities and outcomes produced so far this term have been exceptional! Whilst we are at the mid-point of this term, our determination and perseverance to achieve only increases and we look forward to seeing what happens next as we continue on the learning journey of this term. I hope you have an enjoyable 2 weeks and look forward to seeing you in and around the school.

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

## #BeKind

With recent news dominating the media regarding everyone needing to be more kind in the world, we have been reflecting on how we can make our own school a kinder place. We have thought about how our digital, online actions require us to think before we type, how important our body language is and how we can build people up rather than tear people down. We have considered that we never truly know what is happening in someone's world despite their happy smile and how we can individually, and collectively, can help brighten a person's day rather than cast a shadow. In truth, whilst we are discussing this with our children, we also should reflect on this as adults and for those around us.

For this reason, we are launching our own #BeKind campaign. We want to flood our school with kindness and for everyone to consider their own actions. We are asking for everyone to perform random acts of kindness every day and the change within school this week has been incredibly noticeable as we all focus on being the very best versions of ourselves and leading a positive contribution to society. At Ancaster, we want all involved with our school to have high levels of respect for one another and are using the bible quote 'Love your Neighbour' as our starting point.

Whilst many online behaviours take place outside of school, they are an extension of our true self and we need to consider our responses, interactions and communications to show ourselves in the best light. Year 6 have today undertaken a focused workshop on the dangers of their online presence being used negatively and the impact this can have on themselves and others. We want to encourage every single pupil, parent, staff member, governor and visitor to flood our school with the kindness that we all deserve. Please discuss this with your children and family so that the impact is felt beyond our school's four walls!

### Congratulations Miss Crosby (now Mrs Jackson)



During the half term holiday, Miss Crosby married her long term partner and has returned to school as Mrs Jackson. We are delighted to say that she had the most incredible wedding and we have loved hearing all about the special day. Please join us in congratulating both of them and wishing Mr and Mrs Jackson all the very best as they embark on their married life.

### Sport Relief

Sport Relief is taking place next week on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. We are inviting children to come to school in their PE/Sports clothing with a suggested donation of £1 which will be donated to the charity.

### Coronavirus Update

You will be aware of the current situation with regard to Coronavirus and further outbreaks that continue to occur. There is currently no cause for concern at Ancaster but we will keep you informed about any developments, should they arise. We are encouraging the children to regularly wash their hands and have taught the whole school how to do this properly focusing on every area of their hands. As always, we are ensuring that we're keeping the school clean to help prevent the spread of any virus.

As there is no current cause for concern, our school remains open in line with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and Public Health England. More information about this can be found on our website along with the details of a helpline set up by the DfE. This helpline is for staff and parents with queries related to Coronavirus - details of this can be found on our website.

### Easter Services-Advance Notice

Please note that our Easter Services are taking place on Wednesday 1st April AM KS2 at 9.15am and EYFS/KS1 at 10.15am. More details to follow.

## World Book Day 2020



Thank you to everyone who took the time and effort to help celebrate World Book Day. We had a wonderful day exploring a multitude of books and characters as well as allowing children to work across the school in mixed age groups to solve reading challenges. We loved the day and know that this focus allows memories to be made and children to become inspired through a love of books!

### Childline-It's not just a phone call!



The Childline website has lots of valuable information including an area called 'Calm Zone'. The activities aim to help support children when they are feeling anxious, scared or sad. Children could be encouraged to visit the website themselves but the techniques and activities can also be used with an adult. Why not take a look with your child(ren)?

[www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/](http://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/)

### The Magic of Reading Show



Today, the children have been treated to a show entitled 'The Magic of Reading'. This has been booked and paid for by our very wonderful PTFA and has encouraged all of our children to be inspired by reading and how reading helps develop them into lifelong learners. The show was incredible and we are delighted with the response from the children and staff who have claimed that it is one of the best shows we have ever had in school. A huge thank you must go to our PTFA for raising the funds to pay for this fantastic event and organising it for the children.

### Parent Guidance-TikTok

For those who are unaware of TikTok, it is a social media app that gives users the opportunity to share 60 second short videos with friends, family or the entire world. Videos that are shared range from funny sketches to lip-sync videos featuring special effects. Currently, the app is available in 75 languages with 1 billion active users (December 2019). **13 is the minimum age according to TikTok's terms and conditions.**

#### How does TikTok work?

When you download the app, you can instantly see the videos that others have posted on the channel but are not able to share or post anything until you have set up your own account. Once an account is created, your feed highlights what is going on in your community and a separate 'For you' feed shows tailored recommendations for you.

By default, all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send them messages.

Users can 'like' or react to a video, follow an account or send messages to each other. **There is the risk that strangers will be able to directly contact children on the app.**

Children may be tempted to take risks to get more of a following or likes on a video so it's important to talk about what they share and who with.