



Ancaster  
Church of England Primary School

# Newsletter 10

## 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to newsletter 10. We cannot quite believe in school that we are at half-term already-time certainly flies when you're having fun! This has been clearly evident across the school this week in particular, with Science and DT week in full flow, and fantastic Share & Shine opportunities in classes. Half-term marks the halfway point in the year for us and we are so impressed with the progress our children have made in so many ways. We have much to look forward to next term too with Pancake day enrichment, the Y6 Residential visit to Dearne Valley, Class Mexico's visit to Magna, The Great British Spring Clean, visiting speakers and so much more, not to mention the exciting and engaging learning opportunities that are provided by our dedicated staff on a daily basis! However, for now we hope you all have a lovely half-term, a good rest (if possible) and everyone comes back after the holiday healthy and refreshed, ready for the challenges of Term 4. Best Wishes, *Mr Sam Eden (Executive Headteacher) Mrs Clare Talbot (Deputy Headteacher)*



**Sarah Outen MBE**

### **Athlete, Adventurer and Motivational Speaker**

We were privileged to welcome Sarah to our school for the second time, last week. In her individual and engaging style, she captivated the whole school with her recount of her solo [London to London-via the World](#) adventure with her prevailing message of resilience. Amongst many stories, we learned how despite needing to be rescued from her first boat 'Gulliver' after days of being tossed around in a violent and terrifying tropical storm, she never gave up and returned to complete what she set out to do in her new boat 'Happy Socks'. Every single member of our school left the hall that day feeling motivated and inspired to tackle their own challenges and dig just a little bit deeper when things get tough – thanks Sarah!

### **TEAM REWARDS TREAT WEEK**

The Team Points winning team for Term 3 was **St. Hugh** – many congratulations to you all. Children in this team had the choice of: a visit to the park, a tea party, a Zumba session and wearing non-school uniform to school. Our Team system, of which we are very proud, continues to be a great success, motivating and rewarding our children daily and is a vehicle for displaying all our school values across school life.

### **The newest addition to Ancaster's Family**



Please join us in congratulating Miss Crosby and her partner, Adam who welcomed their child into the world on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February. We are delighted to be able to inform everyone that Miss Crosby has given birth to a bouncing baby boy, called Noah. Having sent a picture to school, he is absolutely beautiful and we simply cannot wait to meet him and of course, catch up with Miss Crosby!

### **Science & DT Week**

Our topic this term is 'Let's Investigate' which has been interpreted by each class in different ways to form their class topic as detailed on the curriculum maps sent to you in January. This week however, all classes have been set a challenge to use their Science and Design and Technology skills to collaboratively build a city (to the background theme 'We Built this City by Starship'). Each class has needed to investigate first, then design, build and test their part of the city. This has involved making traffic lights and level crossings, car washes, vehicles with movable parts etc. It has been a brilliant project, showcasing progression throughout year groups. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the hands on learning and gained valuable skills and knowledge on the way, many thanks to Mrs Parsons and Miss Footitt who planned and organised this super enrichment week. Watch out for these budding scientists and designers of the future!





## Cyber Safety



We take the safeguarding of our pupils extremely seriously and are committed to ensuring that we take all measures necessary to keep children safe. Technology is progressing at such a fast pace, with Ofcom reporting, in a study recently published, that ‘the average six-year-old child understands more about digital technology than a 45-year-old adult’. Outside of school many of our children are accessing the internet, playing online games and chatting and messaging online on a daily basis. At school we have safety filters to block potentially harmful content (including social networking of any kind) and teach the Kidsmart SMART rules alongside a comprehensive programme of e-safety, however we also recognise the need to teach children how to cope with using technology specifically outside of school and are now using a website called **thinkuknow** operated by the National Crime Agency. This provides age related information, games and support to help equip children, parents/carers and teachers with the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe. We encourage all our families to discuss e-safety at home and if your children have access to devices with internet capability to regularly monitor closely what they are doing. A parentmail attaching the SMARTrules poster we use in school will be sent out so that you can reinforce what we teach at school and use this at home too; when we work in partnership we can ensure our children are as safe as possible.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>



### World Book Day -March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Next term we will be celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> annual World Book Day and are inviting all children to dress up as a book character on this day. Outfits do not need to be specially bought as homemade ones are often the most effective, utilising what you already have at home. Classroom staff will also be dressing up, see if you can spot the story we will be representing! There will be lots of exciting learning taking place, including: using digital media to make film trailers to turn our books into movies, writing book reviews to inspire others in our library, role play and so much more! We know it's going to be another fabulous event for promoting reading for enjoyment and a lifelong love of reading.

### Share & Shine



Thanks to all our wonderful families who have supported our Share & Shine opportunities this week. The children really love showing you and talking to you about their learning in school and it really makes them proud when they can do this in their own class environment.

The next Share and Shine opportunities will take place in Term 5, so don't worry if you haven't managed to come to one yet.

**Don't forget-Class Canada's Parent Sharing is still to come on Wednesday 22nd Feb at 9.15am. We look forward to seeing you there!**



### DISCO

Thanks to our wonderful PTFA for arranging another fabulous disco, and to our dedicated staff team who stayed to supervise (and joined in with a spot of dancing too!) This was an extremely well attended event with great fun had by all, raising an amazing £250 profit. Look out for some more great PTFA organised events coming next term.

### School Gates

To ensure children who are on-site in the morning, in breakfast club, are properly safeguarded, our school gates will remain locked until 8.45am each morning; please ensure that your child does not come before this time if they come to school unaccompanied. At 8.45am staff will come onto the playground where they will be available for brief discussions and messages. It is essential all staff are able to return into classroom on the bell, please make an appointment if you need to speak to a teacher after this time, or relay a message via the office, thank you.

### Swim Marathon

Last Friday a team of Year 6 children, Keira Clark-Monk, Ruby Coates, Charlie Baker, Ryan Chapman, Lois Taylor and Callum Arnold, represented our school at Grantham Meres, swimming 100 lengths in relay for 30 minutes to raise money through sponsorship for Grantham Rotary Club. They did us proud and demonstrated great resilience and teamwork throughout, they received their certificates in worship yesterday – well done!