



# Ancaster C of E Primary School

## Newsletter 11 – 13th February



Dear Parents, Welcome to Newsletter number 11. I cannot quite believe we are heading towards another half term break as this term seems to have flown past. Over the past few weeks, we have had much to celebrate and being in school continues to be a source of excitement as the children and adults are working incredibly hard to ensure we are being the best that we can be. There has been the school disco, the Sign2Sing world record attempt, our whole school work on 'The Journey', PTFA coffee morning and much, much more. In the previous newsletter I stated that there were changes to the systems in which we record children who are late or picked up early and did not clarify these further. Please see below where these are explained in full. The children continue to work hard on their behaviour and once again, the results continue to be incredibly positive. I do hope you have a wonderful half term break. We break up for the half term break on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February and return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February at the usual times. As always, I am always available should you wish to request a meeting via Mrs Beard or you can catch me at the school gates in the morning and after school. Best Wishes, **Mr Eden**.

### Be the Best you can Be!



Our certificates for achievement were awarded to the following children in our special Friday assembly-well done all;

**Class 1**-Alix Bailey and Maisie Whatton

**Class 2**-Whole of Class 2, Lily-Belle Turner and Ben Fuller.

**Class 3**- Willow Hanks, Ashlee Hayter, Sam Taylor.

**Class 4**-Sophie Maclachlan, Jessica Heron, Freya Mettam and Harry Demetriou.

**Class 5**-Megan Dillon, Rose Read and Maisy Pattison

Each week we celebrate the Wow Writers and Mega Mathematicians from each class who share their learning in assembly. Over the past two weeks, these children were;

**Wow Writers**- Libby Stafford, Harry Demetriou, Chloe Gresham, Sam Bailey (Class 2), Ava Roberts and Liam Walsh.

**Mega Mathematicians**-Rose Read, Jamie Seng, Jake Barrett, Ben Fuller, Alecia Clark, Benji Heron and Alice Pellett.

### Team Points

Team point totals for this week are as follows;

**Saturn-580**

**Minerva-535**

**Apollo-591**

**Maia-535**

**Apollo have won the Team Point totals this term-they will receive their treat early next term.**

**Well done to all children for following the Golden Rules and being the best they can be!**

### Remembering Simon

Two years ago, we received the devastating news that Simon Farrant, one of our pupils, had sadly passed away. It took us a long time to come to terms with the loss of such a wonderful young man and we continue to honour his memory on the anniversary of his passing each year. James, Simon's younger brother has asked to organise this year's remembrance service as it will be his last year in our school before moving on to secondary school. Having had a series of meetings with James and best friend Rose, they would like to be able to inform you that on the **28<sup>th</sup> February**, to remember Simon, all children are invited to wear an item of red clothing- this is in addition to usual school uniform. Also, James and Rose loved the idea from last year of gathering 'Silver for Simon', in which we ask you to send in your donations of silver coinage to donate to the charity CLIC sergeant. Please send any coins in an envelope clearly labelled 'Silver for Simon'.

In addition to this, as Simon had a love of dancing, we will be learning and performing a special whole school street dance in assembly and James will be performing a lap of honour around the field, cheered on by the school. Our service will end with a special prayer and a planting of a rose bush by Rose and James.

On this occasion, we will not be inviting parents into school to share in the service but ask that you please show your support on February 28th by donating generously to the charity CLIC sergeant through our 'Silver for Simon' donations.





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### Disco



The disco was a huge success. Over 100 children came back to school for a night of dancing, eating and fun!

We were able to use money raised from previous events to buy new lights for the disco and we will continue to add to them to improve the experience for pupils. **Early indications show that we raised approximately £200.** This is absolutely fantastic and will be used to enhance the pupils education further. A huge thank you must go to the wonderful PTFA who continue to provide excellent, high quality events and raise lots of much needed money for the school.

### Photographs



Please note that Wrates Photographers will be in school on the **afternoon of Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** to take **whole class** photographs. Please feel free to send a comb and ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform.

### Share and Shine Time!



Family assemblies took place this week and they were very well attended by parents. Children commented on how proud they were to show their learning to parents. Thank you to all who came and experienced the exceptional learning from every class.

### Journey's Week

This week we have been undertaking a whole school enrichment week based around the book, **'The Journey' by Neil Griffiths**. This links beautifully with our current overarching theme of 'Journeys' and has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to utilise areas of the curriculum around one text as a stimulus. There has been singing, dancing, art, drama, writing, maths and much more and we have spent Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February in mixed age groups exploring the book further. Ask your child to tell you all about their learning from this book. Well done to all of the children for you super hard work and to the adults for planning an exciting, engaging and motivating week.

### Church School Distinctiveness



In the last newsletter, we informed you of the work we are undertaking to develop the way we utilise the privilege of being a 'Church of England Primary School'. In addition to the values which are currently being displayed more prominently in and around school, we are also looking at ways to include the opportunity for spiritual development across the school. After half term, we will be using the last hour of the week to group the children in mixed age groups to work together on a given theme. Next term we will be focusing on music and singing culminating in a whole school singing competition at the end of term. Children working together, fostering an ethos of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is another step forward in our school continuing to positively celebrate our church school distinctiveness.

We are thrilled to also have **Reverend Alan Littlewood** in school taking worships each term. He delivered a powerful collective worship this term on 'Numbers All Around Us' linked to numbers in the bible and will be back again next term to officially launch the new 'Good Neighbour Award'. This award will link in with our work on behaviour and children who have been recognised as being above and beyond in being a good neighbour within school, will receive a very special prize. We will provide more information on this exciting award next term.

### Sign2Sing



Thank you to everyone who took part and donated money for the Sign2Sing record breaker. We are extremely proud to be able to inform you that **we raised a total of £100 for the charity SignHealth**. This is wonderful news and we thank you for your support.



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### **Superstar Attendance!**

We have been extremely pleased with the attendance levels since September. The number of children with 100% attendance is fantastic and we are very proud to be able to report that **the overall attendance figure for the school since September is currently 97.04%**. We should be aiming for an overall figure of 97% or above, so if attendance is sustained at the levels seen over the past 3 terms, we will be much improved on last year where our yearly attendance figure was 95.6%. Lateness has improved significantly too; we cannot stress enough the importance of being in school on time to ensure your child enjoys a calm start to the school day and thank you for ensuring your child(ren) are here well before 9am. See below for signing in and out systems now in place.

**The following children have received 100% attendance since SEPTEMBER;** Ally Buffham, Skye Chapman, Jack Green, Benji Heron, Michael Lawson, Gus Phillis, Gabriella Roberts, Maisie Whatton, Charlie Askham, Sam Bailey, Lucy Cullum, Jaydon Dixon-Hardy, Rosie Lawson, Niamh Morgan, Ava Roberts, Jake Barrett, Will Davies, Willow Hanks, Ashlee Hayter, Jack McDowall, Lois Taylor, Sam Taylor, Olivia Allen, Harry Demetriou, George Fisher, Harvey Greenhalf, Jasmine Hendry, Jessica Heron, Sophie Maclachlan, Steven Vallance, Cameron Wills and William Blankley. **These 32 children represent 25% of the school having 100% attendance since September, which is absolutely fantastic. Well done to all!**

**In addition to the list above, the following children have received 100% attendance for TERM 3;** Alix Bailey, Alfie Baker, Nicole Barnes-Green, Horatio Browne, Lewis Davies, Max Davies, Oliver Hague, Edie-Mae Hotchkins, Ewan Hull, Thunchanok Khemsiri, Michael Lawson, Soraya Morais, Alice Pellett, Owen Rohland, Eliana Shelbourn, Liam Walsh, Isabelle Welby, Eliza Batchelor, Alecia Clark, Anthony Clark, Khya Colcomb, Phoebe Duggan, Ben Fuller, Brogan Greenhalf, Emily Herrick, Harry Hutsby, Eva Lunn, Jack Marsh, Ethan May-Jackson, Niamh Morgan, Tyler Rosling, Max Vangasse, Jessica Annan, Callum Arnold, Charlie Baker, Ryan Chapman, Chloe Gresham, Keira Nettleton, George Taylor, Oliver Undy, Josh Welby, Holli Batchelor, Jessica Blankley, Hannah Hinbest, Jamie Seng, Ellen Stafford, Ebony Sumner, Grace Turner, Becky Vallance, Daniel Annan, Heather Butters, James Farrant, Katie Hutsby, Jenna Marshall, Morgan Mason, Jamie Robertson and Libby Stafford. **These 57 children in addition to the 32 listed above have all been in school every day of term 3. When added together, that means that 71% of our pupils have achieved 100% attendance this term. Fantastic news!**

**We also celebrate the attendance of each class. The class with the highest attendance figures are awarded the Attendance Cup. Here are the figures for term 2.**

**Class 1- 98.40**

**Class 2- 98.58**

**Class 3- 97.97**

**Class 4- 97.85**

**Class 5- 96.98**

Your co-operation with attendance is absolutely vital. Time spent away from school is time that a child can never get back. Unless they are genuinely unwell or there is an exceptional circumstance, all children are expected in school. Where attendance falls below 90%, a letter will be sent home to parents detailing the exact attendance figure and the next steps that could possibly be taken. In more extreme circumstances, where attendance falls consistently below 80%, we will need to notify our Education Welfare Officer.

### **Dropping off Late/picking up early Systems**

Should your child arrive late to school, you will now need to accompany them into the school office and sign a record of lateness with Mrs Beard. Please do not drop your child off at the gates if they are late, leaving them to walk in alone, as we will be tracking lateness and sending letters to parents where persistent lateness is becoming an issue. Similarly, if you are picking your child up early for any reason, you will be asked to sign to say they are leaving the premises and the reason why they are going. We are also tracking instances where children appear to be consistently leaving school early and should this become an issue, we will make contact with the parents via a formal letter.