



Ancaster C of E Primary School

Newsletter 15 – 2nd May



Dear Parents, Welcome to Newsletter number 15 and to Term 5. Although there are only 4 weeks and 3 days in this incredibly short term, the children have made a fantastic start to their learning and the new curriculum theme of 'Footprints from the Past' has been very well received by all. All children should have brought home their Class Termly Newsletter and Curriculum Map to keep you up to date with the learning planned until we break for Summer. Please take the time to read this information as each teacher has worked incredibly hard to make the learning relevant and pertinent to pupils and with parents knowing and understanding how each subject links to the theme, our joint aim of ensuring your child can be the best they can be will move one step further towards being achieved. We already have lots planned for the Summer Term and will be communicating significant dates for you to keep free in your diaries in the coming weeks. Please be reminded that school is closed on Monday 5th May due to the Mayday Bank Holiday and will reopen as usual on Tuesday 6th May at the usual times-we certainly hope you enjoy the long weekend and have lots of family fun. You should also have received an April Attainment Update this week which will inform you of how much progress your child has made since September as well as keeping you up to date on current attendance figures since September. Should you wish to discuss this further, please make an appointment to see your child's Class Teacher who will happily discuss any of the information they have provided. As always, should you wish to make an appointment to discuss any matters with me, you are more than welcome to make these via Mrs Beard in the school office. 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-Thunchanok Khemsiri, Emily Gresham, Skye Chapman, Eliana Shelbourn

Class 2-Eliza Batchelor, Lily-Belle Turner and Ava Roberts

Class 3- Mischa Foster and Sam Taylor

Class 4-Freya Mettam and Olivia Allen

Class 5- Heather Butters and Katie Hutsby

Wow Writers and Mega Maths

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;

Mega Maths- Jasmine Pellett, Harry Askham, Shane Hunter, Erin Taylor, Matthew Holmes, Alecia Clarke, Jack McDowall, Charlie Baker, Callum Arnold, Josh Welby, Keria Nettleton and Mischa Foster, Sophie Maclachlan, Freya Mettam, Alice Selby and Daniel Annan.

Wow Writers-Maisy Whatton, Ava Morgan, Soraya Morais, Alecia Clarke, Phoebe Duggan, George Taylor, Oliver Undy, Grace Turner, Holli Batchelor, Sam Bailey and Mya Baker.

Team Points

Team point totals for the term are incredibly close and are as follows;

Saturn-176

Minerva-158

Apollo-243

Maia-176

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

Parent Assemblies-Time to Shine!



This term, **family assemblies** will take place in the week commencing **19th May** and are the children's opportunity to share with you the learning that has taken place in maths, literacy and across the curriculum, **we hope to see you there**.

The dates for these assemblies are as follows;

Monday 19th May at 3pm-Class 3

Tuesday 20th May at 3pm-Class 2

Thursday 22nd May at 9.15am-Class 1

Thursday 23rd May at 3pm-Class 4

Friday 23rd May at 3pm-Class 5

Class 4 have been 'evacuated'!



On Tuesday 29th April, **Class 4 had great fun on their trip to the Stibbington Centre** where they experienced what life was like as an evacuee during World War 2.

This was an exciting trip where the children had a fantastic opportunity to learn about this key area of Britain's history as well as sample traditional wartime food delicacies such as SPAM sandwiches (yum yum).

On their return to school, the children (and adults) were bursting to share their experience and explain what an excellent time they had. Look out for more information on this in Class 4's weekly 'blogette' which is appearing on their class website page.

Are You Free to Volunteer?

If the answer to the question above is yes, please contact us. No matter how big or small your offer of help is, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Mr Eden.



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Inspire+ Legacy Tour



This week we have taken part in a special tour assembly which began on Monday 28th April with representatives from Inspire+, the sport's charity we are working with, as well as pupils from Marston Primary School. To raise awareness and build excitement for the forthcoming Commonwealth Games to be held in Scotland, as well as the Tour de France which will, this year, begin in England, this special worship helped the children understand the significance of the games and how we can raise our own fitness levels by being active.

Each Inspire+ school has nominated 'Young Ambassadors' who are responsible for championing PE within school. Marston's Young Ambassadors presented our school with the Mascot 'Clyde' and their pledge written specifically to support Team GB as well as the baton engraved with the tour motto which is travelling to all schools. The pupils from Marston did a wonderful job of passing these important items to our school and we thank them for attending our special worship.

As part of the tour, each school also receives a bike for the day, fitted to a special stand which allows the rider to pedal and record the distance in 1 minute time trials. The children in Key Stage 2 had brilliant fun and their results will be analysed, with the fastest pupils being invited to a special event at Grantham Meres Leisure Centre.

The next day, 3 of Ancaster's Young Ambassadors, Jamie Robertson, Katie Hutsby and Lauren Vine attended an assembly at Ingoldsby Primary School and passed 'Clyde' and the baton on, to ensure the tour continues. We were made to feel very welcome at Ingoldsby, who then went on to pass the items on to Ropsley Primary School. Well done to our Young Ambassadors for representing the school exceptionally well-we are all very proud of you.

Ukulele Club

Our ukulele club is going from strength to strength with a very healthy 22 children all learning to play every Wednesday evening. There are limited spaces should your child wish to join, please see Mrs Beard.

Bookfair is Coming!



Mrs Ives has been busy organising the latest Bookfair to visit school. The Bookfair is a wonderful opportunity for you to buy books whilst supporting the school. We have negotiated a fantastic deal with Scholastic Books, who will give us 100% commission on all of the books sold. This is a fantastic opportunity as we will then be able to use this money to purchase new books that will support teaching and learning across the school.

Recent research has shown that **there is a direct link between reading for pleasure and a child's attitude and enthusiasm for learning.** Please foster a love of reading in your child as this will impact positively on their motivation to succeed and be the best that they can be.

Bookfair will be visiting school w/c 6th May and will be available each night after school-we look forward to seeing you there!

Sustrans Bike-It



We have received the fantastic news that **we have been accepted to be part of the Bike It project** being run by the charity Sustrans.

The project aims to help children and parents recognise different options for sustainable transport. We will investigate new storage facilities within the school grounds and want to actively encourage as many children, parents and staff to change their travel habits and cycle/scoot to school. We all know that the morning/afternoon traffic can be difficult and this would help alleviate some of the congestion at these times as well as act as our contribution to cleaner air for Ancaster.

The project is in the process of being launched. Please look out for more information coming soon including a 'Dr Bike' session where children and parents will be able to bring in their bikes and have them checked over by Jon Moody, our Schools Officer who will also fix any parts of the bike to make them roadworthy with the sole aim to get you out cycling as a family.



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Homework

As you will be aware, the homework that we send out to children across the school has been under review and we have looked closely at the current provision to ensure we are challenging our pupils to be the best that they can be. For this reason, we have implemented a new homework policy which can be found on our school website www.ancasterprimary.org.uk, in the parents section, and within the policies tab.

We have listened to the views of pupils, parents and staff and used this information to formulate the policy which sets out very clear expectations for the provision of homework within every year group in school. From next week (w/c 6th May), you can expect each piece of homework;

-to come with an explanation of how the homework fits in with the learning in class

-to have a WALT and Steps to Success

-to include an example

-to be differentiated to suit the ability of all pupils

-to be sent out on the same day across the school and expected in on the same day (this may differ for class 5 as this class has two teachers undertaking a job share).

We are also introducing a code system in which parents will need to inform members of staff of the amount of help needed to complete the homework task as well as indicating the level of ease/difficulty in which your child found the homework. This will be stuck into the front of the homework book and we will be using this to help us assess the quality of the pieces of homework returned to school.

At Ancaster C of E Primary School, we believe that homework is a crucial factor in helping pupils consolidate and extend learning that has taken place in class. It is an effective way of checking that pupils have retained the information taught to them as well as fostering independence and time management skills in order to complete the tasks set.

We ask that parents support the school in ensuring the homework is completed on time and is carried out to a high standard. Any cases where pupils have not participated in the homework that has been set or if the standard is not in line with that displayed within the normal class settings, we will ask the children to use their playtimes to complete the work.

We know that many children feel that they need a little extra support with their homework so are very pleased to be able to inform you that Homework Club, run by Mrs Campbell, will begin again on Tuesday 6th May after school (3.30pm-4.30pm). Should your child have been a previous member, they will not need to sign up again whereas any new members will need to obtain a letter from Mrs Beard.

PGL Weekend Fun



Last weekend, three of our year 5 pupils attended a weekend of outdoor adventures and fun through our involvement with Inspire+.

Jasmine Hendry, Holli Batchelor and Jasmine P had a brilliant time working alongside pupils from other schools in the Grantham area in a weekend long residential trip. Having spoken to PGL staff, they have told the school that our girls were excellent ambassadors for Ancaster CofE Primary School. Well done Girls!

As we continue to build links with PGL, Class 5 (Y6) will be undertaking their residential trip to PGL week commencing the 19th May.

Seeds-Class 5

Class 5 have asked for donations of seeds. If you have any laying around that you will not use and wish to donate, we would be incredibly grateful. Thank you in advance.

Fashion Show Update

You should have received information regarding the PTFA fashion show on the 6th June. This is shaping up to be such an exciting event. If your child is keen to be a model, please return the slip ASAP.

Polite Notice

Please could all adults and children refrain from sitting on top of the new bench sets next to the pond and sit on the actual benches as intended.