



St Botolph's C of E Primary School



February 2 Newsletter

www.st-botlphsprimary.co.uk

Headteacher Message from Mrs Rouse

A week of variety- from high winds and rain, sleet and sunshine. Let us hope spring is on its way!

During the holidays, we have had work completed on our boiler house with increased efficiency in the heating and hot water in the lower school. We also had repairs to the fencing. Sadly, we have had youths on the school roof who have damaged guttering, roofing and roof lights, therefore further repairs needed. If you are local to the school, please look out for our building during the evenings, weekends and holiday periods and report anything suspicious to the local police.

Children have returned from holiday full of energy! We are looking forward to a productive few weeks of learning before assessment week and the chance for us to review their learning progress.

Keep supporting us with reading, spelling and homework at home. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday this week, a group of Year 5 lead the school in an Ash Wednesday Collective Worship. The children helped the children to understand the importance of Ash Wednesday, marking the start of the Christian period of Lent.

During the Collective Worship session, Rev Imogen formed an ash cross on the forehead of the Year 5 presenters. All children, either in Collective Worship or in their classroom, were then offered the opportunity to receive an ash mark on the forehead or hand as a symbol of the start of Lent.

This is the first year when children have lead the marking with ash as part of Ash Wednesday Collective Worship and also the first time all children were offered the opportunity to participate in receiving a mark.

It was lovely to see how many children chose to respond to the opportunity to receive an ash mark.

Comments from our Year 5 children who were marking children with ash:

'I felt responsible. People felt excited'

'I felt good because I made people feel happy.'

'I felt good because I am not a Christian, but I was doing a Christian act. I am helping others with their religious beliefs. It was good. They were polite.'

'It felt Weird because only important people do things like that and people who are deeply respected.'

Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge.

Each year the school takes part in the Ely Diocese, Bishop's Lent Challenge. This year the theme of the challenge is **God's Creation – A Gift or a Loan?**

This year children from each Key Stage 2 class will be involved in planning and leading a class Collective Worship over the next four weeks. The themes are:

Week 1: Planet Earth – Year 5

Week 2: Our World, Our Climate – Year 4

Week 3: Our School, Our Home Environments – Year 3

Week 4: Our Country – Year 6

We look forward to exploring the theme and reflecting

Year 5 Bikeability

Please remember bikes and helmets next week. Check lists for bikes are available from the school office.

Year 5 Story Cafe

This week, we were very pleased to see so many parents support our Year 5 story café based on the book **The Jamie Drake Experience**. The children showed some fantastic knowledge of their inference skills by answering questions and explaining parts of the book. Our main focus was on imagery; we use the author's vocabulary to build, initially from images in our head and then using various art media the children and their parents created the image on paper.

Everyone involved enjoyed the experience, we certainly have some very creative children and parents in Year 5!

Pancake Day

Wow, what a lovely smell has been drifting through the school this week. Reception and Year 1 children have been making, baking and tossing pancakes. The smiles and laughter tell the story of enjoyment in their learning. They have been weighing and measuring; watching the mixture change consistency and describing changes and learning the art of tossing without pancakes landing up on the floor. All pancakes eaten were 'floor-less'.



Year 5 Netball

8 year 5 children are off to NPA on Thursday 5th March to take part in a netball tournament

Book Week

We are celebrating book day on Friday 6th March with a book character costume parade, if your child wishes to take part please arrive at school in costume with book in hand.

Diary Dates

Monday 2nd March – Year 5
Bikeability Begins

Monday 16th March – Last week of clubs (except choir)

Wednesday 18th March – Year 1
Story Café

Thursday 26th March – Easter Discos

Monday 30th March – Year 4 Class
Celebration 6pm and Early Years
Bikeability begins

Wednesday 1st April – Year 4 Anglo
Saxons Village Trip

**Friday 3rd April – Staff Training Day
– school closed**

**Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April
– Easter Holidays**

Monday 20th April – First day back

February 2020's Attendance

Class	Attended	Auth	Unauth	Mins Late
Ely	92.59%	5.59%	1.82%	35
Peterborough	93.05%	4.63%	2.32%	27
Leicester	97.74%	2.02%	0.24%	56
Lincoln	96.93%	1.54%	1.54%	81
Coventry	98.34%	0.95%	0.71%	39
Oxford	95.17%	3.79%	1.03%	90
Norwich	96.67%	1.6%	1.73%	42
Wells	96.79%	2.96%	0.25%	64
Chester	96.22%	3.22%	0.56%	5
York	98.28%	1.72%	0%	64
Derby	92.7%	5.47%	1.82%	72
Salisbury	96.21%	2.84%	0.95%	18
Durham	97.13%	2.64%	0.23%	50
Exeter	96.32%	2.99%	0.69%	70
Totals	96.02%	3%	0.98%	713

Well done to Leicester, Coventry, York and Durham classes for over 97% attendance this month.

713 minutes late, this is significantly better than last month. Thank you to parents who have responded to our request for increased, prompt starts in the morning.