



CULWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER NUMBER 4

January 2018



Dear Parents/Carers

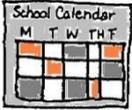
Well done to everyone for successfully navigating their way through January! Not long now until spring! There has been a lot going on as always in the school. Our work to transform what was the art storage room into a new library room is coming on well and our fantastic CPSA have agreed to fund the soft furnishings that we need and that combines with a very kind donation that we have had from Sulgrave Charities to develop some reading areas around the school. We will add some pictures to future newsletters when this project is finished. Our larger playground project is at the quote gathering stage so watch this space on that one.

We have had lots of sporting success this year already with a win in the cluster year 3/4 sports hall athletics and some great performances in the cross country. Our winning tag rugby team from the cluster round will be soon taking part in the Daventry and South Northants competition at Daventry Rugby Club. World book day (1st March) is fast approaching so start having a think about costumes. Children can come into school dressed as a character from their favourite book.

Mr Johnson - *Executive Headteacher of Culworth and Boddington Primary Academies*

Our value this half term is...





Term Dates

Please note the following dates in your diary/calendar. We will notify you of any changes if/when they occur.

February

- Thursday 8th School Disco! KS1 5.45 pm - 7.15 pm, KS2 7.30 pm - 9 pm
Friday 9th End of term
Monday 19th Back to school
Tuesday 20th KS2 - Snozone for Polar Experience (details to follow)
Wed 21st KS1 - Snozone for Polar Experience (details to follow)

March

- Thursday 1st World Book Day!
Friday 9th Year 6 trip to Safety Alley
Friday 16th Bags to School
Monday 19th CPSA AGM

* KS1 = Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

* KS2 = Year 3, 4, 5, and 6

All dates are subject to change although we do endeavour to avoid this wherever possible ☺

News from the Governors

A note from the Chair

Our Governing Body has seen a few changes in recent months and we are now, once again, looking to recruit! We were sad to see Helen Stephenson leave us as she has been a fantastic asset to both schools, firstly at Boddington School as their Chair of Governors, and then a big part of the Federation of both schools. She is now working full time and supporting her children in their endeavours from GCSE's to University and beyond, and I'm sure you will join me in sending her a huge thank you and our best wishes for the future. Ed Gibbs' family have moved on, and so has he from the Governing Body - thanks and best wishes to him too.

We are however, welcoming Graham Dixon who is a Parent Governor from Boddington and we look forward to working with him, and as she is now employed by Culworth School, Rachel Carey has moved from being a Foundation Governor to the Support Staff Governor. As a consequence, we now have vacancies for two Foundation Governors.

Can I ask those of you who might be able to spare the time, to think about joining us? I cannot stress highly enough how important it is that we have a full board of Governors, with good parental representation. There are exciting and challenging times ahead that you can become part of - shaping the future of our schools.

We are a friendly bunch of people all with the same objective - to help Mr Johnson and his wonderful staff team provide the very best education for the children in our care. It would be wrong of me to suggest that the role requires only a little time commitment - there are two evening FGB meetings a term and then the sub committees meet as and when necessary, probably once a term. But we try to keep the length of these meetings to the minimum and any resulting work beyond them is fairly shared, taking account of people's different availability during the school year.

There is excellent training available and all new Governors have a mentor to help them. This voluntary work can be a very rewarding experience - and if you are seeking employment in the future, it is a useful and well-respected addition to any CV.

If you would like more information, or just a chat about it, please let me know - contact the office in the first instance and we can take it from there.

Gill Nunn - Chair of Governors

News from the classes...

Pre-school

We have been learning about cold climates. The children have been pretending to be penguins in the hall, walking with balls as their eggs. In the Tuff tray we had ice and instant snow, small world ski slope and skiers, various stories related to topic, eg. Jack Frost, the Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud and Stickman. Our display below shows various craft activities



The Nest

In the Nest we've made our own penguins out of clay. The children looked at pictures of the various types of penguin and chose their favourite. Some made Macaroni penguin, others an Emperor, Rock Hopper or King etc. They used their penguins in maths and had to find something taller and shorter. William shared photos of his uncle's 3 week expedition to Antarctica with us.



The Burrow

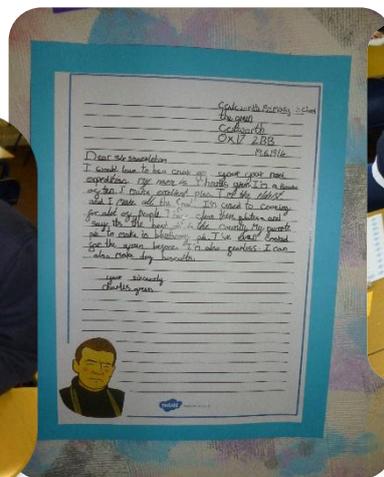
We made an Emperor penguin huddle and we have a new found appreciation for the hard work and dedication that male penguins put into looking after their eggs!



The Drey

As the Drey returned to school they discovered blocks of ice on each table. After closer inspection, as the ice began to thaw, the children realised that clues to this term's topic were slowly being revealed. What could be the meaning behind a compass, feather, a job advert and a boat? Using their scientific knowledge about different states of matter, the children used different strategies to attempt to hasten the melting process.

By researching facts about Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition and his crew, the children all responded to the advert and applied for the positions. Unfortunately, Lottie "Percy Blackborrow" Tims was not successful in her application but by sheer determination, courage and perseverance she boarded the boat (with the help of her teammates) and joined the expedition as a stowaway. If food supplies become scarce, she will be the first to be eaten- so fingers crossed for a successful journey!



The Den

In the Den we have been thinking what it may be like to apply for a job on 'The Endurance' just as it starts its journey to the Antarctic. We have made passports and written letters of application. In Science we have been looking at forces and we made models to show how the earth's gravity pulls everything towards the centre of the earth. We have used Newton Meters to measure friction and begun to look at the effects of air resistance.



The Eyrie

The children have been working in groups to create an Antarctic scene picture with the Endurance stuck in the pack ice. They have explored different materials to create desired affects and textures. Each member of the group was assigned a different element of the art work. Some children worked on the sky, others on the sea, some on the boat and finally there were those who worked entirely on creating the pack ice. They have put their efforts together to create a masterpiece!



CPSA News

We are very happy to announce that with some of the money raised last year the CPSA have funded a new key stage 1 reading scheme. The books have arrived and look great. We have also been able to order many other books thanks to the vouchers we get back from the Scholastic books sale. Alongside this we are funding the restructure of the Library and art room which means the Library will be a much more accessible and user friendly space for the children. This is a work in progress but I'm sure parents will be invited to have a look on completion. In the meantime one of the reading areas has had a revamp and many thanks go to Mrs Clews for volunteering to repaint and decorate the area beautifully as pictured below.



Money raised going forward is going to help with the amazing revamp of the playground and outside areas. We've made a great start with fundraising but have a long way to go so please do look out for up and coming events;

School Disco - 8th Feb

Bags 2 School clothes collection - 16th March

Royal wedding celebrations - 19th May - Details to follow

We will also be holding our AGM on 19th March. Look out for further details. It would be lovely to see more faces and even if you can't commit to much time going forward, please come along and see what a great year we have had. We are a friendly bunch who have great fun whilst raising much needed funds.

Best wishes

Rachael Thewsey and Gemma Clowes

General News

Healthy Snacks!

As a 'Healthy School' we follow the guidelines published by the DFE and staff have asked for a reminder to go out to parents that morning snack should be either a piece of fruit or veg. This means no crisps, no chocolate and no cake at break-times please.



New Lunchtime Supervisors

Hooray! We are delighted to announce the appointment of two new Lunchtime Supervisors, Mrs Lily Edge and Mrs Gemma Clowes who are job sharing this role. Many thanks to Mrs Clouston who stepped into the breach so willingly.

Online Safety - NSPCC

The NSPCC came in at the start of the term to do a workshop for parents about online safety for primary age children. They held assemblies for KS1 and KS2 children afterwards and put on a workshop for Years 5 and 6 the following week.

During the parents' workshop they explained about Net Aware which is the brilliant NSPCC website (www.net-aware.org.uk) which has been set up to help parents navigate the minefield of on-line games and social media. You can type in the name of the site or game you want to know more about and it will give you all sorts of useful info including minimum age guidelines.

The NSPCC have also teamed up with O2 which means you can go in to any O2 store and speak to their 'guru' who will help you set parental controls your children's devices. Parental controls can be used to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases or manage how long your child spends online. And they have a dedicated helpline for parents to call if you are worried about any online safety issues: [0808 8005002](tel:08088005002).

SEN News

There is a FREE workshop on Sat 10th February (9.30- 4) at Avon Park School, St Johns Avenue, Rugby CV22 5HR supporting parents and carers: learning more about ADHD. Places are limited so please contact Mrs Cooper for further details or to reserve a place. A buffet lunch is provided.

Did you know ADHD stands for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder?

It is a neurological disorder, something you are born with, and affects 3-5% of school aged children. It is NOT poor parenting.

Features of ADHD include: fidgeting, excessive movement, excessive talking, impatience, inability to take turns, interrupts others, easily distracted, disorganised, forgetfulness...

There are also many positives to having ADHD including resourcefulness, fast thinking, intuitive, imaginative, enthusiastic, honest...

Famous people diagnosed with ADHD include Einstein, Sir Richard Branson, Will Smith, Emma Watson (Hermione Granger).

ADHD Matters is a great website for further support and information. There are also some useful apps out there to help support organisation skills (Take Ten, 30/30) or encourage relaxation and calming strategies to aid sleep (Calm). If you'd like further info or advice please come and chat to Mrs Cooper.

100 Club News - the winner for December was Mrs L Cameron.



**Need to get an extra session in at the gym or an hour or two to spring clean the house?
Don't forget our fabulous Breakfast Club and After School Club - First Session Free with
Voucher available from the School Office.**

We offer **Breakfast Club** from 8 am where children can have a healthy breakfast and have time for free play and our **After School Club** which runs from 3.30 until 6 pm. After School Club offer a range of fun activities, both inside and outdoors (if the weather is fine) for the children to participate in, they can relax and watch films on Film Friday, older children sometimes choose to use the time to use the library and finish homework, and all of this is accompanied by a freshly prepared healthy snack. Forms are available from the School Office and on the school website.

E-mail addresses for Mrs Boasman and Mrs Cummins

Mrs Boasman - culworthadmin@cb-cepa.org

Mrs Cummins - bursar@cb-cepa.org

Office hours for Mrs Boasman

M. 8.30 - 5 pm

T. 8.30 - 5 pm

W. 8.30 - 12 noon

Th. 8.30 - 5 pm

F. 8.30 - 4 pm



Oliver Johnson

Executive Headteacher of Culworth and Boddington Primary Academies

Email: head@cb-cepa.org