



Spaxton CE VC Primary School Newsletter

Left – Turner/Da Vinci enjoying their Wow Day!

November 2016

PROTECT, TRUST, HAVE HOPE, PERSEVERE, SHOW COURAGE AND REJOICE...

SPAXTON NEWS BITES

Festivities are in the air!

Thoughts of a Headteacher - Mr. Blackmore

The nights have darkened and the wind whipping through the gateway between Matisse Class and the Old School Building has begun to feel bitterly cold. It can only mean one thing - winter is coming!

With our second half term fully underway with our value - rejoice - embedded within the curriculum work, we can truly think about what a time of great rejoice we are entering.

Already we have seen Bollywood Dancing in the hall, Bridgwater's carnival replicated so fantastically by Turner/Da Vinci Class and the ripple of Christmas tunes can be heard by children preparing for the Christmas Fayre. It certainly is one of the joys of working within a school at this time of year and is a reflection on the children's ability to actively rejoice in their daily work.

What's so great is that we are able to offer such a creative curriculum in balance with a rigorous core curriculum with children striving to improve and make good, if not better, progress. Looking at the children's books in recent weeks, I can see how the work we have undertaken as a school staff has really begun to bear fruit now in what the children are producing in class, on a daily basis.

In some ways, it is hard to believe that 2016 is drawing to a close but we are already looking forward to seeing what 2017 has to offer...



Children in Need

Friday 25th November is Children in Need Day. We would like the children to come dressed in their spotty clothes in order to raise money for this fantastic cause. Please bring donations that can be collated on our Pudsey outline, in the hall.



A word from the Editor...

It is at this time that most people are looking forward to the Christmas Fayre and the build up to Christmas. It would be lovely to see everyone enjoying the Christmas Fayre. We are also looking forward to Miss Hamilton coming back to help with our Christmas Concert!

Curriculum Focus

In this section we will look at a different aspect of the National Curriculum.

Handwriting

EYFS – Uses some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning

Y1 - Begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place.

Y2 - Write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters.

Y3 - Beginning to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined.

Y4 - Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting

Y5 - Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed

Y6 - Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Educating the mind, without educating the heart, is no education at all

Aristotle

Book Corner - Othello - A Review

By the *News Team's* Seren Walker

I chose this book because Othello is a tragedy featuring envy, jealousy and a lace handkerchief. I also chose it because it uses great vocabulary. My favourite character is Vengeful and Merciless Iago and my least favourite is Cassio, Othello's Lieutenant. I would give the book 4 ½ stars out of 5 and would definitely recommend it.

"I do love thee and when I love thee not, chaos is come again."

-Othello; Act III, scene III



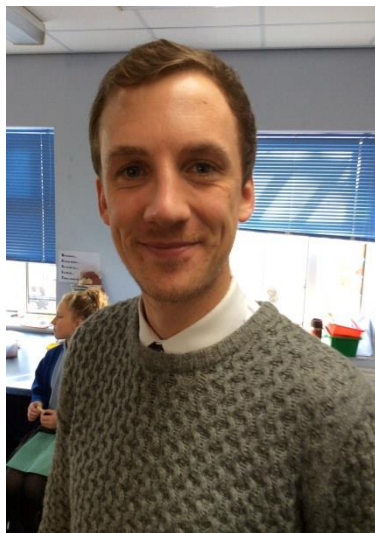
REMINDERS

**KS1 Nativity**

We are delighted to announce that we be showing our KS1 nativity on the morning and afternoon of the Monday 12th December. A letter for each child involved will be with you on the week beginning 14th November.

**KS2 Christmas Concert**

Plans are also underway for our KS2 Christmas Concert at St Margaret's Church. We hope you can join us on Tuesday 13th December for a night of rejoicing and celebration.



Meet Mr. Harrison

Hello – we are the News Team's Olivia Doran Amber Walker and we interviewed Mr Harrison for the school newsletter

Q. What's your favourite thing to teach?

A. Um...It has to be PE!

Q. What's your favourite food?

A. I really enjoy spaghetti Bolognese (with cheese on top!)

Q. Who's your favourite celebrity?

A. It has to be David Beckham

Q. What's your favourite game?

A. That's a tough question...I'd say scrabble.

Q. Do you like Gogglebox?

A. No...

Q. What's your favourite flavor of crisps?

A. Smokev Bacon (yummv!)

**Christmas Appeal**

Whereas in recent years we have collected for the Shoebox Appeal, this year we are concentrating on 'School in a Bag' charity, which is based locally in Somerset. Watch this space for further details.

<http://www.schoolinabag.org/>

Nov/Dec Calendar

Mon 14 -Wed 16 – Yr 3/4 Kilve

Thurs 17 – Yr 4/5/6 Sports Hall Challenge (BW College)

Fri 18 – Children In Need – Spots to School

Thurs 22 – PTFA Meeting (West India House)

Sat 26 – Christmas Fayre

Wed 30 – Rembrandt Shadow Puppets

Fri 2 Dec – Family First and PTFA Bingo

Fri 9 Dec – PTFA Bingo

Mon 12 Dec – KS1 Nativity (am and pm)

Tues 13 Dec – KS2 Christmas Concert (Church)

Wed 14 Dec – School Christmas Lunch

Fri 16 Dec – Christmas Jumper Day (£1)

PTFA Newsletter November 2016

Hello from the PTFA!

FUN RUN

Thank you to all the children (and volunteer helpers) who took part in the Fun Run on 23rd September. This was a great event with toddlers right through to Year 6 children getting into the spirit and putting their best running feet forward. Efforts to raise money for the school through the entry fee, sponsorship forms and purchase of refreshments was a real success and the PTFA are very pleased to say that the event raised an incredible £500.00. Thanks go to Ruth Habberfield for organising the Fun Run which may now become an annual event for the school community.

FRENCH BREAKFAST

On the 6th October the PTFA held a French Breakfast in the school hall before the start of the school day. It was lovely to see everyone there and to meet new members of the school community - thank you all for your support. This enjoyable way to start the school day raised just under £70.00. The breakfasts have been very well supported this year and we hope to hold another one early into the New Year.

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HAS HELPED THE CHILDREN

At the end of last year, and the beginning of this academic year, the PTFA has been able to contribute £2250.00 for much needed IT equipment at the school which otherwise could not have been invested in - Lego Mindstorm, Blubots and general IT provision (helping towards iPads and laptops). This IT equipment benefits every child at Spaxton School and its purchase has only been achieved through your continued support, so thank you from all the PTFA.

SHOWING SUPPORT

We are aware that parents and carers may wish to support the work of the PTFA but are unable to volunteer time to help or attend events. For those who wish to support this charity via a donation (one off or regular), the PTFA account details are: sort code 30-91-20 acct no 00244233. Thank you.

PTFA NOTICEBOARD

Please note the PTFA



noticeboard has a new, more visible home adjacent to the inner wooden gate. Our thanks to the school for relocating it.

THANK YOU

A big thank you goes to Louisa Blackmore who has been Chair

of the PTFA for much of the last academic year and the start of this year. At the last PTFA meeting, Ali Ingram was nominated and voted in to take on the Chairperson's role and we thank her for her commitment moving forward. Please do contact Ali or any other member of the PTFA if you are interested in becoming involved in the committee.

Upcoming Events



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The annual Christmas Fayre will be held in the village hall on 26th November and will open at 14:00 with a performance from Mrs Hamilton's Turner Class.

The hall will be bursting with stall holders and their Christmas wares and the pavilion will be open to rest your weary shopping feet and enjoy a cuppa and cake. As always we rely on parents and carers' support and we are putting out the usual request for culinary contributions -

are you able to make (or buy) a cake, buns, gingerbread men, crispy cakes, brownies or other sweet treats to be sold on the day? If so, please can you bring any contributions at the end of the school day on Friday 25th November when Sarah Gray

(Lexi's mum) will be able to collect them or alternatively please take them to the hall on the morning of the Fayre. Thank you in advance for your help.

BINGO

Please get ready for eyes down at 19:30 on Friday 2nd December when the PTFA are hosting a Bingo night at the village hall. This is an event for adults and children alike so please do come and show your support. Please arrive for 19:15 to be seated and ready to play as the bingo will start on time. If you are able to donate a bingo prize it would be much appreciated. Please hand any

donations to Ali Ingram or via the school office.

DISCO

We hope to hold an end of term Christmas disco for all the school children to enjoy. Please look out for emails or posters on the PTFA notice board for info nearer the time.

Ways to stay in contact

To find out more about fund raising activities, sign up to our Facebook page at 'Spaxton School Parents & Friends'. This is a closed group, administered by the Committee, join up today!