

Newsletter ~ Term 1, Week 5

A collection of photos this week to share all the wonderful work that is going on in school. Thank you to all our staff and volunteers who are putting in the extra hours to make all these events and opportunities possible.



Last week, we took delivery of three large boulders in our junior playground, thanks to our local Tarmac quarry. Children in years 2 and 3 enjoyed watching the delivery.

We will be developing this play area further over the course of the year but in the meantime the children are enjoying exploring the new structures.



Parliament Trip Years 5 and 6

Thank you for responding to our initial letter asking for your thoughts about this trip. We had a very positive response and we have now booked for the children to visit Parliament on Monday 14 January 2019. We will send a more detailed letter nearer the time, but as we will be returning from Parliament late in the evening (we think at about 8pm), we thought you might like some advance warning.

Buddies



The children will be working together on the Reception Welcome Assembly which will take place on Friday 12 October at 10am.

One of the highlights of the whole school year is the first meeting of the reception children and their year 6 buddies. We know that some of the friendships formed at these meetings last for years, and judging by the looks on the children's faces, some great bonds are being formed this year too!



Sickness Bug

It's that time of year again! We have a nasty sickness bug going round school, which children seem to recover from quite quickly, but they must not return to school until 48 hours after their last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea. Not only do we risk passing the bug onto other children, but teachers are also vulnerable and we want them well and teaching our children, not at home feeling poorly! Thank you for your cooperation.

Safeguarding

Some subjects to do with keeping our children safe are painful to contemplate and we naturally shy away from approaching them. We will give you links to reliable publications and well-researched advice as we get them here in school and then you can choose when and if you talk to your children about them. Leaflets we direct you towards are always worth a read-though yourself, if only so that you are well informed.

This week, we have a link to an advice leaflet on the Barnardo's Website, which is a great source of help and advice, concerning Child Sexual Exploitation, which is distressingly an increasing problem in the Bristol area: http://www.barnardos.org.uk/spot_the_signs_parents.pdf.

Well Done...

We say 'congratulations' to Leanne, who continues to rise through the ranks in her gymnastic career, being now South West Champion All Combined for her age group. She is going on to compete at national level in the next few weeks, so we will keep you informed of her progress.



Harvest

Year 1 are leading our Harvest Celebrations this year and are asking you to support their fundraising activities for the Clevedon Foodbank by bringing into school suitable non-perishable food items during the **week beginning 15 October**. They would like you to join them on Friday 19 Oct at 10am to celebrate this wonderful time of year in their Harvest Assembly.

School Admissions Sept 2019 Year 7 and Reception

If your child is in year 6, you need to have applied for a secondary school place by **31 October**. For those with children starting reception class in September 2019, you have until **15 January**. Please come and ask at the office for any help or advice. If your child is a baptised Catholic, you need to include a baptismal certificate with your application form.

Next Week...

Tuesday – school photographs in the morning and Year 1 visit to the park in the afternoon

Thursday (6.30pm) – curriculum evening for new parents

Friday – reception welcome assembly (10am) and welcome party (after school – for reception children and parents only)

St Francis' Feast Day Celebrations

Thank you to Mr Burgess and the children of year 4 who led a beautiful mass on Wednesday. We had some parishioners from St Francis' Church attending and as always, they were very complimentary about the singing and behaviour of the children.



Children in year 5 then took part in a bio-diversity workshop kindly run by Clifton High School. Children were able to see first-hand the amazing richness and variety of life on our marvellous planet that St Francis loved so much. Here are some of the children's reflections...



St Francis looked after the animals and made sure he was kind to them – we learned yesterday that only 0.01% of mammals are human and so we really have to look after all the other creatures on the earth.

80% of the world's creatures are either chickens or cows so we have to save the creatures that are not necessarily bred for food.

We have to look after our endangered species, not just the species we eat.

We learned that some species have less than 100 of them left in the world.

Thank you to Abi, Matilda, Scott and Francesco for their thought-provoking contributions.

And Finally...

We bring you a flavour of our whole school trip to the zoo yesterday. The children were a credit to the school and everyone had a wonderful time. One of our reception children wondered if we could visit again today...

