



St Nicholas' Newsletter

Spring Term: Issue 10

11th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

This term we have celebrated Chinese New Year – a big thank you to our lovely parents and children for a stunning assembly:



Our Value this term has been Teamwork and we had a fantastic time working on Team building activities. Talking of Teamwork, Cherry are off to Yenworthy this week and Lime the week after half term. Have a great time everyone.

There are times when I simply cannot can't believe how much we manage to fit in to a term:

Bluebells have been having fun this week experimenting with mixing primary colours. Our EYFS curriculum states that nursery children 'should explore colour, learn how colours can be changed and find out what happens when they mix colours'.



Beanstalks and **Sunflowers** have worked very hard doing their self- portraits and writing a sentence about themselves!! It is fantastic to see how far they've come from the start of the year when we did the same activity, but just writing our names. Well done EYFS!!



LIVE, LOVE, LEARN and BE HAPPY

Recently in Sunflowers we have been learning about Chinese New Year. We shared the story of the Chinese zodiac and found out that 2020 is the year of the rat!

We created our own red greetings cards as it is the Chinese colour for 'good luck'. We painted the Chinese character for rat, alongside an image of one.

This term **Year 1**'s core text in English has been 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. The children have really enjoyed learning the story and then innovating it to create their own versions. To celebrate our enjoyment of the text we held a 'Lost and Found' dress up day where the children were invited to come to school dressed as either of the 2 main characters from the story – the boy or the penguin. Mrs La Vertue dressed up as the boy and Miss Browne was the penguin. In the afternoon we made penguin models and masks and all had a penguin treat (p p p pick up a penguin!!).

It was a lovely end to the week!



It has been a busy term in **Year 2** once again. We have been learning all about Florence Nightingale in our topic lessons. We even had a visit from a real life nurse, who showed us the unit she worked on in the hospital and how to bandage injuries.

In science, we have been learning about different types of materials and whether they are natural or manmade. We have been learning how different types of materials suit different jobs. We tested this by using four different materials to make boats. Foil, paper, cardboard and plastic. The aim was to see which material floats the best in water. Foil won, but we came to the decision that if we used all the materials, then that would make the best boat.



LIVE, LOVE, LEARN and BE HAPPY

Pine started the term with an exciting letter from Willy Wonka inviting them to compete against other teams to take over his chocolate factory. We have worked hard to build our teamwork skills which has proved challenging at times. Here we are untangling ourselves on a Monday morning.



Ash class have been reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and have written diary entries pretending to be Charlie Bucket when he finds his Golden ticket. We are beginning to learn about the history of chocolate and all things chocolate. For the past week we have been really focusing on our value of the month TEAMWORK and preparing a sharing assembly. I can't say any more. Top Secret!

Lime class have been busy again this half term. We've really enjoyed learning more about Roman Britain and are looking forward to our Roman Workshop after half term. We're also in the final stages of getting ready for our greatest adventure yet.... Yenworthy. Lime class have also really enjoyed 'Teamwork' week. We especially loved having a mini PE session with Beech Class, where we did a 5-minute workout with Joe Wicks and then supported the Year 1's in doing their daily mile. We worked fantastically as a team and helped them beat their PB. The other thing we enjoyed during the week as being taught different languages on Mother Tongue Day.



It's been a busy few weeks in **Cherry** Class! We have started our topic on the Romans, looking at what made the Roman army so successful and building our own Roman shields. The children have been using some extremely persuasive language in their letter writing, and we've just cracked into our new class book, Alex Rider: Stormbreaker, after enjoying the ending of Why the Whales Came. Lots of scientific exploration of solids, liquids and gases has happened alongside the introduction of the Daily Mile on a not-quite-daily basis - yet! In line with the school value this term, Cherry Class have shown fantastic teamwork across their lessons, but particularly in supporting the Mother Tongue visiting pupil "teachers", and in working with the Year 1's on some building games. Finally, we are excitedly looking forward to travelling to North Devon next week for our residential! "



LIVE, LOVE, LEARN and BE HAPPY

Yew and **Olive** we have been learning all about the Ancient Greeks. We have been reading Greek myths and using these to write newspaper reports.

We have also been comparing what life was like in Ancient Greek times with what it is like today.

Maple have had a really fab start to the term and our work on our new topic of Evolution and Inheritance.

The children have been writing biographies about Charles Darwin and diary entries from his ground-breaking visit to the Galapagos Islands. During teamwork week we paired up with Ash class and worked as small teams to complete the activities. We really enjoyed ourselves.



2020 – BRING IT ON! Elm class children have been super busy this term working their little socks off to grow those brains. They are becoming experts in sooooo many things: fractions and percentages, BODMAS (hope you know what that is!), writing biographies and diary entries, evolution, inheritance and so much more...They are definitely growing as a team! Watch this space!!!



This term's Values Week - Elm and Pine class working together to improve their team work.

In **Hazel** class in the CIRB we have been looking at plants. We have spent some time exploring some different plants and used pictures of plants to group them into categories. We were even able to categorise it into 3 groups! We have also started growing our own plants and have started them off in a plastic bag with a damp paper towel. Look how much they have grown already!

Mulberry and Holly classes in the CIRB learnt about Chinese New Year by reading the story of how the years came to be named after animals. We made spring rolls – honing our chopping and rolling skills. As a team, we made a dragon of beautiful colours using the salad spinner to create its stunning scaled plates! We enjoyed drumming and created a dragon dance.



LIVE, LOVE, LEARN and BE HAPPY

SEN coffee morning

Thank you to the parents who came to the SEN coffee morning last week. It was great to show you some of the resources that we use across the school to support our children. I will be holding another one in the summer term so please look out for the invitation. During the coffee morning, I also shared local SEN groups and activities. I will be setting up a notice board in the Daisy class, where coffee morning takes place, with the local groups and activities so please go and have a look. It will be updated monthly.

Many thanks Miss Ford

Girls On the Ball fixture afternoon – Years 3 & 4 and 5 & 6

I find the football matches very fun! I find it satisfying to be playing against other schools! Even if you lose a match you still can't help but feel happy! Sure, some schools are a little rough but you get over that roughness when you start to play! Football matches are about getting to know other schools not about winning!

By Lulu

Sports Hall Athletics – Year 3 & 4 mixed and Year 5 & 6 mixed

Over the last two weeks we have been sending mixed teams to compete in Sports Hall Athletic competitions down at Ferry Pool. All the children take part in various track and field events including relay races. All the children who took part have had an amazing experience and have shown all the school values, in particular Teamwork, which is this half terms value. Well done St. Nicks!!

Year 2 Music project:

Thank you to the parents of Year 2 giving £10-20 donations to the project this year. A special thank you to Ged Ridgway who has donated £100 via FOSNS which we hope will be gift aided so worth £125 to the project!

Julia Drown

Dates for the Diary

Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	Start of Term 4
Monday 24 th February	Lime Class to Yenworthy Residential Week
Wednesday 4 th March	Year 4 Roman Workshop
Thursday 5 th March	Year R and Year 6 - Weight and Measure Program
Friday 6 th March	Yenworthy Assembly
Monday 9 th March to Friday 13 th March	STEM Week in line with National Science Week
Wednesday 11 th March	Vista Photographs Reception/Nursery/Year 6
Thursday 12 th March	World Book Day
Monday 16 th March	Year 6 to John Radcliffe
Monday 16 th March	Hands Up Theatre Workshop Year 2 pm
Tuesday 17 th March	Earth's Trust Visit – Year 2
Tuesday 17 th March	Parents' Evening 3:30 – 5:30pm
Thursday 19 th March	Parents' Evening 3:30 – 6:00pm
Friday 20 th March	Beech Class Assembly
Thursday 26 th March	Year 3 play 2:00pm
Friday 27 th March	Year 2 Earth's Trust Assembly
Thursday 2 nd April	Reception Vision Screening (change of date)
Friday 3 rd April	End of Term 1:30pm finish
Monday 20 th April	Start of Term 5 - 8:45am

LIVE, LOVE, LEARN and BE HAPPY