

Kildwick Church of England Primary School

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Newsletter

W/C 14th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been an extremely challenging half term for us in school given the levels of pupil and staff absence that we have experienced. I would like to thank the school staff that have worked tirelessly to provide an education that has largely been unaffected and that children have still been able to experience the things in school that make primary schools such wonderful places to be.

It struck me recently when talking to parents informally, at meetings or via email, that so many of you value the work we do at school highly. This really does mean a lot to us, so thank you! Equally, if there is something that you are not happy with, then please do get in touch!

We are patiently waiting for an Ofsted inspection and linked to the above, it would be greatly appreciated if you could fill in the Ofsted parent view questionnaire by clicking this [link](#).

It was wonderful to see such an impactful range of sessions based around this year's Children's Mental Health and Online Safety Week. During lunchtimes particularly when I have dinner with the children, I have been talking to them about these activities and they have expressed how much they have enjoyed and valued these experiences. The children gave thoughtful and articulate responses and this also shone through when speaking to Governors this week.

In light of Online Safety Week I wanted to draw your attention to this [article](#) of concern on the BBC regarding Roblox, as I know this is something many children access at home.

At this time, it is worth reflecting on our own mental health and wellbeing. As well as school support which can be accessed at any time, The Mental Health Foundation have produced a range of documents that can be accessed [here](#).

I am sure that your children are all ready for a break and although the period since Christmas seems to have rattled past, I know that many of you have all been juggling COVID symptoms, illness, LFD / PCR tests and self-isolation along with your families and your work. Well done – you've made it!

Have a wonderful half term week!

Mr Tim Whitehead - Headteacher.

Governing Body Update

The Governing Body Curriculum Meeting took place on Monday 14th February, during the school day to allow governors to hear from the School Vision Leaders.

Minutes of the December 2021 Full Governing Body Meeting were approved - these can be found on the school website along with previous governing body meeting minutes.

The meeting focused on achieving the school vision: Learning to Live, Living to Love, Loving to Learn, with a particular emphasis on the curriculum.

The School Vision Leaders had made a video informed by the school strategic development plan, which governors were able to watch before the meeting - in this the children shared their views and thoughts on –

- enjoying school
- being active at school
- respect for others
- collective worship
- favourite lessons
- reading
- how teachers help children
- what they feel school could improve on.

Governors were able to discuss the video with the Vision Leaders and explore further the perspective of the children on the curriculum, and on reading. It was clear that the children enjoy school, have positive relationships with staff and know how to seek support when this is needed. School 'trips' and the opportunities these provide for developing learning were very obviously something the children particularly enjoyed.

Issues raised by the Vision Leaders including around the safety of the road outside school (an ongoing area of concern which was also highlighted in a recent school newsletter) and the school's focus on the environment were also discussed. The Vision Leaders are to look at further work to highlight the issue of safety on the road outside the school. Governors are to discuss possibilities around the school's contribution to a 'greener environment' at a future meeting.

It was fantastic that the Vision Leaders were able to join the meeting - their level of understanding and confidence was really evident.

Governing Body Update Continued....

Governors also had an update on the curriculum from Mr Whitehead, including on the computing curriculum, maths fluency, phonics, reading and the intervention programme. It was noted that school is already seeing the benefits of the revised focus on phonics with progression for children seen as strong.

Mr Whitehead also updated governors on recent staff training and the plans for assistive technology and special educational needs assessment.

Governors asked about the impact of the 'Covid pandemic' on school since the Christmas break, including the implications for attendance, behaviour and wellbeing - whilst the situation has been very difficult, with staff and children having to be very flexible, governors are hopeful that things are currently 'back on track'.

Governors then discussed the governor monitoring visit schedule, visits which look to support Mr Whitehead and the senior leadership team in the monitoring of strategic plan priorities. Governors aim to build on the current approach as the school year develops.

Updated school policies, including on Governor Removal, Appraisal, Developing Performance, Workplace Health and Wellbeing and Educational Visits were signed off. Contracts on Broadband provision, digital provision, support services and school improvement support were agreed.

The next planned governors meeting is a finance and resource meeting in March, at school.

Further information on the work of the governing body can be seen on the school [website](#) along with school policies and the strategic development plan.

If you have any comments or suggestions for future governing body updates please let Mr Whitehead know.

John Perry,

Chair of Governors.

Dates for your diaries...

18.02.22 - Last day of half term

28.02.22 - First day of new half term

28.02.22 - Fairtrade Fortnight

08.03.22 - International Women's Day

11.03.22 - School Meal Day

16.03.22 - Keighley & Craven School Cross Country – Race 4 – Silsden Park

01.04.22 - International Children's Book Day

01.04.22 - Earth Day

08.04.22 - Last day of spring term

26.04.22 - First Day of summer term

03.03.22 - World Book Day



Extra Curricular Clubs

Clubs do not run on the first and last weeks of term. They will restart the second week back after half term - W/C 07.03.22. Book a place on ParentPay, with the exception of Kanga - links to book direct with them below.



Monday -

Kanga - KS2 Boxercise - Click [here](#) to book direct with Kanga

Tuesday -

Kanga - EYFS & KS1 Multi sports - Click [here](#) to book direct with Kanga.

Tuesday -

Running - £5.00 for the half term.

Wednesday -

Dance - EYFS & KS1 - £12.00 for the half term

Thursday -

Cookery - KS2 - £12.00 for the half term

Thursday -

Mini Ringers



Walking Bus

We now operate the walking bus from Cross Hills Co-op Car Park twice a week (Mondays & Thursdays), setting off at 8.30am. All are welcome to join. The Y6 Vision Leaders would like to expand this initiative to try and reduce the amount of traffic around school. Watch this space! Please sign up for free on Parent Pay.



Learning to Live

Dogs on the playground/Clean Up After Your Dog!

A polite reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school premises. We have children in school who are allergic to dogs. Please can this message be passed on to any family/friends who might drop off and collect children from school too. If you do leave your dog outside school whilst dropping off/collecting please ensure you pick up their mess - a member of staff had to clean up after someone's dog this week which as you can imagine was quite unpleasant.



Nut Aware School

Just to remind you that we have children in school with nut allergies and we are a 'nut aware' school. Please be mindful of this and make sure that all contents of packed lunches do not contain nuts.



Considerate Parking

Please can we remind you not to park on the road outside school if at all possible, as it makes drop off and collection times so dangerous for children and their families.



School Books

We have a number of missing and damaged reading and sharing books in Robins and Swallows class. Please take care of the books that we send home. If you would like to contribute towards replacing a book please do so via the "Book Replacement Contribution" payment item on ParentPay. Please remember that books should be kept inside learning packs and brought into school everyday in book bags. Thank you.



Learning to Live

Children's First Aid Training

Keeping Safe is one of our PSHE topics this half term and GEM Compliance Training visited school this week to teach the children some first aid skills. They learnt about personal safety during casualty treatment and how to recognise unconscious casualties. They practised bandaging wounds to the head, arms, leg and hands and also putting arms into slings. The children put each other into the recovery position and carried out CPR on manikins.



Learning to Live

Cross Country

Well done to all runners from school who competed in the third Keighley & Craven Schools Cross Country event this week at Cliffe Castle. The results page can be accessed [here](#). We are currently in first place for Year 3/4 girls and second place for Year 3/4 boys. One more race will decide the finishing team positions. Fantastic running by all competitors.

Running club will begin again after half term. Please register via ParentPay.



Learning to Live

Mental Health Champions

Class 3 Kingfishers and Class 4 Owls took part in some training to become Mental Health Champions. They learnt about 5 key skills and qualities of a great mental health champion and also practical tips in supporting their peers. This is what Miss Spence had to say about the workshop.

Last week, Kingfishers were lucky enough to take part in a mental health workshop to become mental health champions! We had to learn lots of different skills and practise different qualities for this. We learnt about what mental health is and how it can change, thinking about strategies that we can use to manage our emotions and how all emotions are ok. We had a lovely time filling in the activity books that the workshop leaders brought in. We also practised our mindful breathing to relax by blowing some bubbles, as well as doing some exercise and thinking about the positive impact that this had on mood. The Kingfishers also thought of some kind and thoughtful compliments to give to each other which made everyone smile. We definitely felt more confident in supporting each other and ourselves with mental health by the end of the workshop!



Learning to Live



Children's Mental Health week

Last week was Children's Mental Health Week. As a school, we believe mental wellbeing is important for all children, now more than ever. In school we use the acronym SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship) to teach children about positive mental health.

Across school, the children have engaged in purposeful activities and sessions to highlight the importance of positive mental health. They have shown an excellent understanding of ways to keep their minds healthy and have been able to explain the importance of self-care.

We finished the week by holding a 'wear your scarf to school' day!



E safety Week

We celebrated safer internet day in school this week by exploring how to respect each other when playing or talking online.

Thanks to all the parental feedback from our recent e safety questionnaire. The results will be uploaded to our website and we will share the link with you as soon as it is available.

We will shortly be setting up an e safety working party in preparation for applying for the e-safety mark



Living to Love



Happy birthday to you....



Archie - Class 2

Alice - Class 2

Fearne - Class 1

Faye - Class 1

Ryan - Class 2

Esmae - Class 3

Sienna - Class 3



Birthdays

Children are invited to come in non-uniform on their birthday.

If this falls on a weekend or during a holiday, they can come in non-uniform on the Monday or Friday before their birthday.



Living to Love



Wear Red Day

Children came to school dressed in red on Friday 4th February and held a bake sale, in support of the Children's Heart Surgery Fund. This is something close to us at Kildwick as a former pupil has experienced the love, care and support from this charity and her sister is still a pupil with us.

Thank you so much for all your kind donations of cakes and buns. We raised an amazing £452.69



Living to Love



Flapjack Friday

I have been informed that Flapjack Friday will resume in church on Friday 11th March. Why not call in for a coffee, flapjack and a chat after or before drop off.

Peggy Wilson Trustee required

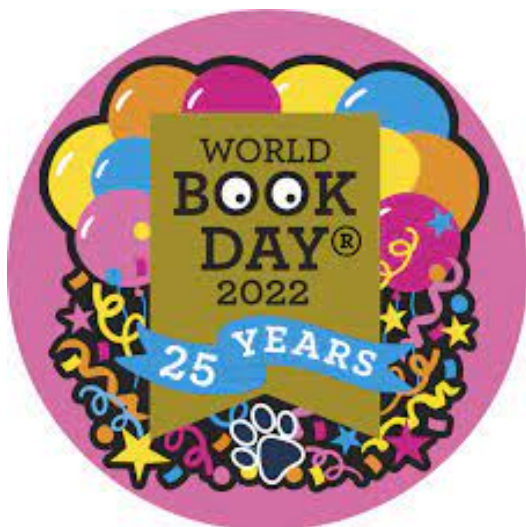
The Peggy Wilson Trust are looking for a Kildwick resident to become a trustee for the Peggy Wilson Playing Field. If any parents who live in Kildwick are potentially interested in this role then please do contact Mr Whitehead for further information. Thank you.



World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March

To celebrate World Book Day, we are inviting children to come dressed up as a character from a book or non uniform. Please do not feel the need to go out and buy a costume.

We will also be holding a book sale during the afternoon. If you have books that you would like to donate then please bring these to school from Monday 28th February. Children can bring cash to school or make a donation on ParentPay in the usual way. Funds raised will be used for purchasing new books for school.



Loving to Learn

Reading Forum

Thank you to all those that attended the reading forum earlier this week. There were some great questions about our new approach to reading and we will produce a Q & A document related to reading in school. I will signpost you to it when it is completed.

Reading



Castle Trip

To complete their history topic, year One and Two enjoyed a trip to Skipton castle. They had a guided tour, with the dungeon and 'long drop' being firm favourites. They were surprised to learn that children the same age as them would have the job of collecting all the wood for the castle fires.

The children were very knowledgeable and could remember lots of facts including who first built the castle and how and why the castle had changed from a Motte and Bailey to a stone medieval castle.



Loving to Learn

Science

Class 3 Kingfishers and Class 4 Owls have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes. In groups they melted chocolate on top of an empty baked bean. When the heat was taken away the chocolate turned back to a solid. Using the same method, the children cooked a pancake mixture but this created a chemical change and was irreversible.



Year Six visit Bradford Industrial Museum

Year Six went to Bradford Industrial Museum to experience life in a Victorian classroom. They also enjoyed looking around the exhibits; including machinery from the Industrial Revolution.



Loving to Learn



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Year 6 have made these impressive electrical games in Design & Technology.

