

# Sunningwell Primary School



## Newsletter – February 2019

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Dear Parents/Carers

### **Term Four Newsletter**

Welcome back to school and I hope you all had a very enjoyable half term and enjoyed the lovely warm weather. We have many exciting events taking place this term including our KS2 children singing with the world famous 'King Singers' at the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford. Some of the children are also going on Science trips to Abingdon School and Rutherford Labs.

### **Pancake Day – 5<sup>th</sup> March**

We need some helpers to help run our Sponsored Pancake Race. If you can help, please contact the School Office. Please hand in all forms on Friday this week.

### **BINGO - SAVE THE DATE – Fundraising Bingo on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

6.00pm for Eyes Down at 6.30pm. Come along and support the school. It is normally a fun night and raises much needed funds for our school. Refreshments are available. If you can help with this event, please contact the School Office.

### **World Book Day Dress Up**

This year we will not be dressing up for World Book Day or indeed the day after as stated on previous versions of the School Dates list. We try and celebrate the joy of reading every day and will be having a creative week in the summer where children will have the opportunity to dress up.

### **Red Nose Day 15<sup>th</sup> March**

As requested by the children, we will be holding a 'Pyjama Day' and raising funds for Red Nose Day. If you would like your child to participate, they can come to school in clean pyjamas, dressing gowns and slippers in exchange for a donation of at least £1. Please note shoes will be required for playtime!

### **PTA**

We will be holding a meeting for anyone who would like to find out more about the PTA or would like to help with events. This will take place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm at school.

### **Volunteer Drivers**

We are always very thankful when parents can help with transport for events. We have changed our procedure and in future we will need to keep a database from each parent who volunteers to drive of basic information regarding their driving licence number, certificate of motor insurance and MOT details.

### **Payments and forms**

Please hand all forms to class teachers. We do prefer payment for trips, lunches and clubs by ParentMail but if you do pay by cheque, please ensure that cheques are placed in an envelope marked with your child's name and the reason for the payment such a school trip etc.

## News From The Classes

### Class 1

Our topic for this term is "The Hidden World in my Garden".

The children will observe changes in the natural environment and will think about how these occur. We will make mini bug hotels, decorate flowerpots and plant various seeds in them. The children will use the iPads to take pictures of their plants and write leaflets about their observations.

The topic will be reflected in Literacy too, through fiction and non-fiction books. These should trigger their curiosity to find out more about the hidden world in our gardens and talk about the changes that take place throughout the seasons. They will create their own stories, draw story maps and use their phonic knowledge to write captions and sentences.

In Maths we will focus on identifying the most common 2D and 3D shapes and problem solving involving doubling and sharing different amounts. As part of our Active Maths lessons we will go on learning walks in the Spinney and in the village, counting different things in our immediate environment, spotting numbers on houses and post boxes.

### Class 2

This term in Class 2 our topic is Space.

We are all very excited about our trips to Abingdon School Science Department to support our learning in our Space topic, as well as going to a Science Show to celebrate us all completing our CREST awards.

Our text this term is *The Man on the Moon* (a day in the life of Bob) which will support our Space topic.

Our main maths topic is fractions. Please encourage conversations about fractions while you are at home, for example if you are cutting up pizzas or cake!!!

Please continue to read and to have conversations about books. When you do this please record it all in your child's reading journal and make comments on the conversations you have had about the texts being read.

### Class 3

Class 3 have enjoyed their well-earned break, and are excited about the new term ahead.

We are about to start reading a new book called 'The Stone Mouse' by Jenny Nimmo, which we will use to help us develop our descriptive and story writing. It will also give us opportunities to think about and discuss how and why other people feel.

In Maths, we are about to start our fractions topic, we will be doing lots of active maths, investigations and applying it to real life contexts.

Our new science topics are rocks and states of matter. We will be studying the different types of rocks and learning about how fossils are formed.

In PE we are going to be playing lots of hockey and netball, thinking carefully about the skills we need for these team games. In Art, we are continuing the acrylic animal prints which we started before our 'Home' competition pieces, which will be entered this week. We're hoping to be able to spend more time learning outside this term if the weather permits!

#### Class 4

Class 4 have come back rested from the break and are ready to work hard this half term.

In Maths, we are continuing with our work on fractions and will be taking advantage of the sunnier weather with some outdoor active maths to inspire our learning. We will then move on to decimals and percentages and link this to our fraction work.

In Literacy, we will be reading 'Shackleton's Journey' and will have opportunities to discuss, research and write about Ernest Shackleton's trek to Antarctica. We will be writing our own CV to apply for the journey, write fact files from our research and narratives to develop characters and settings. We will also use Drama, Art and Music as entry points to our learning and writing.

In Art, we will be developing patterns using acrylics. This takes time and develops an eye for detail.

We are continuing to use the new chrome books in a number of lessons to support our learning and continue to develop our ICT skills. They are a big hit with the pupils!

Our Swimming lessons will be continuing, and the progress the pupils are making with their skills is very evident. We have a lot of sports fixtures set in March so will be busy representing our school at hockey, gymnastics, netball and badminton.

We are looking forward to our Science trip this Friday where there will be lots of hands-on activities and demonstrations at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory to enjoy and explore.

The Year 6's are also preparing for their SATs week and we hope to see those parents at the SATs talk this Wednesday at 2:30pm.

Yours

Anita Leech  
Headteacher

