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**Friday 31st January 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the end of January already, where did that go? It doesn't seem a minute since we were all back after Christmas. As usual we have been doing lots of exciting things this term.

Year 4 had an Egyptian WOW day and we have all enjoyed doing lots of Art and craft this week. The children have been designing a logo based on each classes value (please see below) and of course we had the amazing Aardman studios in this week the children all created their very own Wallace, Gromit and Shaun.

The children's work from Art week will be on display in the hall during parents evenings on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of February.

### **RE News: school behaviour code**

#### School Values

Three years ago we revised the school's values to more fully reflect our faith as a church school. We have revisited this and the children, parents, staff and governors have shared their thoughts and ideas. With guidance from Fr Tom, we have now adopted the following:

#### Gentleness & Humility

We are kind to each other and respect each other. We welcome those who come to our school.

#### Forgiveness & Mercy

We understand that people can make mistakes. We can say sorry and be friends with each other.

#### Peace & Tolerance

We work well together and support each other in our work and play. We celebrate our similarities and differences.

#### Holiness & Purity

We value time spent in prayer and reflection. We respect the faith and beliefs of all who are part of our school community.

#### Compassion & Dignity

We care for others in our words and our actions. We support each other in our work and in our play.

#### Justice & Truth

We always tell the truth and help those who might be treated unfairly.



***"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."***



### Integrity & Faithfulness

We value our friendships and relationships with each other by being considerate and thoughtful in our actions.

### Service & Sacrifice

We work hard in everything we do and are happy to give our time to help others.

Mrs Hill has been working with the children and staff through the art week and other activities to embed these new values. We will also be using these in our assemblies and class activities. They also form the basis for our expected behaviour in school.

### **Sports news**

We always have a lot to report when it comes to team sports. Today Mr Donovan has taken a team of footballers to the U11 Somerset football finals at Western Super Mare we shall await the results. Last week we played football against some of our local schools. Next week some of the children will be taking part in a Tag Rugby event and a Gordano netball competition. Again we are so proud of all our children who take part in these events.

Don't forget the Swimathon on Saturday March the 28<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Ravens is looking for participants and parent helpers for the day, we raise so much money for charities and the school taking part in this event.

### **ICT news**

I had promised the children that our new exciting computer suite would be up and running just after Christmas. All our new chromebooks all arrived on time. However there is a delay with the laying of the new cable which we need to deliver superfast connections so fingers crossed it won't be too long now.

### **Chess news**

Well done to our chess team for getting through to the South West regional finals. We are all really proud of you and thank you again to Mrs Faram for encouraging you and giving up her time for chess club.

### **PTFA**

The *money for bags 2 school collection* will be in the school car park on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, there is still time to fill some bags for cash for the PTFA and an ideal opportunity to do some spring clearing out ! Clothes, bedding, shoes, handbags, soft toys, curtains and towels. Mrs Fenton - Stretton will be in the school playground on Wednesday morning to coordinate. You can leave the bags with her. The bags are available in the school foyer.

The next PTFA meeting will take place on **Monday the 10th of February at 7.00pm in the Albion (opposite the school)**. Come along as there will be planning for up and coming events.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE PTFA THEY DO SO MUCH FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL**

### **Safeguarding**

The Childline website has lots of valuable information, but one area I like is their Calm Zone. The activities aim to help children feel better when they're feeling anxious, scared or sad. Although children could be encouraged to visit the website themselves, these are good techniques for adults to use with children. Ideas include: breathing exercises, a 'let it go' box and creating a 'sense drawer'.

Go to the Childline website here:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/>

### **Housekeeping**

Once again I would ask you to please make sure your children's uniform is named as we have a build-up of lost property. Ties seem to be an issue at the moment please ensure your child is wearing one when they come to school.



It is really important that you **phone in every day** if your child is off sick. We have a duty of care and if we do not hear from you by 1pm we are obliged to follow it up with a home visit and in some cases I have had to call the Police when contact has not been made by the end of the day.

Please keep all our St Joseph's family members in your prayers and thoughts, I know some families in our community are going through some tough times at the moment and it's always a comfort to know that someone is thinking about you.

God bless  
Mrs Jackson



### **Dates for parents evenings**

Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of February and Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. Please log onto e schools to book your appointment

**Please see the website for the full calendar of events**