Eton Porny C of E First School Newsletter 19 – Spring Term 1

2nd February 2024

We are all created unique and special. He made us all perfect having our own uniqueness.

1 Peter 4:10-11 "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we head towards half term the mornings are starting to get lighter but we know that for some it is still hard to get up and out of the house on time in the mornings! The children have a really busy day at school and being well rested is so important to ensure that they can meet their full potential each day. A good bedtime routine is really helpful in order to plan the evening and fit in quality family time. For more information on sleep try the following links: <u>trouble sleeping</u>, <u>sleep advice</u> or speak to Mrs Smith our Home School Link Worker (HSLW) for more support.

Next week we have lots of events planned! We look forward to welcoming parents into school for our express events, our PTA valentines event (tickets still available on school money), as well as celebrating children's mental health week with a number of activities including an inter-house art competition.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, Emma Stanford-Smith (Headteacher)

LEARNING SNAPSHOT

Year 1 have enjoyed their learning this week. The children have been learning about The Great Fire of London and wrote fact files about the fire. In Maths, the children have been using their knowledge of subtraction to ten to work out subtraction to 20. In English, the children have finished reading Claude in the City and have been writing their own London adventure stories.

Ask me: About The Great Fire of London



Year 2 have started reading a new text in literacy, 'The Lighthouse Keeper's lunch' and we wrote a set of instructions for how to make a sandwich. We have also had an ongoing focus on capital and lower case letters. In maths, we have started learning about division and have been using grouping to solve problems. In geography we considered how we can stay safe at the coast. In P.E we have been doing circuit training and playing 'person in the middle' as part of our attacking and defending unit.

Ask me: what is your new literacy text about?



Year 3 enjoyed a music session, understanding musical notation (on the music sheets that were displayed), we improvised and composed a rhythm using the notes practiced in class. We also enjoyed a computing lesson about 2D shape debugging; as our aim was to understand and design our own algorithms and debug the 3 errors found in our groups. In geography, we applied our understanding of the four intercardinal points on a compass (north-east, south-east, south-west, and north-west) to explore the devastation of tsunamis across other countries.

Ask me: How are earthquakes caused? (Reference the movement of tectonic plates.)



Year 4 This week the children enjoyed their mountain expedition. They considered what they would need to safely climb a mountain and enjoyed looking at some equipment. Wearing mosquito head nets and carrying maps and water proof cases, the children travelled to the mountain summit (playground). They took turns to sit in a shelter to get warm before returning to base camp (the classroom). This term the children have enjoyed having Miss Green in the classroom. Miss Green is a trainee teacher from St Mary's University, who will finish her placement this Friday. She has thoroughly enjoyed teaching Year 4. The children produced some excellent simile work with Miss Green this week. This will be used next week in a piece of writing that parents will be able to see at the Express Event.

Ask me: What is a simile and a metaphor?



Reception have enjoyed starting their new topic of Stories and Rhymes. We have been learning rhymes like Humpty Dumpty and Horsey Horsey. The children have enjoyed thinking of actions to help them remember the rhyme and then created an obstacle course for the 'horses' to move around. We also enjoyed a visit from PSCO David who read us his story PC Ben. The children enjoyed listening to his story and asking him questions about his job and his book. We have also started to explore the idea of weight and mass in maths and the children have had the opportunity to use balance scales and use the vocabulary 'heavy', 'light' and 'balance'.

Ask me: can you tell me 3 things that are heavy?



FORTHCOMING DATES

6th February	Express Event– Year 1,2,3 and 4 at 2.50
7th February	Express Event Reception 2:50
7th February	PTA valentines activity 4:30-6pm
8th February	End of term children finish at normal time
9th February	SEBMAT Inset Day (school closed to all pupils.)
19th February	INSET day (school closed to all pupils) Return on 20th Feb
7th March	World Book Day (Optional dressing up)
12th and 14th March	Parents Evening -All Years



PE Days

Reception—FRIDAY

Year 1 and 2 – WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

Year 3— MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Year 4—Swimming from MONDAY 8TH for 10 weeks, Normal PE TUESDAY,



CELEBRATION

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Reception: Charlie and Kiyaan

Year 1: Jordan and Tammi

Year 2: Sonia and Pedro

Year 3: Caspian and Maximilian

Year 4: Bertie and Noor



The results of this week's celebration awards

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Reception: Francesco

Year 1: Seva

Year 2: Mia

Year 3: Mila

Year 4: Nora

A huge well done to all of these children. We are really proud of you.





SPOTLIGHT ON... Children's Mental Health

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters."

From research by the charity Place 2 Be, children said the key things they need from adults are:

We don't need to have 'one-off conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.

I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.

Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.

Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.

Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.

Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)

Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me - I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.

If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.

Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.

Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported!

For more information: https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/