Drake Primary School Newsletter

2nd February 2024

Dear Families,

This week started with a Key Stage 2 Girls Football competition. Two teams of eight competed against five other schools at Iceni Academy in the 5-aside football tournament. Both teams played well and have progressed to the County Finals in March—Well done everybody!

Year 5 visited St Cuthbert's church for their RE lesson on Monday learning about the running of a church service and the role of the church in the local community.

Reception children were visited by the hearing a vision team this week. This is an important screening as often, when difficulties are first identified, it is one of the first recommendations. We have been very proud of the children engaging so positively with their visitors.

A significant aspect of school is preparing the children for the next phase of their education and their future lives. We spend lots of time at Drake discussing aspirations and the steps we need to take to be successful. We explore a range of career choices and inspirational people. With aspiration as our focus value, we have had a strong focus on this during weekly assemblies learning about people who have achieved their goals in a variety of occupations.

The Local Authority is currently undertaking work to support the provision of wraparound care (before and after school childcare provision). A parent survey is currently live asking parents about early years and wraparound demand. Please take some time to complete this survey. https://ow.ly/waFC50Qqqb1

If you have not already, please can you complete our home learning survey so that we can review what is currently in place forms.gle/kinHqkJim76AVXY56

Playing the violin to Little Pirates

Every Day Matters

It is a statutory requirement for children to attend school every day.

The class with highest attendance this week is

Curie

97 %

Congratulations!

Whole school attendance is 95.68%

Secret Student

Named secret students this week are:

Reception: Ahria, Eli, Alina, Levi, Grace, Halle, Ava, Oliver L
Year 1: Kian, Blake, Indie, Athena, Paulinho, Conroy, Albert, Carter, Berwin, Everlyn
Year 2: Cai, Delia, Lillie, Olly, Rose, Oskar, Szymon, Emilie
Year 3: Oscar, Ace, Benas, Henry, Francesca, Jordan, Harry, Sophie, Nayana, Elizabeth
Year 4: Polly, Ben, Teddie M, Shivansh, Romie, Adna, Katrina, Amelia, Miley, Theo
Year 5: Hope, Valentina, Jack K, Andrew, Roman, Bella, Connie, Ema
Year 6: Mia-Lily, Toby, Liyana, Louie, Max, Frankie, Dylan, Eloise
These pupils have demonstrated our school values and learning behaviours, well done.

Parent Assemblies and Cafes

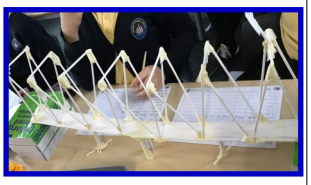
This week, King class had their assembly where they discussed their aspirations for their futures. King class aspire to become; footballers, paramedics, RAF pilots and graphic designers. The children researched their future careers and the paths to be able to get there and told us who inspired them. King class also showed how proud they were of the work that they have achieved this half term by presenting pieces of work such as science investigations, double page spreads in art and creative writing pieces in English.

Thursday Mr Fox led our Year 2 parent cafe all about online safety. We discussed different sources we may come across on the internet and spotted the difference between reliable sources and fake news. We looked at what makes a good password and what doesn't make a good password, exploring the different symbols on a keyboard and how we can incorporate these into a secure password. Thank you to all families who joined us for this, it was great to see so many of you.

Next week: Tuesday Kahlo assembly in the main hall
Thursday Year 1 café in the main hall

Prefect Update

This week year six have been working really hard on their practice SATs which has challenged the students and tested their knowledge.
We were lucky enough to get invited to a girls football tournament for years 4 and 6 which was an exciting experience. They worked extremely hard and got through to the counties. They had to play against 4 different teams from other schools.



Year six have also been busy working in teams of 2, 3 and 4 and put their heads together to build a bridge (using 50 paper straws, 15 sheets of A4 paper and 5 metres of tape). These also had to be 80 cm long for an extra challenge.

The Reception classes have earnt their class reward. One class chose to do some baking and made cookies while the other class decided to have a comfortable day in pyjamas.

Reading

It is important that children read every day. On a Monday, reading diaries are checked and teachers award gold stars for children who have read more than 7 times.

This week 258 children read more than 7 times and achieved their gold star.

This week's award is to:

Maathai

Daily run

To support Mental and physical health and well-being, children run every day. The children have a weekly distance competition.

This week's award is to:

KS1: Merian
KS2: Maathai

Curriculum Update: Zones of Regulation

The Zones of Regulation is an evidence-based curriculum to support pupils with their emotional regulation and wellbeing. It includes a sequence of lessons, related resources and tools which can be used to support pupils to identify their emotions and to use strategies to self-regulate.

We implement The Zones of Regulation across the school in a range of ways, these include:

· Collecting pupil voice through the use of each of the four zones

Check-in times throughout the school day. Adults will also check in, to model the language and use of the four zones.

· Class text/story time. We talk about how the characters are feeling and why, what strategies could they use? We can even place out characters from the story on our zones 'check-in'.

· Restorative conversations during or following an incident. How were you feeling? What strategy could we use next time?

· Whole class strategies and tools that the children can use in each zone for the whole class

· Zones of regulation profiles

· Within the PSHE Curriculum as developmental, sequential lessons with related resource

We recently held a café to support parents in understanding the zones and implementing some strategies at home. Further information can be found on our website here

Feature Podcast

Our children contribute to school life and the children's learning through our Drake Radio. You can listen live here .

Have a watch of a video: Andersen telling The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Podcasts are available on the video centre section of the school website.

MALLARDS

We have recently recovered some funds from our previous PTA—FAD charity. This money has funded books, resources and projects within the school.

Next Event:
Valentine Disco - 14th February
mallards9lrv@nsix.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

All scheduled events for classes/year groups are included in year group newsletters and added to the year group pages.

We aim to provide as much notice as possible for school events, but there are sometimes opportunities that arrive at short notice. As new whole school events are created, we will list them here and then add them to the school website calendar for future reference.

Spring Term dates

16th Feb: Last day of Half term

4th—8th March: World Book Week
w/c 11th March—Parents meetings
11th—15th March: British Science Week
26th March: INSET day - school closed
28th March: Last day of Term - 1pm finish