



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Executive Head Teacher: Gerida Montague MA
School Senior Lead: Eleanor Prince BA PGCE

January 2024 Newsletter

Dear Families

Welcome to my first Newsletter of 2024! I do hope that all of our families had a very happy and peaceful Christmas. The children and staff have all returned to school, energised and excited for the New Year! I have, yet again, been touched by the support of our families, dedication of our staff team and care that our children continue to show for each other and for their school family and wider world.

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Visit

We recently enjoyed a visit by Hampshire Fire & Rescue service. The children in KS1 enjoyed taking part in a fire story to help understand about dangers and safety. They were each given a part to play and especially enjoyed making the noises of the different fire equipment! They then learnt a new rhyme to help them remember how to stay safe around matches and lighters. In KS2, the children listened to stories about the dangers of fire and how they can play their part in keeping family safe. The children learnt how as a family we can check our smoke detectors and make safety changes in their own homes to improve our safety. Did you know if you always check your fire alarm once a month on the first of each month, you can be certain they are working!



Bikeability

Year 5 participated in a 2 day course to develop their road safety and bike competency. The children had to choose suitable riding positions, make frequent observations and understand priorities on the road.

Year 6 Residential to Little Canada

Year 6 are becoming very excited about the residential to Little Canada in July. Many parents are paying in regular instalments and I would like to thank you for ensuring these are up to date. Full payment needs to be made by Thursday 28th March 2024, as Little Canada requires payment at this time.

Poetry by Heart

We are all incredibly proud of the amazing job did in regard to their poetry performance. Learning not one but 2 poems in such a small amount of time truly demonstrates the dedication and love they had for them. They sounded amazing as well. Congratulations to all our winners and to everybody who immersed themselves in this challenge.

Curriculum and Enrichment

Year R

In Year R, the children have been learning all about the celebration of Chinese New Year. The children have learnt a dragon dance, created their own large-scale dragon and created messages for fortune cookies. In History, the children have enjoyed tasting different traditional foods such as noodles and Fa Gao cake as well as exploring the different Chinese Zodiac animals. To support the children's Maths learning we have been participating in lots of races and thinking about our order in the race. - just like the Chinese Zodiac animals!

Year 1

This month, Year 1 have been learning...

Writing: We came in to find our ready corner had been destroyed by the Gruffalo! We were asked to produce a warning poster to alert everyone in Lymington. We ensured to use lots of exciting features such as similes, adjectives and show don't tell to inform the public.

Maths: In Maths, we have been looking at addition. We have been thinking about our number bonds to 20 and how to write addition equations.

Science- We have been exploring the different animals. We have been working scientifically to classify animals into their correct animal group.

DT- In DT, we have been learning about different mechanisms. We have explored how we can create a range of moving mechanisms to support us in producing a final product that is purposeful to take home.

Year 2

In year 2 we have been using our creative toolkit to build tension in writing becoming amazing authors to write some super exciting narratives which leave us on the edge of our seats. In Geography, we took a virtual flight to St Lucia where we have been exploring the geographical features of this beautiful country.

Year 3

This half term in year 3 we have learnt all about refugees and their journeys to safety. We then used all of this knowledge to write emotive action or descriptive poems. We have explored multiplication and division in maths and even learnt to use formal written methods to help us solve trickier calculations. We have loved learning all about the Ancient Egyptians in history and sharing all our wonderful facts. In RE we are exploring how God talks to us to help guide us. During our poetry days we worked together to learn two poems! We read them as a class and learnt to read them as individuals. To help us to perform them we researched people

such as Michael Rosen and explored how he brought poems to life with actions, facial expressions and intonation. We then tried it for ourselves!

Year 4

History- This term we are learning about The Vikings. The children are enjoying this unit so far and seem fascinated by these people. So far we have learnt about who the Vikings were and the type of people they were. We have discovered that many people see them as just being blood-thirsty warriors but they are also pioneers of exploration and legendary ship builders. The children have learnt the difference between what a raid is compared to what an invasion is and know that at the start of the time period Vikings mostly raided. We have looked at and explored the first Viking raid on the holt isle of Lindisfarne. We were interested in what the Vikings considered valuable. For example, Bibles and the bones of St Cuthbert were ignored. Science- In science we are learning about sound. So far we have learnt how sound travels from its source to our ear through particles. We have also learnt about which mediums allow sound to pass through the best. We were all very surprised to learn that sound actually travels best through solids, then liquids and lastly gas. We completed experiments to help show this which excited all.

English- Our English topic is a description of a journey. Children have been exploring and practicing skills required.

Maths- In Maths we are learning about Division. Music- In music we are continuing to improve on the guitars. We are looking at more complicated songs with different beats and rhythms.

Year 5

Year 5 have been writing a setting description on Alaska. They have created awe and wonder by using different sentence types, figurative language and effective language choice. In maths, the pupils have been working on calculating the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes. They have also identified horizontal and vertical lines on these shapes and calculated missing sides on compound shapes.

Year 6

Year 6 have been immersing themselves in Macbeth this term; exploring the play and the characters. We are investigating how the character's actions impacted the storyline and the affect that the witches' prophecy had on the characters and their emotional state. Influenced by greed and power, we discovered that Macbeth and Lady Macbeth would stop at nothing in order to rule Scotland - their callous attitude, unfortunately, consequenting in the death and destruction of those around them. At the moment, we are writing a monologue; we have chosen a character and a section of the play, in order to explain what this person is experiencing and thinking at this point. So far, we have collated a lot of powerful language and investigated the effect different sentence types have on our writing - we are now composing our eerie texts!

REMINDERS

Lateness

We appreciate the commitment from the vast majority of our parents who ensure their children arrive promptly for registration and collect them promptly at the end of the day. This substantially reduces stress and anxiety for the children. We also appreciate that on occasion traffic and extenuating circumstances mean that lateness is unavoidable. Should you require alternative arrangements for the collection of your child at the end of the day please ensure you telephone the school office before 3.00pm. Our admin team are unable to leave the office after this time unless in an emergency.



Car Park

Just a reminder about the school car park. If you are driving to pick your child up, please consider the safety of our children. Double parking, parking on curbs or along the double yellow lines are all hazardous and are risking an injury. The safety of our children is paramount and we are concerned that someone could be seriously hurt if these issues are not addressed. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Pip and Pap workshops

Our Pip and Pap workshops have started up again and will be running on the following dates.

Year 1 - 2.45pm Tuesday - 30-Jan + 27-Feb + 12-Mar

Year R - 2.45pm Wednesday - 31-Jan + 28-Feb + 13-Mar

Year 2 - 2.45pm Thursday - 1-Feb + 29-Feb + 14-Mar

Look forward to seeing you there!



Coffee morning

Thank you to all of you who have attended our coffee mornings. We are really looking forward to seeing you on the next one - Thursday, 1st February 24. We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and cup of coffee or tea with a member of the senior team.



Children cycling to school

Please make sure your children wear cycle helmets and have lights on their bikes. As the evenings are still dark, please discuss with them the importance of returning home promptly. All children must wear a helmet.



P.E. Kit reminder

We go out and about when it is cold so please ensure your child has a suitable P.E kit in school at all times and check their P.E shoes fit them comfortably. Joggers are very useful to keep those muscles warm! As with all uniform clear name labels are important so that any lost items can be returned to their owners. Please remember to take your child's P.E kit home at the end of each half term to wash ready for the next half term.

School packed lunches

Children having a packed lunch are encouraged to bring a healthy lunch box. Please do not include sweets and chocolate. The amount you put in your child's lunch box should be what they would usually eat for a sandwich type lunch. Please name your child's lunch box. Remember, we are a NUT FREE school.



School Photographers

Tempest photography will be in school on Tuesday, 19th March to take Class photos. Proofs will be sent home later in the term, via the children, so parents can place an order if they wish. We need to supply Tempest with class lists in advance of the day so they can keep a record of photos taken and ensure orders are printed correctly and matched with the relevant children. If you do not wish us to provide the photographers with your child's details please let us know in writing, via the school office, by Monday, 27th February at the latest.

Dates for your Diary

- Thursday, 1st February – Coffee morning
- Thursday, 1st February – Year R Church Trip
- Thursday, 8th February – PTA Film Night
- Friday, 9th February – Non Uniform day
- Friday, 9th February – 1.30pm Spring Gardening Afternoon – Families welcome
- Monday, 12th February - Friday 16th February - Half term
- Thursday, 7th March – World Book Day
- Thursday, 7th March – Gods Planet Spring Tour
- Monday, 11th March – Year 2 Duckling kits arriving
- Friday, 15th March – Year 1-6 Children's Reports out to Parents
- Tuesday, 19th March – Class Photographs
- Friday, 22nd March – Inset Day
- Monday, 25th March – Stations of the Cross Mass – Families welcome
- Week commencing 25th March – Parents evenings
- Friday, 29th March – Friday, 12th April – Easter Holidays
- Friday, 19th April – Y2 Marwell Zoo Trip
- Monday, 6th May – Bank Holiday
- Monday, 13th May – Thursday, 16th May – Year 6 SATS
- Monday, 4th June – Inset Day
- Tuesday, 5th June – Inset Day
- Monday, 10th June – Friday, 14th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
- Monday, 8th - Friday 12th July – Year 6 Little Canada Residential



Have a wonderful term!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerida Montague".

Gerida Montague
Executive Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hendricks".

Sarah Hendricks
Head of School