

# Farway Church of England Primary School

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4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term, it has been lovely to see all of the children's smiling faces flooding back through the front gates and to hear all of their holiday adventures!

In Geography and History lessons this week, the Class 1 children have enjoyed reminiscing about their trip to Honiton; they completed a Fieldwork Questionnaire for Mrs Symonds at Broadhembury to help her better understand how the activities completed on our visit to the Allhallows Museum and Lace Walk impacted their learning in our topic 'Street Detectives'. I am sure your children regaled you with tales of their adventures around Honiton including completing a traffic survey, a shop survey, field sketches of both older and modern properties and of course the Hippo Hunt. So without further ado, please find below some photos capturing our day out - I am sure you will agree that 'a picture speaks a thousand words!'



Looking back to last half term, Class 1 also enjoyed a visit from Richard Marker, who came in to talk about the Reverend Tom Putt, as well as 'Black Tom Putt'. It was fascinating to learn about these individuals and their connection with the village, the school, our hut and of course our apple tree! We have some super photos to share with you below and would encourage you to ask your children to tell you what they can remember! Thank you, Richard, for taking time to share your knowledge with us!



Thank you to those parents, grandparents and carers who attended our Pancake races this week - the children thoroughly enjoyed welcoming you back into school for such an event, after such a long time!



At the moment Class 2 are engrossed in their class novel, 'Street Child by Berlie Doherty', which is set in Victorian times. It is a very exciting book and is teaching them lots about life in Victorian Britain. Their new focus text in Literacy is 'Fair's Fair by Leon Garfield'. The children have recognised lots of similarities in the settings and quickly made connections from their previous learning. They will write the middle and end of this story, thinking carefully about their descriptions and their character's conversations.

In Maths, all of Class 2 are now focusing on parts of numbers – fractions and decimals. Group One are confidently identifying unit and non-unit fractions and are counting in fractions on a number line. This is a skill to practise during odd moments at home. The tricky bit is passing a boundary (48 and  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 49, 49 and a  $\frac{1}{4}$ ). Group Two have been focusing on equivalent fractions and learning to simplify fractions. They are using this skill to compare fractions of different sizes and to order them. Group Three are multiplying and dividing fractions by whole numbers and by other fractions. They are applying lots of new skills and have to follow multiple steps but are showing great resilience in every lesson.

In topic work, Class 2 have been learning about the impact of the Industrial Revolution on life in Britain. This was started with the invention of the steam engine and led to big changes in transportation. The children have mapped canals and train lines and compared them to Victorian maps. There are so many significant inventions and people from this period in history – the next section of learning will be about the laws and culture that changed the lives of poor people and children forever.

As part of their connection with Honiton Learning Community, Year 5 and 6 recently attended a Futsal event (a type of football) with Mrs Finn and Albertine. As always, they tried their best and supported each other. Well done to them.

In science this month, the Class 2 children used a new piece of equipment called a volt meter to measure the electricity running through a circuit. They then experimented with adding different things to their circuit and checking how the flow of electricity was affected. They even tried fruits and vegetables!

Interestingly, the children arrived back from half term to discover their science salt and sugar solution experiments had gone wild! The crystals were no longer only forming on the string but also around the rim of the tubs and all the water had evaporated.



In Art, Class 2 also experimented with different mediums including charcoal to represent a painting from Victorian times. They focused on the shapes and thought about light and shadow and how to create this using smudging and blending.

World Book Day was enjoyed by all the children and staff this year. Thank you for your support with it. World Book Day celebrations will also be extended by a visit on Wednesday afternoon of a Devon children's author, Claire Barker, writer of books such as 'Picklewitch and Jack'. This visit has been kindly organised by the Owl and Pyramid bookshop in Sidmouth.



In Forest School this month, the children made 'talking feathers' before leaving due to water issues in the village. Linda will return on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March so remember your child will need to bring a change of play clothes and wellies. A waterproof coat is essential throughout March even if the deceptive sun is out in the morning.

Thank you for all your continued support.  
God bless and have a lovely weekend.

*Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Farway CE School*

### **Question of the month:**

Thinking about our new Collective Worship theme, Truthfulness:  
Should you always tell the truth?  
Can you think of any times when a person shouldn't tell the truth?





## Orchard Aims Class 1:



Leah - for showing great compassion to her friends in need.

Oliver W - for courage and perseverance in the face of a challenge!

Olivia H - for such marked improvement and progress across the curriculum.

Adriana - for demonstrating great confidence when sharing her knowledge with the whole class.

## Class 2:

Jessica – for attacking every maths lesson with enthusiasm and contributing her thoughts and ideas.

Ella – for rising to her challenge targets and improving in every area of writing and reading – inspirational!

Liam and Betsy- for completing ALL learning set over half-term.

Brooke– for retrieving her knowledge about Lent and using correct vocabulary to explain the church events of this week.

Elodie – for choosing to complete a diary over half term and read it to the class.



## Key Dates – Spring Term 2022

9<sup>th</sup> March - Class 2- Visit from a local author - Claire Barker.

14<sup>th</sup> March- Tag Rugby at HCC for Class 2.

16<sup>th</sup> March- Forest School (pm).

18<sup>th</sup> March- Comic relief. Plans to be confirmed.

## Important notices

### PTFA

Our P.T.F.A are always on the look out for helpers. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Mrs Bailey on 07900 804 806. Thank you.

### Cold Weather

As you are aware, Covid-19 is once again a quickly evolving situation. At school, we have our windows open to maintain ventilation so please make sure the children are well wrapped up with extra **warm layers** underneath and a **warm coat**, which is essential now that it is winter. Hats and Gloves are also necessary on cold days, but please make sure these are named. **Thank you for your help.**

### Child Absence

If your child is unwell please telephone the school before 9am to let us know that they will not be attending. This is a legal requirement. As a school we legally have to account for pupil absences, to do this we need written confirmation of any absence. We routinely send home absence forms when children are away from school. **If these forms are not returned your child's absence will be marked as unauthorised.** Spare forms are always available from the school office. Thank you.

### Google Classroom Passwords

These will be being sent home again this week. Please keep them safe for them for future use.

### Thankyou

We would like to say a big thank you to the Crusty Cobb bakery for donating us scones for our Class 1 afternoon tea part on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Thank you for your support!

### **Wellbeing**

*There has been much press in recent months about children's mental health. As part of our drive to support this we are going to include something each month in the newsletter about Health and Wellbeing. We hope you find this section useful. If you have any topics you would like us to find some helpful tips about, please let us know.*

### **Mental Health Benefits of Reading**

This week has been World Book Day and it was lovely to see the children dressed up as characters and talking about books. Studies have shown that reading as little as 6 minutes per day can improve your quality of sleep, reduce stress, and sharpen mental acuity. Reading strengthens the neural circuits and pathways of our brain while lowering heart rate and blood pressure. The ability to empathise and engage with diverse stories outside of our own lived experiences can bring us a greater sense of human connection and empathy. This often leads to stronger relationships and shared understanding. Please continue to read with your child and encourage them to explore books and read a variety of texts.

## Collective Worship Activity

This term we will be focussing in school on the value of Truthfulness. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together. If the children bring back something that you have done at home linked to the Collective Worship activity, or can talk about a discussion they've had at home linked to it, then Mrs Gray will award them with a new special sticker.

### TALK TOGETHER about Truthfulness

'I promise to tell the **truth**, the whole **truth** and nothing but the **truth**, so help me God'

In a court of law a witness swears an oath on the Bible or another sacred text, but sometimes in everyday life people find it more difficult to be **truthful**.

Talk together about occasions when complete honesty could cause trouble or be hurtful. For example:

- When a member of your family asks you if you like their new shoes
- When telling the **truth** will get your friend into trouble
- When someone asks what you are thinking but the answer would hurt their feelings