

# Farway Church of England Primary School

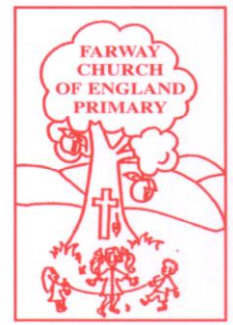
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3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents,

In Class 1, the children's topic within Maths has been Place Value. They have been focussing on number lines up to 20, using mathematical reasoning to discuss why they have made their estimations. This is strengthening the children's skills regarding 'maths talk' and continuing to help them develop and refine their mathematical oracy.

In Literacy, Class 1 have been reading '*Q Pootle 5* and *Whatever Next!*' Building up to independently write 'what am I' riddles, and their own lists, discussing the features of each and providing reasoning for these. They have been strengthening their letter formation by writing a few guided letters/words each morning during their phonics sessions, which is continuing to help build their stamina for writing in Literacy.



In our Geography sessions, Class 1 have been looking at the world map, reminding themselves that a *key* helps us to read a map, and creating their own keys. They have been learning the 7 continents, 5 oceans and the equator and how these different factors result in varying climates.

In Art, Class 1 are exploring a range of mediums and creating art in the style of a chosen artist, linking to their 'Moon Zoom' topic. Some of these artists have included Peter Thorpe, Vincent Van Gogh and, local artist, Anna Fitzgerald.

Class 2 are now finishing up their wonderful descriptions of a walk in the rainforest, based in the Mexican rainforest of Lacandon. They have used their grammar skills to experiment with telling a tale in the past tense (sometimes perfect past!) and, of course, adding lots of descriptions. Sophia has achieved her personal target in this unit to create a wonderful and imaginative descriptive piece. Elodie also shone in this task by including some of her extensive animal knowledge in her writing. Their next unit is based on the book by Jenny Broom called 'Animalium'. They will be writing non-chronological reports about Mayan Gods and Goddesses.

Our recent 'Ready Steady Write' was based on the poem, 'The British' by Benjamin Zephaniah. The whole school spent time in Class 2 in the morning, investigating the immigrants that have made Britain the country it is today. They visited different places via Google Earth and 'street view' then focused on five countries – China, India, Turkey, Jamaica and Spain. Everyone, from the smallest in Nursery, to the largest in Year 6, spent time learning about the countries and tasting their food. Children then returned to their base to write.

Class 2 thought about what makes Britain great and the fact that all these different cultures and immigrants may have different traditions, but all believe in British Values. They then wrote their answers to the question, 'How can we make Britain better?' An exciting day of experience and discussion led to quality writing. During sharing assembly on Friday, please feel free to have a look at the display in the middle room.

In Maths, Class 2 have been developing and deepening their understanding of multiplying and dividing. Year 3 and Year 4 have used resources and images to calculate using 2 digit and 3 digit numbers. Mrs Marsh has been especially pleased with the Year 6 group who have been working hard to solve problems using formal recording methods. Using Times Tables Rockstars, the children have continued to build their speed and accuracy. Well done to Daisy and Betsy who can now answer questions at an average of 1-2 seconds per answer. They are proof that regular practice works to build these skills. Keep up the good work Class 2.

Class 2 also benefited from the expertise of our farming families when they learnt about farming practices in both the U.K. and Mexico. They are thinking about sustainability and which food stuffs are imported and exported from these countries. Comparing practices across the world is an important part of Human Geography. Why not ask your child about the countries found in North America and South America? Locational knowledge is an ongoing focus in Class 2. There are online games shared on Google Classroom that your child can use to practice this knowledge.

Farway was fortunate to welcome a visit from our local police based in Seaton. They came to talk to the children about respect and safety. After suggesting 'treat others as you want to be treated', Oliver.W was invited up to hold up the resources and read out the questions. He was given a badge to wear and was very proud when he was told he could keep it. Daisy was also very engaged throughout and made wonderful suggestions about community policing – a future police officer in the making? Definitely in the mounted police, with her passion for horses!



This Tuesday, the whole school also enjoyed one of our regular visits from the Open the Book team, which is always a highlight.



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:

Would you rather be a child or adult? Why?



## Orchard Aims



### Class 1:

Since coming back from Christmas, all children in Class 1 continue to show brilliant perseverance and focus on their learning, and working towards our Learning Animals and Orchard Aims.

Toby – for his great recall of information in science, discussing materials and his perseverance and newfound love for reading.

Anna - for her hard work in phonics.

Bertie W - for his continued efforts and hard work in Maths and Science.

Albert - for managing distractions so well.

Robyn - for always giving her best efforts across all learning.

Leah - for working so hard during phonics, reading and maths.

Adriana - for her interdependence in writing and being such a kind and inclusive peer, especially to those younger than her.

### Class 2:

Zhenya – for his many thoughtful contributions to discussion in class.

Tom – for his use of the grid method to multiply a 2 digit by 2 digit number.

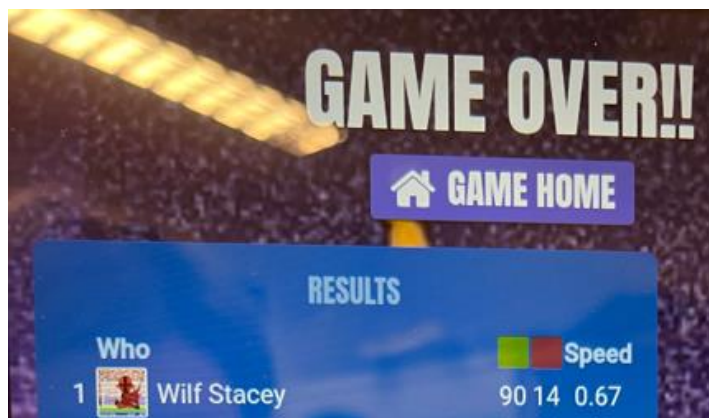
Sophia – for her use of a formal method when multiplying.

Rocco – for surviving his first week in Class 2, sharing his experiences and making new friends.

Betsy – for setting herself the challenge of reaching Rock Hero and achieving it (answering in between 1-2 seconds per question).

Daisy – for being inspired by Betsy and renewing her efforts to improve her speed on Times Tables Rockstars.

Special mention to Lucas. He was the fastest in the world on Times Tables Rock Stars at the time of playing and has been honing his skills on Time Tables Rock Stars as well as coaching others – well done to him!





## **Key Dates – Spring Term 2023**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February- Safer Internet week.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Class 1 coordination event at Honiton Community College.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February- Class 2 trip to Broadhembury.

13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February - Half term.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February- Class 1 trip to Branscombe.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March- World Book Day- come to school in costume see below.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March- Year 3 and 4 Tag Rugby Event.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March- World Poetry Day.

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- End of term.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April- Back to school.

## **Pancake Day**

The school will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday on 21<sup>st</sup> February with our usual pancake races, and we would be grateful if parents would send their children to school on that day equipped with a frying pan and a pancake for the races. Thank you for your help with this.

## **Lost Jumpers**

Unfortunately, we have had reports of a few lost red sweatshirts. We have looked for these in school and cannot trace them. Please can you all check your child's sweatshirt to see if it is named, and return any muddled items to school? Thank you for your help.

## **World Book Day**

World Book Day (we will celebrate this on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to avoid another possible NEU strike day)- The theme this year will be 'A Celebration of the English Language' where we will be asking children to come in dressed up as an adjective (description word). We have been focussing a lot on Oracy this year and want to celebrate the rich language that we have. Some ideas the children could dressed up as are colourful, magical, fatigued, blustery, vibrant, puzzled, energetic etc. We will be having a vocabulary parade at the end of the day, so children need to have their word on a label with their costume.



## **Water Bottles.**

Please remember that children should only be bringing water into school to drink, as we are trying to encourage healthy drinking throughout the day. Thank you for your help with this.

## **Thimbleweed Thursday's**

As you know Thimbleweed Thursdays is our new outdoor learning, running **every week**, as part of our standard timetable, for **all Reception and Nursery** pupils. After their normal Phonics session, taught in the classroom to ensure consistency, the remainder of the day is taught outdoors, whether it be Maths, Literacy, Story Time or Collective Worship. Snack will be eaten outdoors too, although we will return briefly to tables indoors for lunch. Therefore, we ask that **all Reception and Nursery** children come to school **every Thursday** wearing old comfortable clothes, ready to spend the day completely outdoors come rain or shine. They will need wellies (please **do not** arrive at school wearing these) and waterproofs. Additional socks, gloves and hats when the weather turns colder will also be required. It would be useful to provide a set of spare clothes should the weather, or a muddy puddle, get the better of us! Children **MUST** bring their own water bottle. Please also make sure all clothes, including spares are named. We appreciate your help with this.

## School Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child has all their uniform named? It really helps at the end of the day to ensure that the correct jumper is returned to the correct child. Also, as the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child has a warm coat, a hat and gloves, and that all of these are named. Thank you for your help.

## School Times

We ask that children are in school by 8.50am each day. Please remember if your child arrives after 9am they will be marked as late.

## Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club continues each morning at 8am and costs £2 per session, including breakfast. Please fill in a form, available from the office, if you would like your child to come along. Thank you.

## Sickness

Please remember if your child experiences sickness or diarrhoea that they need to stay off school for a full 48 hours afterwards. This is recommended guidance to stop the spread of illness. Thank you for your help.

## Medication

If your child has medication that needs to be administered in school, then you will need to bring it to the school office, so that it can be stored securely. The medication must be in its original box with the prescription label attached, naming the child. You will also need to fill in a special form giving permission for the school to administer the medication. Please ask at the office for more advice. Many Thanks.

## 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.

## Sharing Assembly

Sharing assembly will continue each Friday afternoon at 3.10pm. All parents/carers are invited to come and see the children sharing their learning.

### 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.*

Bedtimes can be a tricky time for lots of families, The Book Trust have put together some ideas to help you with this- which will of course help the mental wellbeing of all the family. Their 'Bath, Book, Bed' campaign is all about helping you get your little ones to sleep - and we know how important that is for your whole family.

That's why they hosted a Twitter party where parents shared stories, tips, and advice - basically, all the hacks that work for them! They've picked out some of their favourites below to help you...

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2018/april/11-excellent-bath-book-bed-tips-that-work---from-parents/>

## Collective Worship Activity

This term we will be focussing in school on the value of Perseverance. 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 Perseverance

Teachers often say that **perseverance** is something that many children find difficult.

Very little that is really worthwhile in life can be achieved without **perseverance**. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 - 10 at **perseverance**?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined **perseverance**?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with **perseverance**?

## Your police team

## We're here to help



Insp 5764 Phil Gray



Sgt 5294 Matt Beards



PC 7950 Sam Parfett



PCSO 30196  
Mike McGauley



PC 7946 Craig Amarilli

Please stop and say hello and let us know if we can help in any way

Visit our website for lots of useful information



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local communities