

Dear Parents/Carers,

There has been recent inappropriate activity on Facebook which has caused unnecessary anxiety/distress amongst parents due to it being factually incorrect and as a result, has given the office extra work in answering phone calls/emails to reassure people. We are a large school now and sometimes things go wrong but we do apologise and rectify situations as soon as we can. In future please can parents contact the office directly if they have any concerns rather than put a message on social media. Most parents have signed a social media user document and we politely ask you to adhere to what you have signed up to. If you have anything to hand into the school out of office hours (8.45am - 3.45pm) we have two red postboxes, one located just inside the main office/reception door and one just outside the old infant school office door for you to use. These are checked daily. Also, parents whose children attend breakfast club can hand slips directly to staff in there if they wish.

Recently a number of children have been arriving at school very early and although we don't want to discourage their enthusiasm it does mean they are unsupervised on the playground. Please be aware we only have staff outside from 8.45am onwards.

Please could any parents who have been given a pupil passport please sign it and return it to the class teacher ASAP. If you would like to amend any part of it please annotate it and discuss the annotations with your teacher.

Finally a big well done to those children who took part in the cross country races on Wednesday and also to Mrs Bidder for organising it.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mrs Bev Theobald

Headteacher

General News

1) Anti-bullying week: w/c 12.11.18

This year we shall be renaming our week: 'Friendship week', as one of our rules is to be kind to others. The Anti-bullying Alliance has chosen the theme of 'respect' this year and all of our children will be involved in activities relating to this.

Every class will have the opportunity to team up with their buddies from another year group during the week to help strengthen relationships between Upper and Lower school.

On Friday 16th November, we will be holding a non-uniform day. We would like the children to choose an item of clothing or an outfit that expresses something about themselves. As this is Children in Need day, we are suggesting a donation of £1 towards Children in Need.

If your child is not sure what to wear, you could keep things simple by wearing a favourite top or outfit, or perhaps wearing a sports kit.

We look forward to seeing all the different outfits next Friday!

2) Message from our PTA - We are meeting on Monday 12th & Monday 26th November (7.30pm) @ the World's End pub to have plan & preparation meetings for our School Christmas Fayre which is happening on the 7th December. **Please** come along and get involved on these evenings - all are most welcome. Thank you to those who have already let us know you can help before and on the day, this is fantastic 😊

If you can't make the meetings but are able to offer support - however big or small, with the preparations or can just spare 30 minutes on the evening of the Christmas Fayre on 7th December - we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch via our email pta@mulbartonprimary.norfolk.sch.uk

3) Urgent plea from one of our local playgroups:

Puddleducks Playgroup Mulbarton have recently formed a new Committee. HOWEVER, a Chair still needs to be appointed as the current Chair is stepping down. The Playgroup CANNOT continue to run without a Chair.

If you are interested in this position, please email

chair@puddleducksplaygroupmulbarton.co.uk.

Our next Committee meeting is Monday, 12th November at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Room - please come along to find out more!

4) [Diary Dates](#)

5) Christmas School Sugar collection - as in previous years, we are doing our sugar collection in aid of shelters for the homeless and families in crisis in East Anglia. The co-ordinator of Sugar for Shelters came into assembly today and talked to the children about donating a bag of sugar to build a 'sugar mountain!' Please bring in your sugar donation to the office before Wednesday 5th December. Thank you for your support.

6) School Christmas lunch - letters went home with the children yesterday for Christmas lunch on Thursday 13th December, copies are attached [here](#) for lower school and [here](#) for upper school if you missed them.

Weekly News

Reception

This week we have been learning the sounds i, n, m and d. We have been learning to recognise them, write them and think of words with these sounds.

We have also been story scribing this week. The children have tried really hard to hear the sounds they have learnt so far in words and have tried to write these sounds in their stories. On Wednesday, we learnt about how Diwali is celebrated. The children discussed different events that they celebrate at home with their families and how it compares to Diwali.

Due to the wet weather, lots of children are needing a change of clothes. Please ensure your child has a full change of clothes and socks in their bag at all times as we have a limited supply in school. If we send wet clothes home from school, please return them.

Sorry there has been some confusion around logging into activelearn (bugclub). The website is www.activelearnprimary.co.uk. Your child's username is the first 4 letters of their first name and the first 4 letters of their last name in lower case with no spaces. The password is Squirrels for Squirrels class and Hedgehogs for Hedgehogs class. and the school code is 99kq.

The reading cafés have also started this week. Thank you to the parents that came, we hope you enjoyed yourselves! We look forward to the other upcoming reading cafés!

Year 1

What an exciting week it has been in Year 1!

On Monday, we found a letter and an apple in our classrooms. It was from The Evil Pea and he had kidnapped our fruit snacks! We were so cross and thought of ways that we could raise awareness of this crime and get people to help us. We created WANTED posters and stuck them around the school. We still have not found him yet but luckily, we discovered where he had hidden our snack! We also wrote letters to the Superhero Headquarters asking them to send help in catching The Evil Pea.

We have been trying hard to remember our CFFS in writing and are now challenging ourselves to write sentences more independently. The children have been taking part in a writing challenge. Each week that they complete an independent writing task, they will earn a

sticker for the class chart. If the children individually earn 5-6 stickers, they will receive a special superhero treat at the end of the half term.

In maths this week, we have been learning about halving numbers. We have been problem solving with concrete and pictorial methods to work out halves. We have also been developing our reasoning skills and considering why we cannot half some numbers.

In DT we used a design sheet to plan a superhero fruit kebab. We learnt about healthy eating, and where different food comes from. We then chose our fruit and assembled the kebab, they were so yummy! After making the kebabs, we evaluated them and considered what went well and what we would change.

Thank you for coming to our Multicultural Reading Café based on Diwali. The children explained how much they enjoyed inviting you in to take part in the activities.

Reminders:

Please could you ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every Monday and Wednesday and all items of clothing are clearly labelled with the child's name.

On Tuesday we are going to the church, during the morning session, as part of our maths lesson. Children will need a coat and wellington boots if it has been raining.

Have a lovely weekend – Year 1 team.

Year 2

We have had another lovely week in Year 2 this week and have been very busy with all of our activities.

In English we have been really enjoying taking part in a new project called 'The Power of Reading' where all of our work is based around a story. Activities are wide ranging including drama, responding to illustrations, language related activities, shared writing and independent writing.

This week we have been focusing on the beginning of the story although the children don't know the title (we would like to keep it this way for now!). We looked at the first sentence of the story and drew an illustration to represent this. We have also worked in role as the two main characters and thought about how they might be feeling at certain points. Children wrote some fantastic diary entries in role as the characters using key features such as past tense and descriptions.

In Maths we have been focussing on addition and subtraction using 'Chips and Peas' which we introduced to you at parents evening. Children have enjoyed using these pictorial methods to help with their calculations. If you have any spare time to practise this at home it would be very beneficial for the children.

In Topic this week we have enjoyed some Science work and have set up an experiment to investigate what happens to different objects when placed in salt water. We want to find out which ones degrade the most and think about the effects on the environment so we will be keeping a close eye on our experiment over the next few weeks. In RE lessons we have learnt about the Hindu festival Diwali and learnt about the story of Rama and Sita. We looked at how Hindus prepare for and celebrate this festival. We created some Rangoli pattern and Mendhi pattern designs.

We are really looking forward to our Year 2 assembly at 9am on the 22nd of November and will look forward to seeing many of you there.

If there are any parents who would be interested in helping out with reading or other classroom jobs during the week we would love to have you. Please speak to your children's teacher if you would like to help out.

Please could children remember to bring in their spelling books to school and keep them in their book bags so we are able to stick new spellings in. We will be having a spelling test next Friday on a variety of words given over the last 4 weeks. You will find in the back of your child's reading record a coloured laminated strip with some ideas on how to support

your child with their reading at home.

Year 3

This week we have been continuing with our work on addition and subtraction. Looking at missing number problems as well as patterns with number. As part of our English this week, we have continued to focus on instructional text, in particular recipes. Children looked at imperative verbs (bossy verbs) and explored how to make these more ambitious. E.g., slice instead of cut.

This week, many children from across the year group went to represent our school at a cross-country event. Lovely to see such enthusiasm for sport. Those that did not attend the event had a fun filled day at school with a variety of activities based on the text 'green eggs and ham'.

Our assembly went well and the children did so well to perform to such a large audience. Great focus from them all. Thank you to all who came to watch; the children love to see you there.

Just a quick reminder to all parents to make sure that children have a PE kit in school ready for their lessons. Year 3 PE is on a Tuesday (for those not swimming this half term) and Friday.

Our year 3 reading café is next Wednesday 14th November at 9am. We hope that you have received your invite from the children but this is just a reminder in case.

Thanks

Year 3 team

Year 4

This week, we have continued to read *The Pugs of the Frozen North*. We have explored the suitability of Pugs for polar exploration as opposed to Huskies (there's no contest really!) and have continued to build our vocabulary for discussing and describing cold environments.

In science, we used the idea of the sledge from the story to think about how the main character, Shen, could lighten a load of bottles of lemonade for the Pugs to pull. It turns out that the gas in the bottles actually weighs something and if you let it go, you lighten the load. Pictures of this experiment can be found on the Giraffe Class blog.

In topic, we looked at the polar environment and thought about what adaptations animals would need to make to live there.

The children have worked hard this week, practising different methods of representing, and then solving, addition and subtraction problems. Next week, we will be looking at length and perimeter.

Next Tuesday morning, we will be having a reading café, to which you are cordially invited. You will also receive an invitation from your child. We look forward to seeing you then.

Year 5

This week we have had fantastic fun tickling our taste buds and trying many types of chocolate. We were reflective and used our thoughts to help plan a drink. We enjoyed sampling flavours linked to the Ancient Mayans.

In English we've continued our chocolate theme and studied the Mayan folktale 'The Chocolate Tree'. We hot seated the main characters and wrote amazing endings to the story and compared these to the actual ending (we thought ours were better!).

As mathematicians we have been exploring word problems and using bar models to help us solve these. We have been resilient as this new method of working has challenged us, but we will continue to practise and are confident we will crack it soon.

We enjoyed our trip to Hethersett Academy on Monday for a sports festival morning. Some of year group also represented us at a cross country event on Wednesday and made the

school proud.

This week will see the start of home learning again, in a revised format. This has been explained verbally to the children and a note is in the books to help parents.

Year 6

It's been another busy week in year 6 this week: Both classes took part in an engaging science investigation looking at how Arctic animals keep warm. We had great fun creating a layer of warm air and a layer of fat between two gloves and testing how long it takes to register the cold when the hand is placed in icy water.

In maths, we are coming to the end of our unit on multiplication and division and are about to start a block on fractions. In English, we are working towards writing a story using anthropomorphism (attributing human qualities to an animal) and the children will be writing a story through the eyes of an Arctic animal – as Jack London did in 'The Call of the Wild'. The prefects have taken up their duties this week and are showing what responsible and caring children they are. We have resolved a couple of teething problems and will review the whole process with the children at the end of next week and make any necessary adjustments.

We have received several very impressive applications for Head Boy and Head Girl. The staff will be considering these during the next week and we will be making that announcement very soon.

Mrs Penton, Miss Savory and Ms Taylor