



Newsletter May 2021

Tuesday 25th May 2021

It has been a fantastic half-term at school largely because we have not had any disruption to learning. Hurray! Our staff have enjoyed delivering our revised curriculum face to face to the children. I have included some photographs of what has been happening in school at the end of my newsletter.

Although restrictions are beginning to lift, I do believe we need to continue being careful and for that reason the children remain in year group bubbles in school and we are still limiting visitors wherever possible.

Reading and Phonics

Following on from our recent training we have revised our phonics lessons and reading model. The focus has been on ensuring that phonics lessons are delivered consistently across classes with the same resources, vocabulary and actions. The thinking behind this is that the children can then focus on what they are being taught rather than how it is being delivered by the teacher.

The new reading model is being trialled in Foundation 2 and Year 1. Each class is divided into four reading groups and each group is taught by an adult. The reading groups read the same book at least three times during the week and each reading session has a different teaching focus with the aim being that children are developing their decoding, fluency and comprehension. We will communicate more fully to our parents/carers about the reading model at our year group curriculum presentations in the Autumn Term.

Last week we had a monitoring visit from the English Hub. They not only observed phonic lessons across the school but also our reading provision. Their report is very positive highlighting the actions we have taken as a school to improve.



Our School Library

We are absolutely delighted with how Amy Evans and Martina Bird (FOBHHS) have transformed our school library. They have dedicated a significant amount of their own time to improving and developing the library area. In addition to revamping the space, they have purchased lots of new inviting books for the children to use. We can't wait for the children to be able to use the library and to continue to develop that love of reading that is promoted at every opportunity in school.



If you do have any school books at home that your child has finished with then please do return them. Some of our core reading texts are missing from the set because they were loaned out during lockdown.

Equality and Diversity

As part of our provision for developing the children's understanding of different religions, faiths and cultures we held a special assembly in April which focused on Ramadan. The children found out about the holy month and why it is so important to the followers of the Islam religion.

Last week Sheema came to school from the Multi Ethnic Advisory Service to share with the children how Eid is celebrated at the end of Ramadan. The children listened to Sheema intently as she told a story and shared how her family celebrated Eid.



One of our pupils had her hands beautifully decorated to celebrate Eid.

Jigsaw PSHE

The focus for our Jigsaw lessons (personal, social and relationships education) this half term has been relationships including friendship. The children have explored how to be a good friend to others through the use of story and role play. Bullying has been discussed and the children talked about the action they would take if they felt someone was being unkind with their words or actions.



Accessibility Policy

Accessibility plans are a statutory requirement under the Equality Act 2010. An accessibility plan sets out how, over time, the school is going to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for disabled pupils
- Improve the physical environment of the school to increase access for disabled pupils.
- Make written information accessible to disabled pupils.

This policy/plan has been updated recently and approved by governors. You will find the updated plan on the school website. If you have any further suggestions as to how we can improve accessibility for our pupils then please email the school office.

Parent Governors

I am pleased to inform you that we have two new parent governors. They are Jennifer Merrin (parent of Joshua F1) and Scott Smith (parent of Thomas F2SB). I look forward to welcoming them to their first governing body meeting in the next few weeks.

PE Days from June

Monday - Mrs Astbury

Tuesday - Mrs Bancroft

Wednesday - Mrs Lucan

Thursday - Miss Murphy

Friday - Mr Hamm/Mr Young

Sorry the days keep changing for PE but we have a specialist sports teacher who works with different year groups each half-term.

More sport news



I thought that some of you might be interested to know that Mr Hamm our Year 1 teacher, plays cricket for England Disability Squad. With improved weather we will hopefully be making the most of Mr Hamm's cricket skills across the school.

Furthermore we hope in the next half term to offer other sporting experiences to the children. Watch this space!

Covid Reporting over the half term holidays

The Department for Education has asked that for the first few days of the holidays we remain contactable so we can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant school contacts in school to be identified.

1. Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for Coronavirus (Covid-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
2. For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (Covid-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Day	Develop Symptoms	Action	Further action
Saturday	Yes	Get tested	If test is positive-email school.
Sunday	Yes	Get tested	If test is positive-email school.
Monday-Thursday	Yes	Get tested	Even if positive, no need to email school because child has not been in school for 48hrs.

Please inform school by using the following email address:

covid@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk

If your child needs to self-isolate we will notify you by text or by a telephone call.

Events for next half-term

There is still some uncertainty about how government Covid plans will develop. As a school we are going to proceed with caution. With this in mind we will not be inviting parents/carers to a sports day event this year. Sports Day will go ahead for the children so they don't miss out but for year group bubbles rather than the whole school. Likewise we will not be performing class assemblies. We are currently exploring alternatives.

If your child is starting in F1 or F2 we will be writing to you after the holidays to share our induction/ transition plans.

Staff Development days 2021-22

Wednesday 1st September 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 28th February 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Diary Dates

Friday 28th May- Non Uniform (Donation for new library books)

Monday 7th June – Staff Development Day

Tuesday 8th June - Children return to school

Monday 14th June- Breakfast Judo club begins (Yr1 and 2)

Tuesday 15th June- Class Photographs

Friday 25th June- Deeside Schools Community Litter pick

Monday 28th June- Multi-cultural Storytelling

Friday 2nd July- Year 2 to visit Junior School (letter to follow)

w/c Monday 5th July- Coast to Country Environment project starts

Friday 9th July- Annual reports out to parents

Friday 16th July- Non Uniform Day/School finishes for the summer holidays

Wednesday 1st September – Staff Development Day

Thursday 2nd September – Children return to school for the academic year 2021-22

Have a good week-let's hope the sun shines for us.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris
Headteacher

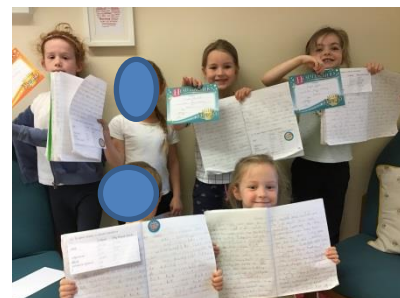


In 2TM the children practised new vocabulary by acting out a story.



Thank you to George's Dad who came to talk to F1 about the RNLI as part of their topic on water.

The children had great fun re-creating daring sea rescues in the role play area.



These Year 1 children received a Headteacher's Award for their fabulous writing!



F2 have been finding out about Africa. They have found out that people live in cities and villages. Further learning took place about the animals that live in Africa.



In maths Year 2 have been finding out about fractions.



The children have thoroughly enjoyed the Friday lunchtime sport club with Coach Lycett which started this term.

