

DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



With trust and care we will grow and flourish

Dear Parents / Carers

What a busy term we have started the year with! Lots of interesting themes and topics with lots of fun filled learning had by all.

Thank you all very much for your support yet again for Children in Need. We managed to raise over £200. We know this donation will make a difference to those children that need it most.

Your very generous and kind support also helped us raise £218.56 for the Poppy Appeal. The children helped us commemorate Armistice Day by taking part in lots of activities including the creation of our poppy display in the school hall. The children were very respectful throughout the 2 minute ceremony which had a performance of The Last Post and Reveille on the coronet.

The Cancer research 'Cake Sale' held on Friday 7th December managed to raise a whopping £350!! A big thank you to those who made and donated the cakes and also those who contributed by purchasing them

Children break up for the Christmas break on Friday 21st December and return on Tuesday 8th January. We will send out a newsletter on our return with news of all the exciting projects / topics and themes planned for the new year.

Year 3

Year 3 have begun the year with some really interesting fun filled work!

- Victorian experience day
- Religious celebrations including Hindu festival and Diwali
- Road Safety week

Most recent

We have been learning about light and dark. We have discovered what light sources are and how light travels. We have also found out why it is important to be seen in the dark and how we can do that. Our topic has ended with us making shadow puppets and sundials.

On the 4th and 6th December, we went to St Augustine's Church to 'Experience Christmas'. The adults helped us find out why Christmas is celebrated. We hoped that if you came along you enjoyed the experience as much as we did.

Our term shall end with our Nativity performance, will be lovely to see many of you enjoying this production as much as we have rehearsing it!

Mrs Saini & Year 3 Team

Year 4

Year 4 learning for this term includes:

- Fire safety
- An indoor firework display

Most recent

This half term we have been learning all about the 'Shang Dynasty' To celebrate our learning we held a 'China Day' in school. Children took part in activities such as noodle tasting, Chinese writing and hat making. Staff dressed up for the occasion by wearing their favourite oriental attire.

Mrs Dosanjh & Year 4 Team



Year 5

A wonderful start to the year with an interesting visitor who helped our learning on Ancient Greece.

A Greek Warrior paid us a visit and helped the children develop skills through board games, mathematical puzzles and acting out a Greek myth. Great fun was had by children (and staff!!)

Most recent

This half term our topic is 'Around the World in 80 Days'. Children are learning to design a board game which will increase their knowledge and understanding of countries around the world.

Year 6

What a fantastic term Year 6 have had! The children (and staff) have been working extremely hard and have shown great perseverance in their learning making great progress. This term we have learnt about Crime and Punishment through the ages by visiting the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham. We got to experience cells, see various artefacts as well take part in a court trial in a real courtroom!

Most Recent

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our two class texts that we have read this term: 'There's a boy in the girls bathroom' and 'Skellig'. Both have been extremely popular and the children have loved the learning through the books. We have also shown our commitment to the community by collecting for The Padley Group during Harvest as well raise money for Cancer Research. In addition to this the children have benefited from working with the Community Police on topics like Firework Safety, Road Safety and Anti-Bullying. Finally we had the privilege of experiencing some owls in our school. The children learnt all about owls, got to see them up close, hold them, stroke them and write a report all about them!

All in all it has been a great first term. Thank you for your ongoing support towards the homework, SATS meeting and making sure your child is in school everyday

Mr Miah & Year 6 Team

MarvellousMe

Thank you to all those parents who have already signed up to MarvellousMe. It's wonderful to share with parents all the good things their child is doing in school. With the 203 parents already signed up we have shared an incredible 22,000 updates. Parents have responded with over 7,000 Hi5's to our 8,000 badges and 5,000 messages to date.

If you haven't signed up already, speak to the school office, they will be happy to help.

Anti Bullying Week

This term school council ran an anti-bullying week competition around the theme of 'choose respect'. Classes were asked to choose how they present the theme. Congratulations to the winning class Calke who presented a very impressive anti bullying song to school council!

Reading

Reading at home five times a week really helps children to develop their reading skills.... Please make sure you record in your child's reading diary every time they read.

We encourage reading in school through book led curriculum, reading buddies and a nominated Reading Champion in assembly each Friday.

In the New Year we will be setting a whole school reading challenge. In the school hall we shall have a Reading Totaliser which will record the amount of times children read each week. We will be setting the challenge at 20,000 times which will give the children 7 months to reach the target. If every child in a class read 5 times a week the totaliser will show 150 points in one week per class, that's 1,800 for the whole school in one week! How many times will your child add to our totaliser?



TT Rockstars

At the end of year 4 all pupils across the country will sit an online times tables check to see how well and how quickly they can recall time table number facts. To support pupils to learn their tables children across the school use TT RockStars each week. Pupils can also use TTrockstars at home to develop their skills and become a rock legend! Knowing their timetables supports pupils mathematical development. Certificate awarded in assembly for the child has put in the most effort into learning their times tables. Next Year we will host a 'RockStar' Day where children can come as rock star and complete a set mathematical challenges.

Pear T Promise

During this half term we have been looking at the theme of perseverance. Through assemblies and PSHE lessons pupils have discussed what it means to keep going and to learn from our mistakes. They have learned about famous people who have achieved greatness by showing perseverance, this includes Lionel Messi who was dropped by his football team at the age of 12, JK Rowling who had her Harry Potter books refused by many publishers and Steve Jobs who was sacked from Apple. During Children in Need we looked at children who had overcome significant barriers in their lives.

In January we will focus on Aiming High and achieving personal goals – we will be asking children to make New Year Resolutions. On Friday 11th January we shall be having a 'Dress as your Dream' day where children will be asked to dress as the person or the profession they wish to be. Further information will be sent home with your child on their return in January.

Communication & Language Hub

As you know we have many children at Pear Tree who are new to, or in the early stages of developing their English language. To ensure they are immersed in the whole of school life and learn English as quickly as possible we have set up a Communication & Language Hub. The team of staff involved in their learning work with them in small groups. The short sessions are planned to develop not only their speaking and listening skills but to acquire sufficient reading and writing skills to ensure that they are able to access their age related curriculum.

Safeguarding Audit

Transform Trust completed an audit of our safeguarding processes in November. The feedback from this was very positive. We were informed that we met all statutory responsibilities with lots of excellent practice in place. I'm sure it's very reassuring for you to know that the processes we have in place are effective in keeping your children and school safe.

Final Week of Term

As you will see from the key dates section we have many fun activities and events planned for the final week of the school term.

Christmas Jumper Day:

For a small donation your child may come to school wearing their Christmas Jumper on Friday 14th December. Money raised will be sent to 'Save the Children' charity. Please note that all other school uniform must be worn.

Recognition Assembly:

Parents of children nominated for a Recognition Award will be invited to celebrate this occasion with us during the school assembly. We also have for the first time a 'Special Award' which will go out to children who have shown either outstanding work, behaviour, resilience or perseverance throughout this term. If your child is one of those nominated for a Special Award you will receive an invitation through the post. Your child will not know until the day that they have been selected, what a proud moment this will be for both parent and child.

Christmas Craft Fair:

Children from each year group have been making craft items that will be made available for parents to purchase from the Christmas Craft Fair. This will be held on Wednesday 19th December from 3.30 to 5pm. Refreshments will also be available. I look forward to seeing many of you at this event.

Nativity Production:

Our Year 3 Nativity Production will be shown to parents on Thursday 20th December at 9.30am or 2.30 pm. Your child will bring home an invitation inviting you to watch this production. No need to book tickets, just turn up at either one of the showings

DECEMBER 2018

Key Dates

December

Friday 14th	- Christmas Jumper Day		
Tuesday 18th	- Recognition Assembly	Yr 3 & 6	(Parents invited)
Tuesday 18th	- Nativity Dress Rehearsal	Yr 3	
Wednesday 19th	- Nativity production	Yr 2	
Wednesday 19th	- Christmas Dinner		
Wednesday 19th	- Christmas Craft Fair		
Thursday 20th	- Nativity production 9.30am	Yr 3	(Parents invited)
Thursday 20th	- Nativity production 2.30pm	Yr 3	(Parents invited)
Thursday 20th	- Class Parties	Yr 4 & 5	
Friday 21st	- Class Parties	Yr 3 & 6	
Friday 21st	- LAST DAY OF TERM		

January

Monday 7th	- INSET day - staff training
Tuesday 8th	- CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL



MERRY CHRISTMAS