



Newsletter 19
31st January 2020



Dear Parents,

Learning has been in a variety of forms this week from some wonderful writing inspired by our Shakespeare Week; learning about looking after money; a visit from the NSPCC; as well as all our normal curriculum.

Our Parent Consultation Evenings are now open to book online (see the Wednesday email) so please book a slot you see your child's teacher. There will also be an opportunity to look at your child's work before or after the appointment. Our SENDco, Mrs Rayson, will be available for appointments should you wish until 6.30pm on both evenings.

Merit Certificates

Well done to the following children who have been selected by their class teacher:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 3Anning | Gabriela Olusanya-Artilles | For always challenging herself and working hard in all areas of the curriculum. |
| 3Nightingale | Poppy White | For her consistent hard work. She is always asking for help to improve and explaining what she know to help others. |
| 4Jemison | Rory Moloney | Always a happy, cheerful member of the class. He challenges himself in both Maths and English lessons. |
| 4Attenborough | Amaia Grant | For fantastic effort during class learning which is reflected in her work. She shows a real Year 4 learning mindset. |
| 5Mandela | Genevieve Gilbert | For her excellent setting description about Elsinore Castle from Hamlet using figurative language. |
| 5Einstein | Oscar Robson | For an amazing piece of descriptive writing based on Hamlet. |
| 6Johnson | Matthew Moody | For excellent effort during Maths lessons and for encouraging others. |
| 6Martin Luther King | Scout Cowman-Daly | For conscientiously working hard in all areas of the curriculum. |

Citizenship Stars

Ciara Corkery (3N) – For her contribution to whole class learning on staying healthy
Casey Woodstock (6MLK) – for her kind and caring support to younger children

Children's Well Being

Next week is Mental Health Awareness week. As a school we are constantly striving to support children's well-being – whether supporting as a whole class, small groups and individual mentoring. There are several associated activities going on in school:

Rainbows

We are pleased to let you know that we are now a Rainbows school. Rainbows is a worldwide organisation to support children who have suffered a loss of any kind. It is a 12-week programme (40minutes a week) that helps children understand their feelings and the emotions of grief/loss – be it a family member; a separation or a significant move away from extended family. We now have four trained facilitators and we hope to be running groups (3-5 pupils in a group) after half term. We will write to parents of pupils we feel may gain strength from this support requesting consent to join one of our groups. Everyone deals with grief in different ways and we will be guided by you before including any child with this support.

NSPCC visit

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children visited us on Monday and brought along their mascot Buddy as part of their nationwide Speak Out / Stay Safe campaign. The children were told that they had the right to speak out; be safe; and to get help when they need it should they suffer any form of abuse. They were very good at identifying trusted adults and were taught the number for Childline – 08001111 – should they ever need it.

Social Media / online safety – please see my attached letter regarding the dangers to our children from cyber-bullying and how children using certain APPs could be vulnerable to grooming. We are planning a parent information evening in early March. This is not a danger they face in school but, with increased access to social media at a younger age, it is noticeably affecting our pupils' well being.

Year 4 go banking



Year 4 were taken to the bank this week – Metro Bank – in Hemel where they followed up their workshop last week in school. They were all given piggy banks and goodies while learning about ATMs, mortgages, savings and credit cards. They also visited the safety deposit box vault and came back very excited by the trip, Thank you to all the parents that gave up their time to walk with the two classes.



Looking after the environment

Year 5 are leading a campaign for us to move away from using single use plastic bottles. As part of their learning on Rivers, they have been studying about pollution and the effect of plastic waste in rivers on creatures. After reading the persuasive letters from Year 5, I am thoroughly convinced that we, as a school, should support the move to avoid single use plastic bottles as our daily water bottle.

Sports News

The Year 6 Boys' football team lost 2-1 to Kings Langley in an exciting encounter last Friday in their latest league match. We fell behind to an early strike but held out well for the rest of the first half thanks to some smart saves from Noah Gilder. In the second half we gradually started to get on top and were rewarded with a well worked goal from a corner (straight from the training ground). Benji Wylde timed his run to perfection to get on the end of Dillon Jennings' perfectly flighted cross to head into the top corner. They say that you are always at your most vulnerable when you have just scored, and so it proved. Kings Langley went straight up to the other end and regained their lead. Despite creating a number of late chances, we were unable to find the equaliser. Well done to the whole side who performed gallantly without any substitutes due to late illness.

Story writing homework

All children are being encouraged to write a 500 word story and enter the BBC2 500 word competition. Year 5 and Year 6 are writing their stories for homework but they will be editing them in school. For Year 3 and 4 the 500 word story is optional homework. We would love to see their entries and celebrate their work if they decide to take part. In all cases, official entries will need to be made by parents. Further details of the competition and how to enter your child's piece can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1> The closing date for entries is February 27th.

Reminders for the coming week

| | |
|-------|---|
| Sat | Good luck to our runners in the County Cross Country at St Albans tomorrow. |
| Mon | Year 3 Service of Light (pupils only) NSPCC workshops for Year 5 |
| Tues | Netball v Kings Langley (H) |
| Wed | Fr Brian visiting 5Mandela Boys Football v Broadfield (H) |
| Thurs | NSPCC workshops for Year 5 Year 4 Swimming |
| Fri | CCS Lenten Appeal Assembly |

Have a good weekend
Best wishes

Mrs Smith
Head Teacher