

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 10th November 2023

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

This week we have been thinking about remembrance. With Remembrance Day approaching, we have talked about the relevance and importance of Poppies and how we use symbols to represent concepts that are much larger. The children discussed the meaning of the poppy and were able to explain what it is we could think about when wearing one. As with all of our discussions, we reflected on how we could use this thinking to develop us as learners and members of our community.

This led us to thinking about mistakes that we make and the importance of learning from them. Perfection, in terms of our behaviour and learning, is not about making mistakes. If we never make mistakes then we are not going to be challenging ourselves and, ultimately, learning. We strive to create an environment that enables our children to feel safe enough to make mistakes. We know that our mindset has to be centred around the ideal of mistakes being a key part of our learning.

This resilience and character within our children has been showcased within our lessons. In Year 3, I have seen some fantastic writing with some excellent language choices. Year 4 have been working brilliantly on different regions and climates while Year 5 have been challenged with some really high level Geography about volcanoes. Year 6 have been working brilliantly within their maths sessions – the responsibility that they are taking with their missing number work this week is something to really celebrate. I am looking forward to welcoming you in to our school next week within our workshops.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Sam Malyn

Odd Socks Day—Monday 13th November

This Monday, we are encouraging our children, staff (and parents, too!) to wear odd socks as a way of celebrating differences and diversity within our school community. Next week is anti bullying week and we will be conducting special assemblies focusing on acceptance, kindness and the care we must continue to show towards others.

There is no cost linked towards this event. This is purely to focus on the importance of being different and celebrating how unique we all are, while continuing the work towards our vision of learn every day, help each other and be happy.

Messages from the Office

CHRISTMAS DATES

6th December—Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

11th December—Year 3 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

12th December—Year 4 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

13th December—Year 6 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

14th December—Year 5 performance at 2.30pm and 5.30pm

15th December—Christingle in St. Margaret's Church (time to be confirmed)

- There will be a Children's Workshop of Peace on Sunday 12th November from 4pm –5.30pm in Northam Community Hall (top of Northam) organised by St. Margaret's Church. All welcome to join them for pizza and craft!
- There will be a Children's Craft Chapel at the Holy Trinity Church in Westward Ho! On Saturday 25th November from 10am until 12noon. This will be part of a Christmas Coffee Morning so parents can attend as well to enjoy cake, craft and other stalls with a raffle etc. Other attractions include Santa's Gift Vestry. There will be a £3 charge towards craft costs.
- Could you please ensure that your child has a NAMED coat in school each day as they are going outside to play at break and lunchtimes as much as the weather will allow.
- Next Friday 17th November is Children in Need day. The School Council have voted to ask for children to dress up in something spotty or pyjamas. They would like it if children could bring in a donation of £1 for towards the charity for dressing up. During the day there will be a 'Bearpees' competition in the classes and the winner will be announced at the end of the day.
- The final payment for London residential trip needs to be paid to the school office by 8th December. The final payment for the PGL trip is due now. If you are unsure how much you have left to pay please contact the school office. Please remember that all cheques now need to be made payable to Ventrus Ltd.
- Ventrus are hoping that we will migrate to a new management information system by the end of November. This means that we will be able to set up a new online system for parents to pay dinner money etc online. Eventually both school will be cashless in line with Ventrus policy with all payments being made online.
- If your child has school dinners can you please check the dinner money on the website daily. We are now using the Ventrus menu and the children are a bit unsure of the new meals on offer. Thank you.

Our learning this week

The View from our Blogging Team

In Year 3 this week, they made a mountain out of shoe boxes and drew pictures of volcanoes. It was a blast... Of magma! In Year 4, they were making pictures of hot and cold animals. In Geography they were learning about the North and South pole. It was very *cool!*

In English, they were reading a book called *Running Wild*. For year 5, they were learning about earthquakes and tectonic plates. Luckily they didn't have their dinner on those particular plates! They were also learning about the inner core, outer core and the earth's crust. No, not bread crust! Year 6 were doing bench ball and gymnastics in P.E. In English, they were learning and writing about dragons! Luckily they didn't burn the pages with their fire writing!

In Year 3, we have been learning about inversing which means doing the opposite! We've used it to check our answers and make sure that we are being accurate. In writing, we've continued to write our story about the legend of Black Rock. We were surprised to find out that it's actually a friendly creature and we've been finding out ways to show this as a writer. In our afternoon work, we have been learning about types of rock and tested them based on different criteria. We have also been learning about mountain and volcano formation and have made a mod-rock model which we have also painted. The classrooms became quite messy but we had a lot of fun!

In Year 4, we have been learning about different climates around the world. We have explored the difference between climate and weather while also investigating why certain animals live in certain parts of the world. In maths, we have been using different images to explore the relationship between addition and subtraction and have produced some fantastic work in RE! Another very busy week!

In Year 5, we have been working on our gymnastics routines ahead of the virtual competition. We've had fun investigating and measuring gravity using force meters. We've started learning about Islam and the importance of the 5 pillars.

This week in Year 6 we have been working hard on our maths, moving from place value onto common factors. In English, we have been practising lots of different writing skills that we will need for next week when writing about a mythical beast we created. In PE we are continuing to work on our gymnastics routines for the upcoming virtual competition.

Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Ruben H

Peace: Storm P

Friendship: Oscar H

Forgiveness: Harry C.

Hope: Denise D

Wisdom: Jack H.

Thankfulness: Sairah P.

Compassion: Rywin P.