

St. Margaret's Newsletter



Friday 19th January 2024

Learn every day, help each other and be happy.

This week we have been very busy in our thinking about love and the part that being loved plays in us being courageous. We have considered the fact that for us to be able to take risks, we need to know that we are ok, and that we will continue to be, no matter the outcome. We talked about the importance of having the approach to our learning, building on our idea of growth mindset and how if we are finding something difficult, it is just because we have not mastered it yet.

It has been a difficult week in terms of making the nearly impossible decision to close the school yesterday. I would like to thank you all for your support in the matter and I can only apologise again for any impact that this had on you. The hills towards the school continued to be very dangerous with cars sliding when attempting to travel in both directions. I want to take this opportunity to reinforce the message that safety is key on your journey to school – please take care in these challenging driving and walking conditions.

It was great to invite in some of our parental community this week. Thank you to all of the Year 3 parents who helped us to mummify tomatoes – the children are very excited to see the outcome of their work! We have also had our Year 6 parents in this afternoon, another key event as we continue to strengthen the links between school and home.

I hope that you all have a great weekend.

Sam Malyn

I have been reflecting recently on how we can continue to support our parental community with the challenging prospect of getting your child to school. As a parent, I understand that some mornings can be really tricky and want to continue the dialogue between us all. With conversation comes support, so we are going to host a coffee morning to discuss this further. If it is sometimes a struggle to get your child to school, we would like to invite you to a morning where we can all sit and discuss the challenges that we are facing. It may well be that you end up talking to a fellow parent who is facing the same challenges. I understand that this is a new approach and that sometimes talking about these things are tricky but I think it could be really useful. If not, at least there will be biscuits! If you would be interested in this, please can you let either myself or the office know. Thank you.

Messages from the Office

- **London Parents meeting - This has now been rearranged for Thursday 1st February at 5:30pm.**
- **Reminder Year 5 swimming will be alternate weeks. It's the turn of Peace class on Wednesday 24th January. Forgiveness class please come in P.E. kit on this day.**
- **Music lessons with Bekha will return to normal times. James (drumming) lessons will be made up throughout the term.**
- **Club letters will be coming home today. Please return by Monday 22nd January.**
- **Bikeability will be taking place this term. We have sent a text to confirm your child has a place.**
- **FONs will be holding their annual general meeting on Monday 5th February at 2pm in the community room at St. George's. This meeting is open to everyone who would like to attend.**
- **We are now in desperate need of NEW underwear for boys and girls as we have no spares left. Any donations of NEW underwear would be gratefully received.**
- **Storytelling Day:
Come and celebrate National Storytelling Week at Bideford Library. 1st February 4:00 - 5:00pm Folktales for Families - Stories & tales about Bears, Bees & Honey £1.00 per person Inc. honey on toast & drink. Booking is essential.
Email: bideford.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk
Tel: 01237 476075**
- **Advance notice PGL Parents Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st Feb at 5:30pm.**

Our learning this week

Fruit Snack

Please can we remind you that snacks at break time should consists of fruit. We have had a few children asking the school for food at this time. Please can I ask you to talk with your child about whether they would want fruit break and provide this if necessary. While we will always have emergency provisions, we do not have the capacity to provide for all children.

In Year 3 this week, we've been busy! In Maths, we have been learning about the written method for multiplication. In writing, we were really excited to invite the parents in to join in with our learning applying our historical knowledge of mummification by mummifying a tomato! We are writing a set of instructions to help anyone who has never studied the Ancient Egyptians. We've also learned lots about Howard Carter, Tutankhamun, The Great Pyramids of Giza and the River Nile.

This week, Year 4 have been looking at 'States of Matter', investigating the different properties of solids, liquids and gasses. The children loved our 'dancing raisin experiment' where we predicted what might happen and made excellent conclusions around this. In PE, children have been learning how to control their ball in Hockey and we have had lots of races, dribbling in and around cones. Year 4 are very much looking forward to putting these skills into practice, in a final hockey match against each other.

Year 5 - It's been a cold week this week! Lots of learning has taken place, as usual. We have developed our Street Art Tag with some extra moves in dance and learnt a lot of grammar through our Erik the Viking text in English. In maths we are continuing to work hard with our arithmetic ninja – we have been really impressed with the childrens' attitudes when faced with this new challenge!

This week has been a bit different in Year 6 . Each day we have been completing assessments and have been working really hard to show off what we can do. In addition to all this hard work, we have been learning a poem called Invictus off by heart and we are going to perform it in front of one another. On Monday afternoon we walked up to St Margaret's Church to look at the stained glass windows as part of our art topic - Art and Religion. It was lovely to see the beautiful creations and get some inspiration for our own projects.

Class Teacher Awards

Trust: Oliver

Peace: Brad

Friendship: Jaecie-Anne

Forgiveness: Xander

Hope: Henry

Wisdom: Oscar

Thankfulness: Beatrice

Compassion: Jack