

**Friday 11 January 2019**

### **This week at Brindishe Manor**

#### **Walk like an Egyptian...**

We have had a great first week back! The children in year 3 have started their Ancient Egypt topic by following in the footpaths of Ancient Egyptians. They dressed up as Egyptians and took part in a workshop where they built their own pyramid! It was truly a sight to behold and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Whilst in year 4, the children got to experience the building of a Viking long ship. What a start to the term for years 3 and 4!

We also welcomed many families and children from the local community for our first open day of the New Year. Some of our year 5 and 6 children did a fantastic job showing our families around. A big thank you to them, particularly as they only had one day to prepare! Our next open day is on April 30th at 9:15 -10:30 a.m. & 5 - 6:15pm. If you know anyone who will be looking for a Nursery place or Reception place then please do let them know.

Thank you to those parents and carers who report any incidents which they may see outside our school. It is really appreciated by the staff and children, as it helps to keep our school and community safe. We will always act upon anything brought to our attention in the appropriate manner.

#### **And next week...**

**Year 6** will be visiting the museum of Docklands and learning about the growth of the River Thames. **Nursery** are going to be visited by the local fire brigade and they will get an opportunity to learn about the job of a firefighter. Also, as part of our ongoing work with UCL (University College London), **Pearl class** will become forensic scientists for the afternoon. The excitement has already started to build amongst the children!

#### **Fantastic attendance this week!**

Key stage 1: Turquoise – 98%

Key stage 2: Quartz – 98.6%

A green square icon with the text 'ONLINE SAFETY UPDATE' in white, bold, uppercase letters.

#### **ONLINE SAFETY UPDATE**

With safer internet day approaching on the 5<sup>th</sup> February, we will be including a **'top tip'** each week to support our parents and carers develop a greater awareness and understanding of the internet – its benefits, as well as some of the pitfalls for children. During the spring and summer terms, we will also be organising a parent workshop, as well as a 'Question Time' panel of experts from Brindishe Manor to answer your questions about settings for Apple and Android mobile devices.

#### **Top Tip 1**

As a suggested starting point, it is important to always maintain an **open and honest** dialogue with your child about their use of the internet. Why not give them some scenarios to talk through with you:

SCENARIO ONE	SCENARIO TWO	SCENARIO THREE
You discover that your child has a Facebook account	You overhear a conversation with your child, who is talking to a stranger online via their games console	Your child has sent a picture of themselves to a group of friends via social media. They now regret doing it.
SCENARIO FOUR	SCENARIO FIVE	SCENARIO SIX
KS1 Your child is using very easy passwords to create online accounts. What would you do next?	KS1 Your child is searching online through google images. Your child seems something inappropriate. What would you do next?	KS1 It is a good idea to go online together as a family. How would you go about encouraging this approach with your child?

### Dates for your diary:

**January 15th**

**Week beginning February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Week beginning February 18th**

**Week beginning March 4<sup>th</sup>**

**April 30th**

Reception admission deadlines

Meet the Teacher meetings

Half Term

Year 6 school journey

Open day for prospective parents

Best wishes for a lovely weekend

James Baguley,

Deputy Head

Brindishe Manor

### In class this week...

Each week we will continue to share with you what each year group has been focusing on in class and offer some ideas on how you can support your child over the coming week.

### Nursery...

We have had a fabulous week in Nursery. It has been lovely to see all the children so enthusiastic about coming back and engaging in their activities. As the children have been sharing their experiences over the winter break, it has lead our learning towards looking at various countries around the world. This includes finding out about different climates, flags and transport. The children have been helping our class teddies pack for their holidays to hot and cold countries and helping teddy to say hello in various languages. If your child has been to any interesting locations please include this in their Me Books and return them next week.

### Reception...

Happy New Year and welcome back to all our children and families! It is lovely to see how refreshed and ready for learning the children are. This week, we are going over the sounds we have already learnt in phonics. Look out for a Phase 2 sound mat in your child's bag so that you can practise at home.

Please remember to bring your child's PE clothes into school if you haven't already done so.

### In Year 1...

We have had a lovely start to the term with so many children bringing in homemade models of rockets and aliens for our new topic 'To the moon and back'. If you haven't had a chance of starting your project, it isn't too late! This week we have been revising number facts including making a family of number sentences. The children used pictures to help them write two addition and two subtraction number sentences. At home, you could use counters, pegs or pieces of

coloured paper. Put them into two groups. Each group should have one colour and not more than 10 objects. Look at the two groups and make up a family of number sentences. For our outdoor PE sessions we have started learning how to play hockey. We learnt how to hold the hockey stick and position our body.

### **In Year 2...**

We have really enjoyed learning about our new learning theme *Amazing Africa*. We have started looking at the story of *Lila and the Secret Rain*, which we hope will inspire our learning in art, English and geography.

Ruby Class have started learning about shape in maths and Amethyst have been solving division problems to lead into our learning about fractions.

Africa is such a massive and diverse continent; if anyone has any connections to any country in Africa or anything lying around at home that links, please do let your class teacher know.

*At home you could research an African country and write a fact file or create a presentation to share with your class.*

### **In Year 3...**

Year 3 have had a very busy start to the term. We started with our Ancient Egypt workshop on Monday which was very engaging and interactive for the children. They built a pyramid and learnt how the pyramids were made, they made their own Papyrus paper and they also engraved Hieroglyphics into stone. It was a great way to start the topic and the children thoroughly enjoyed the day. Later in the week, we had our own Ancient Egypt workshops in our classrooms, where we learnt about excavating and the magnificent things which could be found inside Egyptian tombs. Each child made their very own cartouche using salt-dough. We also learnt about the history of Ancient Egypt and the River Nile. We created our own maps of Egypt by using play-dough. In maths this week we have been using the column method to multiply 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers.

### **In Year 4...**

The children had a fantastic day on Tuesday taking on the role of brave Viking warriors and building an actual Viking long ship. We were impressed with their enthusiasm and most importantly their outstanding collaborative skills. It was an amazing opportunity for the children to work in small groups and use each other's strengths to be able to complete the different tasks needed to make the different parts of the boat. We have started to immerse the children in our spring term topic which is 'Invaders and Settlers'. We have been discussing why the Vikings left Scandinavia and the different places that they settled in. The children were able to tell stories and share personal experiences of family members and friends that they know of, that have left the country that they were born in to settle in a different place. At home, please talk to your children about where their ancestors were born, this could be the adults they live with, their grandparents or even great grandparents. This will support them in contributing to whole class discussions about settling and to create a whole class display on homelands and family members who have settled in new places!

### **In Year 5...**

We've had a wonderful week in year 5. To begin with, we spent two days immersing ourselves in Ancient Greece. The children explored code breaking, maths puzzles, demi-gods and mythical creatures through art, created their own Pantheon temple in groups and we finished off the two days with an Ancient Greek Olympics afternoon. The children showed great enthusiasm towards the topic and worked really well in groups across the year group. It was lovely to see them completely embrace the new topic.

We will be doing football and gymnastics in PE this half term, which we began this week. Please can the children ensure they bring their PE kits for next week and as it's so cold outside, we ask that they wear long sleeved tops and long trousers to keep them warm for football.

Thank you to those who provided materials for our immersion days, we really appreciate it.

### **In Year 6...**

The children in Year 6 have made a great start to term - coming back from the break full of energy and focus for their learning! We have already started on our new topic - Charles Dickens' famous 'Great Expectations'. Much of this week has been spent immersing ourselves in the text - using lots of drama and art to explore the themes of the story. A good starting point for understanding the book even better would be to read another of Dickens' works - perhaps Oliver Twist or A Christmas Carol. There are both simplified text and film versions of all of these - if you get a chance, try to have a look at one at home this term.