

### Friday 17th January 2020

Dear parents and carers, friends and families,

**This week** at Brindishe Manor, Year 5 have started their swimming sessions at Glassmill Leisure Centre. Many thanks to the parents and carers who are escorting the children to and from Lewisham.

Year 6 visited St Matthew Academy for a dance workshop with a specialist teacher, which they thoroughly enjoyed. The rest of year 6 and Year 5 will also make a visit to St Matthew over the coming weeks.

Many children have taken part in one of the many clubs that we offer after school and the feedback has been very good so far. Please do let us know your thoughts about the clubs we offer, we would love to hear your views.

#### **'Meet the Teacher'**

Between **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**, we are inviting parents and carers of children in Years 1 to 6 to make an appointment for an individual meeting with their child's class teacher. This 'meet the teacher' meeting is a chance for you to meet with your child's class teacher, discuss progress and next steps. Meetings are booked online via Arbor's Parent Portal and will be open from this Friday (17<sup>th</sup> January). If you need help to log in to Arbor then please contact the school office.

#### **Attendance of the week...**

Key Stage 1 – Ruby 98%

Key Stage 2 - Amber 97%



#### **Dates for your diary**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Young Voices O2 Choir.

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January** – Reception visit Lee Green Fire Station

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** – Early reading & Writing workshop, Nursery and Reception families

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Y3/4 Cinema Night

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – Cake Sale

**Week Beg 10<sup>th</sup> February** – Meet the teacher week

Please be reminded that the Government announced last year that the early **May bank holiday** would this year be moved from Monday **May 4<sup>th</sup>** to **Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>**, to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day.

**The 2020-2021 term dates are now available on our website.**

#### **Safeguarding our families and staff...**

Safeguarding children and staff during the school day is our priority. Please be reminded that once the school gates have closed for the day, all visitors need to come in via the school office. Visitors need to sign in using our electronic sign-in system and wear an identification badge.

Please do not hold the gate open for someone coming in behind you, or 'tailgate' someone entering in front of you. Every visitor needs to press the buzzer to let the office know who they are and the reason for their visit.

If a parent/carer arrives at any other time to collect their child, they will need to come straight to the school office and not to their child's classroom. Their child will be brought to them.

With our work around safeguarding all of our families, we ask that should an issue arise you speak to a member of staff on the gate, rather than approach a family directly.

If you are arranging for another adult to collect your child/children, please make sure that the office or class teacher have been informed.

Best wishes for the weekend

Kate Porter  
Headteacher

**Nursery** - This week, in Nursery, we made our own fire fighters and fire engines to display on the wall. Thank you for all the boxes parents regularly bring in to help us with our creative learning and fun activities. You are welcome to come and have a look at the children's learning in class. We have also been ordering numbers and talked a bit about the meaning of 'more' and 'less'. In phonics we learned the sound 'p' and discussed a number of words that start with this sound. We all had a go at writing letters on the big electronic board in class. The children had a chance to take part in specific listening activities which they all thoroughly enjoyed. Have a lovely weekend.

**Reception** - We are so impressed with how the children are applying their knowledge of phonics to begin to read simple texts and write words and sentences. All the reading and learning you do at home makes a huge difference and we really appreciate your ongoing support. In maths this week we have been thinking about 0 and what that means. We have also started looking at different ways to make 5, for example "3 and 2 make 5". You could challenge your child to do this at home with food items, household objects or toys. How many different ways can they find? We have begun exploring different artistic techniques such as printing, watercolour washes and collage. In Turquoise Class, we have taken inspiration from Kandinsky to create trees and in Emerald Class we have been experimenting with using watercolours to create a background. At the end of the Spring Term we will be hosting a whole-school art exhibition which we are very excited about. We would like to invite family members who work in the arts or have a creative hobby to come in to school to run a workshop and/or talk to the children about how you use art in your job or your hobby. Please come and speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to be involved!

**Year 1** - Year One has had another exciting week of learning. We are investigating materials and Onyx class has decided to build shelters out of various materials to test which of the Three Little Pigs had the most common sense. We are finishing off our houses of straw, sticks & bricks and are also testing cardboard, fabric and plastic to see if maybe the Little Pigs missed a trick! Next week we will conduct a fair test using a fan to see if we can huff and puff them down! In phonics we are investigating split vowel digraphs and focussed on a\_e this week. Try challenging your child to a word-off and see who can think of the most a\_e words! There is a good video from Alphablocks which helps children see the different ways to make the 'ay' sound. Jasper Class has been visited by a very 'naughty' visitor... ask what has happened to their classroom this week! Have a lovely, restful week end.

**Year 2** - This week Year 2 children worked very hard on planning and retelling the story of Lila and the Secret of Rain. Children are writing it in the past tense and trying to use adverbials of time and place.

Can they tell you the main events of the story? (beginning, build up, problem, resolution and ending)  
In art, we looked at the beautiful colours and patterns of African kente cloths and learnt that different colours represent different values. We created these patterns through *Gelli* printing. We will continue to explore different printing skills next week. For home learning, we would like to encourage children to prepare a presentation, leaflet or a poster about one of the African countries. We really like to learn from each other!

**Year 3** - This week in maths, we have been using column multiplication to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number with regrouping. We have also discussed the misconceptions that we have come across when using this method. In English, Pearl class have been reading 'Cinderella on the Nile' and have been planning diary entries. Sapphire class have been learning how to link sentences together by using conjunctions. In science, we have finding out how shadows are formed.

**Year 4** - This week Amber have begun learning about Greta Thunberg in more depth in preparation for writing a biography about her. We have found out she was only 8 years old when she first heard about climate change, the same age as many of the children in our class - food for thought! Whilst in Topaz class, we have begun planning an explanation text of how a boy created a windmill to generate electricity for his village in Africa, based on the book 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind'. In maths, we have studied tenths and hundredths in decimals and fractions, recognising the relationships between these concepts. In Amber, children have been mastering their understanding of some tricky maths involving long division as well as exploring different angles including acute, obtuse and reflex.

Please do also look at the Art display in the Year 2 and Year 3 corridor which features the self-portraits that Amber class painted last term as part of our Tudor learning. They are fantastic!

**Year 5** - This week in Year 5, we started our swimming lessons. The children all showed great confidence in the water and we're looking forward to seeing how they progress over the next few weeks. In maths, we have moved onto shape - learning how to use a protractor correctly to measure angles, recognising right-angled triangles and finding missing angles in these. We've also learnt about Hindu pilgrimages in RE, thinking about how this differs from a holiday and why it is important to Hindus. In English, we have started planning our newspaper reports based on the Battle of Marathon. We've researched the battle, focused on answering the 5 Ws in our introductions and used drama to help us understand more about the event. Ask your child at home what they know about the Battle of Marathon as this should help support our writing next week.

**Year 6** - We've had another great week in Year 6. Diamond Class headed to St Matthew Academy for a dance workshop in their studio which was brilliant. All children got involved and it was lovely to see them throw themselves into their improvisation so enthusiastically. Thank you to the adults who accompanied us on this trip.  
In Art, we have started looking at how artists portray a message in their work. We have explored artwork on climate change and discussed how the message comes across. Often, artists use objects that we recognise and then combine this with an environmental issue. Why not ask your child what message they would like to portray in their artwork and how they plan on doing this?