



# North Mundham Primary School

The Heron Newsletter



Welcome to our weekly newsletter

Spring 1

6th January 2023

In this newsletter, find out about:

- **Mrs Gordon's message and school news**
- **Reminders and Notices**
- **Internet Safety**
- **Upcoming events**

## A Message from Mrs Gordon



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I hope that you had a lovely break with your families. I know that there have continued to be a lot of bugs and illnesses over the last 2 weeks and some of these have continued into the new term. We have had a few cases of Covid amongst the staff including myself and Mrs Cross which has been a very frustrating start to the new term. In school, we have renewed the importance of handwashing to keep germs away and the children are once again used to doing this. It continues to be a good deterrent.

This week we have welcomed Mrs Jennie Teakle to the staff. She will be Year 6 teacher at the beginning of the week and Acting Assistant Headteacher until the end of July. I am very grateful for the support that she has given our staff team already this term. We also have 2 student teachers - Miss Levett in Year 1 and Miss Taylor in Year 2. They will be with us for the majority of the term.

To start the new year we have agreed on a couple of whole school resolutions. Firstly, we are trying to remember our 'Teaspoon of Kindness' T- thank-you, S-sorry and P-please and the importance of these three simple words in our daily lives. To encourage this, we have a counter system where we are challenging ourselves to say thank-you, sorry and please in context. When an adult hears this

they will add a counter to the appropriate jar. Our second resolution is to look after our school equipment better. The school council and myself will be discussing some ideas for new equipment this term but in the meantime, we are focusing on looking after what we already have.

In class the children have settled in well to the new term and have started their new learning topics.

Reception have started the new year with a great enthusiasm for learning. We are finding out about Long Ago and what that means. In our English we have read *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and explored the characters and where we may go shopping now or what we may have for tea. The children have got their writing brains switched on and have done lots of different writing this week including writing a shopping list for Sophie's mummy, writing invitations for tea and deciding what they may have to eat if a friend came to tea. Great start to 2023 Reception!

Year 1 have begun their learning about Bright Lights Big City and are planning an exciting tea party next week. They are all trying very hard in phonics and Miss Guppy is very pleased with the progress that they are making.

Year 2 have started their Coastline focus and have been trying very hard with their handwriting and spelling in English this week.

Year 3 have begun their Rocks, Relics and Rumbles topic this week with a big focus on spelling some of the key words in their new topic.

Year 4 also have a Geography based focus to their learning this term with Misty Mountain, Winding River. They had a great first Forest School session on Wednesday exploring the woods despite the rather soggy conditions.

Year 5 are going to be thinking about growth and farming both locally and further afield. They have started by thinking about what they already know and what they would like to find out.

Year 6 also had their first Forest School session on Wednesday and showed some amazing team skills working together on dam and den building. Their learning is focused on 'Frozen Kingdoms' which will give them the opportunity to find out about the habitats and diversity of these areas as well as other linked aspects. Full details of the children's learning for this term will be shared with you by the end of next week. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

Happy Friday!

Best wishes,

Zoe Gordon, Headteacher

Year 6 Forest School







Year R think about more and fewer in maths









## Reminders and Notices



### Notices

#### Year 5 Swimming

This starts on Monday. Please ensure that children are dropped off between 8.30 and 8.45 at the Westgate Centre. Please do not leave your child if there is not a member of staff there. Staff will aim to be there for 8.30 but may get held up in traffic so we ask that you check before leaving.

#### Sports' Kit

If your child took part in a sports' event in school kit last term, please make sure that it has been returned. We are missing quite a lot of items (especially socks!).

### **Forest School**

Please ensure that your child has wellies or similar footwear and waterproofs for Forest school this term- it is very wet in the Fuzzies.

### **Request for spare clothes**

If you are having a sort out of your child's old clothes, we would be very grateful for any jogging trousers (or similar), socks, old jumpers and coats that we can use if children get very wet outside. All sizes and genders gratefully received.

### **Cheer up January**

To combat the 'January blues' we will be having a 'Cheer up January' week from 16-20th Jan. Monday 16th will be a dress in multi-colours day and Friday 20th will be promise day (where children can redeem the promises they won at the Christmas fair.) On Wednesday there will be a chance for children to choose 2 different activities from a variety provided by staff. We have also arranged for two fitness specialists to come and do some workshops with the children on Friday 20th January. To finish the month on a positive note, we have Hobgoblin theatre company coming in to perform two different shows during the day. (separate letter to follow).

### **Eco- plastic free week**

The week of 16-20th January is also our Eco plastic free week and we are hoping that you will support us by using fewer single use plastic for the week. There will be a message from Eco- Council on this in next week's assembly and newsletter.

### **Year 6 Parents- Meet the teacher**

To give Year 6 parents the opportunity to meet Mrs Teakle, there will be a short informal meeting on Tuesday 10th January at 3.10 to give you the chance to put a face to the name and ask any questions you may have.

### **Sweets in Lunchboxes**

Please remember that children should NOT have sweets, chocolate sweets or fizzy drinks in their packed lunch.

Thank-you for your support in all these matters.

## Internet Safety



We know that many children have been lucky enough to receive new digital devices over Christmas. Please ensure that you continue to monitor your child's online activity at all times. Follow [this link](#) for some useful guides from the NSPCC.

## Dates for the diary



10th January- Year 5/6 Basketball\*

11th January Bronze Ambassador\*

16-20 January- Eco council plastic- free lunchbox week.

16th January- beat the blues day- children can come to school dressed in colourful clothes

18th January- year 5/6 netball-\*

18th January- 'cheer up' activity afternoon

20th January- Promise Day and fitness activities

25th January- Year 5/6 cross country  
27th January- Year 2 Class assembly 9am  
31st January- Hobgoblin theatre company  
1st February- year 5/6 athletics\*  
6th February- Dancehouse  
7th February- rugby festivals\*  
8th February- Boccia\*  
9th February- bags2school  
10th February- Valentine's Disco- more details to follow  
10th February- break up for half term  
20th February-INSET  
21st February- first day back after half term  
24th February- PTA Quiz Night- more details to follow  
2nd March- Book Day  
3rd March- Year 1 Class assembly 9am  
3rd March- School Poetry slam  
16th March- Year R class assembly  
31st March- break up for Easter  
17th April- first day back after Easter  
\*- separate letters will be sent out about these events.

Please note that more dates will be added in future newsletters.

### **INSET Days 2022-2023**

(All INSET days are either at the beginning or end of a school holiday, we ask that you take advantage of these for family holidays or long weekends and DO NOT book holidays in term time.)

20th February 2023

26th May 2023

## Contact Us



If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us:

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