



Featherstone Academy's Newsletter- Week Ending 10/02/20203

[A Message from the Headteacher](#)

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and the children have been engaged with some insightful learning in this area. A big part of that, understandably, is Internet Safety Day which is an important part of school learning. We had an exciting day in year 2 with an Arctic Explorers day that involved parents too! An eco team visited the community centre to support with the planting of trees as part of a clean air initiative; we are proud to have been involved. We also had a parent, who is a member of the fire service teaching Reception and Nursery this week as well as a parent teaching Year 6 all about Sikhism. Tapping into expertise in the community is vital to pushing the boundaries of what our children know and understand, these opportunities are truly valued, thank you

Next week we have our first ever school improvement forum, more info below, I look forward to seeing as many as you as possible for tea/cake as we talk all things Featherstone Academy.

Parent Forum for School Improvement

Just a reminder that this coming Monday, 13th February at 5:00pm, we are holding a parent forum for school improvement. Childcare will be available for children from this time who are of Reception age and above. Any younger children are welcome too and would remain with their parents. It is an opportunity to come together informally with some tea/coffee and cake and have discussions as a group about the elements of the school which are currently successful and areas that need some more focus. All opinions and topics will be valued and discussed, but we are unable to address individualised issues or specific child related information.

Initially, I will discuss the elements of school that we feel are going well and elements we are looking to improve along with future plans for the school and impact of any recent initiatives. Opportunities will then be there for discussion and questions on those points or anything else appropriate.

Please encourage as many parents to come as possible. It should last for approximately 45 minutes. I hope to see many of you there.

Key Dates

13th February – Parents Forum 5pm

27th February - Year 2 SATS Meeting 3:30pm PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

2nd March – World Book Day - Whole School

6/7th March – Parents Evening Reception to Year 6. 3.30pm – 5.30pm

7th March – Parents Evening Little Learners & Nursery 3.30pm - 4.30pm

14th/15th/16th March - Book Fair 3:30pm

17th March – Comic Relief - Whole School

13th March – British Science Week - Whole School

20th – 24th March – Parents ‘Look into Learning’ Week (info to follow).

21st March – World Down Syndrome Day – ‘Rock Your Socks’ - Whole School

29th March – Easter Bonnet Parade – Little Learners, Nursery and Reception 9.30am

30th March – Easter Celebration led by Year 3 and 4 – 9.30am - (Year 3/4 parents welcome to attend)

Request For Leave During Term Time

Since September, we have had 30 individual requests for leave during term time. Six of these requests were authorised due to 2 being sporting/educational events the children were participating in, 3 requests were authorised due to parents work commitments during school holidays with proof provided. These parents have been made aware this cannot happen again, and 1 was authorised due to

exceptional family circumstances. Authorised leave still impacts your Child's attendance so please bear this in mind when requesting any time off.

A holiday request form (available from the school office) must be completed and returned to school. No holiday requests will be authorised as children's attendance is vital to their learning.

Early Reading - Reception and Key Stage 1 (phonics)

READING AT HOME

At Featherstone Academy, we know just how important reading at home is for our children. The more support our children receive at home, the quicker their reading progress will be. Together we want to get all children reading, as soon as possible.

We want to update you about some changes you will see in your child's book bag. Books bags will contain 3 books that need to be in school each day:

CORE STORY BOOK

The first book is a core storybook; your child will have been taught how to read this book over a whole week in school. Children have focused on reading accuracy, fluency and comprehension and will be able to read this book like a storyteller.

BOOK BAG BOOK

The second book is a matched Book Bag the core storybook, but it will not have **2** Book, this book will link in some way to

been taught in school. Both books will be fully decodable for your child.

SHARING BOOK

3As well as the RWI books, your child will also bring home a library book that they have personally selected, to read for pleasure. This book will not necessarily be a fully decodable story, so it will be a book to share with your child. Please enjoy this story together.

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." - Emilie Buchwald





GREENHEART
LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Featherstone!

Do you want the best new children's books? They're coming to our school soon!

Join us on Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th or Thursday 16th March at 3.30pm and find your next favourite read. Not only will you be getting your hands on the best new children's books, you will be supporting our school as every book purchased will help to fill our classrooms and library with free books!

Scholastic have reworked their entire book fair price range with book prices starting as low as £1.99 and 30% of the books now under £5 and under £3. Children can also use their World Book Day tokens towards the cost of a new book.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Year 5 -Tree Planting

A group of Year 5 children visited Featherstone Community Centre on Tuesday to help plant approximately 150 brand new trees. The children were shown by professionals the tree planting process, they were then given everything they needed to do it themselves. The children all enjoyed it and understood the importance of looking after our local environment and the positive effect trees have on global warming. We are looking forward to working with Mercia Forest in future projects.































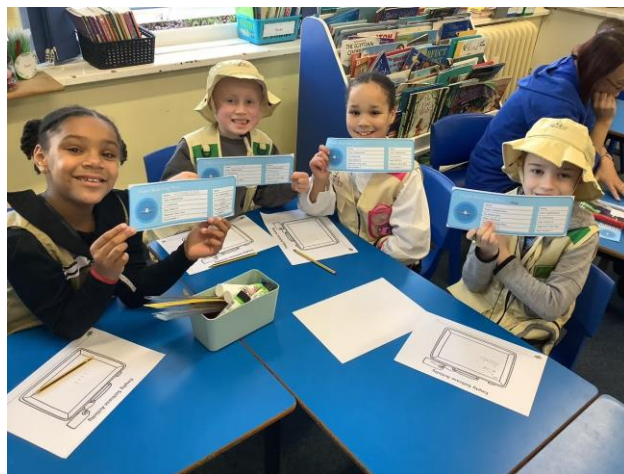


Year 2 Arctic Explorer Day

Year 2 had an amazing day on Wednesday, creatively learning about all things 'Arctic'. Everyone looked the part dressed as Arctic Explorers. Thank you to parents/carers for their continued support. Also, thanks to those able to join Miss Tkaczuk, the children thoroughly enjoyed it.















Fire Safety in Early Years

As part of their "People Who Help Us" topic, children in Early Years had a real surprise on Monday when a Fireman visited them in his uniform. They learnt all about stop, drop and roll and how to stay safe around fire. They were also lucky enough to participate in some activities during the session. A big thank you to Mr Humpage for your visit!

















Year 6- Celebrating Cultures

On Thursday 9th February, we had a very special visitor in Year 6. One of our parents, Mrs Chall, was kind enough to come and discuss Sikhism and what this meant to her and her family. We learned about the 5 'K's, what life is like in India, traditional Indian clothing and celebrations. The children asked really thoughtful questions which helped develop their understanding of a different culture and we thank Mrs Chall so much for giving up her time to speak to us. The samosas went down a treat too!





Golden Book **06/02-10/02**

A big well done to;

The Hive- **Bobbi Spencer**

Little Learners- **Dominik Rucinski**

Nursery- **Leah Francis**

Reception- **Finn Reid**

Year 1 - **Olivia-Mae Jones**

Year 2- **Flora Pritchett**

Year 3 - **Poppy Cairns**

Year 4 - **Joshua Marston**

Year 5- **Ashlee Element-Stubbs**

Year 6 - **Jake Johnson**

Headteacher Mr Gatrad- **Alanah-Drew Thompson**

Deputy Headteacher Mrs Steatham- **Theo**

Curriculum Promise 2022-2023

At Featherstone Academy, we are committed to providing a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum for all of our pupils. We foster an air of excitement and investigation, which develops creativity and independence. We are proud of our community links, but understand that there is more we can do to build upon these important relationships further.

From 2022, we are introducing our Curriculum Promise, a Greenheart Learning Partnership initiative, which deepens and embeds learning through quality experiences, and enables our pupils to achieve the very best outcomes in the future.

Encompassing four key strands: academic, social, moral and cultural, we believe that we can expand our pupils' learning so that they may develop a deeper understanding, a greater desire for learning, and support to help them blossom into a valued individual in society.

Attached is an overview of how we intend to promote these values across the year. Further details will be provided as and when required. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Overview of curriculum promise 2022-2023 (1)

Activities	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Values						
EYFS Composers	Tchakovsky	Brahms	Handel	Vivaldi	Chopin	Strauss
KS1 Composers	Beethoven	Clara Schumann	Danny Elfman	John Williams	Verdi	Mendelssohn
KS2 Composers	Hans Zimmer	J S Bach	Mozart	Vaughan Williams	Dvorak	Elgar
EYFS Authors	Julia Donaldson	Eric Carle	AA Milne	Roger Hargreaves	Beatrix Potter	Jill Murphy
KS1 Authors	Michael Rosen	Hans Christian Anderson	Tom Percival	Dr Seuss	Oliver Jeffers	Judith Kerr
UKS2 Authors	Roald Dahl	Robert Louis Stevenson	C S Lewis	Sita Brahmachari	Floella Benjamin	Marjorie Blackman
UKS2 Authors	Jacqueline Wilson	Charles Dickens	Berlie Doherty	Benjamin Zephaniah	Anthony Horowitz	William Shakespeare
EYFS Artists	Jackson Pollock		Henri Matisse		Pablo Picasso	
KS1 Artists	George Seurat		Vincent Van Gogh		Georgia O'Keefe	
KS2 Artists	Andy Warhol		Banksy		Leonardo Da Vinci	
EYFS Scientists/ Environmentalists		John Logie Baird		Thomas Edison		Alexander Graham Bell
KS1 Scientists/ Environmentalists		Tim Berners Lee		James Watt		Sir David Attenborough
KS2 Scientists/ Environmentalists		Marie Curie		Sir Isaac Newton		Jane Goodall
EYFS Humans of note	Christopher Columbus		Florence Nightingale		Roger Bannister	
KS1 Humans of note	Rosa Parks	Mary Seale	Wright Brothers	Roald Amundsen	Yuri Gagarin	Neil Armstrong
KS2 Humans of note	Jesse Owens	Marco Polo	Anne Frank	Richard Branson	Alexander Graham Bell	Louise Joy Brown
Fine Dining	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
UKS2 Visit to Care home		Christmas Carols		Reading		Reading
Y6 Life Skills Passport				Residential visit to promote independence	Make a cup of Tea Sew on a button Wash a car	Make a sandwich Iron a shirt Online shopping

Curriculum Promise – Whole School Overview 2022-2023

Curriculum Promise 2022-2023

As part of our Curriculum Promise to our pupils, we are launching a competition to raise awareness of certain artists and their individual style of art. Pupils are being invited to produce a piece of art based on the artist assigned to their year group, and bring it into school by Thursday 9th March to be displayed in our Reception area.

Early Years artist is – Henri Matisse

Key stage 1 (Y1 and 2) is – Vincent Van Gogh

Key stage 2 (Y3-6) is – Banksy

There will be certificates for pupils in each key stage, which will be awarded in assembly on Friday 10th March.

Contact Us

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