



Primary School Newsletter

10 February 2017

Half-term Half-term has arrived already! Thank you for your continued support over the last few weeks. I've had a number of visitors to my office in the last week to show me some of the excellent work going on in classes. A small selection is in this newsletter and we will be doing our best to include more over the rest of the year as we are very proud of the children's hard work. I wish you a good rest over the next week and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 20.

Ms Luzmore

Message from the PTSA

The **Year 4 cake sale** is coming up after half term on Thursday 23 February, please make donations into the office. Uniform will also be on sale soon. Please drop good quality, outgrown uniform washed and bagged to Donna in the office.

Prices:

School jumpers £1 (second hand) £9.50 (new)

Trousers, skirts and dresses £1

PE bag and kits £1

Message from Miss Barbor If you have any old pots, pans and wooden spoons you would be happy to donate to Reception class, please drop them off in the office. They make fantastic musical instruments.



Assembly themes In this week's assemblies, **Ms Standing** spoke to the school about playground rules and lunchtimes. **Rev April's** assembly was about Jesus calling the disciples to be fishers of people to save and better their lives for the kingdom.

Year 5 Assembly Well done to Year 5 for their assembly on adaption last week. It was a jam-packed with a number of interesting facts, rapping, singing, acting, an appearance from David Attenborough and even live tadpoles!

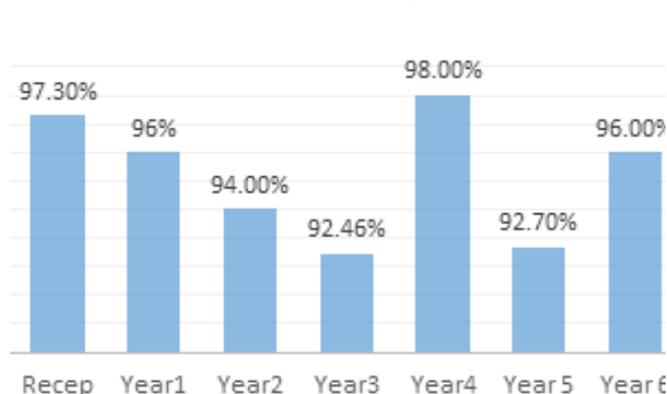
Lost property

Lost property will be on display in the playground during the first week back after half term. Please take the time to reunite yourself with items. After that week, the PTSA will sort through leftovers, wash and add things to their stock. Please label everything you can with your child's name to help ensure it gets returned to them!

CAMHS parenting workshops.

Parenting workshops started this week and though there was a small turnout, the feedback was very positive. The classes will continue for three more on Wednesdays on the following dates at 2.30pm and finish in time to collect children at the end of the school day: 1 March/ 15 March / 29 March. Please contact Mrs Baker Spencer if you intend attending.

Last week's attendance figures



Remember – everyday counts!

Year 4 trip

Last Friday, as part of our 'The discoveries of others have benefited society' unit of inquiry, Year 4 went on a trip to the Natural History Museum in South Kensington. Here we took part in a workshop looking at the life and work of Mary Anning. She was an early nineteenth century palaeontologist and discovered many fossils in the Dorset area of England. After the workshop, we looked around the dinosaur section of the museum furthering our understanding of fossils and marvelling at the fantastic array of exhibits that the museum houses. We all had a great time on the trip and came away with lots of new information about the discovery of fossils. **Mr Berridge**



Braving the cold!

Rugby

Congratulations to our Year 6 mixed rugby team who, although weren't able to make the semi-finals, put in a fantastic effort to come joint second in the group stage. Apart from displaying some particularly impressive ball skills, agility and movement in freezing conditions, it was their commitment, positivity and overall team spirit which really shone through. Well done to Nethum, Santi, Theo, Hannah, Danielle, Barzy, Charles, Melita, Lewi and Kai!

School Council

A small group of school council representatives, Yaser (Yr 4), Jessica (Yr 5) and Lia (Yr 6) had a meeting with Ms Luzmore to discuss some of their ideas and suggestions including: reintroducing a golden table on Friday lunches for those children who received a certificate in Thursday assemblies, whether we should have music in the school hall during lunches, how we do auditions for assemblies and productions, how we can show good manners to each other and with adults during lunchtime and whether there should be a category on our traffic lights below the red! The children gave compelling reasons for their requests, so Ms Luzmore and Mr Standing will discuss these in depth and let the school council representatives know what we could trial in the coming terms.

Handwriting

Staff have been working on a new handwriting scheme this year to use with the children and we thought it would be helpful for you to see the style we are using in school. While traditionally children have learnt to print and then are taught to join, if cursive is taught from the start, then only one style is needed. Cursive letters are produced in a flowing movement, which helps the development of memory of spelling, writing becomes quicker and as letters all start in the same place it reduces the likelihood of reversals such as b/d and p/q. Our handwriting style is based on one recommended by Dyslexia Action.

