



## The Saints Federation

### Fortnightly Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Federation Round up from the Headteacher

#### St Andrew's

Discovery class have been reading a new book called 'How to Find Gold' and have been thinking about how to plan a journey. In Science they have been learning all about different materials.

Victory class have been reading the book Varjak Paw. They have discovered that Varjak is different from the rest of his family and that he wants to climb over the wall of his owner's house. His family thinks that this means he is not a 'real Mesopotamian Blue' but their future has been threatened by the arrival of a mysterious 'Gentleman' and the peculiar cats that he has brought along. The children have written to Varjak to persuade him to climb over the wall and to search for a dog to protect his family.

In mathematics, Victory have been labelling number lines to help them understand the value of numbers. They have also been learning about the Ancient Egyptians, including finding out more about who they were, what they did and how they lived.

Endeavour class have been learning to use the standard column methods of addition and subtraction. For guided reading are sharing Street Child by Bertie Doherty - which links to their history topic of Victorians. They have been finding out about life in a workhouse through the book and writing a diary as if they were Jim Jarvis, the main character.

#### Hapton

At Hapton, Owls have been looking at negative numbers as well as word problems in Maths and have challenged themselves with some investigations. In English, we have been looking at the book 'Varjak Paw' and have looked more closely at character and setting as well as writing newspaper reports on the mysterious 'Vanishings'! Owls have also been studying Ancient Egypt, in particular its geography including the importance of the Nile.

Over the last few weeks in Robins class, we have been learning all about The Great Fire of London and have enjoyed singing 'London's Burning' as well as producing our own pastel drawings based on a painting by the Dutch artist, Jan Griffier. Our new Reception children have settled in brilliantly; they have had lots of fun exploring our outside area and making new friends.

#### All Saints

At All Saints, we have enjoyed continuing to develop our project work. Honeybees have been learning about climates. They have been on the search for treasure through their Power of Reading book 'On the Search for Gold' and have made their very own treasure islands.

Pandas have been exploring characters in their book 'Varjak Paw', creating some stunning artwork reflecting Varjak's kingdom. They have continued to learn lots more about the Egyptian period. They have been exploring electricity, thinking about how to stay safe as well as how to make simple circuits.

Dolphins have been researching the charity Dr Barnado's. They have been imagining they are Dr Barnado and have been thinking about how to write a persuasive letter - beware they are now experts at using emotive language and flattery to persuade you! The dolphins are getting very excited about their residential in a few weeks' time - it looks like it is going to be an action packed few days, where team-building will be at the heart of all we do.

#### Quote of the Week

Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved!

*William Jennings Bryan*

# Attendance Matters!

Attendance remains very important for our young people, particularly as they catch up on time in school missed during the pandemic. In this section, we celebrate the commitment of our pupils and families in ensuring children are in school and learning!

	Number of pupils with 100% attendance	Whole school attendance
Hapton	15	92.30
All Saints	25	95.39
St Andrew's	29	95.28
Whole Federation		94.32

## Attendance Fact of the Fortnight

Chronic absence by the end of Year 6 is an indicator of whether a child will complete their Key Stage 3/4 years successfully.

### Is my child well enough for school?

There is currently a national focus on pupil attendance at school, particularly following the pandemic, as we seek to support our pupils to make up for the time lost during lockdown.

We know that, as parents, it is difficult to know whether it is Ok to bring your child to school when they are under the weather, or if it's better to keep them at home. When we were young, there were different rules around attendance and 'quarantining' for different childhood illnesses. Some of these no longer apply, whereas new ones have taken their place.

Just One Norfolk <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/childhood-illnesses/> has a lot of information on childhood illnesses and what to look out for. There are helpful links to further NHS pages. Whilst there are some illnesses where children are required to take time off school, eg Diarrhoea or Scarlet Fever, please do bring your child into school; we will always send them home if they are not well enough. In the event your child has an infectious disease, contact the school office as we'll be able to advise when they can return to school.

## Save the Date

WB 17<sup>th</sup> October

14<sup>th</sup> October

21<sup>st</sup> October

31<sup>st</sup> October

16<sup>th</sup> December

### Term 3

3<sup>rd</sup> January

4<sup>th</sup> January

WB 6<sup>th</sup> February

10<sup>th</sup> February

Parent Consultation week

Last day for submitting your parent questionnaire

Last day of Autumn term 1

Half Term Break

School reopens to pupils and staff for Term 2

Last Day of Autumn Term

### 2023

Inset Day for Staff only (*school closed to children*)

School Opens to Pupils for the Spring Term

Parent Consultations

Last day of Term 3

## One Minute Guide to... Reading with your child

1. Be seen by your child as a reader – whether it's books, cooking instructions or a magazine, it doesn't matter!
2. Read to your child and explore books together – they are never too old!
3. If your child reads to you, stay positive and don't forget to smile. If they get stuck, remind them of the different ways to help: use their phonics, read the rest of the sentence...
4. Ask them questions about the book, for example, what is the character doing/how are they feeling? With older children, ask them how they know.