



The Saints Federation

Fortnightly Newsletter

24th November 2022

All Saints

In Honeybees, we have moved onto a new book called Leaf. It is about a Polar bear who has got lost and has no friends. In English, we are researching polar bears and writing our own books full of fun facts. We have taken this topic into geography and are looking at cold climates and finding these on a map. In Science, we have been learning about everyday materials and their properties and made a lovely display board to show our findings. In RE, we are using our senses to develop our knowledge on different religions. We have been looking at Hinduism this week and made a shrine. In maths we are looking at money, identifying coins, making amounts, and thinking of ways to make the same amount with different coins.

Panda class have been learning to write an explanation text to explain the seven skills that Jalal taught Varjak in our book *Varjak Paw*. In Maths, Pandas have been working on lots of times table challenges. In Science, they have been learning about forces and using magnets to test which materials are magnetic or non-magnetic. Panda Class have been applying map reading skills to accurately locate places on real maps as well as learning how to draw their own maps.

Dolphin Class have also been writing explanation texts to answer the question 'What is Darwin's Theory of Evolution?' They have been reading and discussing a beautifully illustrated book by Sabina Radeva – '*On the Origin of Species*', which retells Darwin's text for older children. They are studying evolution and adaptation and have been 'experimenting' with the genetics of toy dogs and Mr Men in science; they are continuing with our studies on the Victorians; and their bridge structures are finally complete in DT. In maths, pupils have been solidifying their understanding of multiplication and division and working with fractions. Dolphin class have been considering what makes humans happy through a humanist perspective in RE and philosophy.

The whole school are also very busy practising for *Lights, Camel Action – the Sequin!* – which we are all very excited about!

Hapton

In Robins Class, we have been writing non-chronological reports about polar bears. Along the way, we have discovered some amazing facts such as new-born polar bear cubs are the roughly the same size and weight of an adult Guinea pig! We have also enjoyed taste-testing soup as part of our cooking project and experimenting with a variety of materials to discover if they are waterproof or absorbent.

In Owls this half-term, we have been looking at diary entries and persuasive language for our own adverts! In Maths we have been learning about multiplication and simplifying fractions. In Science we have been looking into magnetism and learning about how the Earth has its own magnetic field. In Topic, Owls have been looking at maps, how to read them and what longitude and latitude are.

St Andrew's

Discovery class have been learning about Polar Bears. They have written non-chronological reports and discovered that polar bears are actually transparent! In history, they have looked at the exploration of Columbus and Aston, including the cold and hot places they visited.

Victory have been creating 3D and 2D models of the Earth, comparing the different representations. They have been investigating forces - comparing the friction of different surfaces as well as testing and sorting materials by their magnetism. They have been creating cat poems in the style of Rachel Rooney's *The Language of Cat* and writing to Varjak Paw to persuade him to help his friend Holly.

Meanwhile, Endeavour have been working on fractions, adding and subtract them and making common denominators. In science, they are learning about evolution, reading a children's version of '*On the Origin of Species*' in guided reading and writing a biography of Charles Darwin.

Quote of the Week

It's kind of fun to do the impossible.

Walt Disney

Attendance Matters!

	Number of pupils with 100% attendance	Whole school attendance
Hapton	7	94.83
All Saints	17	95.78
St Andrew's	13	95.36
Whole Federation		95.32

Attendance Policy Quick Guide

Fast Track

In response to the impact on school attendance, there have been changes to the way the Fast Track process is carried out. As a Federation, we started to talk to you about your child's attendance at parent consultation meetings, discussing with you what is going well and how we can support better attendance. This is the first step to working with you to help you access support for your child being in school.

Fast Track happens when attendance is low or there has been a high level of unauthorised absence. The purpose of the Fast Track to Attendance Panel meeting is for you and your child to meet with school and relevant agency members to identify the reasons for absence and to work together to improve attendance when the first steps above aren't working.

At the first meeting, the reasons for absence will be identified and different strategies to improve attendance will be considered. A supportive action plan will be agreed and an attendance target will be set.

Whilst the intention of the Fast Track to Attendance Panel meeting is that attendance will improve, consideration will be made to legal action if attendance targets are not met, or if attendance improves short term before deteriorating again. This could include prosecution in the magistrates' court.

Save the Date

16th December

Last Day of Autumn Term

Term 3

3rd January

2023

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

4th January

School Opens to Pupils for the Spring Term

WB 6th February

Parent Consultations

10th February

Last day of Term 3

Half Term Break – school closed 13th – 17th February 2023

Term 4

20th February

School reopens to pupils and staff for Term 4

31st March

Last Day of Spring Term

Please see the dates for your school for individual dates.

Ofsted Visit to St Andrew's

You may be aware that St Andrew's School, North Lopham, received a one day visit from Ofsted last week. Inspectors spent all day at the school, gathering a lot of information from children, parents, the IEB and staff about what the school is like. They also visited lessons, looked at books and examined school systems.

While the outcome of the visit remains confidential until Ofsted's Quality Assurance process has been concluded, we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who contributed; especially our children, who were their usual spirited and honest selves throughout!

As soon as the report is released, we will publish it.