



The Saints Federation

Fortnightly Newsletter

27th January 2023

All Saints

We had a fantastic start to term at All Saints during our collapsed curriculum ECO week, where Dolphins learnt about deforestation through *The Great Kapok Tree*; Pandas thought about protecting endangered animals; and Honeybees learnt about plastic pollution. The trip to the Cathedral was thoroughly enjoyed by all – pupils said: “I loved making a chain around the pillar”, “the history of the building was amazing – how did they build it?”, “the windows were colourful and beautiful” and “the candle made me feel so calm”.

In the last few weeks, Dolphin class have started to learn about our new topic – World War II. Pupils have brought in some amazing artefacts from the war which have been fascinating to explore. Dolphin class had our first ‘surprise day’ on Tuesday where we learnt all about Anderson shelters and made our own model versions. We have started reading *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle – set in London in World War II, it is a real page turner full of unexpected surprises! In RE, we have been considering what our ‘soul’ is and what we can learn from the great philosophers and religions about the world and the meaning of life.

In Pandas, we have started our new book *Pebble In My Pocket*. The children have explored rock formation through the text and gained a deeper understanding through experiments to see whether different rocks are permeable, durable and whether they have a high or low density. In Maths, we are continuing to develop our multiplication and division skills.

In Honeybees we have been very busy bees. In maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division through arrays and equal groups. In English, we started a new book called *The Last Wolf*. We have been writing poems and retold the story of Little Red Riding Hood from memory. In topic we have been looking at the seasons, following and writing algorithms through baking cakes and we have been introduced to some very important woman in history - Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

St Andrew's

Discovery have been learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. They have enjoyed learning about shapes in maths and are reading a modern version of Little Red Riding Hood, called ‘The Last Wolf’. They really enjoyed learning about algorithms in Computing, where they followed instructions to make buns.

Victory have been learning about the ‘life’ of (igneous) rocks through the book ‘Pebble in my Pocket’. They have each taken ‘ownership’ of a pebble, drawn it, written poetry about it and mapped its journey from the mantle of the earth to the pebble on a beach! Prior to this, Eco week gave the opportunity to talk about ways to try to protect the planet through renewable energy and being mindful of where food comes from.

Endeavour have started their new topic about WWII. They are reading the Marcia Williams book 'My Secret War Diaries', which the children are enjoying immensely. They have investigated why war broke out and have written an explanation text. They are currently finding out all about life as an evacuee and writing a letter home to inform parents of how they are settling in with their host families in North Lopham.

Hapton

In Owls this week we have drafted a leaflet for Banham Zoo using what we have learnt about writing a non-chronological report. The children have also produced some lovely WW2 art inspired by the phrases 'it was an assault on the eyes' and 'a gaggle of nurses in full white uniform digging amongst the rubble' from our class book *When The Sky Falls* By Philip Earle.

Meanwhile, in Robins class we really enjoy our history lessons. Over the last few weeks we have been learning all about the life of Mary Seacole. In maths, we have explored the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and in English we are waiting in anticipation to discover what will happen next in our class story, *The Last Wolf*.

Attendance Matters!

	Number of pupils with 100% attendance	Whole school attendance
Hapton	3	92.14
All Saints	8	95.61%
St Andrew's	2	94.25
Whole Federation		

Emotion Coaching

As part of our commitment to children's mental health, all staff were trained in Emotion Coaching last term. This training enables us to support young people at times when their behaviour and emotions are heightened, coaching them to a state of calm where they can discuss what has upset them.

Staff have found this course hugely valuable and we're planning to run it for parents next term. It is free of charge, voluntary and is definitely **not** a parenting course!

If you would like to know more, speak to your child's teacher at your Parent Consultation meeting.

Thrive Approach

Across the Federation we are very lucky to have three qualified Thrive practitioners supporting our children. Thrive is an approach which supports children's well-being and is rooted in the workings of the brain. It supports children in understanding their emotions and behaviours, which in turn has an impact on their progress, attainment and general well-being. Children participate in group and individual sessions which can include; painting, storytelling, games, drama and music. Sessions provide children with a range of support from emotional understanding to a safe space to share worries or simply take time to pause and reset. Those children participating are identified in school by staff and sessions can form part of a pupil's support plan.

Strike Action

You will be aware in the press that a series of dates have been announced for strike action in schools. At this point, we anticipate that we will be open as usual, with none of our schools affected.

In the event we need to close for any other reason, we will notify parents in the usual way, via the Norfolk Schools Closure website, the school website and text.

Phonics and Early Reading

Mrs Sexton will be running a Phonics and Early Reading meeting at each site on the following dates. Please do come along to find out more about how we can all support children to read.

Hapton 2nd February 2.30pm

St Andrew's 9th February 2.30pm

All Saints 2nd March 2.30pm

Staying Safe Online

There are many ways to set up parental controls, some internet providers can provide filtering through your user account managed online, other software is available too, a quick google search brings up many solutions.

The NSPCC has an excellent article here: [Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#) on what to consider in terms of filtering and more importantly recommends solutions based on the device being used and covers everything from Netflix to iphones, and what to consider when you're away from home and accessing sites through mobile internet, remember to review the settings and use strong passwords, and, as children grow, different things become appropriate.

Remember to talk this through with your child and set limits, something like Google Family Link or Microsoft Family can be used to set screen limit times and will often send an email report to the parents.