

# Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School

## Newsletter - 17th February 2022

### *Dear Parents & Carers,*

*As we reach the end of a busy and fun filled half-term, we can look back at all of the learning that has taken place and the challenges we have faced as a school community. The EYFS and KS1 children have been introduced to Little Wandle and are now confidently joining in with their daily phonics sessions, they are enthusiastically reading their books and their blending confidence is growing daily. Oak class have had a real focus on their times tables this half-term, and they have all been proudly reviewing their heat maps on TT Rockstars that show their improvements - keep up the good work, you need to have the whole map coloured green!*

*Although Covid brought us some challenges, a huge well done to all of the children and staff who continued either in school or with home learning. A particular thank you to those staff who felt very poorly, but still did all they could from home to provide learning opportunities for our children. We have introduced the GoRead app, and can already see the amazing variety of books that children are reading. It is lovely to see such value added to the reading. As we move into next half-term we will be encouraging the children to read from a variety of authors, and be sharing new book titles each week.*

*We have successfully launched our own Children's University club, and the buzz and conversation that occurs during the sessions is amazing. Remember - you can add your child's name to the waiting list if they want a space for after Easter.*

*This week has been an exciting week with our first ever **Whole School Writing** focus day, Tractors into Schools and a whole school day on the Queen today!*

### **Dragon Day - Whole School Writing Day**

Monday started with a fantastic discovery of three golden eggs in a giant nest in the Wildlife Garden. After viewing the school CCTV, they found that over the weekend we had *dragon visitors*. The children spent the rest of the day writing and creating around the topic of dragons. Some amazing non-fiction writing, diaries, dragons' eyes and dragon creations were made. Well done to all of the children, you really used your skills to show your best work.

### **Tractors into Schools**

A big *thank you* to Boxford Farms for the fun, and informative, afternoon - and for donating two boxes of apples to the children. Despite the rain, the children enjoyed having the tractors in the school, hearing about the agricultural history and work of the farm. It was a fantastic lesson for them. They also got to sit in both of the tractors and find out about the jobs available. Well done to the children for some really thoughtful and reflective questions, and really sensible behaviour climbing in and out of the tractors.

### **Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

The children had so much fun. In the morning, they focused on creating a collaborative piece of artwork of the Queen using Andy Warhol pop art style techniques, created their commemorative plates, and used their Design and Technology skills to build a corgi. In the afternoon, they split into two groups and create a hat for the queen and sketch famous landmarks in London after sharing the story "The Queen's Hat" By Steve Antony, and designing the Queen's knickers after reading "The

Queen's Knickers" By Nicholas Allan. The children really enjoyed working in family groups, and it was lovely to see the older children helping and guiding the younger children. Well done everyone.

### Explore Outdoor - Cooking in the Park

Explore Outdoor are hosting their half-term Cooking in the Park event. They will be making a hearty stew and campfire bread, as well as creating bird boxes to take home for spring. If any of our families are interested, please contact them using the email address below:

[exploreatdoor@acleisure.com](mailto:exploreatdoor@acleisure.com)

### Residential Trip - Kingswood

For parents of children in Year 5 & 6 who will be going to the Kingswood Residential Trip, a third payment is due by Monday 28th February. Thank you to all of those who have already paid towards the trip, if any parents or carers are having any trouble making the payments or have any queries, please contact the school office.

### SATS Booster Sessions

A reminder that Year 6 children will be starting their SATS Booster Sessions after half-term, running on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 8:00am - except for Tuesday 1st March, which will begin at 8:15am. They will primarily be run by Mrs McGrath-Wells. Tuesday sessions will initially focus on Maths and Wednesday sessions will focus on Grammar and Punctuation.

There will also be a meeting on March 1st, at 3:45pm (after school), in Oak classroom for parents and children to attend to prepare for the upcoming SATS. We encourage all Year 6 parents and children to attend this, as well as the Booster sessions in the morning, to give them the best possible means to prepare.

### French Day - March 22nd

Please be aware that the school will be having a day inspired by all things France on March 22nd. The children can wear anything in red, white and blue to celebrate the occasion. It will be a day designed to develop their spoken language as well as developing their knowledge of the country, exploring the culture and the customs. If you have anything French at home that you think may enhance this day, please do let us know. The day will culminate in Years 5 and 6 running a French café, and all of the other children attending and ordering from their menu. A real life opportunity to practice their French.

### Diary Dates

- **18th February** - Extra Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- **21st - 25th February**- Half term
- **1st March**- SATS booster session @ 8:15am
- **1st March**- 3:45pm, meeting for Year 6 pupils & parents/carers regarding SATS
- **8th March**- CUFITC World Book Day – Find Eddie the Eagle
- **28th February** - Third Kingswood Residential Trip payment due
- **22nd March** - French Day - Whole School
- **29th March**- CUFITC Maths Afternoon - Code Breaking Challenge

**Mrs Kelly McGrath-Wells**

*Head of School*

**Mr Andrew Frolish**

*Executive Headteacher*

Courage	Respect	Peace	Justice	Creativity	Thankfulness	Perseverance	Trust	Compassion	Friendship	Hope	Truthfulness	Curiosity	Generosity	Service	Humility
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