



NEWSLETTER

Term 1

28th September 2018



Dear Parents and carers,

The children have continued to wow us in school with so many of them showing behaviours which are "above and beyond." I explained in my previous newsletter how as a staff we are looking at the book "When the Adult Changes, Everything Changes" by Paul Dix. One of the things that the book talks about is praising behaviours that are above and beyond the expected. This puts a real emphasis on high expectations which the children are really rising to.

You may have heard from your children that we have tweaked how they come into the dinner hall at lunchtime. Instead of coming down in year groups as they did previously we are trialling them coming down in house colour groups. This means that children from Year 1 to Year 6 are sitting together to eat. The children still have a number of friends from their class in each group. The beauty of this arrangement is that the younger children have older buddies now to help and look after them at lunchtime and the older children have an additional level of responsibility in helping and modelling good manners. Whilst the children were understandably a little unsure about this change at the start of the week they are now beginning to see the benefits. Two children in Year 3 have asked me this morning if we are doing it forever. When I said I didn't know but asked them why, they said that they like getting to know children in their house groups and that they have made some new friends. Other children have said how they love being able to eat with their siblings. The dinner hall is a much calmer place which leads to a much more pleasant eating experience for the children.

Thursday 4th October is National Poetry Day. We will be marking this in school by sharing lots of poems with the children as well as doing some poetry based activities.

I have been made aware of some unfortunate comments that have been posted on Facebook by parents. Whilst I fully understand that parents may on occasion be unhappy about something in school we can only put things right if we know about them. Posting negative comments about other children, families or the school causes upset and doesn't get anything solved. Please could I therefore encourage all parents to speak to us if they have a concern and refrain from sharing on it social media. Thank you for your cooperation.

Finally you may remember that I have previously explained about our intention as a school to become part of "Learning without Limits" Multi Academy Trust (MAT). Whilst we are still committed to working closely with the other schools in this group we have decided that at this moment in time we are no longer pursuing becoming an academy in a MAT. Myself and our governors are yet to be convinced as to the value both to our children and financially of converting. We will therefore continue to be a local authority maintained school working with the other schools in North Somerset who have also taken this decision.

Have a lovely weekend!

Claire Pocock

Headteacher



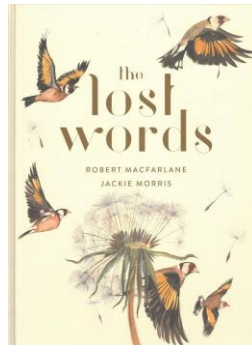
Please join us for Coffee and Cake in the Community Room on
Thursday morning at 9am – everyone welcome!



Governor Chat

With Trish
Sims-Bengtsson
(Mum to William Y4)

Please could I recommend a book to you?



The idea for this book came from a group of writers who were sad to see “nature” words removed from children’s dictionaries and replaced with words connected to technology. These lost words included bluebell, conker, heron, acorn and kingfisher.

The book became a beautiful celebration of our natural, wild world and I thought about it last week, as William had his first ever conker fight in Ashcombe Park, with Cubs.



As assistant Governor for English – I am always interested in the fantastic ways school has of encouraging children away from their screens and into their books. How lovely then, that Mrs Philpott is hoping to set up a book/magazine swap. Margaret (lead governor for English) and I, have volunteered to help. So please let us know if it’s something you’d like to see happen and if you’ve any good ideas for helping us make it work!

Diary Dates

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4th October | – <i>Coffee and Catch Up 9am</i> |
| 25th October | – <i>Last day of Term 1</i> |
| 26th October | – <i>INSET day</i> |
| 5th November | – <i>First day of Term 2</i> |