St Faiths' Primary School – Newsletter 4 – 28/10/2019

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Christian Value of this Half-Term:

COMPASSION

Mark 6:34 – When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

Welcome Back

I can't believe half term has been and gone! I hope you all had a lovely break and spent some quality time with your children. I know we're coming back well-rested and looking forward to all the great things we have planned for this half term in the lead up to Christmas! As the clocks have changed and the dark nights are drawing in earlier, I'd like to remind all parents with children in afterschool clubs to ensure they take extra care when travelling home, if later than the normal school day.

After-School Clubs

You will have had a reply to your club letters before half term, with all clubs beginning this week. If you are unsure whether your child has a place on their selected clubs, please get in touch with Sarah on the above email address and she'll be able to let you know. As mentioned above, if you plan to let your child walk home alone, please let their class teacher know via Seesaw.

Assertive Mentoring

Next week we have the Autumn Term's Assertive Mentoring evenings. Sign-up sheets will be available on the door outside by Reception and we encourage you to sign up. Please contact Sarah in the office if you aren't able to make an appointment in person. If the timings aren't suitable, please contact your class teacher via Tapestry/Seesaw to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Change of Clothing and Footwear

As the weather is becoming more autumnal, the school field is retaining water more and the result is that children are coming in from lunch incredibly muddy. With this in mind, we will only be allowing children to use the school field at break and lunch if they have a change of footwear (separate from their PE kit). My recommendation would be wellies or old trainers. On the same note, as the weather is getting cooler, please ensure your children have joggers and jumpers in their PE kits – fully named – so they stay warm during Games.

Sponsored Readathon

Thank you to everyone who is already well on the way to filling up their sponsor forms for our school Readathon. We'll be asking for sponsorship money to be handed in by Thursday 7th November so that we can celebrate our fundraising in that Friday's Celebration Assembly (8th November). We'll be giving **prizes** to the children in each class that have raised the most money and a special something will be awarded to the child who raises the most money overall. I'll keep you updated as to how much we raise in the next newsletter. Thank you so much for your support with this; our efforts will really benefit all children in school.

Shakespeare Schools Festival

Next week, the Kingfishers will be treading the boards at the Norwich Playhouse to perform their version of A Midsummer Night's Dream. They've worked incredibly hard to learn their lines – many of which are written in Old English – and I know they'll put on a stellar performance. I'm sure you'll join me in hoping they 'break a leg'! I'll share some pictures in the next newsletter.

Flu Immunisation

Thank you to everyone who registered for the free child's flu vaccinations before half term. If you didn't, you will receive a letter explaining how you can access this service in due course.

Hedgehog Assembly

Tomorrow we are being treated to a special assembly with Mrs Angie Marshall. Mrs Marshall is a Nebula teacher who kindly covered Barn Owls at the start of the year. Aside from teaching, she has a passion for hedgehogs and is coming in to tell us about how we can look after hedgehogs at this time of year. If you'd like to donate food to local hedgehog charities, we'd be really grateful for meaty dog or cat food (not fish) or hedgehog food. We'll ensure the donations are passed on at the end of the week. Thank you in advance.

Attendance

As you will notice, class attendances over the first half term are quite low across the school. While it is understandable that children catch a variety of bugs at this time of year, the attendance percentages aren't solely because of illness. Please could I remind everyone that holidays should be taken out of term time. An attendance of 90% is equivalent to 1 afternoon off each week we have so far been at school.

Children's University

I know some of you are working very hard to gain stamps in your CU passports in order to graduate later in the year. All children have had a passport bought by the Friends of St Faiths' but if you require a new one, please contact Sarah in the office. Accompanying this newsletter is an information sheet about the new CU website, along with this reminder: all extra-curricular school clubs count towards credits so bring your passports along to earn your stamps!

Morning/Afternoon Routine

Thank you all for your support in the first half term with our new gate routines. After some initial queries, the system has been adopted well and we will continue to use it as our start and end-of-day structure. Please remember there is always an adult on the gate should you need to speak to someone, the yellow deposit box is there for paperwork and teachers can be contacted directly via Seesaw andTapestry.

Attendance

School Target: 97% So far this half term: 94.8%



Many congratulations to **Barn Owls** for having the best attendance for the third consecutive fortnight!

Superstars

A very big congratulations to the following children from each class for receiving their weekly 'superstar' award:

Freya ~ reading a whole book independently! Chester ~ showing a good understanding by being a character in role
Nathaniel ~ a great understanding of animal classification Phillipa ~ an excellent story, despite missing some lessons
Maggie M ~ a fantastic story opener using similes and adjectives Bryany ~ taking time to help another child with their reading
 Adam ~ an excellent understanding of short division Charlie ~ learning all his Shakespeare lines and being a true thespian!

Key Dates for Your Diary

October

29th – Hedgehog Assembly with Mrs Marshall (please donate meaty cat/dog food!)

31st – ESKA Karate taster sessions for each class

November

- 4th Assertive Mentoring 3:30pm 6:00pm
- 5th Special Bonfire Lunch letter sent home
- 6th A Midsummer Night's Dream Performance at Norwich Playhouse Kingfishers 7th – Tempest individual school photos
- 7^m Tempest Individual school photos
- Assertive Mentoring 3:30pm 5:30pm 29th – Premier Dance Show – details to follow

December

- 4th Tag Rugby Festival selected children from Y3/4 and Y5/6
- 9th Christmas Jumper Day Donations to The Children's Society Christmas Lunch
 - Christingle Service at the church 2:30pm *Collect from Church at 3:10pm*
- 10th Height, weight and vision checks Reception and Y6
- 10th Enterprise Club Christmas Market
- 11th Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal @ St Faiths' Centre *Collect from Centre at 3:10pm*
- 12th Christmas Play Afternoon performance 2:30pm *Collect from Centre at 3:10pm*
- Evening performance 6:30pm *Please drop-off children around 6:15pm*
- 17^{th} Rocksteady Music Concert 9:00am
- 18th Non-uniform Day Last Day of Autumn Term





Information about Norfolk Children's University

The Children's University believes that young people can learn anywhere, when doing all sorts of activities, and that children learn best when they decide what they want to learn.

Your school has joined the Norfolk Children's University, so your child now has the opportunity to take part in this exciting scheme. Through the school, they will be able to purchase a Passport to Learning- here they will record all the



learning activities that they complete outside of school and have access to the online system.

There are many Learning Destinations such as museums, libraries, sports clubs and wildlife centres that are already validated to count towards CU hours and many of these are FREE. All Norfolk Museums can be accessed completely free of charge with a Children's University Passport. Please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/childrensuniversity for a current list of Norfolk Learning Destinations. Learning destinations will have a unique stamp code which will enable your child to log that activity on their Children's University Online account (a new digital platform). A login for your child will be set up via your school.



Children's University Online

You will collect stamp codes in your Passport to Learning that you can then add online. These stamp codes are easy to remember and write down – just a colour and four numbers, eg Red 2468. These codes are unique to each activity you do!

By then logging into Children's University Online and adding

your code, you will unlock further information showing you the interests and skills you're developing by taking part.

All children have their very own dashboard which will help them see how they're progressing towards the next award level; reflect on the skills they're building and help them find new activities.

If your child attends a destination that has not been validated by Children's University, contact <u>norfolkchildrensuniversity@educatorsolutions.org.uk</u> who will contact the learning destination with regards to joining the scheme.

Children can earn a maximum of 10 credits per activity per term, Children's University would like all their CU members to experience a wide variety of activities and by limiting credits to 10 hours per term they are encouraging members to experience new and exciting opportunities.