

# St Faiths' Primary School – Newsletter 3 – 12/10/2020

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## Christian Value of this Half-Term:

### *Generosity*

*Psalm 37:26 ~ They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing.*

## Black History Month



October is Black History Month. Black History Month originated as a celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of black people in U.S. history. For over 30 years, the annual event has grown into a worldwide event. In recent years, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just African and Caribbean people but black people the world over.

At St Faiths' we are celebrating famous Black figures from history, as well as exploring why all people should be treated equally. This is happening across our curriculum, for example children in Key Stage 2 have been learning about Katherine Johnson, a black American mathematician who played a crucial role in the safe return of Neil Armstrong and his team after the first moon landing.

We will also use our Thoughtful Thursday time to discuss equality and we have a fantastic range of books that will be making up guided reading this month. If you'd like to hold your own discussions with your children, information can be found here:  
<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month>

Here are some book recommendations for books which you might like to share with your children (as posted on @littleboxofbooks on Instagram).

Other good follows include @diverse\_kids\_books and @booksfortopics.



## Parent Pay

A number of parents are still yet to sign up for Parent Pay. We have sent individual login information to all families and it is important that you sign up to this service as it will soon be how you not only order and pay for lunches, but any additional payments – for example for after school clubs or school trips – will use Parent Pay.

## Microsoft Teams

All children have now received their login information for Microsoft Teams and Chestnut, Oak and Willow classes have all started to set homework using this online service. I appreciate it's different to what we are all used to but in the long run, it will prove beneficial for the support and delivery of blended and remote learning during these difficult times. Thank you once again for your patience and support with setting up this new system. You've already received this link as to how to access homework on Teams, but should you need it again, the video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/kzZ8Xzw8Dew>

## Harvest Festival

Unfortunately, we can't celebrate Harvest as we usually would this year. We are unable to visit the church and covid restrictions mean we can't sing or gather together to celebrate. With thanks to Miss Bean, we have been practising something special for this year's harvest that we will upload to our website and share with you over the coming week. In preparation, all children in school have been learning Makaton – a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. When our 'Harvest Festival' is ready, you'll get a notification to view it. Watch this space!





## Harvest Festival – Foodbank Donation

As we usually do at St Faiths', we are welcoming donations of long-life food and home essentials that we can pass on to the Norwich Food Bank over half term. If you have anything you would like to donate, please send these in with your children over the next week. We'll quarantine all items before passing them on to those in need. As always, this is greatly appreciated by Norwich Food Bank and the school community.



## Attendance





**School Target: 97%**  
**So far this half term: 96.5%**

				
Autumn Half-Term 1	98.3%	98.4%	97.4%	91%

Many congratulations to **Chestnut Class** for having the best attendance this fortnight!

## Superstars

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

	<b>Stanley</b> ~ Doing great work in phonics. <b>Jake</b> ~ For being a 'phonics expert' and helping others.
	<b>Cieran</b> ~ Fantastic Maths work. <b>Billy G</b> ~ Great work in Sound Discovery.
	<b>Betsy A</b> ~ An excellent piece of WW2-based writing. <b>Matthew F</b> ~ Great understanding of column addition with 5-digits!
	<b>Ellie</b> ~ A thoughtful CV based on a member of Shackleton's crew. <b>Adam</b> ~ Super analysing and participation in gymnastics.

## Key Dates for Your Diary

Blue = new

### Month

### Event

#### **October 2020**

Thu 15<sup>th</sup> Flu Immunisation – Whole School  
 Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Last Day of Autumn 1

#### **November 2020**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> First Day of Autumn 2  
 Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Assertive Mentoring – via Teams – Timings TBC  
 Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Assertive Mentoring – via Teams – Timings TBC  
 Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Virtual Teddy Bear Hospital – Elm (R/1)  
 Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Tempest Photography in school – more information to follow

#### **December 2020**

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Autumn 2