



NEWSLETTER

30TH SEPTEMBER 2016

School Events

Last week saw many children visiting Dove Cottage in Grasmere. Year 6 visited on Monday last week to learn about the life of the poet and write their own poems. Both Year 4 classes visited on Wednesday & Thursday last week and have completed some follow up work in school with staff from the Wordsworth Trust this week as part of the Arts Award.

Simone from the NSPCC has also visited us to talk about their Speak Out, Stay Safe project and to launch a Maths fundraising day. The children will have already brought home sponsor forms this week. Each class will be completing a maths activity in school on Wednesday 5th October. Please help them to raise some money for completing this task. Please send any money raised into school on the day in the envelopes provided with the form.

This week Year 6 have visited Lakes College for this year's REACT Science event.

Our character strengths for this term are: Teamwork, Gratitude & Love of Learning.

School Development

We are working hard on the priorities in our new School Development Plan:

Numicon materials are now being used throughout school to support learning in Maths and we have attended training in Manchester on best practice when using Numicon. A specialist leader in Maths has visited our school to look at the good work that is going on.

All teachers have met with their subject colleagues from across other local schools for this term's Subject Leader Networks.

Mr Bishop & Mrs Sibbald have been developing the new School website.

Mrs Brown is working on improvements to our computer hardware. £10,000 has now been allocated from School Fund to purchase new computers. This is in part thanks to the excellent work carried out by Friends of Ashfield and their fundraising for the school. This money will now directly impact on the opportunities for our children.

Governors have attended data training and are also developing their new Action Plan.

A Health & Safety update and Budget Review have taken place for this term. Outcomes were good.

Mrs Frost has attended this terms Workington Heads meeting.

Mrs Frost & Mrs Thwaites have attended an annual Safeguarding Conference in Penrith to ensure that best practice continues in school.

Website & Communication

The new school website is going live next week. Please let us know what you think of it. Our aim has been to make it easier to use and reflect the values of our school. Our plan is that all newsletters will go directly on to the website rather than sending a paper copy home. This will save on resources which can then be

spent elsewhere in school. Letters and notices will be shared through the website and via email and text unless you request otherwise. Mrs Sibbald is currently looking at a system where we can also email letters to you. Please can you ensure that we have an up to date, working email address to help us with this.

Toys & Games

With the winter bad weather approaching we are already thinking of providing activities for the children during indoor lunchtimes. If you have any good quality board games, figures, lego or other construction toys that you would be happy to donate to school we would be most grateful.

Attendance

Our attendance so far this term is: 97.57%

Class winners so far this term are: 6B, 6G & 5H. Our winning class will receive £50 at the end of the year to spend how they wish. Past winners have had a class party and invited the ice cream van in to school!

Individual 100% attendance lottery winners are chosen weekly. They receive a £5 prize.

Regular attendance at school is vital and we have made some changes that allow you to inform Mrs Thwaites if your child is absent from school. Please select the attendance line when you ring school to report an absence. Our school target is 97% and anything at 90% or below will be referred to the LA Inclusion Team. Holidays during term time are not authorised. Please try to ensure that any appointments are made outside school time or if this is not possible that your child is in school for the register at 8:50am and 1:30pm. All this will help to ensure that your child does not miss any of their learning and our school attendance figures are healthy.

Homework

Homework projects for this term have now been sent home and the children will have until 5th December to complete their tasks. Thank you to everyone for supporting the children with this important element of their learning- we are seeing a huge impact in the classroom.

Earrings

A reminder that earrings cannot be worn for PE or other sporting events, even if covered with plasters. They must be removed. If your child has earrings in that cannot be removed they will not be able to participate in these sessions. Please only get ears pierced in the first week of the Summer holiday.

Pupils of the Week Awards

Last week these pupils received Pupil of the Week awards from their teachers. Congratulations everyone!

Y3: Harry Pomfret, Katherine Caine, Oscar Pickering, Portia Robinson, Brooke Friel, Tiegan Hargrave

Y4: Jayden Rogers, Jack Dunn, Owen Burdon, Imogen Frazer, Sophie Jolly

Y5: Andrew Williams, Joshua Kane, Callum Black, Bradley Frazer

Y6: Amber Sinclair, Paige Robinson, Bethany Mackenzie, Dylan Bragg

The calendar for this term is packed full already. Please check out the calendar which is on the school website. Harvest donations for the Foodbank would be gratefully appreciated during the week of 10th October. Father Robert will now be visiting us on the 14th for our Harvest Service.