

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 9 January 2020

- EYFS Vision Screening- Monday 13 January
- Y3 Swimming Lessons - Monday 13 January
- Headteacher's Coffee Morning - Friday 17 January
- Y5 History Works, Michael Rosen Workshop - Tuesday 21 January
- 5M Buddhist Centre - Wednesday 22 January
- 5R Buddhist Centre - Thursday 23 January



For dates further ahead, please see the [school calendar](#) on our website



Headteacher's Reflections - Happy New Year, practicing Gratitude

Happy New Year Everyone, it has been lovely to see you all again and I hope you had a relaxing and joyful Christmas and New Year. I've loved seeing all your friendly, smiling faces and have appreciated the chats at the gate! What a happy, kind and talented community we have!

This is the first of a weekly newsletter that we will be sending out every Thursday. Be sure to look out for it as it will have all the key dates and information you need!

January is traditionally a time when we set New Year Resolutions. Perhaps a decision to renew our gym membership, or to eat healthier, to reduce chocolate consumption or to even do Veganuary.

These are all noble and worthy ambitions that have the potential to improve health and well-being. Equally however, as these can, for some of us be quite demanding challenges, we can end up feeling demoralised or guilty if our good intentions do not extend beyond a few weeks.

Whilst I would never want to deter anyone from undertaking these positive life style adaptations, it's also important to approach these with moderation and with a sense of kindness towards ourselves.

And maybe instead of trying to change things about ourselves we have an opportunity to be grateful for who we are, and to value our own uniqueness.

In assembly on Monday we started the year and the new term with the story of Socrates and The Travellers. We thought about all that we have that we are Grateful for. The children had some wonderful ideas and they have discussed all the things they are Grateful for in class.

Research suggests that practicing gratitude promotes health, strengthens problem solving and improves sleep. Gratitude improves relationships, and develops optimism which contribute favourably towards longevity!

There are many ways to practice Gratitude which you can find out about [HERE](#)

Perhaps this week as a conversation starter over dinner you and your family might like to consider all the things you are Grateful for, and I suspect if we take some time to reflect we will discover there are many, many things to notice and to appreciate.

Communication – A Key Value

We will send out weekly newsletter and regular emails to parents and carers to ensure important information is received. There are also many other ways for parents to see the information and to find out what exciting projects and topics the children are learning about. The [school website](#) has an area dedicated to each year group with a teacher blog and links to other areas of the website.

Outside the school office, we have our noticeboard. There you can find hard copies of term dates, lunch menus, music tutors' contact details and community posters letting you know what's going on in the area; and of course, we also have our newsletter.

In addition Mrs Snape or one of the other members of Leadership Team will be at the gate to meet families coming in to school every morning.

We recognise that you have many brilliant suggestions and we are keen to hear them. If you do have a good idea, please ask for a suggestion/feedback from the school office or write it down on a piece of paper and pop it in the Letter Box in school entrance. Thank you

EYFS Vision Screening

The school based vision screening service, delivered by Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS) will be in school on Monday 13 January for the pupils in Foundation Stage only. If you are happy for your child to be screened, you do not need to do anything. **If you do not want your child to take part, please ask the office for an opt out letter.**



Y3 Swimming Lessons

These begin on Monday 13 January. Children will need to bring a one piece swimming costume, towel and swimming hat in a named bag. There won't be a lesson on the 20 January but will happen weekly thereafter finishing on 30 March. Both classes will travel together by coach leaving just after 9am so please arrive promptly.

Y3 Stone Age Day

On Wednesday 18 March, year 3 will be holding a 'Stone Age Day'. Children are encouraged to come dressed in Stone Age theme clothes. This day should offer children the opportunity to explore our Spring Term topic in an exciting and memorable manner.

Y5 History Works

Both classes will attend a creative writing workshop on the theme of "Stand Together" with the poet Michael Rosen on Tuesday 21 January at the Guildhall in Market Square. Children will need a packed lunch.



Y5 Buddhist Centre

We have arranged for 5M to visit the Buddhist Centre on Wednesday 22 January for a teaching session on Buddhism. 5R will visit on Thursday 23 January, both classes will walk to the Centre and arrive back in time for lunch.

Indoor Shoes (soft start) – starting from next week onwards

Our Lunchtime Team would like to open up the field at lunchtimes so that the children have more space to run around and use, even when wet. To help keep the school clean indoors, we would like to ask that children bring a pair of indoor shoes. These can be crocs, slippers or similar (but not flip flops), as long as they are comfortable and easy to get on and off. Please send the shoes/slippers in to school named and in a bag to be hung on your child's peg. Our aim is that all children will have indoor shoes in school by the end of Spring Term.

And Finally . . .

I hope you all have a great start to the year and that this new decade brings happiness and health to you and your family.



Kind regards

Rae Snape

Headteacher/National Leader of Education