

Newsletter 28

Friday 3rd May 2019

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Year 2 learn about the work of Florence Nightingale

Children were not expecting a visit to a 'Horrible Hospital' during their Florence Nightingale WOW Day but it was an important starting point, as the children were suitably disgusted with bloodied bandages being reused over and over again and then waste being thrown on the floor! Of course all of this was to support the children's learning about the historic and influential figure of Florence Nightingale. Our Florence Nightingale-lets, doctors and service men soon put the correct hygiene practices into place by stepping into fun role plays and "making the hospital 'spick and span' as Florence would have done," said Abi from Indigo Class. Lewis went on to say that his favourite part was "healing Miss Matthews with lots of plasters and bandages." The children also put their measuring skills into practice by weighing and measuring different combinations of ingredients to make 'Florence's Marvellous Medicine'. "It tasted much better than I expected," said Emir from Violet Class. As Florence was known as 'The Lady with the Lamp' the children also made their own paper lanterns. We rounded off the day by performing a poem about Florence Nightingale. Thank you to parents who were able to come and join the children on this occasion.



Jade Windley visit

Former tennis player, Jade Windley, visited Monkfield Park this week to provide the children with an inspirational and motivational talk about the highs and lows of her sporting career. We learnt about how she rose to her peak position at world number 159 in the doubles rankings and all of the effort that she had to put in to both playing the sport and juggling her school career at the same time. Jade talked about the qualities that sportspeople need to have in order to be successful in their field such as commitment, resilience, teamwork and determination. We heard how she had to try out a number of different sports before settling on her favourite and how she'd also battled to overcome a painful medical condition to remain in the game and to continue to pursue her passion for playing tennis. After her talk with the children, they joined her as she coached them in their tennis skills.



Mobile phones and PE kits

We have seen a sudden surge of children bringing mobile phones into school, which we are not insured for and which have been interrupting learning whilst in children's bags. Please note that our prospectus states the following: 'Children are not allowed to bring mobile phones into school. None of our children have to make unaccompanied trips by public or school transport and the overwhelming majority live within Cambourne. None of the children are permitted to leave the school premises during the day without supervision. This being the case, we believe that our current systems for pick up and drop off work well, including arrangements for older children to be unaccompanied. Young children with mobiles can be a target for both theft, bullying and inappropriate contact by both older children and adults. We do realise that there are occasions when urgent messages to and from parents are needed. The school office will always be pleased to help and ensure that this is possible if required. We ask for your co-operation in this matter'.

We have also noticed that many children have returned from the Easter break, minus their PE kit. Please ensure that a named PE kit is provided in school every day.

Developing Resilient Children—Help children to find their purpose

In her research, Angela Duckworth found that successful and resilient people had one thing in common; They had all made a connection between what they were doing as an individual and something bigger than themselves. Whether that something bigger was their friends, family or even society, this connection enabled them to persevere when the going got tough. Why not spend an hour or two helping your child/ren to make the connections that will help them to become more resilient?

In the last of this feature and in summary, if you want to raise resilient children, it requires work to be put in—there is no other way around it. The easiest way is to dedicate a specific day each week where resilience is the focus. So whether to you a risky activity, watch a film, complete a journal or just talk about experiences of resilience, the key is to make resilience part of the family culture.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about an adult who helps them at Monkfield Park.

Ask your Year 1 child what their five senses are.

Ask your Year 2 child to talk about the life cycle of a chick and different animals.

Ask your Year 3 child how to add fractions that have the same denominator.

Ask your Year 4 child why rationing was used in World War II.

Ask your Year 5 child what a life cycle is.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain the circulatory system.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Leila in Yellow Class—Leila always has interesting questions to ask and this was brought to the fore when she interviewed me about my job in the school. Well done Leila and I look forward to seeing if you become a Headteacher.

Holly in Pegasus Class— Holly has shown a positive outlook this year. Her diligence has meant that she's making incredible progress.

A week of sporting achievements

From the Year 2 Tennis Festival, a cricket tournament and a Year 5 High 5 Netball competition, this week has seen a wide array of sporting participation from the children at Monkfield Park. Our Year 2 cricket team worked well together, improving on their scores in each game as their afternoon of cricketing progressed, achieving 3rd place overall. Our netball team also improved upon their last performance, this time achieving joint second place in their competition at Comberton Village College. Year 2 picked up tennis related skills such as remaining light on their feet and learning how to balance a ball, and what

was for some but not others, their first taste of playing tennis. Thank you to all of those who were able to accompany the children on these events.



Vocabulary Word of the Week

We were visited by a sports person in assembly this week, who helped us to understand what our word of the week could mean. We talked a lot about how we respect people that we look up to and have done things that cause us to think about them favourably. We've thought about those we may have admiration for and looked into the reasons why. We hope that you will be able to support this work at home.

Admiration

Forthcoming Dates

6th May—BANK HOLIDAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN AND STAFF)

7th May—Year 3 visit the Fitzwilliam Museum

10th May at 9am—Cygnus Class assembly

13th, 14th, 15th & 16th May—Key Stage 2 SATs

15th May at 9.30am—Reception Come and Share

w/c 20th May—Year 6 PGL residential

22nd May at 10am—Reception performance

22nd May at 4.30pm—Parenting workshop (screen time battles)

23rd May at 2pm—Reception performance

27th to 31st May—HALF TERM (children return on Tuesday 4th June)

3rd June—INSET DAY (school closed to children)

5th June—Sex and Relationships Education information evening for parents in Years 5 & 6

7th June—Year 4 to visit Stibbington

w/c 10th June—Enterprise tuck shop

w/c 10th June—Year 1 phonic screening checks

w/c 17th June—Science week (STEM focus)

18th June—Year 5 Careers convention

19th June at 9.30am—Key Stage 2 Sports Day

20th June at 9.30am—Reserve Key Stage 2 Sports Day

21st June at 9am—Aquila Class assembly

25th June at 9.30am—Reception & KS1 Sports Day

27th June at 9.30am—Reserve Reception & KS1 Sports Day

3rd July at 9.15am—Reception to Year 1 transition meeting for Reception parents

4th July—Non uniform day in aid of Friends

4th and 5th July—Year 6 transition days

9th July—at 2pm—Year 6 performance

10th July at 6pm—Year 6 performance

11th July—Year 4 team building day

12th July—Reports sent home

15th July 3.45-5.00pm—Reports drop in

22nd July at 10am—Year 6 Leaver's assembly

23rd July—LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM FOR CHILDREN

24th July—INSET DAY (school closed to children)

Early Intervention Family worker drop-ins The Blue School Eastgate, Cambourne, CB23 6DZ

Aimed at offering parents and carers of children aged 4-16 years a supportive and informal environment, in which to talk about any parenting/behaviour topics.

Drop in Mon 6th May 10:00am – 12pm

Drop in May 13th May 10:00am-12pm

Drop in Mon 20th May 10:00am-12pm

Facilitated by Samantha Stacey and Clare Merrington

Early Intervention Family Workers

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/child-and-family-centres

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Staff News

This week we said 'farewell' to Mrs Hearn, who has now embarked upon her maternity leave. We look forward to hearing about her new arrival and wish her well for parenthood.