

Northam Schools' Federation Newsletter.



FRIDAY 26TH MARCH 2021

“TO LEARN EVERY DAY, TO HELP EACH OTHER AND TO BE HAPPY”.

Headteachers' Update

Within my termly report which I recently prepared for the Governing Body I referred to the fact that since the outbreak of the Covid19 pandemic, a number of terms and phrases have become increasingly familiar e.g. efficacy, self-isolation, bubbles and quarantine. Within the field of education we have been frequently hearing and reading of phrases such as 'catch-up' and 'lost generations' within many different conversations and forms of media.

I suggested within my report that I believe that it is extremely important that a 'different story' is told. Children are resilient and often adapt to change far better than adults. By celebrating their ability to cope with the multiple challenges which they have faced, and by identifying what the children have learnt about themselves as well as the new knowledge and skills acquired over the past 12 months, they should feel justifiably proud of all they have accomplished and can move forward with an enhanced inner-confidence. We, as adults, can all play our part in 'painting' this positive picture.

The manner in which the children have returned to school over the past three weeks evidences the fact that they are indeed eager to build upon all that they have achieved and are committed to grasping every new learning opportunity which we provide.

Within next week's consultations, we look forward to discussing with you the progress which your child has made over the past few months as well as sharing the key aspects of their learning which require an additional focus

Best wishes, Jim Williams

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher telephone interviews will take place next week :

Monday 29th March:

Year 5, Skylarks & Seahorses

Tuesday 30th March

Year 3, Reception

Wednesday 31st March

Year 4 & Sandpipers

Thursday 1st April

Year 6, Sandpipers & Starfish.

If you haven't already booked an appointment on our online booking system or are having problems please contact the school offices and they will book an appointment for you.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY & FOOD PROGRAMME

CAN Play will be offering the government funded Holiday Activity & Food programme during the Easter holidays at St. George's school. This programme provides healthy food and enriching activities to children from 5 upwards who receive benefits related free school meals. Other eligible children include those who are classed as vulnerable, those with SEND, and

those that are young carers. The club at St. George's will run from Tuesday 6th—Friday 9th April and Monday 12th—Thursday 15th April. If you are interested in your child attending for more information and to check if your child is eligible please contact CAN Play on 01237 471972/07778683769 or admin@canplay.org. Please note that due to Covid restrictions and space available the number of children will be limited to 15 per day. Further information of this national programme can be found by entering Holiday activities and food programme—Gov.UK into your .

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

We are waiting for government guidance, which is expected next week, regarding school trips and if residential trips such as those to PGL (year 4 & year 5) and London (year 6) can go ahead. A letter has already been sent home via the children to parents of children booked to go on the London Trip on May 26th. (If you have not received this letter please let the office know). Dates for the PGL trip are in the process of being revised for a second time. We will keep you updated as soon as we have any further information.

FOOD & FUEL VOUCHERS

Citizens Advice is currently working with Devon County Council to distribute food and fuel vouchers to those who have been put at risk of food/fuel poverty as a result of covid-19. Those who may be eligible are families of pupils with pupil premiums, those with prepayment meters or those who may otherwise be struggling financially this winter. Please visit <https://citizensadviceeastdevon.org> for more information

BAGS 2 SCHOOLS

St. George's are once again running their Bags2School scheme. If you are clearing out over the Easter holiday you can bring black bags containing items such as clothing, paired shoes, handbags, hats, bags, scarves, household linen, curtains, bedding, soft toys to St. George's on Monday 19th April to Wednesday 21st April. Items such as duvets, pillows, carpets, rugs, school uniform or soiled items cannot be accepted.

Weekly Collective Worship Theme

The Easter Story

"Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless."

KEY DATES

Easter Holiday: Friday 2nd April—Sunday 18th April. Children return to school on Monday 19th April.

May Half Term: Monday 31st May—Sunday 6th June

Non Pupil Day: Monday 7th June

Summer Holiday: Monday 26th July

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