

A message from the Headteachers:

Happy Easter everyone. We hope you all have a relaxing Easter holiday and return to school on Monday 12th April, ready to learn and refreshed for the term ahead. We would like to thank you all for your support and feedback since the leadership team joined the school in September, and we look forward to continuing to work with you next term.

We are delighted to be able to inform you that, from September, Mrs Calverley will become the Acting Head teacher at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School. Mrs Calverley has been a crucial member of the team at the Trumpington Federation and, as you will know, since September 2020, has been a vital member of the current leadership team at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School. Mrs Dalton will continue to work, in a supportive role, to ensure continuity and support for the new leadership team and Ms Roberts will continue to work at the school one day a week.

Mrs Calverley is an outstanding leader. She has been instrumental in the progress made at the Trumpington Federation and the rapid progress made at Fenstanton and Hilton since September. Governors and the Local Authority are confident that Fenstanton and Hilton Primary school will continue to make rapid progress under her leadership.

As you know, Miss Hime is sadly leaving us, as are Mrs Turner and Mrs Collison, all of whom have been valued members of our team, but we wish them all the very best in their future endeavours. Mr Jones will be taking over from Miss Hime, teaching Chestnut class. He, Miss Hime and the Y3/4 team have already worked together on handover so that this transition can

run smoothly and he is looking forward to getting to know the children.

We are also pleased to share with you that Mrs Gentle, who has been teaching in school since the Autumn term, will also become a permanent member of the team and we have every confidence that they will both add further strength to the teaching and learning across the school.

Emotional Health and Well Being:

Reflecting on the year that has just passed and the anniversary of the first lockdown, I think we can all agree that it has been a year unlike any other. Families, children and the community have all experienced difficulties and challenges. Even for many adults, maintaining social and emotional well-being and coping with the social isolation of the lockdowns has been hard. Some children have coped with the lockdown and the return to school better than others and we are here to provide support or signpost to other sources of support should you need them. It can be easy to sometimes label a child or see them as a 'problem' when they may have experienced trauma and distress and simply need support to talk about their experiences and may be finding the return to school difficult. Children will communicate their worries in different ways. As a community we believe that each one of us have a responsibility to care about each other's children and to be sensitive to the fact that for some children, this year has had a significant impact on their health and wellbeing and that all children need our support.

If you have any concerns about any child, do please get in touch with us in the usual way so that we can make sure that we can ensure the right support is provided where it is needed.

Building works:

Over Easter, we are having a lot of work done to the school premises. The new EYFS/Reception classroom will be completed and all of the lighting in the school will have been replaced with LED lights to save energy and improve the ambience of the school. Staff are volunteering to come in on the Sunday before school opens, to move furniture and classes.

We are hoping that it will not be long before parents can come into school, so that you can see the improvements for yourselves and we are really looking forward to being able to welcome a team of volunteers into school to help in a variety of ways: helping in and around the classrooms, with the learning environment as well as learning itself! We also have exciting plans for outdoor learning which will certainly need a few helping hands to achieve.

Pupil Voice:

All the staff have been working hard to make sure the children are settling back into school routines and learning as quickly and as smoothly as possible and we are pleased to share the views of School Council who have shared the following positives:

- We like the decoration in the classrooms - the colours are more cheerful
- We love the new Library/Learning Zone* and Book Corners in every classroom, some even have role play too!
- The Learning Packs are really great - they help us feel more organised and prepared for learning as everything is easy to access.
- The new exercise books have been very well received - it has been good to have a fresh start

[NB: SLT have also noted a marked improvement in presentation and quality of work across the school]

- KS2 pupils have particularly enjoyed learning to use their new water colour tins and are especially pleased with their new sketch books that help them feel like professional artists.

The pupils also shared that some classes do role play and recognise the impact this has on pupil confidence and developing ideas for writing so we will be building this into our improvement plans as we continue to develop writing across the school.

Curriculum news:

Next term our whole school topic is **'Our Global Garden'** which has a Geography focus, and pupils will be learning about where our food comes from, both locally and around the world.

In KS1 children's learning project title is **'Trains, Planes and Automobiles'** where they will be learning about the history of transport innovation, as well as learning how different foods are transported to us and also growing some flowers and vegetables themselves. Linked to this, their first English unit is Fairytales and they will be focusing on Jack and the Beanstalk!

In Year 3 & 4, the children's learning project title is **'Food Discovery'** where they will be learning at a more detailed level about 'food miles' and fair trade, as well as learning about how people make choices about the foods they eat, for health, ethical or religious reasons.

On the first day back they will be food tasting a variety of fruits and vegetables. We are a nut free school and aware of all allergies

that we have been informed of, however if you have any concerns about this, please do get in touch with us via the school office.

In Year 5 & 6, the children's learning topic centres around WWII, studying the countries involved, focusing on the local history with life on the Homefront, as well as how food transport was affected, rationing and wartime cooking.

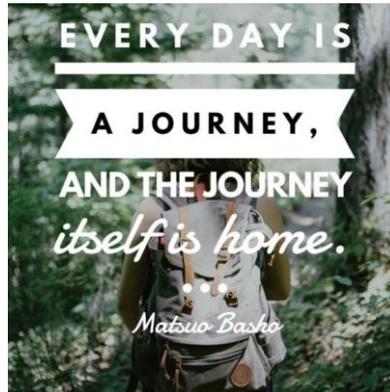


Over the Easter holidays, we would like to invite you to take part in our

Geography Homework Challenge!

Every child in the school can participate and a winning entry from each year group will be chosen to go on display.

Everyone who participates will receive a certificate in assembly.



The theme for this challenge is 'Journeys'. We would like the children to make a representation of a journey that they have been on. It might be their favourite journey, the most adventurous journey they have been on, an imaginary journey or the one they make most often.

The homework can be in any format: an illustrated map, a written description, a poster or collage, or even a Slideshow. Children can draw, paint, photograph or even video the features of their journey. Feel free to be as creative as you like!

Please upload to the Google Classroom, or bring in to school in the first week back. The closing date for entries is **Friday 16th April**. Have fun and we look forward to seeing all your fabulous entries!

Parent Governor Required:

Do you want to have a voice in the future development of Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School? We are urgently looking for a new parent governor to join the governing body. It is an exciting time to be part of our journey as a school and if you are interested or would like to find out more about what the role involves please contact the office or the CoG for more information.

Parking:

Can we remind parents to use the church car park and not park outside the school or down the Fen (which is a private road), when bringing children to and from school. Where possible, encourage your children to walk or cycle/scoot to school or use the Hilton bus so we can keep congestion at the beginning of the day down and ensure our children are safe.



We really value the good relationships we have with our neighbours and the community and want to maintain them. You can help by considering the local residents too.