

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's certainly been an eventful week at Finham Primary, this week. The Finham value that we have been focusing on this week was the value of 'Respect'. Respect was displayed in abundance as the children learnt about the significance of poppies in the lead up to Remembrance Day. We've also had children of all ages excitedly racing around the fields and playgrounds for the Run Pudsey appeal. Today, we are also celebrating Diwali across school. Diwali is the festival of light – and the children have certainly lit up the school with their colourful clothing and enjoyment of all the wonderful activities that they have been taking part in. It's been a spectacular week!

You'd think that after all the excitement that we have had this week, that we would have a rest next week? That's definitely not the case! Next week raises awareness of two very important issues: Anti-Bullying week and Road Safety week.

'ANTI-BULLYING' WEEK

As a part of 'Anti-Bullying' week, amongst the many things that we will discuss, we will be looking at the fact that everyone is different and everyone is unique. Bearing this in mind, on Monday 16th November, we would like the children (and staff), to come to school wearing odd socks! Socks of any colour or size – as long as the left foot doesn't match the right – we're happy!

'ROAD SAFETY' WEEK

During 'Road Safety' week, we will also be creating posters or writing persuasive letters in class about how to keep safe on the roads. Don't be surprised if in future newsletters, you see road safety posters or letters that have been made by children attached!

INSPIRE WORKSHOPS

For the past few years, in each year group, the teachers have invited parents into school for reading, writing and maths 'inspire' workshops. In these sessions, the teachers have explained the methods that we use in school to teach children maths and literacy, and what parents can do to support at home. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to run these workshops in the same way this year. However, the teachers have all uploaded PowerPoints for their first inspire workshop onto your child's Frog classroom page. If you haven't already had a look, please do have a read of them. They contain nuggets of information that will really help you to support your child's learning at home.

PE KITS

One of the things that teachers, children and I imagine parents have really enjoyed, is that children have been coming to school in their PE kits. This means that we no longer have the ongoing cases of lost PE pumps, lost PE joggers; lost PE tops that would take up a lot of the start of PE lessons. It also means that the children have longer PE sessions. It has been absolutely wonderful to see the majority of children wearing the correct PE kit for school. I would like to remind parents that we do have a set PE uniform which means that football kits and hoodies of different colours are not permitted.

READING

Regardless of how old or young the children are; regardless of ability, if there's one thing that we can agree upon - children love stories. One of the things that we want to really promote across school is children reading to a grown up at home at least 3 times a week. When young children are learning to read and decode, so many parents are brilliant at listening to their children read, talking to their children about the book and asking them lots of questions to check their understanding of what they have read and then signing their diary. Please, please continue with this. This is so valuable for your child's reading development.

Once children are fluent readers and move onto chapter books, more often than not, children read their books to themselves. The beautiful experience of sharing a book with a grown up at home, that discussion of what is happening in the story, all that can disappear...

From next week, each child will bring home a 'Question of the Week' that they will think about when reading their books next week. Please could you spend only 10 minutes, three times a week, discussing the question with your children and then signing their diary? The thoughts that the children record, will be checked by the class teacher but will not be marked. This is purely for there to be a discussion at home between your child and you. Those children who have read at least 3 times in a week, and it is recorded in their diary, will earn a raffle ticket. These raffle tickets will be put into a KS1 or KS2 box. At the end of term, there will be name pulled out of each box – and the winners will be rewarded with a book!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Wednesday, General Reed (aka Mr Reed), shared an assembly with the whole school explaining why we mark Remembrance Day. Over the past few weeks, he has been spending time gathering troops and getting this amazing assembly together. There are a few familiar faces who took part in this assembly and we think that you would really enjoy watching it too. Please look on the Classroom page on Frog and scroll down. The video has been uploaded for you to view.

And finally...

Next week's value that we're focusing on in school is 'Integrity'. Notoriously, this is the hardest value to achieve. If you can, it would be lovely if you could talk to your children at home about what integrity is and how we can use this value in real life.

Here is a question that you might want to consider: **Is it always wrong to tell a lie?**

Have a lovely weekend, and 'Happy Diwali' to all of you who are celebrating this weekend.

Mrs Bracken

FINHAM PRIMARY PTA

We would like to thank the Finham Primary PTA for all their hard work last year. They raised money through a variety of school events and contributed towards the year 6 end of year hoodies.

The PTA are currently looking for new members to support their fundraising! Roles include Treasurer, Secretary and fundraising supporters. The current members will support the takeover of these roles. Obviously, their fundraising will look very different this year, but we are excited by their plans already! If you are interested in joining, please email Finhamcommunitychampions@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS DINNER – 17TH DECEMBER

Parents from Reception to Year 6 should now have received a letter regarding the Christmas Dinner the school is having on Thursday, 17th December. We have also offered the Christmas Dinner to our full-time Nursery children. If you haven't received the letter please contact the school office and we will resend a copy. You are able to email admin@finhamprimary.co.uk with your child's choice. A reminder the deadline for notifying the school office is **Friday 27th November**. Years 3 – 6 and full time Nursery must pay £2.10 for this Christmas meal and this must be paid in advance via Parentpay. Many thanks. School Office.

MY NAMETAGS – SCHOOL PTA

School life is a lot easier when things don't go missing, so labelling your child's belongings can be of big help. The My Nametags labels are extremely hardwearing and save a great deal of effort and potential lost property. They can be used on school uniforms, brownies/guides clothes, football kits, in fact almost anything.

For every order of personalised labels, My Nametags will contribute to the school PTA. Log onto Frog, go to 'The Office' section and follow the link to My Nametags. This will automatically input the school ID and then 24% of every order will be donated to our PTA! Just use our school ID on the checkout.

Or visit: www.mynametags.com – school ID: 28634 – Just remember to use our school IS on the checkout!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Dear parents, we are Isla, Orla and Matilda.

We are the smart school council newsletter writers we are going to talk to you about the results of how the children are feeling back at school. The previous results are quite good most people are happy to be back with friends, also there is good news on their new teachers as well.

The options were:

- 1.happy to be back with friends
- 2.happy to be back learning with teachers
- 3.sad/annoyed that things are different
- 4.anxious/worried about being in school
- 5.finding work hard

The winning vote was 1. Thanks for reading-Matilda, Orla and Isla your newsletter writers.

ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION: 2022 ENTRY

As required by the Admissions Code, Stratford Girls' Grammar School has published its proposed Admissions Policy for 2022 entry and has initiated a consultation period which will run from Friday 6th November to Friday 18th December 2020.

Copies of the policy can be viewed on the School's website at www.sggs.org.uk

If anyone wishes to comment on Stratford Girls' Grammar School's draft policy they should write to Mrs C Spooner, Clerk to the Governors at the school address: Stratford Girls' Grammar School, Shottery Manor, Shottery, Stratford Upon Avon CV37 9HA

The deadline for receipt of comments is midday on Friday 18th December 2020.

IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

Entitlement to Free School Meals are processed as part of Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support claims by the Benefits Service. Free School Meals are a statutory benefit. Applying for a free school meal could raise up to an extra £1320 per annum for six years for your child's school (funded by central government). This can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support for your school (and is still paid to the school even if your entitlement ceases). All children in Reception to Year 2 automatically receive a free school meal. However, if your family also meets the eligibility criteria to enable a free school meal to be awarded (see below), it is important to make an application in order that your child's school can receive this pupil premium. The Government does not allow us to recognise any other benefit other than those mentioned below. If you are not sure, please contact freeschoolmeals@coventry.gov.uk or telephone 024 7683 3773 or click on the link below to check eligibility and make an application.

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/54/benefits/168/free_school_meals.

Free school meals are available to children of families who are in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Jobseekers Allowance (income based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income based)
- Guarantee Credit (the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit)
- Universal Credit (UC)
 - Until 1 April 2018, all UC claims were eligible for free school meals, however,
 - From 1 April 2018, UC claims will only be eligible for free school meals if the total net **earned** income is under £7,400 per year OR if the child was eligible for a free school meal on 01/04/18
 - Where the child was eligible for a free school meal on 01 April 2018, they will remain entitled to a free school meal regardless of any change in parental income until they finish the phase of education they are in (primary or secondary) as at 31 March 2022
 - Any child who becomes eligible for a free school meal between 01 April 2018 and 31 March 2022 will remain entitled to a free school meal regardless of any change in parental income until they finish the phase of education they are in (primary or secondary) as at 31 March 2022
- Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, **provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit** and have a **total** annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- We are also temporarily extending eligibility to children of a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. This group is not subject to a maximum household earnings threshold

Parents receiving Working Tax Credit for four weeks after their employment finishes are entitled to free school meals during that period. This also applies to parents who start working less than 16 hours per week (please seek advice about this from the Benefits Agency)

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 17th November – Bike ability - 6B

Wednesday 18th November – Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 19th November – Reception – Year 6 – Flu Vaccinations

