



# Newsletter

## October 2021



### Harvest Festival

We enjoyed two lovely services, firstly by Rowan and Oak pupils followed the next day by Cherry and Willow pupils. We were welcomed on both occasions by Revd Helen and Reverend Richard, with songs and readings performed by the children.

Well done to all who took part! The singing was lovely and the readings very clear.

It was a real celebration of Thanksgiving for the harvest, and all that we enjoy!

It was such a wonderful opportunity for parents to join us, and share in the celebration, after missing it last year.

There was a wonderful range of harvest gifts from the school children, which has all been sent to the Dereham food bank. The children's chosen charity collection for Children in Need raised £88. Thank you to all who gave so generously at the Harvest festival.

### Sports

**KS1 FOOTBALL FESTIVAL** - Our team from Willow class joined other schools for this event. They enjoyed being part of team and playing with children from other schools. They won their matches, and drew one.



Faith gained a sportsmanship award from the organisers for demonstration of the value of 'Respect'. A good time, and lots of goals scored, was had by all!

**CROSS COUNTRY** - Unfortunately, due to heavy rain overnight and on the morning of this event, the decision was made to cancel.

**TAG RUGBY** festival and competition. A great competition between primary schools, all our Oak pupils took part. Lara, Samuel and Tabitha were awarded the Sportsmanship award during the event. There was a lot of excitement on their return when the team announced they came joint 1<sup>st</sup>, having finished the final with a '3 all' draw.

All our pupils have represented their school brilliantly!

### Parent consultations

We hope you have all taken the opportunity to book a telephone appointment with your child's class teacher, to discuss how our child has settled into the new school year and is progressing, now that we are several weeks in to the term.

If not, please do so as soon as possible.

### Mathletics

A few parents have asked us about this. This is an online maths program that our school subscribes to and each child from Y1 upwards can log in at home. It has lots of activities and games to support your child's number practice, and we have found that children enjoy it and it does help them, particularly with core skills such as number bonds and times tables. Children can work towards certificates. This is an additional resource and there is no expectation that your child completes this, it is there for you / your child if you would like to use it. We have put a guide with more details on the school website in the home work section.

### Curriculum Visits and visitors

Willow class have enjoyed a visit from Reverend Helen as part of their learning in RE, and found out Christian beliefs about God.

Cherry class visited the church. They found crosses, a candle, a very high ceiling, a place where the reverend speaks and long seats called 'pews', and a 'font' with water for christening a baby.

Oak class enjoyed a visit to the Norwich Museum as part of their Ancient Egyptians learning. They met a 19<sup>th</sup> century archaeologist, created Egyptian style jewellery and learned about mummification.

Rowan class have visited Gressenhall museum to find out about life in the Stone Age. They had an active day learning 'whittling' skills, grinding wheat, making shelters and exploring artefacts.

### **Pupil Voice**

#### **School Council**

The children have voted and we now have a School Council with representatives from Willow, Rowan and Oak. They have had their first meeting and are already thinking about ways they would like to improve the school.

#### **Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds Team**

We have also a new group in school called the Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds Team. They will be helping our children to remember and use the 5 ways to Well Being, to keep minds and bodies healthy.

#### **Anti-bullying week**

We will be taking part in this national event during the week beginning 15 November. This year's theme is 'One Kind Word'. All classes will take part in age related learning, with Oak class creating a Play in a Day on 12<sup>th</sup> November to kick start the week.

### **Remembrance**



We will be having some time in school to learn and reflect on 11 November and Remembrance Sunday.

There will be poppies and other items such for sale from Monday 8 November.

### **Children in Need**



Also in November, we have BBC Children in Need Charity fundraising. The children have voted to support this charity, and so we will be taking part. Their theme is 'Together We Can', so we are proposing an outdoor event, a 'Pudsey Power Walk' to help us feel good and energised! As it will be outdoors, we plan to invite a parent/ carer to join in with your child/ children on a walk within the school grounds. This will take place on November 19. More details will follow after half term, but do put a note in your diaries. If you can't make the walk, FOLS will be busy baking cupcakes to sell, and we will also have Pudsey wristbands and other Pudsey items to buy... so there will be different ways you can contribute if you would like to make a donation.

## Our Values

Next half term, our Values will focus on 'Trust' - including Trusting our friends to support us, and being trustworthy.



### Packed Lunches

We have noticed that a small number of children have had chocolate bars or sweets as part of their lunch.

This is a reminder to confirm that these items should not be included as part of your child's lunch, or be brought to school.

### Sweet Treats

If you would like your child to bring in a sweet treat on their birthday to share with their class, we are now able to permit this. Please ensure that these are individually wrapped items that can easily be handed out at home time.

### Coronavirus

We continue to face ongoing challenges with cases within our community occurring. In addition, as we move into the autumn, there is the added complication of the usual coughs and colds appearing in children and adults as well as asymptomatic cases.

Testing can play an important part, and lateral flow tests are readily available for home use. Please continue to support us by being vigilant, and following National guidance, whilst we also continue with a range of measures to minimise contact and transmission across the school.

Thank you for your ongoing support with all of this.

We will be sending out a separate letter with continuing advice for parents/ carers, at the start of the new half term.

### Dates for your diary

We finish for half term at 3.05pm on Friday 22 October and back for the new half term on Monday 1 November.

12 November - Play in a Day for Oak class

17 November - Small Schools Football Tournament

19 November - BBC Children in Need Day

17 December - Pantomime in school

17 December at 3.05 pm. School closes for Christmas holiday. School reopens on Thursday 6 January 2022

*NB- There is one additional school closure day this year (due to the additional Bank Holiday in 2022 falling in the school May half term)*

*The additional closure day for school is on 5 January.*

**Keep safe and well, we will see you  
after the half term break**

