



## Winter Term Newsletter 3

Dear Parents,

Once again it has been a busy term and, at one point, it didn't look as though we were going to fit everything in! Since the last newsletter we have had Year 5 taking part in a DT morning at Thorpe high school, Year 6 visiting the Bridewell Museum and Year 4 using the food technology rooms at Hewett Academy to bake bread. This is all part of our continuing drive to create opportunities for continuing learning outside the classroom and I know that staff are already planning what visits can take place next term.

### Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday the whole school took part in Safer Internet Day. We started the day with an assembly introducing the topic and then James Rowson, our computing lead, visited classes to do a workshop reminding them of the SMART internet safety rules:



Most children were very familiar with these rules about keeping safe online which is brilliant news!

### Uniform

Thanks to everyone who sends their children into school looking very smart every day and who names all the uniform too! It really makes it much easier to return missing items to their rightful owners. We have had a few named items go missing, mainly hoodies, which may have mistakenly ended up in the wrong house! Please could you check your child's clothing and return any items that have the wrong names in.

Unfortunately we have had a number of children, particularly in KS1, who are coming to school in white polo shirts and not wearing ties. Please could you ensure that, apart from on PE days, your child wears the correct uniform. We are currently investigating whether Stevensons can make a tie on elastic if this would make it easier in the mornings!

### Children's Mental Health Week

This week has been National Children's Mental Health Week with this year's theme is '*My Voice Matters.*'

During the week, we did a range of activities across the school helping children find their individual and collective voice to build self-

esteem, express themselves, share pride in themselves and each other and ask for help.

As a school we work very hard to enable children to express their feelings in a constructive way and use a variety of these and other resources as part of our daily Snack and Chat times and during lessons.

We are fortunate in Norfolk to have the resource Just One Norfolk which has a wealth of information on a range of topics that might concern you as a parent.

<https://www.iustonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

As part of Children's Mental Health week, a range of links for parents and carers have also been produced:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/cbbc-mental-health-awareness>

<https://thismayhelp.me/all-advice-films/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/mindfulness-for-children>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.gonoodle.com/company/post/how-to-help-your-kids-practice-mindfulness>

If you are worried about your child's emotional wellbeing, you're not alone. Come and talk to us at school and we will be able to provide support and signpost you in the right direction.

### Digifest at Half Term

This February our libraries across the county are hosting DigiFest, with free workshops for children and young people aged 0-14. Get hands on with robots, learn coding skills, produce animated short films or create

fabulous 3D designs. There is something to inspire everyone.

Look out for old favourites like Code-a-Pillar and Botley, along with brand-new sessions like Artie 3000, the robot that can draw, and Let's Go Code, a physical game that teaches you to think like a robot.

[https://orlo.uk/digifest\\_pzucX](https://orlo.uk/digifest_pzucX)

### Eagle Readers

Once again we have been celebrating our Eagle readers with a trip to Waterstones for six lucky children. This term it was Sritha, Jamie, Nikko, Jessa, Lara and Madison who all got to buy a book of their choice. Well done!

### World Book Day

Don't forget that we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** with this year's theme being 'I am a Reader'. We are inviting the children to come into school dressed as 'A Reader'. This could be as a favourite book character, snuggled in their favourite reading pyjamas or onesie, or in home clothes they enjoy reading in.

If they haven't already done so, children can also enter our Extreme Reading Challenge showing where the most unusual, exciting, fun and SAFE place there is where they like to read.

What to do:

1. Choose a book.
2. Find an unusual place to read it.
3. Ask your parent/carers to take your photograph.
4. Put your photo on Tapestry or Email your photo to: [office@freeschoolnorwich.org.uk](mailto:office@freeschoolnorwich.org.uk)

**Don't forget to include your child's name and class if emailing.**

Please send all entries into school by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March so that we can reveal the winner on World Book Day. There will be a book voucher prize for the most 'extreme' reader and the photographs which are sent to school will be used on display in school or on the school's

website unless you specifically request otherwise.

### Research project requests

We have been approached by Amelia Ottembrajt, a student at the School of Psychology, UEA who is doing a research project investigating the relationship between behaviour traits, wellbeing and school connectedness in children aged 8- 11.

As part of the study, children will answer questions about their feelings, emotions and their thoughts towards school. All the questions are multiple choice as they are asked to rate on a scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree or from 1-10, this overall should take no more than 30 minutes to complete.

You will also be given the opportunity to complete an online questionnaire which will ask some questions about your child and their habits, social interactions, and preferences, which will contribute to the traits part of the research aims. This should take up no more than 15 minutes of your time. The link will be provided to you upon consenting.

If you and your child would be interested in taking part in this research please follow the link below to register your interest:

[https://qualtricsxmxx96pdklc.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4YhYiwaYI4UdtpY](https://qualtricsxmxx96pdklc.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4YhYiwaYI4UdtpY)



We have also been approached by Daniela Pasquini who is looking to connect with expectant mothers and families in Norwich and nearby areas as part of her university course in Early Child Development. She is looking to observe the beginnings of a baby's development in their home environment, and the relationship between baby and mum/primary caregiver.

Observations take place weekly for 1 hour for a set amount of time. You are not expected to put yourself out/clean etc. just be home doing what you usually would!

Your involvement would be directly contributing to an all important body of knowledge that can benefit many families as well as professionals in the field of early child development.

If you would like some more information, may be interested, or know someone who might, please do get in touch!

[dpasqu01@student.bbk.ac.uk](mailto:dpasqu01@student.bbk.ac.uk) 07535245977

#### Useful Dates:

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February-** End of Term

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February-** First day of Spring term

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February:** Supporting children with SEN drop in

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March:** Children and adult wellbeing drop in

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March-** World Book Day

Kind regards,  
Darren

## Stars of the Week

### EYFS

Last week's Star of the Week went to Rei for making new friends and settling in so well into our class. This week it goes to Penny for imaginative ideas and excellent contributions to class discussions and story maps.

### Year 1

The Star of the Week for last week was Anirudh for writing a fantastic finding story. This week it goes to Linus Davies for writing a fantastic poem.

### Year 2

Last week's Star of the Week went to Diyaan for super engagement with computing by guiding a Bee Bot through a course. This week it is Maddison, for writing a super story about an Owl overcoming their fear of the dark.

### Year 3

Star of the week last week went to Matilda for excellent effort in English and reading with fantastic flair and prosody. This week it is Lexi for a fantastic end to term with hard work, great progress and doing it all with a smile on her face!

### Year 4

Star of the Week for last week was Xenia for her hard work all week and her brilliant breadmaking skills at Hewett food lab. This week it goes to Ariana for her increasing independence in every subject and offering and presenting her ideas.

### Year 5

Last week, Star of the Week went to Rui for doing an incredible job improving his handwriting skills. This week it goes to Mohammed for excelling in our swimming lessons.

### Year 6

Last week's Star of the Week went to Aashrita for settling in brilliantly this week. This week it goes to Madison for showing great focus and determination to understand algebra.

#### Communication and Information Easy Access

**Newsletters:** <http://www.freeschoolnorwich.org.uk/parents/newsletters/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/The-Free-School-Norwich-102238845787805>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/freeschnorwich>

**OFSTED Parentview:** <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

**Calendar:** <http://www.freeschoolnorwich.org.uk/school-calendar/>

**Amazon Wishlist:** [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1H53OWPFNIFOO?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1H53OWPFNIFOO?ref=wl_share)



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