

Value of the week:

We started our week by welcoming Hamish, from The Peach Foundation, to tell us about the cows that his Foundation are donating to the Enonkishu community in the Masai Mara, Kenya. We are donating enough for two cows, and you can find out more information at <http://www.peachfoundation.co.uk/causes/peachherd>.

We linked this with the value of Fairness, as follows: A local company donated £156 to our school, £1 for each Primary child at the time. You "grew" this money (and thank you for your time and energy that went into this), and as a result every classroom now has an i-pad, which are being used to take pictures by staff and children, record assessments, find out information and a variety of other tasks. It seems "fair" to us that just as someone gave us a start so that we could make a profit and buy our i-pads, so we should be investing in someone else's future. We are doing this through our contribution to this herd of cows.

Throughout the week we have been looking for children who demonstrate this value of fairness positively, not as in "It's not fair!" but for sharing, looking out for others, giving other people support when needed and having empathy for how others are feeling.

Achiever of the week:

Minibeasts: Isla M
Minibeasts: Henio M
Tigers: Keefer N
Zebras: Winifred Z
Penguins: Ella B
Giraffes: Dylan N
Lions: Lucy M
Meerkats: James W
Eagles: Charlotte S

Value of the week: Fairness

Minibeasts: Indi-Rose W
Minibeasts: Maya R
Tigers: Patryk S
Zebras: Florence F
Penguins: Sean S
Giraffes: Raeya J
Lions: Annabel F
Meerkats: William P
Eagles: Stacey M

Home learning:

There seemed to be some confusion about attachments that were sent out – I apologise that the correct attachments were not always attached. We are re-sending out the home learning. For KS1 (Tigers, Zebras and Penguins) the expectation is for three pieces of this homework to be handed in for each half term: this is optional but strongly encouraged. For lower Key Stage 2 (Giraffes, Lions and Meerkats), the pic 'n' mix homework is optional but strongly encouraged, and will be celebrated in class; for Year 5 children (Eagles), this is no longer optional and children need to complete one choice per fortnight.

Thank you...

... to all parents and carers who came to Parents' Evenings this week. These are vital times for home and school to work together in the best interests of the children so thank you for taking the time. I do know that some appointments were delayed through over-running and we apologise for this: we do try to build in breaks which are often then used for catching up, but as you will appreciate there are some conversations that need to be longer than the allotted time,

and although we try to predict these, we are not always accurate. Thank you for your patience if you did need to wait.

Attendance for last week = 97.7%

Well done this week with some late nights last week for some, with Halloween and Bonfire night and still making it to school on time with lots of energy!

PE uniform: a reminder

Please be reminded that your child needs to be wearing their correct PE uniform on their PE day. This needs to be plain black tracksuit trousers, a white polo neck and a plain black sweatshirt. There is a Heyford black sweatshirt that can be purchased. We are able to allow children to wear their PE kit all day on a PE day because they can look smart in it: thank you for your support in this.

Nursery Update:

This week Nursery have been talking about their journey to nursery and other modes of transport they use. We created a bus in the garden which drove us around the village and the children went on many adventures. They also created pictures of vehicles using and identifying shapes, as well as creating our own travel brochures by cutting out images from across the world.



Can you help please?

We are looking for a regular volunteer or two to walk down to the Specialisms Campus on a Thursday afternoon with Lions and Giraffes classes at 12.45, stay to support in the afternoons and walk back for 3.30pm. This could be something volunteers do on a rota basis or a regular commitment from someone. Please speak to me, Mrs Dallas, Miss Curtis or Miss Chalmers if you can help.

Flu nasal sprays:

The children in Reception to Year 4 were great for their flu spray on Wednesday of this week and I apologise for not putting that date in the newsletter last week. The NHS team intend to do a catch up day for children who missed out through absence etc., although the date has not yet been decided.

Message for Parents and Carers of children in year 4:

This term, children in the Meerkat class are studying a child in Britain's view of World War 2. The Lions class have decided to not move forward in time quite so quickly, and the children will be studying the Iron Age, very much linked to what they have been doing in the first half term. If your child is in Year 4 in the Lions class, for the next few weeks they can choose what topic they would like to do: your child can either choose to join the Meerkats for part of the afternoon every Monday or stay in the Lions class: if they choose topic, they would miss part of Science for those afternoons, but would be present for the input and the direct teaching part. Whatever choice they make, they must stick with it for the rest of this term. We will make sure that those who choose to do additional topic are still covering the Science (although it won't be in quite so much detail at this stage.) Those who choose to do Science will come back to the World War 2 topic in a later year group, where all children will take a more detailed look at World War 2. If you have any questions in regard to this, please speak to Miss Curtis or Mrs Dallas.

Medical notes:

Please note that over the past couple of weeks, we have been told of cases of nits, hand, foot and mouth, scarlet fever and ringworm. Information on all of these can be found through the NHS website on <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

Whole School Dates for your diary:

27th November 2017 – Y11 Mock Examinations begin
Wednesday 29th November 2pm and 6pm – Parent drop-in sessions
Wednesday 6th December Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 6th December 2.00pm Key Stage 1 Christmas performance
Thursday 7th December 2pm EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Christmas Performance at the Specialisms Campus
7th December 2017– Secondary STEM, Enterprise and PSCE day
Thursday 7th December 6.30pm Key Stage 1 Christmas performance
13th December 2017 – Carol Concert (more details to follow)
Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day
18th December 2017 – Rewards Day (secondary only)
20th December 2017 – 3rd January 2018 – Closed for Holidays
4th and 5th January 2018 – INSET Days
Monday 8th January 2018 – students return to school for Spring term

