

Newsletter

A Happy New Year to everyone. We hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas break and are ready to embrace all that 2017 will bring. Before the children returned to school this year the staff and governors worked together, led by an external consultant, to write new aims for the school. It is good for all schools to revisit the school aims on a regular basis and to ensure that these are still right for the school. When the original aims were written none of the full time members of staff that are currently in post were teaching in the school so it was right that we worked together to produce aims that we all agree with and can work towards achieving. After much hard work our new mission statement and aims are as follows:

With God's love we all shine together



- Take pride in myself, my achievements, school and community
- Use my growth mindset and challenge myself to be the best I can
 - Be an independent and confident learner
- Be kind and respectful and treat others the way I would like to be treated
 - When faced with choices, think what would Jesus do?

Over the next few weeks we will be talking about these with the children and working with them to ensure they understand what they mean. In addition we also worked on producing a children's charter that we are going to continue working on with the children. Once completed they will sign a copy and this will be displayed in each classroom. We will attach a copy of this to next week's newsletter.

Our parent governors will be organising a time when interested parents can meet together to produce a parents' charter. Please look out for details of this.

Please be patient with us while we change things on the website and also order a new board for the front of the school.

SWIMMING

Following a discussion of the full governing body it has been decided that we will no longer take children swimming in every year they are at school. This is due to financial reasons and also the amount of other curriculum time that is taken up with swimming. Currently a child will spend the equivalent of 30 school days swimming during their time at school which is half a term spent swimming rather than learning other aspects of the curriculum. Whilst we recognise that learning to swim is important (it is also my favourite part of PE) we need to ensure that we use all the time in school wisely to enable the children to learn to their full potential. Therefore from next academic year children will only be swimming when they are in years 3 and 5. This year, as the bookings had to be made well in advance, all KS2 children will be swimming this term but there will be no KS1 swimming in the summer term. We know that this will cause disappointment for many of you but over the years it will also save money as you will only be asked for money for two sessions of swimming rather than for six. Please remember that children can also access swimming pools free of charge by using their Active 8 points.

TWYXCROSS ZOO

The school has been given an annual pass to Twycross Zoo for two adults and two children. If you would like to use these to visit Twycross Zoo at a weekend or during the school holidays then please book them out at the office. You will need to collect and return them to school yourself. If you have more than two children then by using the tickets you will receive a discount on the admission price of the other children in your family and a discount on things you might want to buy while you are there if you show the ticket. We hope that you will enjoy using these. We only have one set so please don't be disappointed if they are already booked out on the day that you would like them by someone else. It will be on a first come first served basis.

HARRY POTTER

During the week beginning the 30th January we will be celebrating Harry Potter books. On 2nd February we will be having a celebration after school which will be Harry Potter themed. This is also the day that we would like the children to come in Harry Potter fancy dress. We hope that you will come and join us to celebrate all that the children have learnt during the week.

KS1 VICTORIAN INSPIRATION DAY

On Thursday 5th January Years 1 and 2 kicked off their new topic of 'People of the Past' with a visit from a Victorian schoolmistress. They spent a very interesting day learning what life was like for a Victorian child. They took part in lessons including Arithmetic, Writing and Drill. The children all agreed writing with a pencil is a lot easier than using a quill! In another session they learnt about what life would be like for servants. They had the chance to polish boots and silverware and after washing napkins with a Posser, used a mangle as the Victorians would have. It wasn't all hard work for them though as they really enjoyed the chance to play with some traditional Victorian toys.

Words of the week

Eagles	autobiography
Hawks	argument
Finches	grateful
Swifts	festive
Wrens	multiply
Swans	fragment
Hérons	electricity

