

Netley Marsh CE Infant School

Newsletter February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of this half term, Christmas seems a distant memory (however, I am looking forward to flipping some pancakes over half term!)

As we look forward to the next half term, it is hard to plan the best next steps forward and, behind the scenes, we have been planning for a host of scenarios as we await to see the government's road map on moving the country forward. However, we do know that for at least the first few weeks that the current state of play will continue and our teachers have been planning our next instalment of learning and exciting themes (spoiler alert – book week is approaching!)

Tomorrow, all the schools, within the Federation, will be involved in training, where we will be looking at strategies to support readers to catch up and developing our curriculum offer. As part of this day I will be asking all the team to ensure that they take the half term break to switch off, take a break from the incredible hard work they have undertaken this half term and enjoy time with their families. This means that our teachers and TA's will not be responding to Tapestry over the next week, to ensure they all get a chance to recharge for the next half term.

I hope that you too have a chance to enjoy the half term break, albeit a very different one to the norm.

Take care of yourself and each other.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Bowen

Dear God

As we enjoy our pancakes and prepare for Lent,

Help us to remember that even when things seems hard

To be bold and be strong and remember you are with us.

Amen.



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MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNORS

The Governors would like to express their appreciation to all teaching and non-teaching staff across the Federation for their hard work and extra effort in providing educational opportunities for their pupils to access at this difficult time.

In addition, they wish to acknowledge the equally important role played by parents, carers and families who are ensuring their children can access these opportunities to continue their learning journey at home. Furthermore, parents are managing this daily learning, which we know is not an easy task, alongside, in many cases, working from home themselves. This, together with the very real pressures of life during Lockdown, does not go unrecognised.

With school and home working together our pupils are in a good position to continue their learning while the present situation lasts.



Thank you to some very kind members of our local community who have again stepped in to provide additional support to our families who may be struggling at the moment. They have provided supermarket vouchers to supplement those provided by the government to our Pupil Premium children.

Morrisons have also sent us a photo from last term, when Mrs Turner, Marsha and Netley went in to pick up the vouchers that they had donated.



This half term we have seen some wonderful work taking place in school and at home following our curriculum themes.

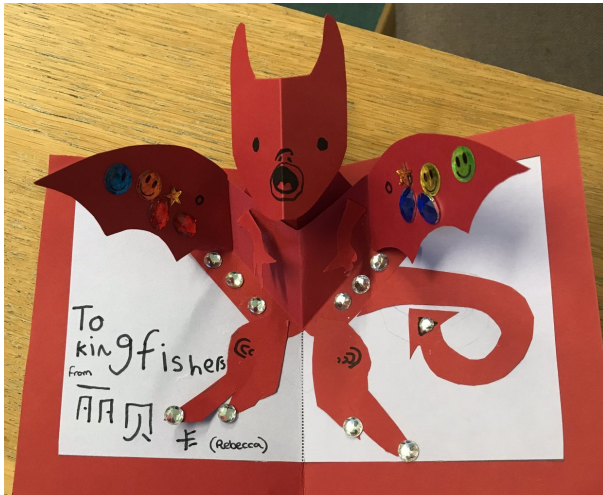
Winter

Amazing ice sculptures



Chinese New Year

We celebrated this a little early (it is 12 Feb) but the children were enthusiastic learners, finding out about another culture and its traditions.



Global Neighbours

As a school we are working towards a bronze award as part of an accredited scheme run by Christian Aid and Church of England.



Pancake Races

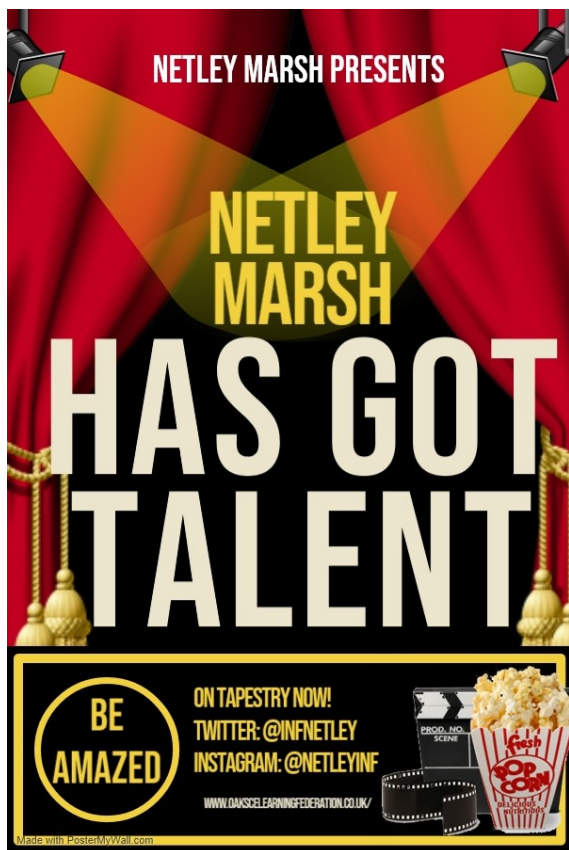
Pancake races took place in school before half term. Congratulations to Year 2 who won the trophy this year.



Sadly we couldn't have families in for the adult races this year, so last year's winners are still reigning champions.

Tools for Self Reliance and St Matthew's Church have already started training for 2022!

Netley Marsh has got Talent



A few weeks ago we shifted our focus away from on screen learning for a week to find out any hidden talents we might have and to practice any favourite ones. The children in school and at home sent in photos or videos of their talent which was made into a film for each class.

In Year R we had motorbike riding, digger driving, cycling, horse riding, maths skills and lego building to name but a few.

In Year 1 we were amazed by judo, singing, dancing, drawing, acting, baking and science experiments.

Year 2 showcased horse jumping, tae kwondo, skateboarding, washing up, gymnastics and many more.

It was a wonderful week and Netley Marsh certainly has got talent!

Part of the Puzzle

We took part in the Part of the Puzzle initiative run by Picture news. The aim was to find a way to show how despite in current times it being necessary for us to remain apart, we are still very connected.



Children at home and school decorated their own puzzle piece using drawings and words to describe themselves. We then joined them all together outside school as a symbol of our connected school community.



Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium funding

As you will be aware, all children at infant school are currently entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

However, for some of those children, schools will also be able to claim **Pupil Premium**, which will help provide further support. The criteria for eligibility is the same as the free school meal criteria from Key Stage 2 onwards.

If you think there may be any possibility that your child may be eligible for this funding, we would ask to check using the HC3S online service. *Pupil Premium is an important payment for schools and a really good opportunity for eligible parents to get even more support for their children in school.*

To see Eligibility Criteria, check this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

Applying for free school meals / pupil premium

You can check eligibility online at: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>

The service allows you to check your own eligibility for free school/college meals, or you can check on behalf of someone else.

The data you enter on the screen will be used to process your request. If your result comes back 'found,' your child is eligible for Pupil Premium and the system automatically informs the school.

This funding provides valuable support, so please do check your eligibility as soon as possible.

If eligible for this funding it can cover things such as the cost of school trips and we can provide you with a £25 skoolkit voucher for uniform and we may also be able to assist with other things too – just let us know!

If you need any help or advice, contact Fiona or Tracy in the school office on 02380 862009.



Discretionary fund

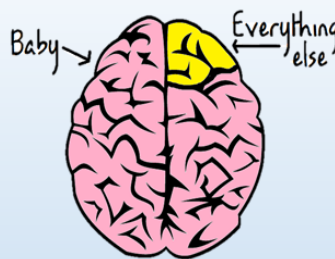
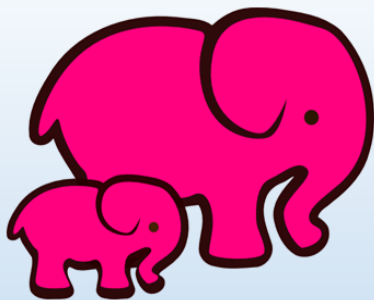
We have been given a small grant by the government which we can use to help any families that are in financial crisis due to the covid pandemic but do not currently qualify for pupil premium funding.

Please let us know if you feel you fall into this category and you need help as we may be able to offer a little support, maybe with food vouchers, a uniform voucher, help with purchasing school shoes/coat, helping with heating costs etc.

We appreciate this is a very personal and private thing to ask but these are unprecedented times so please do not let pride stand in your way if you need help please contact the school office to let us know asap.



The University of York need your help with some research...



Contact:

SleepStudy@York.ac.uk;
07548359133

Website:

<https://sites.google.com/york.ac.uk/the-omg-sleep-study/home>

Social Media:

<https://twitter.com/OmgSleep>;
<https://www.facebook.com/sleep.study.334/>



UNIVERSITY
of York

Are you a parent with a child under 6?

Research needs you!

We're carrying out research into memory and sleep in parents.

You would be required to complete a memory game on your phone and answer some questions about your daily activities.

You would be entered into 3 prize draws if you complete the study.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 12th February	Inset day—school closed to pupils
Tuesday 16th February	Shrove Tuesday
Monday 22nd February	First day of new term
w/c 22nd March	Parent Consultations
Thursday 1st April	Last day of this term
Monday 19th April	First day of Summer Term
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday
Friday 28th May	Last day of Summer 1 Term
Monday 7th June	First day of Summer 2 Term
Friday 23rd July	Last day of this school year

Remaining INSET Days for 2020—21

Friday 12th Feb 2021

Parentmail Accounts



Make sure your contact details on Parentmail are up to date.

If we have to close school for bad weather or any other unforeseen circumstance we would notify you by Parentmail.

