

FIRSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 3 January Newsletter.

13 January 2012

Middleton's Lane, Hellesdon, NORWICH, NR6 5NF
01603 426550

Headteacher: Mr S. J. Fisher
deputy Head: Mrs R. Robinson

Dear Parent,

Happy New Year and welcome back!

We hope everyone had a restful holiday. Certainly, the children seem to have returned refreshed, keen and eager to learn. Of course the New Year is a natural time to look ahead and think about what the future holds. Our assemblies (and PSHE lessons) this half-term focus on 'Going for Goals'. We aim to help children to have high aspirations and set goals for themselves – and then take steps to reaching them! The London Olympics and Paralympics are a real inspiration for this and in Monday's assembly we watched a short video of Jonnie Peacock who is a truly inspirational Paralympic sprinter. One of our mottos in school is that *every day, every child* should achieve something they feel proud of and we are sure with continuing hard work and support the children will achieve their dreams!

2012 is not only the year in which we celebrate the Jubilee and the Olympics but also the school's 75th anniversary year! We are planning some exciting ways to involve everyone in our celebrations and look forward to telling you about them as the year unfolds.

Year 3 News

Now the children have really settled in at Firside we are looking forward to a very productive term. Thank you for continuing to read with your child at home – reading 3 times a week will really help them progress, and earn team points in class. If you initially expressed an interest in coming in to school to help children with reading, but have still not managed to arrange this, please speak to your child's class teacher. We are still looking for volunteers!

This term our major project is Ancient Greece. We will be taking historical, geographical and artistic perspectives to allow an in-depth understanding of this fabulous period in history. We are intending to put on a special assembly based on this topic to which all parents will be invited on 10th February 2012. More details will follow.

Our work in English will focus initially on poetry, moving later on to myths and legends. This fits in perfectly with our Ancient Greek topic, and after learning about the features of myth stories, we will be having a go at writing our own. Some of our homework will be linked to these topics. As ever, thank you for supporting your child so that they are able to complete these pieces of work by the Wednesday deadline.

Now that the children are more comfortable with the language and methods of Maths Makes Sense, we will be introducing some new and challenging ideas to them. These will prepare the way for later developments in the key areas of arithmetic, geometry, data and measures and reasoning. You can support them at home by helping them consolidate 3x, 4x and 6x times tables, learn their halves and doubles and discuss and practise telling the time.

In Science, we will be learning about light and shadows, carrying out investigations and learning more scientific skills. In ICT, we will introduce the children to email and the Internet which we hope will enable them to further extend their home learning. As part of our unit of study, we will be discussing issues of common etiquette, particularly with relevance to email, and thinking about how they can 'stay safe' in the 'virtual world'.

In addition to all this, we will begin to prepare our year group's contribution to the school's 75th anniversary celebrations. If you attended Firside, or know of anyone who did, and have some interesting memories from your time here, please get in touch as we would love to hear your stories. Watch this space for more information about the celebrations as they gather pace.

Kate Bagshaw, Jo McCash and David Moreton

Firside Junior School ♦ Middleton's Lane ♦ Hellesdon ♦ Norwich



Bad Weather and School Closures: We have had a remarkably mild winter so far but IF the school is ever forced to close we will notify parents via the county website and local radio. Closing the school is always the very last resort and you may safely assume that the school is open unless a message is sent out as set out above.

Diary

January

Mon 9 th	EA Tennis: after school tennis club taster (Yr3&4)..... morning
Tues 10 th	Matt Philpott, Physical Fitness afterschool club (Yr5&6)..... assembly time
Wed 11 th	School Team to take part in Sports Hall Athletics competition - Yr 5& 6
Tues 17 th	FOF meeting 9:15 (in meeting room)
Thurs 19 th	Group of children take part in Tree Planting at Community Centre p.m.
Wed 25 th	Year 4 - Family Lunch
Fri 27 th	Road Safety workshops with road safety officer

February

Wed 1 st	Coffee & Chat – Parents forum in Dining Hall 9:00
"	Year 5 & 6 - Family Lunch
Tues 7 th	Major Murray (Salvation Army) Year 5&6 Assembly
Wed 8 th	Year 5, Roman Day – Parents invited for the afternoon p.m.
Thur 9 th	Major Murray (Salvation Army) Year 3&4 Assembly
Mon 13 th	Half-term week
Tue 21 st	Year 3 – Family Lunch

Join the library....

Join Up January is a great chance to find out more about what your local library can offer your family.

It's free to join the library and really easy. You can do it online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries or visit your local library and staff will join you up in just a few minutes. If you have ID with you showing your name and address that's great, but even if you don't you can borrow a couple of books!

The library has lots of story books including picture books and easier stories for new readers. There are loads of other things to enjoy, like books on football, music, animation, and 'how things work' as well as books on TV series and films, graphic novels, comics and magazines. There are also children's DVDs and DS and other games to try as well as events and activities for both children and adults.

Friendly staff are on hand to help your child find something that will interest them. Staff can also let you know about books and websites you can use at the library or at home to help with homework.

For more information visit your local library, call 0344 800 8006 or visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

.....and let the story begin



Parent Support Adviser

Mrs Nada Goodings has now started in her role as Cluster Parent Support Adviser. We are delighted to welcome her and we are sure she will be a real help to everyone. A leaflet is available in school – and is illustrated here -->

Parent Support Adviser (PSA)

Parenting isn't an easy job and at times things can get tough. Like every parent you want what is best for your child.

Parent Support Advisers are here to help families deal with issues, worries or concerns. We may not have all the answers but together we can explore ways forward.

The Benjamin Foundation
Working in partnership with the Hellesdon Cluster of Schools.

Parent Support Advisers can:

- Support you when you meet with teachers or other professionals
- Help prevent difficult behaviour from becoming more of a problem
- Find Services and other Agencies available to help families
- Help parents understand how and what their children learn
- Aid and encourage good attendance
- Foster positive relationships between home and school
- Meet to talk where you feel most comfortable

Contact your local Parent Support Adviser:

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