



Curdridge Primary School

Newsletter 4 – Spring Term

15th February 2017





Curdridge Primary School

Caring, Confident, Polite, Proud, Supportive, Successful

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Dear Parents,

Staffing update

It's a girl! The fantastic news is that Isabel Rose Lambert made her way into the world on Sunday 5th February weighing 7lb 6oz. Both mother and daughter are doing well!

Secondly we have news of our recent vacancy for a lower school leader and Class 2 teacher. On Thursday 19th January we had a very successful day in interviewing for and finally appointing for this post. It was a very thorough process comprising of an interview by the School Council; a teaching task with Y2 as well as a leadership task and interview. So the great news is that after Easter we welcome Mrs Natalie Gammer to the school. Mrs Gammer is currently working at Cherbourg Primary School in Eastleigh and is very much looking forward to being part of the Curdridge team! Between now and 24th April we will be looking for opportunities for Mrs Gammer to visit Curdridge to meet and work with staff and children. The sad news is that we will be saying our farewells to Miss Stronach and Mrs Alberti at the end of the spring term; I am sure you would agree, they have done a fantastic job teaching class 3 (spring term 2016) and class 2 since Easter 2016. They will both be missed but we wish them well for the future!

Well done!

Excellent Workers

Every half term the teachers have a very difficult decision to make in choosing their 'Excellent Workers.' Teachers choose just one child from each year group to receive a special award, certificate and 'write-up.' It really is something special for the children and a lovely way to celebrate the fantastic attitude and effort shown over the weeks.

Children who received this award yesterday are:

YR Max Evans

Y1 Eloise Hillyear

Y2 Scarlett Feast

Y3 Chloe Austin

Y4 Keira Harvey

Y5 Andrew Seton-Smith

Y6 Evie Gallagher. A huge well done to them all!

Parents' Evenings

Outside school today you will see a board with all the sign-up sheets for parents' evenings. Times for each class are as follows:

Class 1: Wednesday 1st March between 1.30pm and 4.50pm AND Thursday 2nd March between 4.00pm and 6.30pm.

Class 2: Wednesday 1st March between 9.00am and 10.40am AND Thursday 2nd March between 9.00am and 10.40am AND Thursday 2nd March between 1.30pm and 3.10pm.

Class 3: Wednesday 1st March between 1.30pm and 4.50pm AND Thursday 2nd March between 3.50pm and 6.30pm.

Class 4: Wednesday 1st March between 1.30pm and 4.50pm AND Wednesday 8th March between 1.30pm and 4.50pm.

We would like to open up the invitation for your child (Y1-Y6) to join you at the meeting. Should you wish this to happen, you are able to collect your child from class and bring him/her with you. Your child will show you books and work that they have completed; they will also be present during the discussion with the classteacher.

Mrs Pennington, our SENDCO, will also be available on Thursday 2nd March between 3.50pm and 6.30pm to meet with parents from across the school to discuss any individual needs.

Reading Challenge for Infants

Thank you! It was lovely to see so many parents and children at the recent Bedtime Stories evening in school and equally as lovely to see so many of you take up the Reading Challenge. Remember that you have up to 31st March to achieve the following:

Bronze award: share 6-9 books

Silver award: share 10-14 books

Gold award: share 15+ books

Photograph competition for all children

Doing anything exciting this half term? Why not enter our reading photograph competition? By 10th March take a photo of the following and send it into school to be judged:

Infants: Take a photo of your child/ren sharing a book with an adult or another child.

Juniors: Take a photo of you reading in a very unusual place... be creative, have fun!

There will be a 1st prize and a runner's up prize of book tokens for both infants and juniors!

After half term we will be launching a reading challenge for the juniors... watch this space!

It's official... we are improving!

I just wanted to share some fantastic news with you... as you are aware, OFSTED judged us to be a school that 'Requires Improvement.' This was at a time when we had we at our most vulnerable with a number of staff vacancies. Since then there has been a great deal of support and hard work that has gone into making Curdridge the school it is today. Recently we were visited by our District Manager and her response was just 2 words 'Curdridge – Impressive!'

Whilst being delighted, we are not being complacent; our journey is not at an end and we will continue to strive to make Curdridge the best it can possibly be. Our priority is to keep addressing the OFSTED actions from June 2015 whilst also developing the curriculum for the children.

1. To raise the quality of teaching so that pupils' achievement improves particularly in writing and mathematics.

English: Areas of development for 2016-2017:

- Readdress the balance of reading and writing in the learning journeys
- Develop a rationale between the learning objectives used and the task design
- Develop parental awareness of how they can support their children's learning in all domains of reading.

Maths: Areas of development for 2016-2017:

- Embed (Concrete, Practical, Abstract) CPA into classroom practise
- Develop use of questioning
- Embed problem solving into the curriculum
- Develop working walls

2. To improve children's learning and development in the early years.

Early Years: Areas of development for 2016-2017:

- Continue to provide writing opportunities linked with each area of the EY curriculum.
- Introduce numbers and letters in the outdoor area and to continue to develop opportunities for writing.
- Further develop the use of Tapestry with parents.

3. To strengthen Leadership and Management.

Leadership and Management: Areas of development for 2016-2017:

- Continue to develop the role of leaders across school e.g. SENDCo, EY Leader, Maths and English leader.
- Continue to develop the role of the Governing Body in gathering evidence to support self-evaluation and to recognise the strengths of the school.



Have you seen our Curridge Learning Power (CLP) wheel?

We developed this back in the autumn term as part of our day closure. The wheel is there to support the school's already embedded core values as well as develop skills that we think are important in order for your child to become a successful learner. We use the wheel to plan our half termly topics.



Making links: To help children learn more effectively, it is good to make links in learning whether this be across different subject areas or even in a particular subject. Making links helps give children shortcuts to their understanding.

Creativity: Sometimes there are many ways to answer the same thing. We want children to be creative in their approach and to think of 'how' to present their work or thoughts that might be different to the teachers' and other children's ideas.

Planning own ideas: This is about giving the children the autonomy to plan before doing; again giving them control in completing the task.



Involvement and concentration: We want children to be motivated by their learning through exciting topics and activities that we plan for them. If children are involved and concentrating, it shows that they are enjoying learning.

Challenge: If we set activities at the right level, children will feel challenged in their learning. By being challenged, children will learn new skills and feel greater satisfaction in what they have achieved.

Independence and interdependence: This is about children how and when to work alongside other whilst also knowing when to work alone. Good learners are able to adapt their skills to work independently or a in a groups situation.



Application: Successful learners are not only able to apply themselves to tasks and activities but are able to apply learnt skills to new situations.

Perseverance and resilience: In order to be a successful learner, children need to be able to show perseverance in what they do; to not give up and keep trying whilst recognising that things will not always go their way. Resilience is the ability to accept knock-backs but be able to brush yourself off and start again!

Exploration: Successful learners are those who are keen to explore, ask questions and to take their learning further. It is about being excited about learning and wanting to find out more.

We have introduced the children to these words during assemblies and constantly use all of these words with the children in their learning in class. Each half term's topic concentrates on 3 of these words; we teach children these skills and help them develop these learning behaviours through the planned work.

Our new topic planning will always focus on an outcome; we plan to share these outcomes with you through a number of means. This half term parents from Y1-Y6 have been invited into school to experience first-hand what the children have done! We hope you enjoy seeing what the children have been doing as much as they have enjoyed doing it! Any feedback about this new approach would be gratefully received.

Day closures for 2017

The remaining day closures for this year have been agreed as follows:

Friday 17th February 2017

Monday 24th April 2017

Monday 5th June 2017

Changes in contact details

Please remember to inform us if you have any changes for your child; this might include changes in medical details, change of address, home phone, mobile numbers, work contact or email address. Thank you for your support in this.

Permission to walk in the local area

In completing the form giving contact details for your child, you have all given permission for us to take your child out of school to walk and work in the local area. Occasions when this takes place are weekly visits to the church; KS2 walking to the recreational grounds for PE and occasional walks locally. For any other visits we will write to you separately asking for your permission.

Diary dates:

Friday 17th February

Monday 27th February

Tuesday 28th February pm

Wednesday 1st March

Thursday 2nd March

Thursday 2nd March pm

Friday 3rd March

Tuesday 7th March pm

Wednesday 8th March am

Wednesday 8th March pm

Thursday 9th March pm

Friday 10th March

Monday 13th March pm

Thursday 16th March pm

Friday 17th March

Monday 20th March pm

Wednesday 22nd March pm

Friday 24th March

Thursday 6th April 2.45pm

Friday 7th April

Monday 24th April

Tuesday 25th April

Week beginning 8th May

Friday 26th May

Monday 5th June

Tuesday 6th June

Tuesday 25th July

Day closure

School reopens

Girls' Football tournament

Parents' evening

Parents' evening

YR to World Book Day event @
Sainsbury's

CSA film night for children

Y5/6 Tag Rugby tournament

Class photographs

Parents' evening for class 4

Reserve Tag Rugby date

Closing date for photo competition

Y5/6 Netball Rally @ Swanmore

Primary

Reserve Netball date

Messy Church @ Curdridge

Y5/6 Football rally

Reserve football date

Mothers' Day Tea

Easter Service in church

School closes for Easter break

Day closure

School reopens for the summer term

KS2 SATs week (Y6)

School closes for half term

Day closure

School reopens

School closes for summer break

Further details of many of these events will be given closer to the date.

Details of other events will be confirmed in the near future.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Wood

Mrs Sally Wood

Headteacher

Curdridge Learning Power CLP @ CPS

