

Ferryhill Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 21st February 2020

Thanks to everyone who completed our survey about the newsletter. We had 74 responses indicating that 72 people read our newsletter. Almost all were happy with email but some expressed concern about those who don't have access to email. We'll send out a paper reminder this week that those who don't have email can request a paper copy of the newsletter. Only 45 people asked for a weekly newsletter which is a low response rate given the size of the school. We will therefore be moving to a fortnightly edition of the newsletter from this week. Our next edition will be on the 6th of March.

Around the Classes

P1 have been learning all about forces. We've used toys to experiment with the push and pull force. The children enjoyed making ramps to see how fast cars would travel when we pushed them. This week P1/2 and P2 have been learning about famous Scottish landmarks. We've been drawing and labelling our favourites. P3A have been working on description in writing. We've focussed on using more wow words and more ambitious vocabulary. P4A have been learning about electrical safety this week and the class have been working in co-operative learning groups to create their own electrical safety posters. We've been making fact file pages about the Scots Monument as part of our topic work and we had another fantastic session at swimming. Group 2 were jumping into the pool today and swimming on their backs without arm bands. P4B have been enjoying making their own fact files of famous monuments in Edinburgh. We look forward to seeing the finished product. As well as this they've been enjoying creating their own imaginary stories, as well as solving money problems in maths. P5A have been learning about the causes and effects of deforestation, including on people, plants and animals. We have also been looking at the different ways in which we can make a positive difference. We've been researching and writing about the issue and are planning to make posters next week. P6A have been learning about endangered animals in Africa. We've been discussing poaching and the impact this is having on certain species of animals. We've been using our persuasive writing to encourage others to think about how we can stop this from happening. P6B have been learning how to make an interactive game using circuits in science, have been creating wildlife pictures using African patterns and have been working on persuasive letters in literacy. P7A are practising hard for their forthcoming assembly on Thursday 27 February at 2pm in the Assembly Hall. They have been writing and editing their own scripts, learning new songs and have also been busy creating their own props. P7B have started their new topic on natural disasters and will be looking at causes, prevention and the impacts they have, helping them to become global citizens. They've also been learning how to cook some tasty vegetable and tomato pasta with Mrs Bannerman. We've also started our new creative writing and it is clear we have some budding authors in our midst. To help these aspiring writers, we looked at some great examples of creative writing by students from Broughton Secondary.

In PE classes are continuing their focus on Court games focussing on their responsibility and leadership, speed and decision making. P1 to P4 are continuing to develop a range of skills in a number of activities and games whilst P5-P7 are focussing on Basketball. Its great to see how supportive and encouraging some teams have been with each other and pupils showing resilience when learning to deal with both winning and losing which is a really important life skill for all aspects of life.

In Other News

Our Rainbow Room celebrated its second birthday this week. We are very lucky to have such an amazing resource in school supporting pupils with their health and well being through groups including Rocket Club, The Cosy Cafe Quiet Lunch, Peer Supporters and Communication Groups. Several other schools in Edinburgh have visited the Rainbow Room to share our ideas and develop them in their own schools. Thanks to all the staff who work to make the Rainbow Room such a success.

We've achieved our sixth Eco Green Flag. This is a tremendous achievement for the school as there are very few schools who've had such success. Special thanks to the Eco Group and Mr Prowse for all the hard work that's gone into this. To celebrate our special achievement we've invited Christine Jardine, Member of Parliament to attend a special presentation event in school on Thursday, 2nd April. We'll also be holding a Green Flag Activities Day on Tuesday, 24th March.

Coming Up Next Week – Diversity Focus Week

We have a range of events and activities next week organised by our Diversity Focus Group. Thanks to Mrs Modunkwu and the group of children for organising these. Thanks also to parents and groups coming into school to help with these. Amongst the many activities are Bulgarian bagpipes, songs, stories and art, Henna demonstration, Bollywood dancing, Ghanian food, playground games and Capoeira (Brazilian martial art). On Friday children can come to school wearing traditional costume if they wish, kilts included !

Coming Up This Term

24 th Feb		Focus on diversity events and activities
27 th Feb	2 pm	P7A Class Assembly
27 th Feb	5 pm	P6 Parents Health and Wellbeing Information Session
4 th Mar		Samba drummers performing at the Queen's Hall
5 th Mar		World Book Day – dress down – no need to buy anything !
5 th Mar	2pm	P5A Class Assembly
6 th Mar		Newsletter day
11 th Mar	6pm	Parent Council Meeting
12 th Mar		P5A Dynamic Earth visit
19 th Mar	9.15 am	P1/2 Bronze Merits Awards Ceremony
19 th Mar	2pm	P4A Class Assembly
20 th Mar		Newsletter day
20 th Mar		Progress Books to parents
23 rd Mar		Cross Country Event for teams
24 th Mar		Green Flag Activities Day

25 th Mar	P3 classes Viking Day out National Museum
26 th Mar	Parent consultation meetings
27 th Mar	Parent consultation meetings
27 th Mar	STEM Focus Week Assembly Launch
2 nd Apr	Green Flag Presentation – visit by Member of Parliament
3 rd Apr	Newsletter Day
3 rd Apr	School closes for Easter Holiday – usual school times

Stewart Crabb - Head Teacher