



## FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Only one you

Dear Parents,

Happy 2020! It was lovely to see all the children back safely after the Christmas holidays and hear news of some of the things they have been up to! Thank you for all the lovely cards, messages and gifts that came in to school for staff—as ever, we would like to remind you that the act of gift giving is very much appreciated but never expected.



The spring term has got off to a flying start and we are really enjoying swiftly returning to routines in school. In our December newsletter, we asked families to consider three new year resolutions that would have a huge impact on our learning community:

1) **Get to school on time** so that you can come in to school through your classroom doors instead of the front office. This minimises disruption at the beginning of the day and means the children can get on with their learning straight away. **School gates open at 8.45am and class registers are taken at 8.55am.**

2) **Park at the Roman Palace** and make use of the Walking Bus, avoiding parking on the residential streets around school. We still have a number of families choosing to park illegally and inconsiderately.

3) **READ with your children** (and to your children!) every day—make it a part of your daily routine. It makes a HUGE difference to confidence and enjoyment!

**A huge thank you to those families who have made a concerted effort to tackle these—we are hugely appreciative.**

Now to all the exciting news about what we have been up to... Our Young Voices experience on Wednesday was INCREDIBLE. We could not possibly have been any more proud of the 71 children who came together to form our Young Voices choir. They were exceptional ambassadors of our learning community. The children had an amazing day,



an experience to be remembered for many years to come. The atmosphere at the O2 Arena was electric and it was an absolute privilege to spend the day with the children. The lyrics of 'Larger than life' spoke loud and true to our learning community

**You could fly higher than the sky, shine brighter than the stars.** And our children did this with great pizzazz!

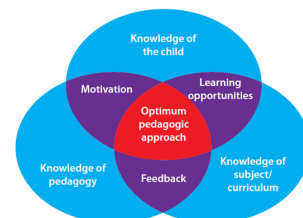


Talking of PIZAZZ... we have exciting news from our wonderful Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn. This week the front cover of her newest series of books was revealed. Our children had a sneak preview of some of the earliest Pizazz illustrations during a recent video update from Sophy and we are delighted to share with you the plot for the new book: *When Pizazz and her family move to a new town, she must juggle finding new*

*friends and fitting in at school with superhero life. This is particularly hard when you have to wear a glittery cape to school everyday, defeat the bad guys before breakfast, and rush off on a planet-saving mission just as you're about to have tea at your new potential best-friend's house! Between her super life and school life, Pizazz faces the daily hassles all kids deal with as she works out what it means to be both super-hero super and everyday super. When Sophy returns in March to visit Fishbourne, we will look forward to hearing news about where she is up to with the new book.*

**WORLD BOOK DAY 2020**—we want to give you the heads up now that we are celebrating WBD differently in 2020! Rather than our usual 'dress up' day, we are planning the next visit of our fabulous Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn, who will be coming on **THURSDAY 26th March**. The link we have had with Sophy this year has been so special and the children have really enjoyed their regular film updates... so... we are challenging everyone in school to find or make a pair of Bad Nana glasses to wear to school on the 26th to surprise Sophy! If any children would like to go further still and design themselves a Bad Nana costume they would be very welcome to do so and may also wear it to school on this day!

Our School Development Plan is progressing really well. The first of our priorities is to ensure that our children gain a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of mathematical concepts. Our other key focus is on developing our non-core curriculum overview to give our teaching team a more comprehensive document from which to work when they are planning learning experiences.



Mrs Harris and Mrs Buchan are now working closely with the 'Teaching for Mastery' working group based at Northern Parade Infant School in Portsmouth which they have found hugely beneficial. They have had the opportunity to observe teaching and learning at Northern Parade and are sharing lessons learned with the team back at school. In the next couple of weeks we have a training session focused on fluency in mathematics, following which our teaching team will have the opportunity to become part of a Year 5 maths lesson taught by Mrs Buchan in which they will explore lesson design with a focus on fluency. *Fluency is the quick and efficient recall of facts and procedures and the flexibility to move between different contexts and representations of mathematics.*

Our curriculum journey is now also well underway. As we plan our curriculum, we are considering several key questions:

- ultimately, what is our end goal? What do we want our historians, artists, geographers and theologians to look like by the time they leave our school?
- what knowledge do we want our children to have and be able to remember?
- what skills will they have developed?
- what vocabulary must they have a good understanding of and be able to spell?
- what experiences do we want them to have had?
- how can our learners use their knowledge to make the world a better place?

Mrs Allen courageously stepped up and took on the history map first and, after some inspiring training up in London with the Historical Association, she produced a first draft which has been shared with a number of people including staff, governors, local secondary schools, the local authority and the Historical Association. All those who have seen the map have given it a great big thumbs up which is great feedback. Mrs Allen, at the January INSET day, shared with staff how she went about the process and shared lots of helpful lessons learnt.

PSHE  
Association



Now, each subject leader is taking on their own curriculum mapping. The next to be written is PE which is well underway with the support of the West Sussex School Sports Partnership. Mrs Williams has been on training with the PSHE Association and will shortly be drafting the new PSHE curriculum for Fishbourne. As part of the training and preparation for the delivery of the new statutory requirements for RSE (Relationships and Sex Education), the whole staff team took part in some really super training with Allsorts, a youth project based in Brighton who connect with and support young people

who are LGBT or unsure of their sexual orientation. We will be consulting with parents following the design of our PSHE curriculum and revision of our RSE policy and look forward to sharing more with you about this during the second half of the summer term.

We aim that all our curriculum maps will have been drafted by May half-term so that staff can prepare to start working with them from September 2020. Our approach, through learning experiences will remain the same but this essential curriculum work will result in teachers being able to build on the key knowledge and skills that have gone before as they plan children's next steps of learning.

During our **Thinking Circles** this half term, we have a focus on wellbeing. In our launch assembly yesterday we reflected on the fact that we are in school for six and a half hours a day, meaning that by the time our young people finish university or college they will have spent a staggering 21,420 hours learning with others! We know that feeling happy is a vital, if we are going to learn effectively. As a result, we feel it is essential we talk openly about how we can ensure that everyone in our learning community feels happy and safe. Our key question for Thinking Circles this half term is: **What can get in the way of feeling happy at school?** The children will be talking about this today and we will start collecting our thoughts about how we can make school a happy, safe environment for us all to learn collaboratively and happily. The children will be invited to add to this display outside Mrs Martin's office with their own reflections so do pop in and have a look at some of their ideas!



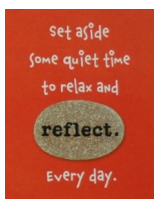
Why Thinking Circles? We made a move to Thinking Circles instead of running a School Council several years ago because we believe everyone should have a voice and be heard within our school community! Thinking Circles give us an opportunity to ask and explore some big, challenging questions in school and the children all have the opportunity contribute. They always result in an opportunity for action too! So far, the children have co-written several important documents as a result—our home school agreement and our anti-bullying booklet. We look forward to seeing how their ideas around wellbeing can result in some positive action in school in the coming months.

Next Friday, (31st January) is our next Cuppa and Chat in school. Everyone is very warmly welcome to pop in from 2.30pm to enjoy an informal cup of tea/coffee. It is a chance to touch base and talk about matters that are important to you and your children. At the next meeting, we would like to share with you some of the ideas your children have had in response to the Thinking Circle question and hear from you about things that could be put into place in school to make your children feel happier and safer. Please do join us if you can!



You will have seen that the Daily Mile running track is finished and the children have been enjoying racing around it during breaktimes! A HUGE thank you to our wonderful FOFS team for supporting this project, the Parish Grant and our very own Alfie in Meerkats class! We feel very lucky to have such a facility at our school and look forward to opening it officially next month (look out for details in the next newsletter!). Our first running club takes place on Monday after school come rain or shine. We have over 40 children signed up and look forward to seeing the children's enjoyment of running really starting to take off.

It's that time of the year again when we set aside time to REFLECT on ourselves as learners. In the coming weeks, the children will be writing their own reflections which will form a significant part of their school reports. Why do we do this? At Fishbourne, the children are active and accountable participants in their own learning. By reflecting on the children's progress mid-year, we have an opportunity to work together in partnership to support the children in their learning. This process has the capacity to be very powerful for children, teachers and parents alike! This process is time consuming for both the children and staff but all those involved believe that the investment of time to REFLECT is key and well worth the time. The reports that come home are highly personalised and help to map out your child's next steps of learning.



Please do have a look at the dates page opposite where there are a number of events coming up you may like to put on your calendar! With all our thanks for your ongoing support of our school community. Naomi Day



### Spring term

Fri 31st Jan: Cuppa and Chat at 2.30pm  
Mon 3rd Feb: Fete meeting in the staff room from 7pm.



Safer Internet Day  
2020 | Tuesday  
11 February  
Together for a better internet

Tue 11th Feb: Y6 out to E-safety event at The March School

Tue 11th Feb: PARENT Safer Internet meeting, 7pm at Lancasterian Infant School

Wed 26th Feb: Dance House

Sat 29th Feb: Jumble Sale at The Fishbourne Centre (FOFS)

Mon 17th Feb—Fri 21st Feb: HALF TERM

Thu 26th March—World Book Day celebrations & Sophy Henn visit  
(NB: This is not the same date as the national WBD!)  
**The children will be asked to craft a pair of Bad Nana glasses... we will not be doing our usual dress-up day!**

Fri 27th March: School Discos

Fri 3rd April: Break up for the Easter holidays

**INSET Days for 2019/20**  
**Fri 22nd May & Mon 20th July**



Last year, Humberts very kindly match funded the £500 donation from FOFS for our whole-class reading books which benefited every single child in school! The impact of the whole-class text was fabulous and the children responded brilliantly to the opportunity to read in collaboration with their classmates. The children have asked countless times whether this will be repeated and the answer is, YES, WE'D LOVE TO! One of the most important factors involved in our whole-class text is being able to choose the perfect text for the class, rather than becoming 'stuck' with lots of whole-class sets of books and the initiative losing some of its magical sparkle. We are aiming to repeat this during the spring/summer term of 2020 and would love to hear from anyone who may know of a local business who would consider supporting this school initiative. In return, we can offer advertising and promotion via our website and in the bookplates that are placed in the books. We would LOVE to hear from anyone who thinks they may be able to help us! Please do get in touch if you would like to know more.

### Allergy Aware School



**We have several children in school who have nut allergies and so we ask please not to put any items in your child's lunchbox that contain nuts, including chocolate spread!**  
**Thank you for your understanding.**

Our Twitter page is gaining some momentum so if you haven't done so already, you may like to consider joining the world of Twitter! Inspired by Sophy Henn, we decided we would set up a Twitter account for our school which you are warmly welcome to follow. It will be a lovely way for our children to follow Sophy via our school Twitter account.

Please do find us and start to follow... @FishbournePrim1  
You could also follow Sophy Henn... @sophyhenn



**AT FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, WE NURTURE OUR LEARNERS TO BECOME...**

