

Cogenhoe Primary School Newsletter



March 2010

School Values

We began the second half term with a theme week with the emphasis on our school values.

Tigers talked about what made them happy, about their feelings and how they could make other people happy. What makes a good friend? **Bobcats** concentrated on the values of Happiness, Friendship, Love and Responsibility. They listened to a story which explained the issues of respect for life, for other people and for themselves.

Puma class also explored tolerance and generosity through a variety of activities, including mask making. What colours they associated with happiness and what happened to their faces and bodies when they felt happy?

Bobcats and Pumas also held a mini enterprise by making and selling symbols of hope to raise funds for Haiti - over £100 was raised.

Lions concentrated some of the week on famous art work, thinking about how the Artists had displayed their thoughts and how the children could recreate their masterpieces. **Leopards** looked at the values by writing short plays based on generosity, independence and tolerance, scripting them and acting them out. The whole school enjoyed the visit from Dogs for the Disabled, when they learned how the owner had responsibility to and love for her dog.

Another visitor came from the Saints Rugby Club, thinking of self belief and attitude by helping them to improve rugby and team working skills.

During the week each class had time with a percussion workshop using drums, maracas, tambourines, blocks and cowbells with the help of a drumming group called Rhythmicity.

The work that had been produced during the week was then attached to banners named with the school values. These have now been hung in the school hall for everyone to appreciate and remind us of all our school values. They are quite impressive. If you haven't already seen them, please call in.

Trips

Puma class thoroughly enjoyed a trip to Piddington Roman Villa Museum. They had opportunities to create mosaics, make honey omelettes and "spiced wine". They played some children's games and made little stitched wish parcels. One of the highlights, of course, was trying on the Roman costumes, especially that of a legionnaire soldier, complete with helmet and armour.

Lion Class had a very successful and interesting trip to Cadbury World, where they learnt all about how chocolate is made and the history of Cadburys. All staff and parent helpers were

extremely proud of the children as their behaviour was

wonderful, and this was even commented on by other people. If you are thinking of a day out, we can definitely recommend



this one.



Clubs

Several after school clubs were run this term. There were two clubs involved with cooking, one for KS 1 run by Mrs Goldswain and Mrs Partridge Underwood, and one for KS2 run by

Mrs Patel. Cooking is always very popular and there were some delightful aromas of food in school on those days.

Equally as enjoyable were the choir held by

Miss Sanchez Garcia,



Art with Mrs Drage



and Country Dancing with Mrs Gibson and Mrs O'Connor.



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Musical Theatre

Last week saw the culmination of 8 weeks coaching by the professional theatre actress and theatre director for the 22 children working on "Seussical The Musical". What a success! The performance was lively, colourful and brilliantly carried out. Thank you to the parents, family and friends who came to support the children on this very enjoyable occasion. It was so nice to see how they have grown in confidence over the weeks.



School Association

You will all have received the newsletter from School Association giving updates on the events they have held during the term. May we say a very big thank you to the Committee for organising the various events. Dads and Grandads helped pack the presents with the children for Mothers Day, and the Charity Golf Event raised over £600 followed by the Pamper Evening which raised over £400. All funds will be going towards outdoor play equipment.

Litter Pick

Thanks to those parents and children who are able to support this community event. We will all benefit from seeing the village looking much tidier.



Your views

So that we can improve our school together, we will be asking you to spend a few minutes filling in a questionnaire at the Parents Evenings on Monday and Tuesday next week. This does help us enormously, and we hope you will agree to do this so that together we can move our school forward.



Peer Tutors

Three children are now fully trained to support children's learning. They have enjoyed two days training with the peer tutors from other schools in the cluster, and will commence working with the children after Easter. Congratulations to Jessica Webb, Charlie Mincher and George Chapman.

Special Request for Help

Mrs O'Connor has made a request for any parents who can give any of their time on Monday or Tuesday afternoons, helping the children in the grounds. Mrs O'Connor would like to get the children more involved in looking after the garden but cannot do this without help. Please see Mrs O'Connor if you feel you can **'give a hand'**. Thank you to



Mrs Minney for donating a greenhouse which we will put up in the summer term.

Children's Views

The School Council is consulting with children on what they would like to have in the playground. They have also given their ideas on how they can help to raise funds for this project too.

Parent's Evenings

We look forward to seeing you all at one of our Parent's Evenings. I will be meeting with the parents of children in Tiger Class at these times, but if you do wish to make an appointment to see me, please contact me to arrange a time.

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Art Exhibition



We were delighted with the art work produced for a competition run by Wollaston School for our Cluster. Their work is displayed this Friday between 4.30 – 8.00pm at Wollaston. Well done to Hannah Davison, Jessica Webb, Emily Banyard, Claudia Bull, Emily Grimes, Charlie Wreford, Maya Charles, Harvey Reynolds, Molly O'Leary, James Micallef, Rosie Humphreys, Chloe Barden and Freya York whose work was selected.

Football Competition

Children in year 6 represented our school at a football competition against other cluster schools. We were delighted that our team were runners up in this competition, and are very proud to tell you that they displayed excellent team work and a positive attitude. Our thanks to the parents who helped with transport to this event.

Security

Could you please help us to promote your children's independence by waiting for them on the playground at the end of the day, this will avoid congestion in the Key Stage 1 cloakroom and will keep security to a maximum. You are, of course, welcome to come back into school once you have your child with you.

Easter Events

The children have invited you to join them for an "Easter Tea" in their classes before we break up for our Easter holiday. We do hope you will be able to pop in and share this with them from 2.45 to 3.15 next Wednesday afternoon. During the afternoon the children will go down to church for their usual end of term service.



If you are able to help us walk the children down you will be very welcome.



All our children have been made aware of the Christian festival of Easter. Children in Tiger, Panther and Lion Class have been working to produce a display for St. Mary the Virgin Church in Little Houghton entitled 'A walk through Holy Week' The work they have produced will help to focus prayers as worshippers follow Jesus' last steps during Holy week.

You are welcome to view this display from 3pm – 5pm on 30th March at the church.

Finally to remind you that school closes for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 31st March at 3.15pm and reopens on Monday 19th April.

Enjoy the holiday with your family and friends, and may all of us at school wish you a very happy Easter.

With very best wishes

Elaine Goldswain
Head teacher

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