

Tividale Community Primary School



Newsletter November 2014

November at Tividale....

November has been another hive of activity here at school, so I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you about some of the things our children have been doing....

School Visits

Tividale children have been out and about this month! Y1 have learned what it was like to live in a castle on their visit to Tamworth Castle, Y2 soared into the clouds at RAF Cosford, Y3 lived like Romans at the Roman Lunt Fort and Y5 blasted off on a space exploration at the National Space Centre..... And we cannot forget the Y5 & 6 group who have been having an outdoor adventure including night time walks and hide and seek in the dark woods at Frank Chapman residential centre this week. I'm sure those children, and staff, will sleep well this weekend!

Special Events

On Armistice Day this year, we held a special assembly which was live streamed for schools from the Tower of London to commemorate the 100 years anniversary of the start of WW1.



After watching, all the children sang some songs and then marched in to the playground singing 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary', ready for the two minutes silence. When the bell sounded to mark the end of the silence, the school council released 100 red balloons into the sky and the children applauded respectfully whilst watching them disappear over the horizon. It was a magnificent sight, and, although there was slight drizzle, it did not spoil the event. We were lucky enough to be joined for the morning by Mr Ray Brown, a local Korean War veteran, and he spoke to the older children about his experiences and the importance of tolerance and respect in our society, to help promote understanding and prevent conflict.

Also, we have been treated to a colourful and informative Diwali assembly by Y5, a lively 'Tividale's Got Talent' event, presented by the school council in aid of Children in Need, and a fabulously presented assembly

from Class 3 which showcased all of the work they having been doing in their project, "Who would you like as your Queen?" We learned about the bad habits of Queen Elizabeth 1, who never cleaned her teeth, and the cleverness of Queen Victoria, who could speak 3 languages fluently as a girl!

Parent Workshops

We have had another run of successful workshops this month in all year groups. Parents who attended were involved in creative activities about their child's project work. These activities provide valuable insight into our expectations and what it is like to be a child learning at Tividale. Mr Flynn and Mrs Findon have also run two parent workshops on e-safety. These focused on age-appropriate ways to help keep our children safe on-line, whilst ensuring they are learning about benefits of working on the internet. The slides from these presentations will soon be available for you to view on our website. Feedback for all of our workshops has been incredibly positive and very supportive of the work we do in school. Thankyou....

Sumdog

Our Y6 children have been participating in a local and national on-line maths competition, and, as I write, we are currently in 1st place, beating some Y8 groups! Watch this space.....

Appropriate Winter Footwear

We have had many enquiries at school about what is appropriate and acceptable footwear for girls especially during the winter months. Due to the increase in availability of appropriate style school boots for girls in shops, we have decided to allow school boots to be worn during the school day. If your child wishes to wear boots, please can you make sure they are in keeping with the school uniform. This means being black, leather style or patent, and that they have a sole suitable for running in the playground- no high heels! Ugg style, or knitted, fluffy boots are not appropriate and can be dangerous as they provide little or no support to feet or ankles. On wet or snowy days, children coming to school wearing wellies or snow boots must bring either a change of footwear or change into their PE pumps whilst indoors.

Parking thanks...

Thank you to those parents who make every effort to continue to park considerately and safely to help protect our children.

Unfortunately, there is still a small minority of parents who are parking on yellow lines and even across neighbour's driveways. We have had a few complaints over the past weeks. You will also be aware that the police are now be making regular visits during peak times and I have been told they have already issued parking tickets to those cars that are parking illegally.

Winter Weather - Snowline

So far this year, we seem to have avoided any disruptive weather. However, should I be speaking too soon and should we have any seriously bad weather this winter that requires us to close the school for a short period, we will be notifying you through our text messaging system, **so please make sure that we have your most up to date mobile phone number.**

In addition to this, we will also be informing you on our Openhive Pupil Page. When you log on to this page, underneath the school logo, there will be an announcements box. This will tell you as soon as possible, whether or not school will be closed due to snow. Remember, on occasion, this may even be the night before in cases of particularly bad snowfall.

Also, as is required, we will be informing the local authority of the closure and they in turn publish it on the council Twitter page. Be assured though, that school will be closed as a last resort only - **if you don't get a text from us or see it on Twitter, Openhive, or our website, we are open!**

Finally, Congratulations...!

I am really pleased to announce that our attendance figures for last year stood at 96.66% This is considered to be well above the national average of 95.6%. I would like to thank all of you for ensuring children to attend school regularly and punctually, and for making every effort not to take holidays during term time.

Important Days/Dates for December 2014

- 4th - Early Years Christmas Concert (am)
- 5th - Christmas Fayre (3:45pm)
- 10th - KS1 Christmas Concert (pm)
- 11th - KS1 Christmas Concert (am)
- 17th - KS2 Christmas Concert (pm)
- 18th - KS2 Christmas Concert (pm) and Party afternoon
- 19th - Music Concert (am) and break up for Christmas

Signed:



Headteacher

28th November 2014