



Stillington Primary School Weekly Bulletin 2nd December 2022



Class 1



This week in Class 1, we have had a wonderful time thinking about the upcoming Christmas celebration. The children have been working so hard with the Nativity and are looking forward to sharing it with you!



In phonics we have had a focus on all the tricky words that we have learnt so far by writing them in glitter and flour, and playing tricky word games. The children are enjoying using their writing in their play.



Class 2



It's been a fantastic week in Class 2. The children have been working hard in maths, using various methods and resources to add 2-digit numbers within 100 together, as well as adding and subtracting numbers within 20. We talked about our favourite presents – such as rubber crocodiles, ukuleles, cars and teddies - and wrote 'Thank You' cards in our English lessons. We explored mixtures in science and also in art, where we mixed together different colours to make another.



Class 3



It's been a busy week in KS2. The children have been researching and planning a persuasive speech around a "Save our Oceans" campaign, and we watched Greta Thunberg give a speech to the United Nations Climate Conference in 2019.



In maths we have been completing our maths assessments for this half term, and we are starting to learn the carols that we'll be singing at the KS1 Nativity at the end of term. For their performance at the KS1 Nativity, we'd love it if the KS2 children could bring either a Christmas jumper into school or other Christmas-coloured clothing to wear.



Message from the Headteacher...



Mrs Sarah Moore

It has been a number of years since Terrington and Foston schools federated and our schools have been working in close collaboration with Stillington School, now, for over two years. As we move closer towards bringing Stillington into our federation, I thought it would be worth sharing with you the many benefits of these joint working arrangements, particularly in the current climate of rising costs and changing educational landscape.



As you know, I am passionate about the sustainability of our small village schools, which sit at the heart of their community.



Many of our teachers have been 'home grown', starting with us as newly qualified teachers. We pride ourselves in offering career progression for our excellent teachers, to ensure that we retain them. This includes the opportunity to take on subject leadership across all three schools. Professional development is more effective across a larger staff team. Our senior leadership team structure, which includes an assistant headteacher and newly appointed Pastoral lead, affords the financial freedom to provide our schools with more teaching assistants and shared resources than would be available to a small school on its own.

In addition to this, the government's increased curriculum requirements demand a significant amount of work from subject leaders. With a wider teacher base, we can provide subject leaders who are expert and fully trained in leading their specific area of the curriculum. This ensures that subjects are constantly improving and led by strong subject leaders, who work across all three schools.

The Primary National Curriculum specifies 11 curriculum subject areas, plus RE and Relationships and Health Education. Planning for all of these subjects in mixed-age classes is a significant workload for teachers in one small school. Across our federation, teachers work in phases to plan an excellent curriculum for our children that is clearly differentiated for our mixed-age classes and goes above and beyond expectations. Subject leaders with expertise in their subject can tailor the plans expertly to the classes across our schools.

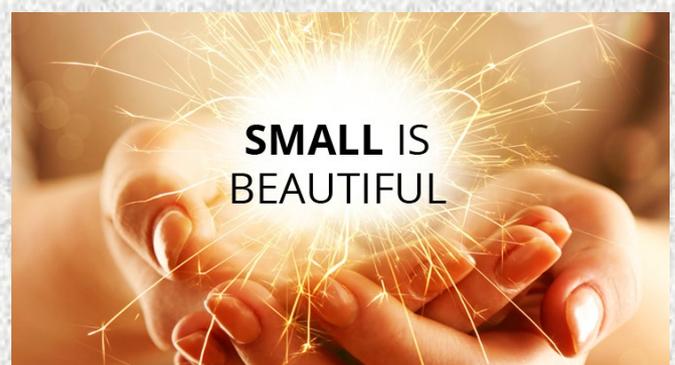


Alongside the benefits for staff, our children experience many curriculum enhancements which are only affordable through the pooling of financial resources to top up parental contributions. We pride ourselves on the many, additional opportunities that bring the curriculum alive for children.

The children also get enhanced sporting opportunities, when we bring the schools together. Children are able to expand their social groups, which aids transition to secondary school.

In the current educational climate, it is vital that small schools work together to remain sustainable. This is also increasingly important during the current cost-of-living crisis. Due to our structure, we are in the lucky position to be more financially secure. Alongside the uncertainty of the government's academisation agenda for all schools moving forward, it is really important that we work together to remain viable.

I continue to work hard to secure and sustain small village schools, which I passionately believe offer an amazing education for their children and keep communities together.



**SMALL IS
BEAUTIFUL**

PE kit reminder

Our regulation PE kit consists of:

White t-shirt with black shorts or black jogging bottoms

Black jumper or hoodie

Trainers (to be kept at school for daily P.E sessions)



Dance Club

There will only be two more sessions of Mrs Scaife's dance club.

There is **no club on Thursday December 15th**, as it is our Christingle service and Nativity play at that time.



FOSS news

This Friday 2nd December will be the last 'Cake Friday'. We will be continuing with the **sweet stall every other week**, with the next one being the last day of term, 16th December. We would just like to thank you all your bakes, donations and continued support.



£102.70 was made at the Christmas Fair. Thank you to everyone who donated toys, baked cakes and helped out on the night. Special thanks to Mandy Jackson and Liz Cole.

This year's **Christmas Tree** for the school was kindly donated by Fowler & Goodwin Ltd, Seth & Maddox's Dad.



FOSS pantomime trip 'Old Granny Goose' at the Grand Opera House in York, Wednesday, December 14. Returning to school around 17:30.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Although this trip is free, **you must give your permission on ParentPay**, as the trip takes place partly in school hours. You will see this item in your ParentPay feed as 'York Pantomime'.

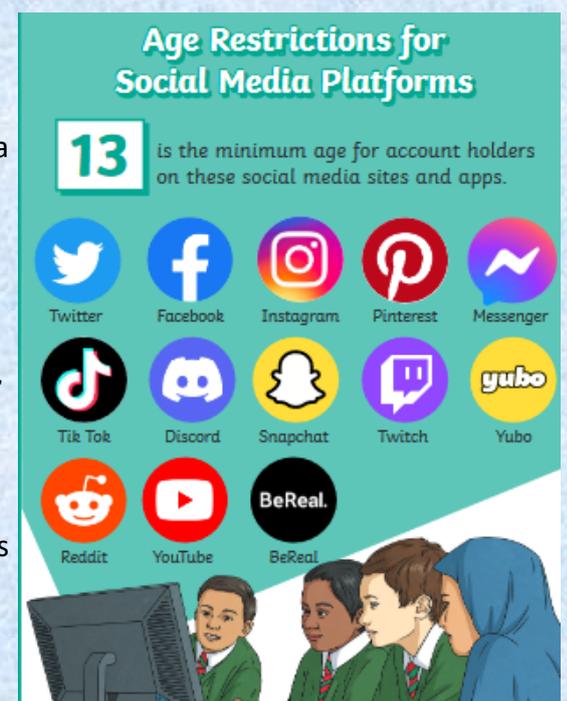
Keeping our children safe online

It has come to our attention that some children have access to some of the accounts in this picture. Please be aware that there is a **minimum age restriction** on these accounts of **13 years of age**.

Some content on these social media platforms is **not suitable for younger children** and can be difficult for them to process what is real and what is fake.

We have attached an information guide about Tik Tok and how you, as parents, can control what your child is accessing. We hope you find this useful and will follow its advice.

We'd also like to remind you again of a site we highlighted a couple of weeks ago. [Common Sense Media](#) is an organisation that reviews and provides ratings for media and technology with the goal of providing information on their suitability for children. It sets out detailed content that can be accessed quickly and give you an overview of things such as violence and language, as well as the suggested age ratings. **If you are considering buying a new computer game for your child this Christmas**, we recommend that you use this site to check out its content before you buy.



Lunch menu change

On **Wednesday December 7th**, the lunch will be the **fish option** listed originally on the Friday menu for Week 1 (Dec 9th), as we are now having our Christmas Dinner instead, on the 9th.



Children from Terrington and Foston schools will be joining us at Stillington for the Christmas Dinner on the 9th, so there will be a lot of festive fun!

2022 –23 KEY DIARY DATES



Date	Event
AUTUMN TERM 2022	
Fri Dec 9th	Christmas Dinner—all three schools at Stillington
Wed Dec 14th	Pantomime visit (FOSS)—Grand Opera House, York
Thu Dec 15th	Christingle Service & Nativity Performance, 4:00pm
Fri Dec 16th	Christmas party
Dec 17th—Jan 3rd	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS—BACK TO SCHOOL ON WED JAN 4TH
SPRING TERM 2023	
Feb 11th—19th	HALF TERM BREAK—BACK TO SCHOOL ON MON FEB 20TH
Tue Mar 28th	Parents' Evening—All (<i>choice of either date</i>)
Thu Mar 30th	
Thu Mar 30th	Easter Service, 2:30pm
Apr 1st—17th	EASTER HOLIDAYS—BACK TO SCHOOL ON TUES APR 18TH
SUMMER TERM 2023	
May 1st	BANK HOLIDAY—BACK TO SCHOOL ON TUE MAY 2ND
May 8th	CORONATION BANK HOLIDAY—BACK ON TUE MAY 9TH
May 27th—4th	HALF TERM BREAK—BACK TO SCHOOL ON MON JUNE 5TH
Tue July 4th	Sports Day (<i>reserve day Thu 6th</i>)
Thu July 20th	Leavers Service, 2:30pm