

# Cornerstone Chronicle

March 2014 No 4



*Building our Community with Love and Hope*

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. The weather appears to be improving and hopefully we can look forward to some welcome sunshine over the next few weeks

## **Class Updates...**

### **Year R Bumble Bees**



#### **Planning**

This half term we are planning activities and learning experiences based initially around the theme of Dragons. We hope this will inspire the children to write independently as they are very motivated by their holiday homework and the fact that this week they will have met Aurora, our class 'dragon' who has arrived from Scotland!. In maths we will continue work on doubles and will be exploring the language of addition and subtraction; look out for your vocabulary sheet to help with this at home. We are also exploring pattern in shape space and measures and finding out more about money, why not start looking at coins at home perhaps do some rubbings which are good fun with a wax crayon.

Shortly we plan to look at People who help us and are arranging visits from police dog handlers and traffic police. If you have contacts who may want to talk to the children let us know. We will be trying to write labels and lists and sentences from stories we have learnt. In RE we will be building up to the Easter story, considering new life, looking at Spring outside and reflecting on our own qualities. In PE we continue to alternate between dance and multiskills.

#### **Getting outside**

Our outside provision improves by the day and we are grateful for all donations of building materials. I am still keen to have more tyres to plant in, we also need more planks, pieces of wood for bridge making, gutter lengths, and coloured gloss paint, so if you are planning DIY please save surplus materials for us. We have begun to use small areas of the grass and the copse. Please look out for the date for Grounds day which will be a Sunday before Easter when we would like to ask for parental help to improve the outdoor environment.

#### **Phonics and Reading**

We are now revising the more complex vowel digraphs; letters and Sounds phase 4. Look out for new picture cards and a list of sounds to work on.

Don't forget to look out for coloured bookmarks to help with reading, please return any you have finished with.

#### **Getting wet!**

Whilst we do try to minimise wet clothes, we do sometimes have accidents, please send a spare pair of trousers in to keep in PE bags if your child often comes home in other clothes due to 'accidents' or water play disasters. Please return borrowed clothes as quickly as your washing routine allows. If you are able to supply a waterproof suit for school please do as we only have six. Thanks.

#### **What happens when?**

PE will take place on Monday mornings this half term, led by PE teachers from Henry Cort, please try not to wear tights on this day!

Library book return day is Wednesday. Homework comes home on Fridays and is collected the following Thursday.

#### **Toys**

Please leave your toys at home so that we don't lose them.

### **Year 1/2 Ladybirds**



#### **General**

Spring 2 has started off with the children all 'fired' up about our new topic. This half term we are finding out about the Great Fire of London. They have already found out lots of facts and are currently in the process of making some London landmarks ready for later in the term. We would like to invite you to an exhibition of our learning (date to be confirmed) where we will be re-creating the fire on the playground. It would be really helpful if you could talk to your child about what they know and how this event had a significant impact on London today.

Ladybirds are trying hard with their writing especially remembering to include capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. It would be really helpful if you could remind the children of these fundamentals for writing.

In maths we are learning lots of mental strategies to help us be super mathematicians. We will be learning number bonds to 20 and using numbers to 50 and 100. Have a try at playing 'guess the number' where the children have to answer questions

## **Outside Area**

We are trying to continue developing our outside area. These are the sorts of things we need: **guttering, tarpaulin, logs, old wellies (for planting), spare compost, bulbs, empty paint cans.** It would also be helpful to bring in any waterproof trousers your child may have, we have created a mud pit!

## **Reminders**

PE is on Mondays, please make sure PE kits are in school.

Library book exchange is on a Friday.

## **Uniform**

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly marked with your child's name. We are having real difficulty matching unnamed items with the correct child. The reversible coats do not make labelling easy, why not try a ribbon or key ring in the zip or sew/ iron a label at the bottom under the lining?

## **Top Table**

If your child comes home and tells you that they have been chosen to sit at The Top Table it means they have been following the Lunchtime Rules. The Mid-Day Supervisors choose children each week to sit at the table every Monday lunchtime.

## **Recycling**



We need old comics, ribbons, cards and bits of wrapping paper, interesting boxes and tubes for model making, pine cones, corks, bits of string and rope. Also any broken electrical items we could dismantle, and old but serviceable tools particularly hammers and screwdrivers. If you are throwing it away we will probably like it!

## **Clubs**

We are able to offer the following clubs:

### Lunchtime Clubs

Choir - working towards performance in the Easter Service

Reading (details to follow)

### After School Clubs

Monday	Performing Arts 3.15 pm - 4.00 p.m.
Wednesday	LJ's Dance & Drama 3.15 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday	Tecnico Coaching Football Club 3.15 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Friday	Multi Skills 3.15 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

If your child would like to join any of the above clubs please speak to their class teacher or the school office.

## **Cornerstone PTA**

Thank you for your support with the Film Club this week. We raised £58.

Our next event is the Family Photo Session on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Please contact the School Office to book a 10 minute slot.

If you are interested in joining the PTA please come along to our next meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> April at 7 p.m.

## **Dates for your Diary**



### **March 2014**

14 Professional Day - children do not attend  
20 Scooter Training - Details to follow  
22 Family Photo Session 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
24 Betsy Bunny - Performing Arts Club 6 p.m.  
31 Spring Celebration Assembly 2.30 p.m. - all welcome

### **April 2014**

03 PTA Children's Fancy Dress Disco 5 - 6 p.m.  
04 Easter Fun Day  
04 End of Term 3.15 p.m.  
22 Start of Summer Term  
29 PTA Meeting 7 p.m. All welcome

### **May 2014**

7 May Class Photos  
19 May Carnival Week  
19 May Walk to School Week - Details to follow

### **June 2014**

2 June Professional Day - children do not attend  
3 June Start of Out and About Week  
5 June Picnic Lunch & Sports Day 12.15 p.m.  
17 June PTA Meeting 7 p.m. All welcome  
20 June Summer Fayre

### **July 2014**

04 July Problem Solving Day & Exhibition 2.30 p.m.  
08 July Itchen Valley Country Park Trip - details to follow  
09 July Parent Drop In Sessions 2.30 - 4.30 p.m. details to follow  
14 July Professional Day - children do not attend  
18 July 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebrations - details to follow  
23 July End of Term

### **Forward Planning**

02 Sept Autumn Term starts

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Charlotte Weavers  
Executive Headteacher