



COURAGE CARE COMPASSION

Fingringhoe Church of England (VA) Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We wish you a **HAPPY HALF TERM**. **FIRST DAY BACK FOR PUPILS** is **TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY**.

This half term, classes have completed fantastic units of learning – please have a look at the class updates on curriculum below.

Thank you to all parents and carers for encouraging children to enter classrooms independently in the mornings. All pupils are expected to put their own coat/PE bags/book bags/lunch boxes away themselves. They will receive support from teaching staff if needed. Parents of Reception children are welcome to come down the bottom of the stairs outside Willow classroom.

We ask that parents/carers do not enter classrooms in the morning. Teaching staff are busy settling in children and starting learning. If you have any concerns in the morning regarding your child, please speak to the member of staff on the gate or a member of the office staff.

Thank you for your support.

Ms Ryan

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY...

17th-21st Feb Half Term

24th Feb Non-Pupil Day

5th March – World Book Day

3rd April – Beech Class Easter Performance

6th April-17th April – Easter Holidays

8th May – VE Day Bank Holiday

25th May – 29th May Half Term

1st June – Non-Pupil Day

9th – 12th June – Mersea Residential

9th July – Sports Day Afternoon 1

13th July – Sports Day Afternoon 2 (in case Day 1 is postponed due to bad weather)

16th July – End of Year Show Years 4,5,6

20th July – End of Year Disco (PTA Led)

22nd July - Last day and Leavers' Service in church 9:15am

Church assemblies:

We are aiming to hold **all** Friday Celebration services in the Church. All welcome. Individual invitations are sent out to parents if your child is receiving a Head Teacher Award during Friday Celebration Service.

JEWELLERY and SMART WATCHES

Jewellery is not allowed in school under any circumstances. Please avoid earrings. If your child must wear earrings following piercing for 6 weeks - they should be small studs. We ask that you please tape them up on PE days. After this period, we ask that earrings are not worn. This is due to accidents reported in other schools nationally.

It has come to our attention that a number of pupils are wearing smart watches or Fitbits in school. We are currently allowing them in school; however, they must not be connected to a phone or internet under any circumstances. There may be times where we feel it is appropriate to remove them and put them in a safe place if they are causing a distraction and stopping your child from focusing on lessons. Please trust us to make the right decisions. Your child should be checking the time, but anything else could be a distraction.

Packed lunches

We have seen a dramatic improvement in children's packed lunch boxes and pupils are keen to show us what healthy foods they have that day. Thank you for your support. We will continue the push for healthy eating.

Here is a link to a website that gives ideas for healthy alternatives

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>



World Book Day

Thursday 5th March

As before, we will be celebrating World Book Day in school and invite the children to come dressed as their favourite book character. Please bring in their book to share with the class

Mrs Stainer will be hosting a Mad Hatters Tea Party on the day, with lots of tasty treats at lunchtime for the children

Payments

Please can we ask parents to check their ParentPay and ensure all payments are up to date to include the Year 6 residential installments.

We have several pupils with large arrears. This is not something as a small school we can sustain.

If you have any concerns regarding the above, please call the school and speak to a member of the office team.

NEXT HALF TERM CLASS READS:

Beech Class: 'Where the Wild Things are' by Maurice Sendak.

Maple Class: - Continuing with Goodnight Mr Tom

Elm Class: - One Thousand and One Arabian Nights

Data Protection

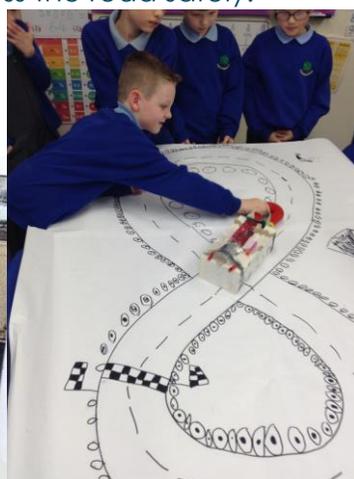
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Check out what your child has been learning about through their half term topics. Our curriculum has been recently revamped to reflect our school community, our local area and our values: COURAGE CARE COMPASSION. Check out our school website for more information.

www.fingringhoeprimaryschool.co.uk

Beech Class

We have been investigating magnetic and non-magnetic items by conducting experiments. We designed and made model airplanes and cars using recyclable materials and attached a magnet to make them move across a racetrack or runway. We have been trying to encourage a real love of reading by introducing reading passports and a competition against year groups to see who can earn a 'reading buddy' first! We have had some brilliant pictures of children reading in different places for our 'branch out with your reading' display. Children have thoroughly enjoyed reading 'The Hodgeheg' this half term and they have written their own stories about a different animal who is trying to cross the road safely.



Willow Class

As part of our 'Shiver and Sizzle' topic, Willow class have looked at hot and cold places in the world and learnt all about the equator. The children packed their cases with warm clothes, made their passports and took a trip on an aeroplane to Antarctica where Pablo our penguin comes from. They even looked in the cockpit when the pilot, Mrs Withrington, took off. When they got there, they played in the ice and snow. Then the next week they packed their summer clothes and took a trip to India and tasted some Indian food.



Maple Class

Maple have been busy learning about the Battle of Britain this half term. We have learnt about the key events during the Battle of Britain, what life was like for an evacuee and developed a better understand of chronology. We even turned the classroom into an Anderson shelter! In addition to this we have also developed our DT skills when making photograph frames with a Battle of Britain theme. We thoroughly enjoyed using tools to make wooden frames and focused on producing a high-quality finished product which was strong and stable.



Elm Class

In Year 6 we have been learning about how animals have adapted to survive in their environment. We looked at how Charles Darwin developed his theory of evolution by observing the different types of finches that live on the different islands of the Galapagos. We then tested his theory by using different styles of 'beaks' to see which style was best adapted for each food type.

