

# Homefield C of E Primary School

## Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2022

### Headteacher Update

We are now over half way through this first half term and the children are working incredibly hard. It's lovely to see them so engaged in their learning, asking big questions and demonstrating excellent behaviour. It has been fantastic to meet so many of our families at the school gates - thank you for taking the time to stop and chat. I look forward to getting to know all of you over the next few months. Please see below a list of **key diary dates**, this includes a coffee morning where you can come in and meet with me. This will be an informal chat but it will also be an opportunity for me to share any key developments within the school.

Please look out for the calendar on the school website for all future dates

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Read

### Communication

We want to improve how we communicate with parents, ensuring that you receive all school information in a time efficient way. We will no longer be using the app 'Marvellous Me' and all parents are encouraged to email directly to [office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk) should they wish to contact an individual member of staff. All letters including newsletters will now be emailed directly to you via our 'Teachers2parents' messaging service. They will also be posted on the school website as usual. Please ensure that we have your current email address, if not please pop into the school office.

We will be using the school facebook page 'Homefield VC Primary' to share with you the weekly learning, recognition awards, pastoral updates and signposting to events/information.

We will continue to use tapestry to communicate with the nursery and reception parents. Please speak to a member of the Early Years team if you are having difficulties accessing Tapestry.

### Vision & Core Value

This term we will be launching our new Vision and Core Value

The new school Vision and Core Value has been developed with the staff, children, parents and governors. We feel that it reflects our aims and aspirations for our school community. I will be sharing it in more detail at our first parents coffee morning and I welcome your feedback



Our school vision 'Curious Minds, Open Hearts & Joy of Learning' is at the heart of all we do. At Homefield C of E Primary we strongly believe in providing the children with inspiring, creative and meaningful learning experiences that builds on their natural curiosity and ignites their passion for learning. Through our well sequenced, knowledge rich curriculum and a supportive environment we aim to create a culture with high expectations where children embrace the joy, awe and wonder of learning.

We aspire for all of our children to leave Homefield C of E Primary School, with high aspirations, having the confidence and knowledge they need to succeed as unique individuals.

## Our Core Value is RESPECT



We actively promote 'Respect' throughout our school community. We celebrate difference and diversity by encouraging our children to be outward looking.

By showing and living the value of **Respect** for ourselves, for others and for the global environment. Our thinking, our behaviour and our decision making is guided towards achieving our vision.

*Peter 2:17 Show respect for all people. Love the brothers and sisters of Gods Family*

Both our vision and our associated values are grounded in a clear theology firmly rooted in a Christian narrative from the New Testament of the Bible. As a school community, we are one body that shows respect for all of its members, including the local and global environment.

## Free School meals

Over the last two years, the school has provided Free School Meal vouchers during the holidays, as well as free daily meals for pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals. It is really worth checking if you think you could be eligible, as the school also receives money that can be put towards further support for pupils in a number of ways.

Please click on the link below to complete the short online form which will indicate if you are eligible:  
<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

If you are eligible, please notify the school. The Free School Meals team will also notify the school and any subsequent meals or vouchers will be provided for your child. If you have any questions about applying for Free School Meals, please contact the school office and they will be able to support you with this.

## Wet Weather

Please could your child have a spare waterproof jacket and a pair of wellies that they can leave at school each day. We want the children to experience outdoor learning as much as possible but they will need the right clothing, we would really appreciate your support with this.



## Reading at Home

This year, our reading records have gone online. Hopefully you have all received your parent login and downloaded the **BoomReader** Parents App. It is really easy to use and there is parent crib sheet (see link) <https://go-read.co.uk/downloads/parent-guide-mobile.pdf> and a helpful video (see link) <https://vimeo.com/531349764>

The OU tells us that 'Children need support to develop the habit and love of reading, and their research indicates that these three core strategies support readers:

Reading Aloud;  
Time to read as a family;  
and Book chat.

This doesn't just mean children reading to adults, especially our youngest children, it means all things books. And it doesn't just mean school readers, it means all books.

So 'just relax and read', share and talk about books and let us know what you've been up to in the app.

Our expectation is that children will read/share books at least 4 times per week. However, these are the percentages of children in each class who have logged any reading in the app this week.

YR - 16%

Y1 - 48%

Y2 - 34%

**Y3 - 72%**

Y4 - 30%

Y5 - 29%

Y6 - 38%

Well done Y3. Let's see which class will log the most reading next week.

### House Captains

Our house captains this year are:

**Harriers**  
**Jessica & Niamh**

**Swallowtails**  
**Eva & Paige**

**Hawkers**  
**Austin & Jasmine**

**Kingfishers**  
**Darcy & Toby**



### Reception Open Sessions

Reception will be holding two open sessions for the new Reception intake 2023/2024

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> November 4-5pm

Weds 19<sup>th</sup> November 4-5pm

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed, if you would like to make an appointment or attend a session

please email [office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk) or call 01493 661691

To apply for a place in our Reception Class 2023/24 please click on the link below

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-classes>

## Learning Round up

### Nursery

We were delighted to welcome our new Nursery children and their families into our class, just a few weeks ago. The Nursery children who started with us in Easter, have been amazing role models whilst we settled the new children into our class.

We have been getting to know each other by sharing our 'All About Me' books and playing together. We have been on a nature walk, exploring outside areas, whilst tuning into sounds in the environment and collecting different natural objects.

Our favourite stories we have shared so far have been 'Shark in the Park' and 'The Three Little Pigs'. The children have used props to retell these stories. You have probably heard different versions at home! We enjoy singing Nursery Rhymes together and we are now very good at '5 Currant Buns' and '5 Little Speckled Frogs'.

The children are developing both their gross and fine physical skills, climbing, balancing, painting and playing with playdough.

We have been looking at sorting objects by colour, size or shape. If you need help at home with pairing socks or sorting cutlery into knives, forks and spoons....please ask your child. I think you will be impressed!



### Reception

Reception children have settled in very well and have been enjoying lots of fun learning. One morning we found bear paw prints in the classroom and on the table we found oats, milk, a bowl and a recipe book on how to make porridge. We thought it must have been the Three Bears from the story Goldilocks and the

Three Bears. We made and ate the porridge which was so delicious. In maths we then talked about different sizes of bowls, spoons, cups and plates and counted how many the family of bears would need. We have also collected and explored natural materials and created some of our own fantastic artwork. We have also begun learning some new sounds from Success for All Phonics and learning the alphabet chant.

### Year 1

Year 1 has settled in brilliantly and they have enjoyed exploring our environment. We have been incredibly fortunate to receive money from the PTA to buy new, high quality resources for our classroom. We are excited to see how our classroom environment develops throughout the year.



In our English lessons we have been using the text *The Queen's Hat*. Children are working towards writing their own version of this story which we cannot wait to share with you.

In History and Science we have been learning about ourselves and our bodies. We had great fun tasting different foods as you can see by our faces in the photos below.

## Year 2

Year 2 has had a fantastic start to the new school year and have impressed me so much already! We have been reading *Little Red 'Reading' Hood* in English and so we decided to copy her and read in all sorts of strange places around the school. This has inspired our own writing this half-term as we are creating our own twisted fairy tales. In Maths we have been looking at place value, making 2-digit numbers in different ways and comparing them using the tens and ones. Our Science is all about living things and their habitats and we went on a microhabitat hunt around the school to see what different places animals live.

Ask your children to sing the continents song as we have been learning all about them, the seven oceans and hot and cold deserts in Geography. In Computing, we are using Scratch Jr to code a rocket to move around spinning planets! Our RE question is "Why do Jews celebrate Passover?" so we have learned the story of Moses and Pharaoh from Exodus and tried the different foods that you can find on a seder plate that are symbols of the story.



## Year 3

Year 3 have made a great start to the school year and have helped Miss Harper & Mr Harvey settle into life at Homefield. In English, we have been reading *'Star in a Jar'* and looking after our very own star named Sparkles. One day, Sparkles got lost! The children created wanted posters and placed them around school for some help, Sparkles was back in her jar in no time. In Science, children have enjoyed learning about why we have skeletons and what we would be like without them. In History, we have been learning about the Stone Age and have recently been investigating famous footprints found on Happisburgh Beach.

## Year 4

Year 4 has made a brilliant start to the school year, and settled into routines really well. In English our focus has been narrative writing, using the story *'Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp'*. The children have been focusing on using writing skills such as simile and repetition. In Science our focus has been Living Things, the children have enjoyed spending their time outdoors hunting for leaves that are lobed or have teeth; they are currently working through an ongoing project about bees and the environment - Miss Dodson and Mr



Cole look forward to reading their discoveries. In History we have been researching about the Romans, how they got to England and why they came. The children have been most interested in the Roman toilet system and the gladiators. Ask your child what the Roman toilets looked like. Some of the children have been using new art techniques at home and have brought in some beautiful wax resist pieces.



### Year 5

Year 5 has made a brilliant start to the school year, and settled in really well. English this term has been focused on the story/short film 'The Fantastic Flying Books of Morris Lessmore'. The children have been focusing on adding more descriptions into their writing and using writing skills such as personification and fronted adverbials. We visited our local community library as part of one of our experience days and were given a warm welcome - thank you to the library staff. In our history topic learning we have been finding out about the ancient civilisation of the Maya. Learning about the events in Moses' life has been the subject for our RE learning and we have been trying to answer our big question 'Does following God bring freedom and Justice?' Science has been fun as we have been setting up investigations to test materials. Art this half term has been focused on painting and drawing, with the children creating self portraits using different media, we enjoyed showing an example of one of our techniques during the parent cafe.

### Year 6

The children in Year 6 have made an excellent start to their final year at Homefield. They have been writing some spine-chilling ghost stories and exploring numbers to a million and beyond. Dragon bones from China have been the starting point for a Shang Dynasty focus in history and they are loving their first encounter with a micro:bit in computing. Ask them about Carl Linnaeus and his scientific naming system, or good and bad bacteria, or whether Christians can believe in the Bible book of Genesis and the Big Bang Theory of creation. And they're only four weeks in! Incredible

### Mrs Clarke

A warm welcome to new Parents and hello again to existing parents, My name is Mrs Clarke and I am the Parent support advisor at Homefield. I have been here 16 years and it has been wonderful seeing the children return eager to learn. If you have any worries or concerns about your child, or need support to help with problems at home or a bereavement, money worries, anxiety, or just general support and a chat please do not hesitate to get in contact with me and I'll try my best to help.

### Extra Curricular Clubs

We are pleased to have our after school clubs up and running now. The initial offer currently involves football, netball and basketball. There are still some spaces if you would like to sign up.

Our current timetable is as follows:  
Monday Y4/5/6 boys football and Y4/5/6 mixed netball  
Friday Y3/4/5/6 mixed basketball and Y3/4/5/6 girls football.

We are working to develop new club offers throughout the year.

Diary Dates		
Date	Event	Year Group
10th October	Nasal Flu Vaccination	Year R - Year 6
13th October	Harvest Festival, please bring in donations of food, see school facebook page for food list	Nursery - Year 6
18th October	Individual and family group photographs	Nursery - Year 6
19 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA school discos	Nursery & Reception 3:15 -4:00 pm Yr 1/2/3 4:15 - 5:15 pm Yr 4/5/6 5:30 - 6:30pm
24 <sup>th</sup> October	HALF TERM	Whole school
1st November & 3rd November	Parent consultations	Nursery – Year 6
1 <sup>st</sup> November 9-9:45am	Coffee Morning with Miss Read	Whole school community
Week beginning 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Family Cafes – meet the class	Nursery – Year 6
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup> (3:15-4:15)	PTA meeting	all parents welcome
9 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception Open Sessions 2023/24	Nursery
16th November	PTA Midweek Movie	Nursery - Year 6
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Non school uniform day – Donations Tombola Prizes	Nursery – Year 6
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Fancy Dress day	Nursery – Year 6
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre	Whole school community
5th December	PTA Wreath making	tbc
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9-9:40am & 2:30 – 3:10pm	Christmas Carol Concert	Year 1, 2 &3
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10-11am	EYFS Christmas family cafe	Nursery & Reception
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9-9:40am & 5:30-6:10pm	Christmas Carol Concert	Year 4, 5 & 6
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper/Christmas dress up Christmas Dinner	Nursery – Yr 6