



Dear Parents,

As this half-term draws to a close, we would like to share with you some news & events from around the school. In this week's bulletin;

- **Our Big Questions**
- **Class Dojo launch**
- **Juniper Class Worship**
- **Challenge Partners**
- **Sport update**

Our **BIG** Questions Project

We would like to re-launch a project with families where, each half-term, we reflect on a question and share our thoughts and ideas about it. The questions will promote reflections and discussions about our community. They will help us to celebrate diversity and reflect on how we as a community support each other and the wider world. The question for the next half-term (November-December) will be:

What Does Family Mean To You?

We are hoping that pupils and parents will be able to think about this question and send in a piece of writing, a photograph, a poem or any record of what they think about when they hear the word 'family'. We would like to create a whole-school display where children and families can visit and take a moment to see what makes up our collective understanding of the word 'family'. If you would like to send in your contribution, please do so by **Friday 11th November**.

Class Dojo launch

We hope that families are enjoying using Class Dojo and that you enjoy the updates from teachers each week. There are certainly a wide variety of activities going on around the school! So far we have seen Bikeability; a trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London; Literature Festival trips; a church visit; House Captains & Pupil Parliament announcements and much, much more. Please do 'like' and comment on the posts as teachers really appreciate your kind words.

Juniper Class Worship

During Juniper class's Worship last Thursday, the children heard the story, 'It's A No Money Day'. Families were then invited to donate foods at this time of year, Harvest, to the Cheltenham Food Bank. We would like to thank you for all of your kind donations which will be collected later in the week.

Challenge Partners

Our school continues to be part of the Challenge Partners network (a national partnership of schools committed to reducing educational inequality and improving the life chances of all children). Through this network, Miss Sullivan has been out for three days this week reviewing a school in Aylesbury and we have the next review of our school scheduled for February 2023.

Within the local Challenge Partners network, we are currently working together to focus on lunchtime provision and share good practice. As part of this initiative, we have hosted a visit from Bengeworth Academy, Evesham who spent time with representatives from our Pupil Parliament evaluating our lunchtime provision.

Aspects singled out for particular recognition were:

- The Year 2 Lunch Buddy system to support our youngest children in the dinner hall.
- The wide variety of activities available to the children.
- The calm zone as a place where the needs of children can be met through sensory activities and mindfulness.

In terms of our next steps, we will consider the following:

- A system for how we can encourage the children to store their lunchboxes more neatly.
- Supporting our eldest pupils to further develop their leadership skills through organising and leading additional lunchtime activities for the children in younger years.

We were thrilled for our provision to receive such positive recognition and we look forward to building on these action points with the children throughout the year. Pupils from Pupil Parliament and our newly elected Arts and Sports Captains will be leading this work, in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team.

We are very excited to see the positive changes the children can make. We will keep you updated!
Mrs Taylor

Sport Update

The Year 5 and 6 footballers had only been together for one training session before the coaches had to choose just 10 children to compete in the annual Albert Dix competition on Friday 7th October. The competition was a 7 a-side tournament which pitted us against other schools in Cheltenham battling for the chance to represent Cheltenham Town FC in the district competition. With limited match practise, uncertainty was in the air as to just how well the children would fair as a new team but they defied the odds and couldn't have made us any more proud. The children managed to finish top of their group after 3 close matches advancing to the finals stage. After winning the first of two finals matches, the children bowed out gracefully one game before the final. A huge congratulations to the team who represented the school superbly.

On Monday, the league campaign got under way and saw the A-team come out 4-1 winners against local school Woodmancote. The B team also competed in a very tight 0-0 draw. It has been great to see so many children participating in football training on Wednesday's and contributing to the promising start our competitive teams have made. The children are looking forward to their upcoming fixtures next half-term, standby for updates!



Cross Country Report October 2022



This term it has been lovely to see record numbers of children arriving at school at 7.50am on a Tuesday morning to enjoy Cross Country club!

As a school, we also take part in the Cheltenham District Primary Schools Cross-Country League, where we enter four teams of children. The first two events were held this month at Newland's Rugby Ground and St Edward's Prep School. All the children selected were proud to represent school and showed great resilience and perseverance in completing the 1-1.25 mile courses. A special well done must go to all those children who were competing for the first time.

Some notable results:

Newlands

Year 5 and under Girls: Lucy 31st, Isabella 26th & Libby 20th

Year 5 and under Boys: Oli 26th, Dylan 25th & Charlie 6th

Year 6 Girls: Cameron 4th

Year 6 Boys: Joel 37th & Hari 34th

St Edward's

Year 5 and under Girls: Isabella 37th & Libby 12th

Year 5 and under Boys: Dylan 20th, Joshua 11th, Will 9th & Charlie 8th

Year 6 Girls: Cameron 3rd

Year 6 Boys: William 35th & Hari 29th

My thanks go to all the families who have transported their children to the races and to all those parents who endure an early start to their Tuesday mornings!

We will now concentrate on club training during the winter months and we look forward to competing in the final two races in March.

Mrs Taylor

GSTTA Competition

Does your child play table tennis? The Gloucestershire Schools Table Tennis Association is holding an event at on Sunday 5th February 2023. Details of the event are attached.

Mr Simpson & Mr Robinson

We hope you all have a lovely half-term.

Kind regards,
The Leckhampton Staff