



Tollerton Primary School

Newsletter



January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've made it through January!! It has been a really positive start to the new year, with children settling straight back into our new term with their usual enthusiasm.

What are children learning in school this half term?

This half term the children have a History focus to their topics. I love walking around school and seeing the variety of topics being covered. We've got Castles in Year 1, Victorians in Year two, I've heard all about the Crime and Punishment topic in Year 4 and seen some wonderful work on Ancient Greece from our Year 5 children. The staff have worked really hard this term to really refine the knowledge we are teaching children, always revisiting and retrieving information from past topics in order to give children a good understanding of chronology and where their topic fits in a timeline. In science I have been lucky enough to be a part of the Year 6 lessons for the last few weeks, and we've explored some really interesting work on evolution and inheritance. The Year 3 children have had a great time working as a team to put together the parts of the skeleton. In class R the 'rhyme robber' has been at large.






Parent Survey Feedback

Thankyou to those of you who completed the survey, it was really helpful to have an insight into how you feel the school experience is for your child, but also how you are experiencing school as a parent. The most important questions for me are those that indicate whether your children feel safe and happy at school. A feeling of safety and belonging is instrumental to children's learning both in and out of the classroom. 100% of parents who responded felt that their children felt safe and felt happy at Tollerton.

1. My Child is happy at Tollerton Primary school

[More Details](#)

 Insights






 Strongly agree	50
 Agree	28
 Disagree	0
 Strongly disagree	0
 I don't know	0



2. My child feels safe at school

[More Details](#)

 Insights

	Strongly agree	53
	Agree	25
	Disagree	0
	Strongly disagree	0
	Don't know	0



The survey also has enabled us to reflect on the use of Class Dojo as a method of communication. Whilst overall the response was incredibly positive, there was some indication of the fact that dates can be easily lost when there are sometimes multiple posts on a day. We will endeavour to send more frequent reminders of significant events, but we will also email the monthly newsletter to allow the document to be more easily searchable.

It is really important that if anyone does have any specific concerns, worries or questions about how we do things in school you do pop in and see us. We are always happy to talk through any issues to find a way through and forward.

Professor Brookes Visit

Ahead of our science week (which will take place after February half term) we were very lucky to have a visit from Professor Brookes who delivered a 'Meet a scientist' presentation. Professor Brookes has recently been awarded an OBE for services to physics following pioneering work to develop a new wearable brain scanner. This work has huge potential to transform the diagnosis and understanding of many neurological and psychiatric disorders, and we offer Professor Brookes our warmest congratulations. During his presentation Professor Brookes shared some of his work with our children, and kindly left some equipment for our children to explore. The children were all really excited by the presentation, and left feeling really inspired. Aren't we lucky!



The view from my office



How often on social media do you see 'My office for the week' or 'Not a bad view at work today' posts accompanied by photographs of panoramic views of a city's bright lights, or even better sprawling countryside or sunny beaches. Well in the interest of keeping things real; here is the view from my office. All jokes aside, thank you so much for your patience over the last few weeks. The contractors are making great progress despite the weather. We are very much looking forward to the building work being finished, commencing work on smartening up our outdoor areas and restoring access around the whole site. This will also ease the burden on the parking situation outside of school which remains to be challenging. It is really important that we all work together to drive and park responsibly to keep our children safe.

New website pending

A school website is an incredibly important tool to communicate everything we feel is important about our provision. We are currently working to improve our website, how it looks and how easy it is to navigate. It's looking great so far, and we are hoping to launch it after February half term. As well as information about the school both operationally and curriculum focused, there will be an easy to access calendar, list of dates for the diary, and also a place where all newsletters can be found. If there is anything you'd like to see more of on the website please do let me know.

Looking ahead – Dates for the diary

These are the dates we have in the calendar up until Easter. We will always try to give you as much notice for activities as we can but remember we will always provide reminders on Dojo.

Date	Event	Any extra info/requirements
Mon 5 th February	Children's Mental Health Week Theme 'Your Voice Matters'	
Tues 6 th February	Online Safety Day	
Thurs 8 th February	Chinese New Year Celebration	Theme lunch Children to wear red/white/yellow/gold
Thurs 8 th February	Movie Night 3-6pm	Arrangements for collecting your children at the end of the evening to follow.
Friday 9 th Feb	Last Day of Spring 1	
12 th – 16 th February Half Term		
Mon 19 th Feb	Science Week	

Sat 24 th Feb	Boys Football County Finals	
Thurs 7 th March	World Book Day	Details to follow
Mon 11 th March	International Women's Day	
Thurs 14 th March	Reception and class 6 height and weight checks	
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief – Family Rave Aerobics for Comic Relief 5-6pm	£10 per family for charity!
Tues 19 th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6.30	Calendly Link to follow
Weds 20 th March	Parents Evening 3.30-6.30	
Fri 22 nd March	Year 3/4 Mixed Football tournament	Details to follow for those involved

Thankyou for taking the time to read this newsletter,

Mrs Smith