



Coombe Bissett Primary

Newsletter 3 (end of Term 1)



A LOVELY TERM

A huge thank you to all parents for working alongside the staff to make this returning term such a resounding success. The children have been calm, settled, confident, feeling safe and loved and are really enjoying their learning. This has not been the case in other settings, and this is a huge testament to all that has been delivered and achieved together, staff and parents. Our school attendance level is way above Wiltshire and National which is a huge delight to all of us in comparison to recent years. We have really loved having your children back in school, learning and playing together.

As we enter half-term rest assured that the school will continue to focus on your child's wellbeing as well as beginning to accelerate their learning progress to support them to close any gaps that have developed in recent months. As a staff team we are really looking forward to this next stage of focused learning as we know the children are so keen and eager to gather new knowledge, to challenge themselves and to reach for the sky.

We wish you all a wonderful half term with family and friends. Rest assured the school will continue to take the highest level of precautions possible to keep children in school as much as possible.

INTERTEAM TOURNAMENTS

Here at Coombe Bissett we provide the children with termly competitive sport, enabling the children to apply the skills they have learnt, develop their teamwork, challenge themselves to excel and to develop their sportsmanship. With a few adaptations we have continued this this year and held our annual Interteam Football Tournament. Every child played, every child represented their team and every child had a great time. The winning team in KS1 was Green Team and in KS2 it was Yellow Team. The winners of the sportsmanship trophy in KS1 were the Red Team and in KS2 it was the Blue Team.

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THANKYOU

A huge thank you to Leo's Grandmother (Elm class) for running the stationery sale which raised £85 for the FOCBS. Thank you also to parents and community members who secured us a donation of items from Dunelm. We are very proud of the close relationship we have with our community, such as the church & parish and the village who have previously donated £1400+ for a Reflection garden and £1500 for our Forest school. We are hopeful both these areas will be operational after half term. Finally, a huge thankyou to the FOCBS for all the fabulous fundraising this term – the Christmas cards soon to be sent out, the Bags to School which has raised an amazing £181.80 today for the FOCBS, the school hoody's and the fabulously creative pumpkin carving. Thank you to everyone for your lovely generosity in your donations to the Trussell Trust Food Bank. A stunning 92kg was collected.

VALUES FOR LIFE

This term our core value has been CARE. The children have really enjoyed exploring what this means to their daily lives. Their class 'diary of reflection' has allowed them to explore their own thoughts on this and share them with each other. The Harvest Festival was a lovely extended event in the church as they thought about caring for others and for the world. Oak produced some lovely pictures and an autumnal wreath, Elm produced some delightful acrostic poems for Harvest, Fir made a stunning salt dough harvest bundle and Ash wrote some beautiful poems. All of these are on display in the church.

As part of our extension of these values into their daily lives we are issuing an opportunity for some half-term home reflections on 'care'. If you would like to complete something from the list of ideas below, please return it to school on return and we will make a lovely display:

- Take some pictures of your child demonstrating care for nature / animals / around the house / for others and write a brief explanation.
 - The children can draw pictures of the care they demonstrate and a brief written explanation can be provided.
 - The children could design a logo for care with their ideas of what caring is written with it.
 - The children could write a poem or a story about care.
 - The children could read about someone else being caring and then write what they liked about it and why.
 - Other ideas you may have.
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OAK CLASS VISITS

This term Oak class have already engaged in two wonderful class visits. A couple of weeks ago they went to the Wiltshire Wildlife Reserve to collect wildflower seeds. They had a terrific time collecting seeds as well as exploring other aspects of nature. This week they planted these wildflower seeds in their wildflower bank just outside of their classroom – we simply cannot wait for these to grow and for the butterflies to start to appear.

On Wednesday of this week Oak class visited Salisbury Cathedral to explore the cathedral through art and creativity. They also enjoyed meeting the clergy and understanding their role and all the special vestments.

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We were bursting with pride when the Cathedral staff told us how impressed they were with Coombe Bissett as the children were so well mannered, well-spoken and well behaved.

This is a huge testament to the wonderful way the children have settled in to their first term at Coombe Bissett. They have been so excited with their learning, so comfortable with their environment and so confident. Well done children, and thank you to the amazing staff who have facilitated this.

Thank you also to the volunteer parents who helped with these visits – without you these would simply not be possible.

OAK AND ELM NATIVITY UPDATE – CHANGES OF DATE

Due to the availability of the village hall we have had to update the Nativity dates as follows:

- Monday 14th December 10.30am = Oak Nativity Dress Rehearsal (parents with younger siblings can attend this one with the younger sibling – limit of 2 adults)
- Monday 14th December 2pm = Elm Nativity Dress Rehearsal (parents with younger siblings can attend this one with the younger sibling – limit of 2 adults)
- Wednesday 16th December 10.30am = Oak Nativity (limit of 2 adults per child – no siblings)
- Wednesday 16th December 2pm = Elm Nativity (limit of 2 adults per child – no siblings)

Face masks to be worn by all visiting adults.

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