

Newsletter



Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have a very busy newsletter to share with you this week, with the children having enjoyed lots of exciting learning experiences these last two weeks. We hope you enjoy the wide range of photographs and information included which gives a taste of what has been happening in school.

Also included in this week's newsletter is an update in terms of the feedback we received last term during parents' evening. Thank you again for your responses, which were overwhelmingly positive. Thank you also for the feedback around how we could do things even better - please see a summary of what we have put in place or are in the process of putting in place in response.

If you have any questions relating to your child, or key messages for your class teacher, please do contact them via a message on Class Dojo, or using admin@placefarm.org.uk.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Mrs McConnell
Head of School

Upcoming dates:

February

1st February: Reading Café for OAP - 9:00-9:30 in school hall
3SJ visit to Haverhill library

7th February: EYFS OAP Parents lunch (more information below)

8th February: Reading Café for OLP - 9:00-9:30 in school hall
EYFS OLP Parents lunch (more information below)
3KM visit to Haverhill library

15th February: Reading Café for 6EJ - 9:00-9:30 in school hall
2SA visit to Haverhill library

Half term: 19th-23rd February

28th February: Parent Workshop led by OM nurse 4:00-5:00pm (further information below)

29th February: Reading Café for 6SL - 9:00-9:30 in school hall
2LA visit to Haverhill library

March

13th March: EYFS share session for parents 9:00-10:00 (further information to follow)

14th March: 1ES visit to Haverhill library
Provisional date for Spring disco (further information to follow)

21st March: Rainbow visit to Haverhill library

25th March: Parents' Evening (further information to follow)

26th March: Parents' Evening (further information to follow)

28th March: 1ED visit to Haverhill library

Year 6 Residential – Manor Adventure

WOW! What an exciting three days the Year 6's had who visited Manor Adventure in Norfolk.

They took part in lots of different activities including: fencing, rock climbing, archery, aero ball, plus canoeing and kayaking. They all had lots of fun.

The children were incredibly well behaved, followed all of the rules and had the upmost respect for all the instructors – they were a real credit to their parents and the school. Amazing job Year 6 – Miss Jenkins and Miss Lister are PROUD of you all 😊





The children at who stayed at Place Farm also had loads of fun! In the mornings, with Mr Lewis, the children worked on a school prospectus project where they used their iPads to capture images that best showed off Place Farm. They then used either the Freeform app or iMovie to edit the pictures and then use persuasive devices while adding captions to the pictures. The children also enjoyed playing benchball and football, where they showed great communication and teamwork skills.



OAP Reading Café

On Thursday, we held our busiest Reading Café ever, for OAP! It was incredible to see so many families joining us, thank you! The children loved sharing books with their families, we even had some younger siblings joining us. We are trying something new this year, and giving the children a question or statement to think about when they are sharing stories. We had some lovely responses to "Tell me about your favourite book." We also had some lovely drawings. I hope you enjoy reading their thoughts.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Reading Cafes, and we look forward to seeing more of you very soon 😊



3SJ Library Visit

It was 3SJ's turn to visit the library this week and they had a great time having the chance to search for new books to bring home with them and being read to by a librarian!



Story Seekers with Suffolk Libraries

On Thursday this week, children from years 3, 4 and 5 were lucky to take part in a Story Telling session, provided by Suffolk Libraries.

Kirsty, from Ipswich Library, and Emma from Haverhill Library visited Place Farm and worked with the children to explore different ways of telling stories. The children had a fantastic time!



Maths at Place Farm

This term in Maths, we have been looking at pupil voice and seeing what the children think about their Maths lessons at Place Farm. It has been really fantastic to hear them speak so positively about their learning. The children really enjoy their Maths lessons, they feel proud of their work and they like to be challenged. In particular, we have been focusing on stretch and challenge within Maths lessons. The children spoke about how their teachers challenge them through their choice of questioning and through further reasoning questions. Children are encouraged to explain their thinking and justify their answers using full sentences. Children are also encouraged to discuss and share different strategies they have used to work things out.

Below are some quotes from various children across the school:

"I enjoy my maths lessons because it's challenging as the questions can sometimes be difficult."

"Maths is really challenging and I like to be challenged because I like to push myself."

"We use a whiteboard and the teacher asks us to tell us how we got the answer."

Here are some photos of some of the challenges children have been doing from across the school:

2a. Owen says,
If I round 74? to the nearest 100, the answer is 700. If I round 750 to the nearest 100, the answer is the same.
Do you agree? Explain why.

2b. Olga says,
If I round 350 and 450 to the nearest 100, both answers will be 400 because they are the same amount away from 400.
Do you agree? Explain why.

I don't agree because 750 has a 5.
No I don't agree because 450 rounds to 500.

2a. Wendy has 3 packs of 7 balloons.
There are 20 children at the disco.
Wendy says,
I can give every child a balloon.
Is she correct? Explain how you know.

Wendy is correct because $7 \times 3 = 21$, and 20 children so everyone gets a balloon but there is a spare balloon for Wendy. So, yes, not no.

Key Learning: To relate halves and quarters to division

True or False?

Which of these statements are true and which are false? Correct the false statements so they are true.

One half of eight is four. (T)	One quarter of eight is four. (F)
One half of four is one. (F)	One quarter of twelve is three. (F)
One half of sixteen is eight. (T)	One quarter of four is four. (F)
One half of twelve is six. (T)	One quarter of sixteen is eight. (F)

Best wishes 😊
Miss Lister

Parental Feedback at last Parents' Evening (almost 200 responses)

99% of parents said their child is happy at school.

99.5% of parents said their child feels safe at this school.

98% of parents said the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.

99.% of parents said they have either had no concerns to raise, or that concerns have been dealt with properly.

99.5% of parents said their child is doing well at school.

98% of parents said the school has high expectations of their child.

Positive comments received:

Place Farm gives each child a chance to thrive.

My child loves school and is happy every day.

I moved my child back to Place Farm because they loved it here.

Any concerns were dealt with very quickly.

My child can speak to teachers about anything.

Always been happy that I chose Place Farm. All 4 of my children are thriving. All staff members work hard for the children and it shows.

School support is amazing. Couldn't ask for more from a school and the teachers do an amazing job.

Fab staff, fab school – thank you for everything!

Thank you for being such an understanding, supportive and generally wonderful school. We value and appreciate all of the hard work that the whole staff put in daily. We appreciate you

Our next steps: You said...We did...

You said...	What we did/are doing....
I would appreciate seeing more photographs and information about what my children are doing in school.	Providing more opportunities for photographs to be shared on Class Dojo via the class teacher, and on the newsletters.
It would be good if the school could offer a wider variety of clubs.	We have already extended our range of sports clubs based on pupil and parental feedback.
It would be good to offer non-sporty clubs	We also now offer choir clubs for KS2 and will shortly be offering a further music club after school. We will continue to extend the choice further over time.
Some parents were not sure about how school supports and celebrates wider personal development.	Our celebration assemblies focus on celebrating our PROUD values, beyond simply what happens in the curriculum. We welcome outside achievements being celebrated in assembly- please do bring these to our attention! Watch this space for some upcoming opportunities being rolled out.

Celebration Assembly



Congratulations to everyone who received a certificate in celebration assembly this week. We had lots of children receiving their red, green, yellow, blue certificates as well as one pupil receiving their pink certificate. Several children received their PROUD certificates and we had two certificates for outside-of-school achievements which we also love to celebrate.



We are also continuing to celebrate maths achievements on tt rockstars. Times table knowledge and fluency are so important in many areas of maths. Please continue to encourage your children to use tt rockstars at home. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.



School Council, Outdoor Learning and Fundraising



At Place Farm, we have been looking at how we can develop our outdoor space for the children to enjoy. Our school council conducted a survey with their classes to see what ideas they have for developing the courtyard area in the center of the school. Using these ideas, the fundraising team are putting together a plan of how to raise money for these ideas to become reality. Some of the ideas included: bug houses, bird feeders, outdoor seating, colourful insect attracting flowers, a canopy and then lots of ideas for how the space could be utilised and enjoyed by all.

Uniform

Thank you for continuing to support our uniform expectations – the children look so smart and proud wearing their full uniforms.

With the recent cold weather, we have noticed a few children coming into school with long sleeved vests/base layer style tops under short sleeved shirts. Could we please ask that if you wish your child to layer their clothes, they wear a short-sleeved vest under their shirt, and wear their jumper in school. Thank you for your support with this 😊

Video from National Literacy Trust:

It's time to build on the love of books by going beyond the books. Discover some creative ways for you and your child to get the most out of reading:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qj26w4qhMvI>

To find the helpful list of recommended links and additional information which will help you put the fun back into reading, visit our website: <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activitie...>



EYFS – Parents lunch



We would like to invite the parent/carers of the EYFS children in to school to have a **school lunch** with their child. (One adult per child.)

OAP (Mrs Payne's) class will be invited on Wednesday 7th February and OAP (Miss Parry's) Class will be invited on Thursday 8th February.

If you would like to come along, please pay £3.47 for your meal via parent pay, stating which option you would like; meat or vegetarian.

If you have any dietary requirements, please let us know via Class Dojo.

You will need to come to the school for 11.20am and lunch will be finished by 12.00pm (approx.)

OAP- Miss Payne's class

Wednesday 7th February 2024 – Roast Chicken

OLP – Mrs Parry's class

Thursday 8th February 2024 – Spaghetti Bolognese



om

Health & Wellbeing Consultancy Ltd



Free Parent workshop

'Meerkat or Grizzly – which is your child?

Top tips for taming both' a session for parents about managing your child emotions.
(50mins – 1hour)

Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you to attend a parent workshop (led by an OM nurse) on Wednesday 28th February 2024 at 4:00PM. This session will allow you to find out more about how to manage your child's emotions. This session is for adults only; however, we will provide a creche for parents that are unable to find alternate childcare arrangements. Please can you complete the forms link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/v7ByPqYLY7>

Yours sincerely,
Miss Graham

Please continue to gather any items together. We welcome parents waiting until the collection day/day before to bring these in to school please!



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes - more funds for your organisation. It's £0.55 / kg

YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED FOR

14th February

FILL ANY BAGS WITH UNWANTED CLOTHING AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

<p>WE ACCEPT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good quality clean clothing (adult's & children's)• Paired shoes• Accessories, bags, belts• Swimwear• Lingerie• Clean underwear & socks• Jewellery• Perfumes	<p>WE DON'T ACCEPT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing• Single shoes• Duvets & pillows• Bric-a-brac & electrical items• Toys, stationery• Books, CDs, DVDs• Workwear & uniforms• Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains• Stationery• Hygiene items, diapers• Linen & towels
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PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 07476406699 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

CTSN
SCITT



Thinking about becoming a Teacher?

Come talk to us on
Tuesday 13th February
6-7pm



Book the online event via EventBrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ctsn-scitts-february-train-to-teach-information-event-tickets-814087516677>

CTSN SCITT
Train to Teach Information Event

Website: www.ctscatrust.co.uk

Contact: scitt@catrust.co.uk