



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

11th February 2019

Massive Haul of Dinosaur Fossils Discovered by Class 2 Paleontologists!



Take a look in Squirrels' classroom and you will find an incredible range of fossil dinosaurs, such as the one above. Who knew that Wilburton was sitting on such a rich bed of prehistoric remains? Children have worked really hard over the past few weeks with Mrs Winn to model, paint and set their fossils in a rock bed.

Football Team Report: Our First Match of the Season (Report by Evie)

On Monday 4th February, Wilburton School mixed football team played an epic, friendly match against Robert Askenstall (Haddenham). Our 8 players: Harry T, Ben B, Jazmine, Luca, Lewis, Liam, Evie, Josh and Luca were able to secure a draw of 3 all. Lewis, Josh and Luca all scored and Ben got man of the match. What a way to end the first match of the season! Go Wilburton!

New School Website

During half-term, our current school website will be replaced by a new version. This new website will feature more photographs and 'latest news' links, and it should be easier to find the information you want more quickly. It will also be tablet and mobile-friendly, and the school will save hundreds of pounds a year in hosting fees as it's designed by a local independent firm and we've taken more of the work in-house. Everything on our current site will disappear (although we hold copies of photos and documents on our school server), so take a last look at the current photos! The new site will be active after the break and the address will be www.wilburton.cambs.sch.uk

PE Lessons

Please try to ensure children have the right kit for PE lessons, including warm clothes and trainers for outdoor PE. Children with very minor injuries will always be encouraged to join in as much as they can, and the teachers will adapt activities where necessary. If there are serious reasons why a child should be excused then parents must discuss the risks with the school. Sorry but we can't accept children saying, "My mum said...!"

New House Names: Nominations are now open!

A couple of weeks ago I asked some children to tell me who their houses were named after and what each person was famous for. A few blank looks and shrugs of shoulders followed! Although the teachers could tell me, nobody was quite sure why Elizabeth Fry, Captain Robert Falcon Scott, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and Stephen Hawking were given the honour of being the names for our house teams.

So we thought it was time for a competition! Inspired by the recent BBC Two Icons series, where the public voted for Alan Turing as the greatest icon of the Twentieth Century, we thought we would run a whole school project to research, present and vote for four new inspiration people to name our houses after.

After half-term, all the classes will work on a project to find out and write about brilliant people in a given category. Children will have to rehearse a presentation to give to the school about these people, and then the school community will vote to choose who our houses will be named after.

You, parents, can nominate people for the shortlists. You need to tell us who you'd like to nominate and why think they are worthy of 'greatest icon' status. Nominees can be from any country, from any time, alive or deceased. But you don't have long! **The deadline for submitting your nominations is next Friday, 15th February** (we need to plan the work over half-term). Submit yours by emailing head@wilburton.cambs.sch.uk

The four categories are:

- Sports achievers
- Artists (e.g. painters, sculptors, illustrators)
- Scientists
- Explorers



Sing for Your School: The Judges' Comments are In!

Here are the judges' comments about our School Song:

I very much liked the positive lyrics. Singing was clear and cheerful.

The chorus has a memorable and catchy tune.

The verse melody was less predictable and made a great contrast.

The list of their favourite things was a great positive addition to the song, especially when they go off in different directions.

A good use of dynamics and use of the echo towards the end.

Some very interesting musical ideas.

Lucy Barlow, Cambridgeshire Music (SFYS Team)

Wilburton has gone further afield to explore outdoor play in the wider parish. The song reads very well. The framework has enabled each child to get their own favourite activity or game into the song without forcing it to rhyme, so it sounds genuine. These really are the things that children in Wilburton love to do. Wilburton's song sounds like it is from a stage musical, which is really quite a good thing. I could imagine this in a book called "Songs for School Assemblies".

Jim Stevenson 'Ranger Jim', Paxton Pits

These are so positive; well done Wilburton Primary School! We wait to hear who the finalists are!

School Benefits from Mental Health Training

As we've identified in our new school values, promoting good wellbeing is one of our core priorities. Therefore we were very pleased to access mental health training for all staff last week, run by the YMCA Trinity Group. Starting next week, Mrs Galbraith and I will embark on a three day training course to qualify as school Mental Health Champions. This will give us the knowledge to identify specific needs and risks in the well-being of children, to cascade information to staff, and to deliver further training modules in our school on a range of topics including Building Resilience and Reducing Anxiety.

Parents can also get free access to any of the following paper based and online courses

- [Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health](#)
- [Level 2 in Understanding Autism](#)
- [Level 2 in Principles of Working with Individuals with Learning Disabilities](#)
- [Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Behaviour that Challenges](#)

If you are interested or would like to find out more, please email the school.



BBC Radio 2 500 Words Story Writing Competition

With half-term around the corner, maybe children would like to enter the national short story writing competition? We would definitely encourage it and are happy to help children plan or edit their stories in Homework Club.

Search for '500 words' online to find out more. The deadline is Friday 8th March.

Plan Created for a New Whole School Outdoor Learning Area

Working with Forest Schools, we've created a design for an exciting learning environment on the site previously occupied by Humpty's Preschool. This includes:

- a whole class outdoor classroom with benches and performance stage
- a construction yard for technology projects and woodwork
- a calming, meditative space with vegetable beds, wildflowers, willow dome and benches
- a new Forest School site with additional posts and vegetation.

Relocating Forest School to this site would allow us to extend the outdoor area for Reception children next to their classroom. Children in Class 4 and 5 have this week been helping us work out costings in maths lessons, and we're looking for community support to help us realise the project.

Our first design plan is sent out with this newsletter. If you can offer us any advice or have particular skills or contacts that could help, please let us know. We will put out more information in due course.

Governor Visit Summary: Developing Vocabulary

"Governors were shown how Mrs Wordsmith resources are being used at school and visited 4 classes. It was lovely to see extremely engaging and diligent students. They were eagerly thinking of the meaning of words, synonyms, collocations and writing their own sentences, many times linking them to other class targets as well. Mrs Wordsmith is clearly making a positive impact at our school!" Karen Everitt & Noni Michaelidou-Van den Bergh visited 5th February, 2019.

"Together for a Better Internet"

At school children regularly learn about how to keep themselves safe online through the ICT and PSHE curriculum. As part of the materials made for Safer Internet Day 2019, a pack of activities, conversation starters and games is available at the website below. Towards the bottom of the page is a thought-provoking video for parents: *Young People Talk about Parents Sharing Content Online*.

Best wishes,

David Aston
Headteacher

And finally.....
Some exciting news.....
Mr Lennon is going to be a DADDY!!!!
We'll keep you posted on further
developments.



Dates for your diary:

- 11/02/19:** WSA Cake Stall 3.15pm
- 12/02/19:** Parent Perspective Meeting 7.00pm
- 15/02/19:** Non-Uniform Day (£1 donation please)
- 15/02/19:** Celebration Assembly 2.45pm
- 18/02/19-22/02/19:** Half Term
- 25/02/19:** Back to School
- 25/02/19:** Resources Governors Meeting 6.30pm
- 26/02/19:** Foxes & Owls History Off The Page
Ancient Egypt Event
- 26/02/19:** WOOSC AGM 7.00pm
- 28/02/19:** Squirrels Class Parent & Child Lunch
- 01/03/19:** Celebration Assembly 2.45pm
- 02/03/19:** WSA Quiz & Chips 5.15pm
@ Wilburton Primary School

Birthday List for the next 3 weeks

Lily	Class 1	12/02/19
Chloe	Class 5	17/02/19
Jazmine	Class 5	21/02/19
Mason	Class 3	23/02/19
Charlotte	Class 2	27/02/19
Evelyn	Class 1	27/02/19
Lilly	Class 3	28/02/19
Benjamin	Class 4	28/02/19

will be celebrating their birthdays

