



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

28th  2019

Mrs Wordsmith has landed!



Magnificent! Enchanting! Captivating! Sublime! All of these words could describe the treasure-trove of resources delivered to KS2 classes this week, and they all feature in the Mrs Wordsmith 10, 000 word journey that your children are now on. This is a key part of the Powerful Words Project in school, and there are word cards, storyteller dictionaries, word games and lots more to help children expand their vocabulary. Each week in all classes, children will focus on three words, which in-turn are linked to synonyms and related words. Look out for these words listed on weekly spelling/phonics sheets, and help children to understand and use them in context. Research shows that the number of words a child knows is a significant indicator of their achievement at age 16, so please join us on this exciting journey!

Schools' Funding:

One of the things I have become so much more aware of as a headteacher, is the real and growing pressure on school funding. More and more areas of the school budget have to be squeezed to balance the books, and it's clear this is only going to get more difficult. Department of Education officials often recite the line, "spending on education is at it's highest level", but this misses the point. Yes, overall national spending per pupil has increased since 2015...by £5 per child! But in this time, "costs have rocketed" - this from Jonathan Lewis, Service Director for Education at Cambridgeshire County Council. As costs have increased, the amount spent directly on teaching and resourcing has fallen, and will continue to do so. Jonathan writes directly to you, "*There are huge financial pressures for schools and the Education Service in Cambridgeshire. I have been working with Heidi Allen MP in the autumn term to try and think about how best we might be able to put forward a challenge to Education Ministers around the pressure we are facing. We need to get as many parents and staff to sign up for the petition to government on schools funding as possible.*"

The petition can be found at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

School Song: Don't forget to vote! And vote again!

Over 2000 votes have so far been cast, but how many for Wilburton? Add some more to our total: Listen to our song via the [Cambridgeshire Live Chart](#) and [CLICK HERE TO CAST YOUR VOTE FOR WILBURTON!](#) Voting closes on 1st February.

Governor Visit Summary: Pupil Outcomes

"Governor visit reviewed how pupil progress is being assessed and the new systems that had recently been introduced for English & Maths and for all the other subjects. The focus of assessment now is more on what level children will be working at by the end of the year (or topic period) rather than each term. The new systems will reduce the amount of time teachers spend on admin, allow them more time to develop each child's skills and level of independent thinking and ultimately provide better outcomes for our children."

David Gould, visited 15th January 2019.

Fostering Service Message from Cambridgeshire County Council

Have you ever considered becoming a foster carer? If so, now is a great time to start your fostering journey as Cambridgeshire County Council's fostering service is currently recruiting carers to a wide range of rewarding roles. We are particularly keen to hear from anyone who could provide a home to a teenager in care and offer them the help and support they need. To find out more about how you can make a difference, call today on 0800 052 0078 or visit <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/fostering-and-adoption/>

Learning Outside of School

At the end of last term, children showed an incredible range of skills and knowledge they learnt and developed outside of school. This term, we want them to come back and share how they have developed further, or what new things they have learnt. We will talk about this to the children in Collective Worship on Monday. Children should be ready to share their learning in class during the week beginning Monday 25th March.

Dates for your diary:

28/01/19: Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm
28/01/19: WSA Planning Meeting 7.30pm
29/01/19: WOOSC Meeting 7.00pm
31/01/19: Lunch for Parents in Fieldmice Class
01/02/19: Celebration Assembly 2.45pm
08/02/19: Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Birthday List for the next 2 weeks

Xavier	Class 1	04/02/19
Ben W	Class 4	04/02/19
Dylan	Class 4	04/02/19
Olly	Class 2	07/02/19
Jack	Class 1	08/02/19
Frankie	Class 3	08/02/19

will be celebrating their birthdays



