



## Woolpit Primary Academy

NURTURE • RESILIENCE • INSPIRATION • RESPECT

### **NURTURE:**

Throughout this term, our whole school curriculum concept has been to study human rights through history. It has been amazing to watch lessons and discuss this with children across the school. It has been so clear how empathetic children have been for some of the people they have studied, who have not had equality like our children do today. They have shown a real nurturing side.

### **RESILIENCE:**

As we have moved through the later part of this half term, all of our children have taken part in putting together concerts or nativities. It has been a very long time since our children have had the opportunity to do these types of activities or had the chance to sing. At the beginning of all of these rehearsals, it was clear that we had a lot of catching up to do and practice to be had. I was almost brought to tears in the last week of term watching all of the children perform their Christmas concerts. They were resilient during the time where classes had many children missing due to COVID, main parts being read by adults and other children, children coming back to school after periods of absence and having to learn songs and practice parts with not much time. Despite all of these set backs they were AMAZING!

### **INSPIRATION:**

I have been inspired by the work of all of the children during whole school assemblies at the beginning of this term and last as we have discussed the human rights of people in different parts of the world, where these people do not have equality, freedom or access to schooling, water or the facilities that we all do, discussing and debating ways they can appreciate what we all have.

### **RESPECT:**

It has been amazing how well children have been able to show respect for the different people they have learnt about throughout their human rights topic. We have talked about respect being a way to feel about people and think as well as it being a way to behave towards people. Bumblebees have been great at discussing democracy and how this has changed throughout history for women's' rights and how respect for women has changed over time.

### Dates for your diary

Wednesday 5th January 2022– 1st day back at school

Thursday 17th February Last Day

Monday 28th February 1st day back after half term

Friday 8th April– Last day of Spring term

For remembrance day, the whole school participated in making wreaths for the Woolpit memorial . These were some of our school councillors taking them down and being part of the service.

We raised £146.77p for the poppy appeal.



As the country continues to see a rise in COVID cases and more restrictions are being introduced, please ensure you keep an eye on your emails over the holidays as this will be the way that we communicate any changes in provision at school to you. Up until this point, we have not had much notice by the Government of any changes that we have had to make in restrictions in schools so any that are made will be done as swiftly as we are able to. At present, there we have had no notification of any changes in education and things are to stay as they are on a case by case basis.

Please can I remind all parents to Lateral Flow Test (LFT) your child before returning to school on the 5th January.

### Clubs for next Term

⇒ In January we will be running an afterschool club on a Wednesday.

For the first half of term we will be offering dodgeball for years 4-6. The first session will be on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the last session will be on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and will cost £15.00

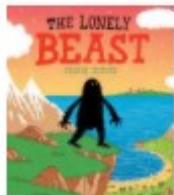
For the second half of term we will be offering football for years 1-3. The first session will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 and the last session will be on 30<sup>th</sup> March and will cost £15.00

To book your child's place please log onto schoolgateway.

⇒ Miss Bridge will also continue to run her dance club on a Tuesday after school. 3:15—4:15

### Hedgehog Class

This half term we have been focusing our learning around Our Power of reading text, the Lonely Beast.



This has been the inspiration for Our writing, where we have produced newspaper reports to let people know that there has been a beast seen in the city park and have created our own versions of the story using story maps.

This has also been the focus for Our Geography learning as it has helped us to think about the world around us and the features in it. We have learnt about human and physical features and have used a map of the world to locate where we live and to name other countries in the world, where other beasts may be living.

We are getting ready this week to set up a party in our classroom for the lonely beast and all of his friends.

This has tied in nicely with getting ready for Christmas and making Christmas decorations and food for a class Christmas party and games on the last day of term.

Everyone has been working really hard this half term and it has been lovely to see how settled all of the new Hedgehogs are now. We are all very tired and are looking forward to a well deserved break over the Christmas holidays.

### Bumblebee Class

Bumblebees have had a fantastic term. We have been incredibly busy and I couldn't be prouder of the work that they have achieved. Despite all the upheavals we have had in our class the children have shown great resilience.

The children have loved learning about Human Rights and have been thoroughly inspired by Emmeline Pankhurst and what she and the Suffragettes achieved. The children enjoyed creating their Votes for Women sashes in DT and using pencils to draw London landmarks. We are also masters at knowing the three steps to calming down in PATHS and can take a deep breath or two before we say the problem and how we feel.

Finally, we couldn't be prouder of how they all stepped up to produce a Nativity, which you can find on our google classrooms page. It is not the full-blown show that we would have liked with an audience, and due to so many of our fabulous actors being poorly in the weeks leading up to it there were many cast changes to be had. However, the children loved being on the stage, wearing their costumes and singing their hearts out. Well done Bumblebees.

## Nightingale Class

Nightingales have had an incredible term and I am proud of what every single child has achieved over the last few months. They have improved their work ethic, demonstrating improved focus and have shown such determination to succeed and not to give up. These skills have enabled them to focus on their own progress and recognise what areas they need to improve upon.

Nightingales have explored many aspects within our human rights topic and have a strong awareness of what they understand by equality and how they would like to live in a world that values individuality and not judged. They have thoroughly enjoyed linking this to our class book 'Coming to England', which describes Floella Benjamin's childhood experiences of growing up in the Caribbean and being part of the Windrush generation.

In Maths they have enjoyed challenging themselves with new concepts and vocabulary. Their timestable recall is getting faster each week, keep up the amazing work!

The children have worked incredibly hard to put together their Christmas performance. They have shown great team work and resilience, determination to perform the songs and poems to the best of their ability. They had great fun as well, we hope you enjoy watching our recording!

## Owl

Owls class has had an amazing first term. They have all worked so hard at getting to grips with the year 6 curriculum and have made some great progress. Our Human Rights topic has led to some fascinating and deep discussions around the complex issues of the slave trade and what this actually meant for the people involved, racism and the civil rights movement. We have listened to speeches that were made and thought about what it would have been like to experience life at that time. The children have approached this information and these topics with great compassion, maturity and empathy, creating some thought provoking questions and converting that knowledge to the present day to think about what their dreams are for a better world.

The children from Owls class showed great understanding and respect as they contributed to Remembrance Day. They took on the responsibility for selling poppies to each of the classes to raise money for the Royal British Legion and by placing a wreath at the war memorial on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Owls have been getting in the festive spirit by taking part in decorating a Christmas tree at the church as part of the festival of trees celebrations. As well as this they have been working hard alongside year 5 to create an incredible Christmas carol concert. They all sang so beautifully and played instruments in perfect time (watch a recording of the performance on the website) making us all so proud of them.

## Fox

In Fox Class, we have been wearing our scientist hats and investigating Forces. We carried out different actions to demonstrate pulling and pushing forces. Some children held a tug of war (at which I was soundly beaten), we all ran on the spot and found other examples of pushing and pulling. We then investigated friction. We carried out an investigation to see if we slid further in shoes or socks and started to ask why? We made predictions and discussed how we could ensure we carried out a fair test. We developed our understanding of friction by testing toy cars on ramps with different surfaces. Again, taking steps to ensure a fair test. We also investigated magnets and magnetic forces, predicting and testing which poles attracted each other and which ones repelled each other. In R.E. we looked at the question, 'how do Christians Show that Reconciliation with God and other people is important?' This work inspired lots of interesting discussion. We took an in-depth look at the story of the Prodigal Son and wondered what might have happened between the brothers after the story.

It has been wonderful getting to know Foxes and seeing their amazing work. They have worked hard, particularly considering that they have been in a bubble for periods of the term. I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a good rest!