

Weekly Newsletter Friday 15 September 2023

Message from Mrs Langton:

Welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year and welcome to all our new children and families that have joined our 'Appleton Family'. It has been lovely to have all the children back in school and I am amazed at how quickly they have settled into their new classes and new routines. We are looking forward to meeting you all at our 'Meet your child's teacher' event (date below). It will be a chance for your children to show you their new classroom and their teacher and the amount of work they have already done!!

During the school holiday we have had some work done in school including a revamp of the hall, a new roof and a lovely new path. Unfortunately we couldn't make the path any wider so I would ask you to think about where you stand at the end of the day to meet your child and try to leave as much room on the path as possible for the children to get down and be able to see you. The staff are always there to bring them down and will make sure they are safely picked up. Remember children can arrive between **8.40 and 8.55** and should come straight down to their classes when they arrive, thank you for making sure they don't come too early and for getting them here on time.

We are hoping to start our after school clubs over the next few weeks and are continuing to build up our OPAL play so watch out for e-mails or texts with information and dates. We are really excited for the year ahead and are looking forward to what it is going to bring. Don't hesitate to contact the school if you need any information or have any concerns.

Have a lovely weekend.

Dates for your diary:

Next week:

More dates:

Wed	27 Sept	3.30pm	Meet your child's teacher
Mon	9 Oct		Y4 swimming lessons (2 weeks)
Fri	27 Oct		School closed - training day
w/c	30 Oct-3 Nov		Half term
Thur	21 Dec		Last day of term

More information will follow regarding individual events.

School Attendance:

Our whole school attendance for last week stands at **93.1%** Individual classes were as follows:

F1 - 75.0%	CG - 91.0%	BC - 93.9%
HD - 96.6%	RK - 84.9%	SB - 96.4%
JS - 91.9%	CM - 100%	CH - 94.2%

Well done class **CM** having the highest attendance last week.

ClassDojo team winners:

Watch this space for weekly results!

Weekly wins so far this school year:

Johnson = 0	Sullivan = 0
Skelley = 0	Wilberforce = 0



Parent/Carer's information:

Reminder - you can pre-book your child's lunches on School Money.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter @appletonprimary!

Foundation stage - F1/CG

We would like to begin by saying welcome back to all our parents old and new! We have had a lovely week meeting the new children and helping them settle into their new classroom and meet their new friends.

In the Foundation classroom this week, the children have shared lots of books around the topic of everyone is welcome and the adventures of starting school. In the F2 class the children have already begun taking home books to share with their adult. If the card could be signed and returned in their given book bag the children can then choose another one from the bookshelf.

In the F1 class (nursery) the children have loved using the musical instruments. They have been able to follow instructions to play quietly, loudly and follow a pattern through lots of listening games. The F2 children have also begun learning new letter sounds in their phonic sessions and using Fred frog to help orally blend.

In F2 we have focused on careful counting of 1, 2, 3, the cardinality of three, knowing what three looks like and how we can show three in different ways. We have also learnt a fun song to help us remember when counting carefully. One, two, three, won't you sing with me, 1, 2, 3!

Every week, we will learn lots of new vocabulary and encourage the children to use this wherever possible. This week we used 'Concept Cat' to learn all about the word 'new.' We also learnt a new poem from 'Poetry Basket.' In F1 the children are learning the poem, Chop, Chop and in F2 the children are learning the poem, A Wise Old Owl. Hopefully they will be able to tell you all about these at home.

We also all went to the school hall to play some ring games. We had such a lot of fun! The F2 children and some F1 children have also started the 'Brush Bus,' where the children brush their teeth in school in addition to the regular times they brush at home.

On Friday, the children also learnt about the celebration of Rosh Hashanah. We shared stories about how it is celebrated and shared apple and honey for us to take part in the celebration.

Please could we ask that all parents check Tapestry regularly as we often put lots on there about your child's week and send messages as a good communication tool with parents. When you read or share anything we post, please feel free to give a 'thumbs up' and add a comment of your own. We also love to see what the children have been learning at home, particularly if it links with what we have been learning in class. Finally, we would really appreciate it if you could continue to donate £1 per week to the Foundation fund. This helps us to have the opportunities to make playdoh, taste apples and honey and next week make porridge!



Year 1 - BC

The majority of the Year 1 children are settling into the routines of Year 1 very nicely as it is a big change from the Foundation stage.

In English this week we have been learning the story of the Rainbow Fish. The children have learned signifiers and we have made a class story map which they will bring home this weekend to practice the story with you. We have also looked at how stories start and practiced composing and writing our own opening sentences.

During maths we have been counting objects to ten. The children can count an amount given and have also been practicing counting out a given number of objects from a larger group. We have been looking at number formation too and some children are learning to write the number words to five.

For our science we have started learning about the human body. The children were able to label parts of the body and learned a song to help them. Next week we will begin to look at the five senses. We have begun to learn the four countries that make up the United Kingdom during our geography lesson. The children looked at a map of the UK and were able to label England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In our RE lesson this week we have talked about belonging and the children have drawn a web of belonging that includes the different groups they belong to.

Finally this week they have enjoyed practicing their ball skills during PE. Our PE sessions are on a Monday and a Wednesday and the children need a PE kit consisting of navy/black shorts and a white t-shirt. They will also need sandshoes or trainers. I would recommend you send these into school in a bag which can remain on your child's peg throughout the half term so that they are always available and not forgotten as I have very limited spare kit. Could I also ask that you remember to put names in all of your child's clothes as I already have a small collection of jumpers/cardigans that children have forgotten and if they are not named I can't return them to the correct child. Thank you.

Year 2 - HD

The children have settled really well into Year 2 and have had a super first week!

In English we have started to retell the story 'The Papaya that Spoke' using our signifiers. We have discussed the vocabulary being used in the text and have thought about questions the papaya may ask the farmer now he has learnt it can talk. In Maths we have started with place value counting objects to 100 by grouping them into tens and ones. They then looked at recognising tens and ones and showed great understanding by representing these using the dienes blocks and drawing them as pictures.

This term we are looking at materials in science. The children have explored objects and described the properties of the materials they have been made from. They then sorted the materials based on their physical properties. The children enjoyed learning the names of the capitals cities of each of the countries that make up the UK in geography this week. They then used atlases to help locate them on a map.

In computing the children have developed their understanding of what information technology (IT) is. They identified devices that are computers and considered how IT can help them both at school and beyond. In PE we are looking at developing our ball skills. This week the children have been practicing controlling a ball to hit a target and being able to stop a rolling ball.

Our **PE days are Mondays and Thursdays**. Please make sure your child has their kits in school in these days. We will be outside weather permitted.

Year 3 - RK

What a great start to the Autumn term we have had in Year 3. Starting off this term with an unexpected visitor from a greedy dragon, who left sparkly gems all around our classroom, leading nicely into our new class topic for English. In our topic 'Rome' we looked at Europe as a continent and located some countries using atlas'. In our maths lessons this week, Year 3 have been revisiting their skills from Year 2 about place value and have begun looking at numbers up to 1000. We have also begin working in our 3 and 4 times tables alongside learning some new Shape knowledge. As always, I am blown away by how hard they have worked to achieve in Maths. Well done! Jigsaw this term is all about ourselves and learning about our emotions and how to recognise them. From next week we will begin learning some Spanish phrases for our languages lessons, which the children are very excited about. Our focus author for our class text this term is Jaqueline Wilson. Thank you so much to all of the children and families who have been reading at home this week, it has been wonderful to see how enthusiastic they are about new texts and trickier vocabulary. Reading is a wonderful foundation to all subject learning and allows children the opportunity to research topics that they enjoy. I really hope this continues throughout the year!

Year 4/5 - SB/JS

A great start to the new term in SB and JS. The children in both JS and SB have had a busy week this week. In English, the children have been learning a new journey story, focusing on their story voice and actions to remember it. They have written super sentences using superlatives and adjectives. In maths, Class SB and JS have started looking at place value. Class SB are focusing on numbers to 1000 and JS are looking at numbers to a million. In reading, SB have started to read The Suitcase Kid, focusing on fluency and good vocabulary. JS are reading Who Let the Gods Out, learning about the main character and the vocabulary used. In PE, both year groups have started rugby and demonstrated how to hold and pass the ball as well as looking at attacking and defending in small group games. The Year 5 children have started their two week course in swimming. They have started well and taken to it like a duck to water. Keep it up! In RE, Class SB are looking at the importance of belonging. They are focusing on Christianity and Hinduism and researching how it feels to belong to certain religions. In science, SB have looked at the impact humans have on our environment after our walk around the local area. Class JS have started to look at magnets and friction. So a great start to the new term.

Year 6 - CM/CH

Welcome back to school! We've had a very busy first 2 weeks back up in Year 6. In maths, we have been thinking about the place holder of each digit and using this knowledge to help us read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 million. In English we have begun learning the warning story The Caravan. We came to school on Friday morning to a cornered off tent outside of Miss Howard's classroom that told us not to enter, which hooked us into our topic. We have since been developing our use of speech when writing, ensuring we use correct punctuation and add more information using emotions, actions and thoughts to entertain our audiences. In reading, we have begun reading our class novel, 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' which we were hooked into right away by the fact the protagonist vaporizes his maths teacher in Chapter 1. We have explored the character of Percy and also discussed some of the trickier vocabulary. Linking to the book, we have dived into our topic 'The Groovy Greeks' through exploring where Greece is located in Geography and finding out where the civilisation sits on a timeline in history. Also, for our Art lesson, we had a go at sketching some houses in the local area, focusing on scale. In P.E. we have enjoyed practicing some rugby skills, including passing correctly and making space away from defenders, as well as doing some dance within the hall. Please note that CH's P.E. days are now a Wednesday and Friday with class CM's being a Tuesday and Thursday. Children need to bring correct P.E. kit on those days. Our reading cards will be checked on a Friday for 3 reads.