

# School Newsletter



7th December 2018



## **A message from Mrs Brand:**

As part of our commitment to our local community of schools I will be providing executive head support to Ellingham and Woodton Federation whilst they seek to appoint a new headteacher. This will mean I will be supporting those schools for the equivalent of two days per week. This will not change our day to day operations within our academies where parents' first point of contact is the class teacher, followed by the office to make an appointment to speak to the Head of School. As always the office holds my diary should you ever wish to make an appointment.

I will be holding a morning cuppa session on 17<sup>th</sup> December at Ditchingham, 18<sup>th</sup> December at Gillingham – do come along if you'd like to know more about this or have anything suggestions to make about the wider life of the academies.

Many thanks and Merry Christmas!

## **Staffing update:**

We are delighted to announce that Mr Huw James will be joining our team from January teaching in Golden Eagle with Mr Goodyer. We will sadly miss Mrs Lythell and we are very grateful to her for all that she has done for our schools. We would also like to thank Mrs Barnes for joining us on supply this half term.

## **Robin and Woodpecker Class:**

Woodpecker and Robin Class have had a spectacular start to the school year, and we are incredibly proud of what they have achieved so far...

Not only have they been practicing their performance for the Christmas play, they have also started their topic, 'Journeys'. The children have learnt the poem 'The Owl and The Pussycat' and have recreated their very own nonsense poem all about an exciting journey!! They have looked at identifying nouns, adjectives and verbs within the poem, and have up levelled adjectives to improve their sentences.

In topic lessons, we have been locating the UK on a world map, identifying its capital cities and identifying the key features and characteristics. We have also taken a virtual journey through Ditchingham and Bungay, via the use of Google Maps; in order to develop their I.T skills

At the end of this term we will be performing our Christmas play 'Prickly Hay'.

We welcome members of the parish to come watch the children's performance on Monday.

### Barn Owls:

Barn Owls have had a brilliant start to the year and have produced some fantastic work. So far, we have learned all about the Ancient Egyptians and forces and magnets. We have written many different text types including newspaper reports, stories, explanation text and instructions. We also had the opportunity to go on an exciting trip to Norwich Castle to learn more about our Egyptian topic. We are all looking forward to starting a new term in the New Year!

### Golden Eagles:

Golden Eagles have accomplished an enormous amount since the start of the year. We have explored the history of crime and punishment across the centuries, and this half term we have learned about the Romans in Britain. Our trip to the Tollhouse Museum in Great Yarmouth provided an opportunity to see first-hand what conditions were like for prisoners in British jails before the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Our art has been linked to our work in topic lessons – this includes creating Roman-style mosaic prints. In science, the children have been studying materials and have carried out scientific investigations into magnetism, electricity and thermal insulation. For their writing, years 5 and 6 have concentrated on narratives and myths. They wrote a first-person account of a character's experience in a poem, and this half term they have rewritten a Roman myth and produced a report on a mythical creature of their own invention. Maths lessons emphasised skills in calculating and problem-solving, and the term finished with work on 2D and 3D shapes. Our work in RE has focused on how people from various faith backgrounds (and those with no religious beliefs) view God. But Golden Eagles haven't just exercised their minds; they have also developed their skills in ball games, especially hockey. This has been a very busy and exciting term, and we are all looking forward to new challenges and opportunities in the New Year.

### Dates for your diary:

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December-** KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December-** KS1 Nativity Performance @ 2pm.

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December-** KS1 Christmas themed reading Café from 9am- All welcome.  
KS1 Nativity Performance @ 2pm.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December-** Christmas Dinner!  
Golden Eagles to All Hallows carol singing.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December-** No celebration assembly.  
Christmas Jumper (or something Christmassy) Day.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December-** Carol Service @ Ditchingham Church from 2.30pm.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December-** Last Day of Term!

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January** – First day back to school!

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January-** No celebration assembly





**Parent Feedback Comments:**

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Please place in the Office drop box if you have any comments or feedback. Thank you.