



Beverley School Newsletter November 2019

Ready, Respectful, Safe

Staffing news

We are sorry to say good bye to two integral members of staff at Christmas.

Ann McPartland (School Business Manager) is retiring and leaves for a well earned rest. She is being replaced by Katy Hall who has a hard act to follow but is well qualified and experienced and we look forward to welcoming her to the school. We wish Ann all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Ann Titchener is moving on to a Deputy Headship with the Discovery school. Ann will be very much missed by all but especially the 6th form department and we wish her well. Ann is being replaced by Karen Revill who comes to us with many years of special school experience and I am sure she will be equally successful in the post. Good Luck Ann.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 17th December; Christmas performance (am)

Wednesday 18th December; Christmas performance (am)

Thursday 19th December; Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper day

Friday 20th December; final Christmas assembly at St. Chad's (school finishes)

Monday January 6th; school re opens

Uniform reminder

Our uniform is very simple and many of our students are looking very smart. I would request that all pupils have uniform. Lollipop are our suppliers but plain navy sweatshirts are available in all of the supermarkets and are perfectly acceptable. Please make sure all items are named clearly. Pupils in Y11-Y14 can wear smart casual clothes but may wish to purchase a 6th form hoody.

Attendance

Our attendance was excellent last year and we would like to do even better this year. We were able to give out some 100% attendance certificates at our awards assemblies which was brilliant. The weekly attendance trophy is hotly contested and pupils are delighted to hold the trophy in class. Whilst we appreciate you keeping children at home when they are ill, please make attendance a priority at all other times.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not allowed in school due to safeguarding. Pupils who are found using a mobile phone will have it removed and parents will be asked to collect it.

Food Bank

We have suggested again that parents do not spend money on presents for staff again this Christmas. Whilst we understand the desire to say thank you to staff it can become very expensive and pressured. We would ask that instead you support the local food bank. We will be sending out more information in December.

School Meals

Please could you inform the office promptly if your child changes from school dinners to packed lunches to avoid unnecessary charging.

Finance reminder

You will be aware that increasingly schools are finding it more difficult to maintain budgets in the face of reduced funding nationally. We are in the same situation. Historically we have supported visits out of school massively. We fund swimming, horse riding, cooking, technology items, snack etc and have paid the majority of the money for Residential and other visits out of the school budget and with the support of FOBS. We fund all transport ourselves and rarely pass on those costs to families.

This year, more than ever, we will find this more difficult. We will always try to keep costs down but visits may not go ahead if contributions from families are not made. We will always try to help if families face real hardship and are happy for larger payments to be made in instalments.

Cinema Visits

Primary classes visited Showcase Cinema earlier in November as part of Free Cinema Week. We used the school mini buses and parents sent snacks. Some of the pupils struggled to sit for the whole movie last year but this time all the pupils sat with their classes and enjoyed it! Parents tell us that they are now going to try to take their children outside of school as part of family activities.



Mental health and well being

A new enrichment activity started this half-term - we now have two **Headstart** sessions each week. Within these sessions, students learn to improve their emotional resilience and have the opportunity to become Headstarters who are ambassadors for positive mental health. There are 11 students involved so far and the sessions have started really well so far, with the students making fantastic contributions.

We have also linked with an online counselling/support service called **Kooth** for young people aged 11-18. For more information see <https://www.kooth.com/index.html>
Assemblies took place on Friday 15th November for both our Secondary and 6th Form Students.

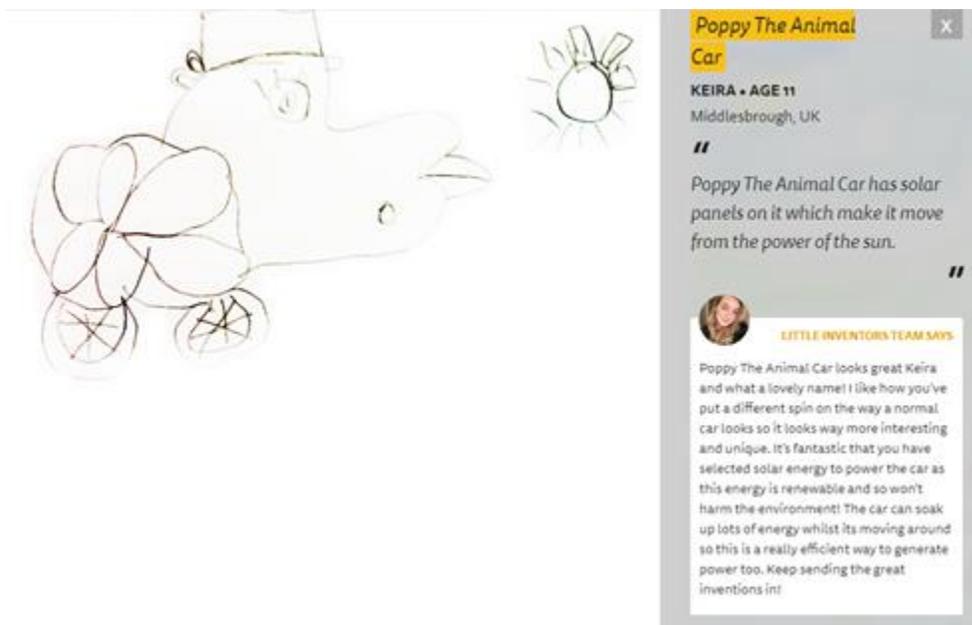
Volunteering

The Tees Valley Wildlife Trust group volunteered to help Marton Community centre clear away overgrown bushes and tidy the garden area, this took place on Thursday 24th October



Little Inventors

Recently we were introduced to a scheme that runs across the globe endeavouring to engage young people in the art of inventing. The Little Inventors runs competitions to fuel children's imaginations with a current theme and with the chance to see their design being made for real. The theme for the latest competition was Pioneers Energy Challenge for pupils age 8 to 12. It required them to think about how to generate energy in a better way and how this could be used to power all sorts of inventions. All pupils who entered received personalised feedback and one has even been chosen to appear on the website <https://pioneers.littleinventors.org/ideas>. We hope to continue to be involved with the project and look forward to releasing our creative ideas to the world.



2JD spotted a wind turbine at the farm on our visit last week and also used the opportunity to see if anyone could spot solar panels on houses when we were driving back to school. This brought their learning for Little Inventors to life and ensured that they had a better understanding of the renewable energy that they had used for their designs.

In **Outdoor Learning 1SB** have enjoyed exploring the texture and colour of Autumn leaves



Class 1SF took part in Outdoor Classroom Week. During this week we collected and explored the autumn leaves that had fell in the playground and woodland area. We made bark rubbings of trees and stuck the leaves at the top to make autumn trees. We had lots of fun learning and playing outside.



Outdoor Classroom Week

The first week back after half term was outdoor classroom week and every pupil in the school spent part of the week learning outside.



Lighting the fire



Roseberry Topping

Our 6th form Biology GCSE group went on a field trip to Roseberry Topping to look at Lichen. Unfortunately, we failed to find any Lichen but we did have a glorious Autumn day to climb Roseberry Topping. The climb was strenuous but everyone made it to the top and ticked off one of our star challenges. Next challenge: climbing to the top of a mountain!



