



# WINTERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY NEWSLETTER

5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT ACADEMY HEAD

Welcome back and thank you

Following the latest government announcement, we are delighted to be able to welcome all of our children back to school on Monday 8th March. We are really looking forward to having everyone back together again and a return to teaching the children face to face - something that we have all missed so much! A huge thank you to all of our parents and families who have been supporting their children with their learning at home. We have been really impressed with the children's enthusiasm, determination and resilience and are looking forward to seeing this continue back in school next week.

We understand that for all the children, next week will initially seem very different; we are prepared for this and will be working on activities in the classroom to support the children with their individual needs. If you have any concerns about your child returning to school next week, then please contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Waters or Mrs Saunders and we will be happy to help you.

We are still following all aspects of our COVID risk assessment, which you will find published on our school website. There are some minor changes to our school drop off and pick up routine to ensure that we are COVID-secure with the now larger numbers of children entering and leaving the school site each day.

We have changed our morning routine slightly and will now be asking you to drop off all children at the main front gate to the school at 8.30am for children in Reception, KS1 and KS2, and 9:00am for Nursery. At the gate please say goodbye to your child and they will enter the school through the front door. Mrs Saunders will check each child's temperature and ask if they have any COVID symptoms.

The end of the day routine will stay the same as it was before Christmas with Starfish children leaving from their classroom door, Seal children leaving from the back corridor door and Shark children leaving from the side fire exit onto the car park. Please ensure you follow the one way system and enter the school via the car park and walk all the way around the school to leave through the front courtyard.

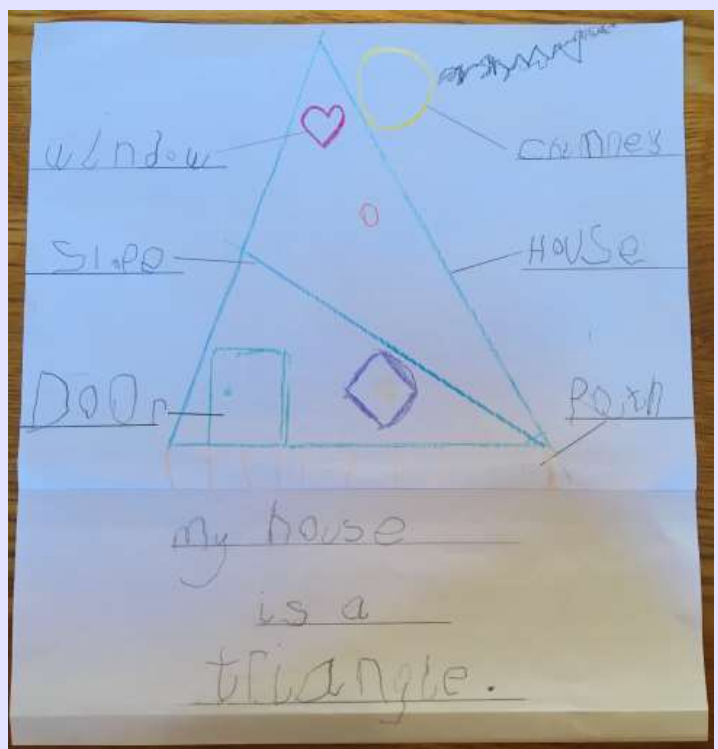
### **Staffing update**

For the remainder of this term, the teacher in the Starfish Class will be Mrs Janisch, who will be supported by Miss Herod and Mrs Ross for the majority of the week. Mrs Janisch is a fantastic teacher, who taught at Winterton last term when she taught in the Seal Class, whilst I was working from home. Mrs Janisch started in the Starfish Class last week and is really enjoying getting to know the children and helping to develop the classroom and outdoor area. In the Seal Class, Mrs Massingham and Mr Smout will continue to share the teaching, supported mostly by Mrs Johnson and Mrs Bishop.



We have been working on our topic of buildings this half-term and have enjoyed finding out about different types of home and finding out more about our own homes too. We have enjoyed reading the books Home and On Every House On Every Street and we have designed, drawn and modelled our own dream homes, before learning how to label them and write a caption for our picture. The children at home are now busy making an audio eBook about their own homes and why they are special to them.

We have also learnt about Mrs Ross's childhood home in Wales and we have enjoyed celebrating St David's Day by sketching and painting daffodils, eating Bara Brith and learning about how St David's Day is celebrated in Wales.



## STARFISH CLASS



To celebrate World Book Day, the children in school and at home have been sharing their favourite stories with each other and the children in school have even had the Sharks come to the classroom to read to them in their special new cosy reading areas. In school, the children have also enjoyed listening to and acting out the story of Handa's Surprise and Room on a Broom, they have enjoyed pretending they are 'Going On A Bear Hunt' and they have been busy making book marks and front covers for books





This week we have focussed our learning on listening to and reading popular children's stories to celebrate World Book Day. We have written book reviews and learnt how to write book blurbs to recommend stories we have enjoyed to others. On Thursday we joined some children on line and listened to Mrs Green read "The Secret of Black Rock" and took part in a book quiz. We've enjoyed sharing books with staff and children from other classes in the Nest, Library and Field study centre and staff have shared some of the books they are reading at home with the children. To encourage your child to develop a lifelong love of reading we have included a poster from the WBD website of ways to achieve this.

## HOW TO GIVE YOUR CHILD A LIFELONG LOVE OF READING

### 5 WAYS TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO READ

- 1) MAKE IT ENJOYABLE** - whatever you plan to do, the most important thing is that reading doesn't become a grind or, even worse, a punishment. Children become readers when they find a book they enjoy and once books make them happy, they're hooked for life. So don't discourage them from re-reading an old favourite or an old Beano annual, and don't keep encouraging them to read something you loved as a child if they're not keen. Guide and suggest, but as far as possible, let them make the choice themselves. I love Alan Garner's books. My children don't. That's absolutely fine.
- 2) KEEP IT VARIED** - whether it's a novel or a poem, a history book or a science guide, a travelogue or a comic, diaries or jokes, a biography or a picture book, variety is the spice of reading life. As I write, library services are understandably patchy so it's worth checking online before heading to your nearest branch. If you don't have titles at home, then ebooks are an option and if you are able to support them, bookshops will happily send you books in the post. But there's a lot to explore online too. For example, explore Poetryline run by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education at [clpe.org.uk/poetryline](http://clpe.org.uk/poetryline) or search online for the work of performance poets such as Kate Tempest and Caleb Femi.
- 3) READ OUT LOUD** - this is important to do in normal times, but now everybody is unsettled this kind of personal together is a particularly excellent way of comforting your child. You absolutely don't have to be a professional actor to read out loud, but do put plenty of emotion into it (I've always enjoyed doing 'voices' even though they are often truly laughable) and don't go too fast. Older children who have not been read to for a while might also now enjoy this again.
- 4) DISCUSS THE BOOKS** - Chatting about books is a huge part of the reading experience and enjoyable for both you and your child. Ask questions which make them think about what they're reading or encourage them to look for answers in another book, rather than simply broadcasting information at them (but remember they're not doing a school test on it so don't turn it into an interrogation!). If you're reading something together, don't whizz through it as fast as possible, but pause regularly to discuss issues which it raises and connections to other books your child may have read. Think of yourself as a 'reading mentor' rather than a broadcaster.
- 5) AUDIOBOOKS ARE BOOKS TOO** - People not only learn in different styles - visual, auditory or kinesthetic (learning by doing) - but they also enjoy stories in different ways. Traditional books don't suit everybody and audiobooks should certainly not be seen as some kind of fraudulent replacement for a hardback in the hand. Storytelling, after all, is far older than reading a printed book. The biggest commercial player in the audiobook market is Audible, owned by Amazon, Listening Books ([www.listening-books.org.uk](http://www.listening-books.org.uk))

**FINALLY, ONE FOR YOU** - read yourself. Not only is that great for you, if your children see you reading then they are much more likely to follow your lead.

ALEX JOHNSON

When children return to school on Monday, please can they bring their reading books and reading records so that we can quarantine books and sort new books to take home. Seal class will be having P.E. on Monday afternoon so they will need to come to school wearing their P.E kit, they will need clothing suitable for outdoor P.E.



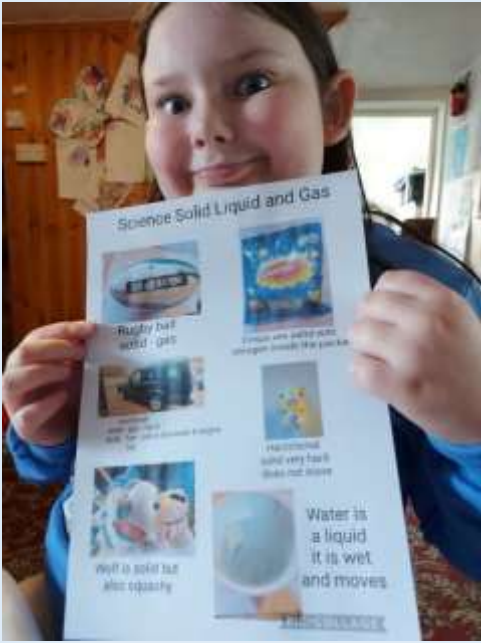


Sharks have been super scientists this week: they have been exploring the properties of solids, liquids and gases. At home and at school, the children went on a hunt for objects that were solids, liquids and gases to identify exactly what made them different. We then learnt about the particles within different materials and how the way they behave determine if an object is a solid, liquid or a gas. We learnt that solids have particles held together with strong bonds: the particles are arranged neatly and only vibrate on the spot. A liquid, however, is different: the bonds are still strong between the particles but they are able to move over each other which gives liquids the ability to flow. We also found that gases have very weak bonds between their particles which mean they can move in different directions and do not hold their shape. In school, we opened a fizzy can of Sprite and observed the gas bubbles rising to the top!

### GAS



*These are gases. gases can jump about everywhere.*



### SOLIDS

*These are solids. Solids do not change their shape.*






### LIQUIDS

*These are liquids. Liquids fall to the bottom of the container because of gravity and can be poured.*





### States of matter

Solid	Liquid	Gases
 <p><b>Solid</b></p> <p>Particles are in ordered rows and can't move around.</p> <p>Solids some times can be like liquid but their not They don't have to be hard they squashy too. Solids do not spread or flow.</p> <p>Solids can be held or cut.</p>	 <p><b>Liquid</b></p> <p>Liquid changes shape because of what container it is in and the volume doesn't change.</p> <p>Liquid can be poured or flowed</p> <p>Particles bounce over each other and move around</p>	 <p><b>Gases</b></p> <p>Particles can't hold their shape</p> <p>Gases move very fast, they go different directions and bump into each other.</p> <p>Gases can be squashed and have weight.</p> <p>Gases are invisible and do not have a shape</p>

## PE Days

On your child's PE day, as listed below, please ensure they come to school dressed in clothing suitable for PE. Lessons may be indoors or outdoors so please send warm clothing with a t-shirt or shorts underneath in case they get hot. Children must wear suitable footwear such as trainers and have separate shoes for indoors, such as plimsolls, if they do not have wellies to wear outside at playtime. Please ensure that long hair is tied up and all jewellery is removed before coming to school.

**Seal Class – Monday**

**Shark Class – Tuesday**

**Starfish Class - Friday**

## Extended School Clubs

As we are currently still in a national lockdown, then we are unable to offer our normal Rockpool breakfast and after school club provision. However, we will still offer these services to parents who need them for work purposes. Please contact Mrs Saunders in the office for more information. We hope to restart our full extended school provision again after Easter.

## Diary dates

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	-	08:30AM	-	School Reopens to all students
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	-	15:30PM	-	End of term
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	-	08:30AM	-	School Reopens
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	-	ALL DAY	-	Bank Holiday
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	-	15:30PM	-	Break up for Half Term
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	-	08:30AM	-	School Reopens
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	-	15:30PM	-	End of Term - Happy Summer

## Appropriate Clothing

As the weather is very changeable at the moment, then please ensure that your child comes to school every day with a coat and wellies or other outdoor shoes. This will enable them to play outside with their friends every day, even if the weather is cold or wet.