

Bures Primary CEVC School and Nursery

Update for the Parish Councils – March 2020

It has been a busy start to the New Year. Work will soon commence to refurbish the front garden areas, in two phases. The School has just signed up to an improved Fibre to the Premises Internet connection, which will bring faster connectivity all round. We are in the process of electing a Parent Governor, having received three nominations for the role. We welcome Mr Allen, a Newly Qualified Teacher, to Year 5 and Mr Newstead as our new Caretaker. We continue to keep a close eye on the Coronavirus, providing updates and importantly instilling good habits of hygiene.

The topics for this term are:

Nursery and Reception: Winter and Traditional Tales

Year 1: Castles

Year 2: Fire Fire.

Year 3: Blue Planet

Year 4: Artic Adventure

Year 5: Road Trip to America

Year 6: Crime and Punishment

Suffolk Music Mark Award – it was very pleasing to learn that the School has been awarded Schools Membership of the Music Mark for the Year 19-20 in recognition of the support given for young people's music making and music education in Suffolk. The School was particularly thrilled to have received this award this year as it has thought carefully about how to ensure a provision of excellent music-related opportunities for all the pupils despite not having a music specialist on the staff team.

Whole School Attendance this academic year currently stands at 96.9%.

On the day we left the EU, to face a new and uncertain future as a nation, the School launched its own list of Growth Mindset type challenges for the children to achieve during their time at Bures. The challenges will be presented to the children as an 'Exploring your Yeti' list encouraging them to try new things and push themselves out of their comfort zone. Mrs Bennie has developed an 'Exploring your Yeti' passport for each pupil which will be kept in school and authenticated each time the children complete one of the challenges. To give an example, one of the challenges is 'Learn to sew, knit or crochet' – the Year 5 and 6 pupils achieved this when they created their decorations to sell at Christmas.

I thought you might like to read this piece written by Hannah Bradder, the School's Family Support Practitioner.

"Help is at hand! - Weekly Drop In

Since starting in September, I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting and working with lots of children and parents. I am finding Bures Primary to be a friendly, caring, approachable school which is open to looking at how we can support the holistic needs of our pupils which is really refreshing.

In addition to the way in which I am currently working, I am going to start a weekly drop in on a Wednesday morning from 8.40am (please report to the office), for staff, parents and children to access as and when they may find it useful to do so. It may be support from myself or someone in School that you might find helpful, it may just be advice and signposting to other support services that you need or purely just to talk through something. Whatever it might be, if you do feel this service can be of help to you please pop in."

On Monday 10th February 2020, Year 3 and Year 4 went for a visit to a Mosque in Ipswich to learn about Islam and the Muslim way of life. One of the children subsequently wrote, "What I liked the most about our Mosque trip was how peaceful it was and how much we learnt. We had to take our shoes off at the door, to show our respect. We learnt all Muslims have a devil and an angel on their shoulders and that girls must cover their hair. I enjoyed the trip a lot."

Special mention of Careers' Week, linked in with World Book Day

From airline pilot to chef and zoo keeper to a military police officer the children looked fantastic in their career-inspired World Book Day costumes. It was lovely to see them parading through the village on their way to church and made for a lively service. Ms Slater expressed her thanks to all the parents and other visitors who helped to make the School's Careers' Week such a huge success. It was great for the children to get a chance to view the world from so many different perspectives and learn about the many different opportunities that are out there. The staff have enjoyed hearing about the children's aspirations and their plans for achieving their goals.

Tim Fairbairn
Chair of Governors
9 March 2020

