

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



Friday 6th November 2020

Dear Families

I hope you all had a lovely half term break despite the weather. The children have had a great first week back and have enjoyed making the most of the glorious sunshine we have been lucky enough to enjoy.

As COVID-19 continues to affect us all and we enter another lockdown period, I would like to reassure that we are continually reviewing our risk assessment and procedures to ensure that we keep our children, staff and school community as safe as possible.

As a result of these continual reviews before half term we asked parents to wear face masks at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you for your continued support with this. Although it does appear that children are less affected by the virus, our staff are at risk and it is important that we keep them as safe and healthy as possible so that we can maintain continuity for the children and their education.

From Monday, we will be asking staff to wear face masks in school when they are not in their classrooms or teaching areas teaching. Therefore, they will be wearing face masks in the corridors and dining areas where the children may see them. This, alongside social distancing and good hygiene measures will ensure that if a member of staff does contract the virus, they are unlikely to spread the virus to their colleagues or other bubbles within the school. Most children are now used to seeing people wearing masks in shops or other public places so are unlikely to be phased by this. However, we would appreciate it if you could take some time to explain to your child over the weekend that this will be happening.

Despite all of the COVID restrictions, we continue to try to ensure that the children enjoy a range of experiences in school. Next week is a busy week, details of which you will find below.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and staff safe.

Have a restful weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Garside".

Miss Garside
Executive Head



All Saints' Thurlestone C of E Academy
Thurlestone,
Devon, TQ7 3NB
T: 01548 560494 **E:** thurlestone@lapsw.org
W: thurlestone-lap.co.uk



TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE



Children in Need

On Friday 13th November we will be supporting the annual *Children in Need* fundraising day. Firstly, children may come to school in non-school uniform in return for a donation of a non-perishable food which we will be donating to the Kingsbridge Foodbank. Whilst we understand that this is not supporting the official charity, we thought that given the current climate and the difficulties that so many in our local community are facing, this would be the most appropriate way to support local families and children. If the donation could be an item to brighten the Christmas of a local family in need i.e. small selection box, stuffing mix etc, that would be greatly appreciated.

Secondly, children may bring in 50p to decorate their very own Pudsey biscuit. We will donate this money to the official charity.

To ensure that we are COVID safe with our donations, there will be a box/container in each classroom for the food and money donations. Children will put their donations in the box on entry to school. We will not sort the food or count the money until Monday, when the quarantine period is complete.

Inter Faith Week

Next week, we will be marking Interfaith Week with an afternoon dedicated to exploring big questions in religion and world views. The children in EYFS and KS1 will be putting on their creative hats and using the themes from NATRE's Spirited Arts competition to design and create a piece of artwork that expresses their thoughts and feelings on an issue. In KS2, the children will be exploring the shared value of service through the eyes of the Indigenous American story of the Rainbow Crow and composing emails to believers and followers of different faiths and worldviews. Opportunities like this provide the children with not only wonderful experiences, but thought provoking questions and moments of true awe and wonder, helping to shape them into the global citizens of the future.

Christmas Plans

This week, the staff have spent some time discussing how we can make Christmas exciting and special for the children this year, but in a COVID safe way. I am pleased to let you know that the school will be very festive in the run up to Christmas, just in a slightly different way to normal!

In school the children will be decorating their classroom and competing for the 'best decorated door' again. There will also be a number of other festive activities starting on December 1st.

We have spent a lot of time considering the viability of a Nativity and I am pleased to say that we are planning a whole school virtual Nativity. The nuts and bolts of exactly how this will happen are not quite in place but here are the important dates for your diaries - including the must-see show of the year!

Tuesday 8th December	Whole School Nativity - 2pm
Wednesday 9th December	Whole School Nativity- 2pm



Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day (£1 donation)
Monday 14th December	Butter Cove/Bantham Christmas Party
Tuesday 15th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December	Sedgewell Cove Christmas Party
Thursday 17th December	Steeple Cove, Yarmer and Leas Foot Christmas Party
Friday 18th December	Mufti Day & Christmas Quiz

Rotary Club Competitions

Along with other schools in our local area we have been given the opportunity to take part in the annual Rotary Youth Competitions. These competitions are aimed at children aged 7-10 in Primary school as well as being offered to older year groups in Secondary School. This year the competitions are YOUNG WRITER and YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER. The theme for Young Writer is 'My Happiest Day' and for Young Photographer is 'Wild Nature'. Shortlisted entries will be displayed in the Kingsbridge Library prior to the judging event, which will showcase the work of our school and children. The Rotary club are creating bespoke 'opportunity' prizes for the winners, who they hope will be announced at an award ceremony in January with teachers, children and parents invited. Winners at District and National level will receive other awards. Further information and entry forms can be found on our website by clicking on the following link: [Letters to Parents - All Saints CofE Academy Thurlestone](#)