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SINGLETON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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12/2/21

Staffing News

Today we informed the families in Beech Class that Ms Williams is leaving us at Easter. She is relocating to the North of the country and as much as we wish she could commute – it may be a little unrealistic!

Ms Williams joined us at the start of the pandemic, and leaves us as we hopefully look forward to some brighter days. However Ms Williams arrived with her own brightness back in April last year and shared this with the children and team alike. She is a great job share partner with Mrs Nelmes, who I know values the enthusiasm, kindness and joy that Ms Williams brings to Beech Class.

We will advertise for a temporary part time teacher for the Summer Term.

At the end of July, Mrs Nelmes is going to retire after 22 years at Singleton. Both Mrs Nelmes and her husband are set to retire at the same time and I know will enjoy the plotting and planning for future adventures together. Mrs Nelmes is simply the kindest teacher, who gently cares for children, other members of the team and makes new people feel so welcome. We will miss her.

We will advertise for a full time permanent teacher after Easter ready for September.

Change can bring a variety of emotions and reactions for different people. We will of course ensure we support the children in school with this and keep you informed of appointments we make.

COVID News

Currently I have no further updates to offer you in terms of how the Government and Department for Education envisage the full opening of schools.

Schools will have 2 weeks' notice of any changes, so this may mean we have more information on the 22nd February.

Thank you to the families in school who have engaged fully with taking tests/isolating where necessary. COVID has been within our school community and is effecting staff in schools.

The team in school now take Lateral Flow tests twice a week to pick up any asymptomatic cases.

COVID EMAIL

Over the half term holiday, I would like any family who TEST POSITIVE for COVID and who have been in school, to inform me using the email address: [covid19@singleton.school](mailto: covid19@singleton.school)

This will be checked daily over Half Term.

Thank you.

PANCAKES

Thank you to the children and families at home for engaging with our Pancake Day – a practice run for next week! Each child in school and at home, has been given a ‘batter mix’ to make their own pancakes next week. Together with some LOVE HEARTS, this is just a little treat to say thank you to our amazing children – wherever they are learning.

In school we had some races and flipping competitions too:

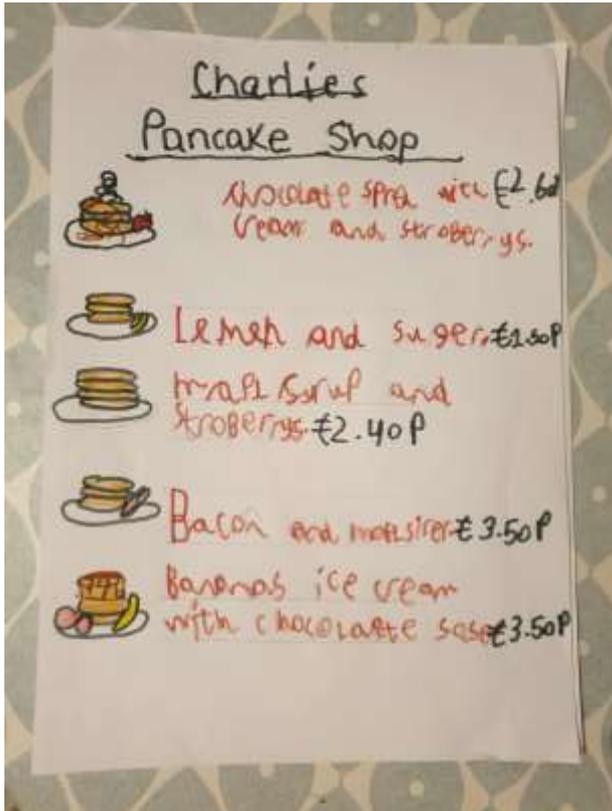
Our race winners were: Gretta, Tristan, Archie, Isla and Gianna.

Our ‘flipping’ champions were: Tristan, Archie and Harry

Daniel had a flipping competition at home and had a very impressive score of: 60 in 1 minute!



Pancake Learning at Home – can you spot your learning?



Flourish Learning

So this is the week, when children take charge of their learning. At the time of writing this:

Willow Class have been writing letters – to everybody over the past 6 weeks – and for Flourish they have written to a Japanese illustrator and author called, Anno. The letter will be translated into Japanese before being sent to Anno.

Year 2 have been learning to write fact files all half term and were then challenged to choose an animal and write their own independently. These were shared today as part of a Google Meet.

Beech Class are setting up a Viking Museum in school (I have an invite for the afternoon) and exhibitions at home too. This will be shared this afternoon on Google Meet.

Oak Class are setting up a World War 2 Museum in school (with a gift and tea shop!) in school and at home have created a museum in a show box, which are being shared over a Google Meet with the children in school.

I know how much the children enjoy this week – they get to put all their skills and knowledge into practice within a challenge. Once the Flourish Displays are finished in school, we will take some photos for you all to see!

Well done children and thank goodness for technology!

Thank you All

As we break for half term, I wish to pass on the teams' thanks to you all. Your support, understanding and kindness (and so many treats too!) over the past 6 weeks has meant a great deal to us.

To our families at home whether full time or part time, THANK YOU for engaging with the learning, supporting your children, becoming teachers (again!), whilst running your homes and working.

I did see on social media that a mum was not planning to tell her children it was Half Term because she quite liked the routine! I think Half Term is important and although we cannot do as much as we might like, it is a time for children to just 'be' – hopefully outside as much as possible!

To all of the team here and our Governors too – thank you for your enthusiasm and support during a challenging 6 weeks. You are a fabulous team, caring for each other and always for our children and families.

With Valentine's Day next week – we want to send you all our LOVE – to every family and child. The teaching team wanted to make a little surprise for you. It will pop into your email later – to be enjoyed and watched – but not shared!

Lots of love from all at Singleton.

Theresa Smyth