Friday 21st November 2025

#### Dear Parents,

It feels like winter has finally arrived this week! Despite the cold weather, our school community continues to bring energy and enthusiasm to each day, proving that not even freezing temperatures can cool our spirit. Our young people were offered the choice to have their photo taken on Thursday. Charlie, the photographer, commented how welcoming and polite all young people were and she was able to take some amazing photos. Please look out for the leaflet your children will be bringing home next week, with information about how to view and order the photographs.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	BMX Workshop in school. Please complete the consent form.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent Coffee Morning at 9:15am
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime Production in School
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch. Please complete online form: Christmas Lunch 2025 – Fill in form
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school after Christmas break

# **Cayuga Class**

As we come to the end of autumn and prepare to transition into winter next week, the weather has certainly brought a crisp chill to the air. However, this hasn't stopped our young people from making the most of their time outdoors! They've loved exploring the changing environment, splashing in muddy puddles, discovering frosty patches, and even finding small bits of ice forming in shady corners of the playground. Inside the classroom, we've continued our exciting journey into ancient Maya writing. The young people have been interested by how the Maya recorded stories using logograms for example. In science, our investigation this week focused on how soil is made. The young people were highly engaged in a hands-on exploration using jars, soil samples, and water. They observed the layers forming as the mixture settled: sand, silt, clay, and organic material (humus) and made predictions and observations about what they saw. It has been a week full of curiosity and discovery. We look forward to welcoming winter and everything it will bring to our learning next week! Have a great weekend. Mr Noone.

### **Butterfly Class**

As part of our English learning this half term, we have been looking at plays and playscripts. What a fabulous time of year for this topic. Many of us adults, especially at Christmas, took part in plays in schools. Whether they were good or bad memories, a performance brings a group of people together. In butterfly class we have four very different young people, all with different needs and neurodivergences. What we have seen, especially this week is the way that we have seen a pull



together of our little team of butterflies. We have been learning carols in BSL and Makaton, deciding on new songs to play as lullabies, after a discussion about what makes a lullaby a suitable song. We had a wonderful music lesson using percussion instruments to play along with our singing of popular Christmas songs. I am told that their singing could be heard all through the building! Finally, the butterfly team's proudest moment was when all boys had their school photos taken. They arrived in school in their very best clothes looking very well groomed. They had traditional and relaxed poses taken and I am sure you will be pleased with the joy that is evident on their faces. Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Angell

## **Kelly Class**

It's been a busy and exciting week in Kelly class! In maths, pupils have been extending their algebra skills by solving one- and two-step equations. In science, they explored neutralisation, investigating real-life uses such as the best ways to treat bee, wasp and jellyfish stings. Our English work focused on building comprehension skills, linked to our geography theme of conservation and human impact on the environment. In history, the class engaged in thoughtful debates about the causes of World War Two and who might be responsible for the outbreak in 1939. Have a great weekend. Mr Stone.

#### **Dahl Class**

This week Dahl class have been very busy! In maths, students have been looking at how to calculate the area of triangles and parallelograms. Some have also been working on conversion between fractions, percentages and decimals. In English, we have been looking at film techniques and how to get meaning from film. They are still watching the film WALL-E which they are really enjoying. In cookery, we made wraps with different fillings, the best part was of course when they got to eat them! We have been using Blooket as a fun way to learn by answering lots of different questions and then using strategy to get the most points to win. In PSHE, we have been looking into friendships; what makes a good friend and the challenges around friendships. Enjoy your weekend Dahl class. Miss Anderson.



### **Otzi Class**

Well, winter is definitely upon us! Thanks for all the wellies and coats that parents have sent in, it allows us to go and play out without getting wet socks. Speaking of trench foot, we concluded our journey into the poetry of WWI this week with the class working together to pen a haunting poem describing Wildred Owen's experiences of war. In history, we reviewed appeasement and explored the paths that led Italy and Japan towards conflict with the allies. The award for most fun lesson this week probably goes to music. We had a tour through a variety of genres including classical, opera, jazz, pop and afrobeat. There was some dancing and a lot of laughing at a compilation of pop videos we watched! Conductors of a less musical type were a feature of science this week, as we looked at the insulation and conduction properties of different materials and their practical uses. We are finishing off the week with some interesting moral dilemmas in RE. Wishing you a warm weekend. Mr Nightingale.



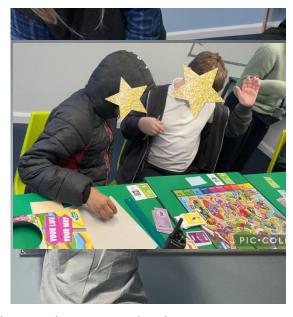
#### **Frenchie Class**

Frenchie class has had a week of consistent and steady learning; the children have shown skills in understanding new areas in mathematics and creativity in cooking and DT lessons. This week we have been focusing on mathematics in history, understanding the symbols used as numbers in the Mayan civilisation. We have approached further understanding of the symmetry of shapes by using mirrors in our learning and we stretched our creative skills to create 3D shapes out of paper. Creativity has continued into the week where the class made animatronic arms out of card, string and straws for a great DT lesson. We wrote up our learning by identifying strengths and weaknesses in our designs. There was some ingenious problem solving to construct and create models. We ended our English lesson journey with Macbeth, by writing a news article during our English lessons throughout the week on the 'downfall of Macbeth and the freedom of Scotland'. It really gave the class a chance to reflect on their understanding of the play. It was great to see the children being able to recall key points of the story to create their news article, with everyone remembering the details surrounding Macbeth's grisly end. The end of the week saw a fruity cookery lesson where the class created their own individual fruit salads, showing culinary skills of chopping, slicing and

pouring. Each fruit salad was constructed differently by each child showing their preference and individuality. However, we would like to apologise as it seems this is the first cookery lesson of the term where there have been no food items to take home and share, as each fruit salad was devoured in one sitting, by its maker, with gusto. Due to such a constructive week of learning, the class were rewarded with a trip to the park on Friday. Donning on our hats and gloves, we stomped down to Foxton park for a morning of fun and games and the highlight being everyone including the TAs and Miss Borgeson going down the slide! We wish you all a good weekend and we look forward to another positive week of learning. Miss Borgeson and Mr Prince.

#### **Darwin Class**

It was another busy week in Darwin class. Despite outside being low in temperature, spirits remained high across all subjects this week. The young people demonstrated an impressive focus across a range of learning tasks. In their 3D dragon project during Art, the students started to carefully plan the components needed to bring their design to life. A very methodical approach was taken while using a range of materials and equipment; they even had a go at using a polystyrene cutter! Their attention to detail and willingness to experiment with different ideas was notable. We can't wait to see how their creations begin to evolve over the next few weeks. How to write a detailed and specific investigation in science was met with much enthusiasm this week. The students took great delight in watching me use their instructions to make a very messy jam sandwich. I think staff and students alike were permanently put off making these in the future. Nonetheless, it served the purpose of highlighting the importance of being specific with our words especially in a science context. We continue to be impressed with the mature and reflective way the



young people's minds work. During grammar, punctuation and spelling lessons, they continued to demonstrate a solid understanding of the concepts covered. They applied what they had learned accurately in their written work and showed growing confidence in identifying and correcting errors. Ask your young person the meaning of comma splicing and when they should be using a semi-colon instead of a comma; I hope you will be pleasantly surprised at their growing knowledge. Maths revolved around deriving and applying formulae to calculate problems involving perimeter and area of a range of shapes. Despite being given some tricky shapes, the students took a resilient approach in trying to solve these questions. Their willingness to share when they are finding the work challenging has been a highlight of the week. We like to remind them that being kind to oneself in how we respond to these challenges is as important as being kind to others. We discussed how imperative it is to give themselves a chance to push through any barriers they may have and not let these come in the way of their learning and more importantly, their opinion of themselves. Much to the delight of all, we finished the week with a reward of hot chocolate, marshmallows and cream - a tasty treat to round off a very positive week. Overall, Darwin had a productive and successful week, approaching each task with an enthusiastic attitude. They should be feeling very proud of themselves. As ever, have a lovely weekend. Miss Joy

## **Mandela Class**

Students in Mandela have been asking interesting questions, activating prior knowledge and making good inferences in our project about WW2. We've included English, art, cookery, a little maths, and computing within that project this week. Students have found such interesting facts in plotting their timelines, researching how the people and inventions relating to their interests fit on a timeline. Students have spent more time together, bonding through class activities, ball games and board games. Game of Life, which students and staff learnt to play together, has been a bit hit. We finished our first class story time book and have to pick another today! Happy weekend. Miss Goldup.



# **Final Thought**

We are looking forward to welcoming another visitor into school next week. Mike will be coming on Friday, to wow us (young people and staff) with his amazing BMX stunts and tricks. If you would like your child to take part in the workshop, please ensure the consent form is returned before Friday. If you have any questions, please contact Ms Carter in the office who will be happy to help you.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Pine Headteacher