

## Weekly News – 15th January 2024

### *A message from Mrs Farren...*

#### **2024- the year of appreciation**

Norton Primary School wants to make 2024 the year of appreciation. We can do this by spending less time on devices and more time appreciating the world around us; the wonders and beauty of nature (which we need to preserve) and the simple things that don't cost money (like family walks and chats and eating together as a family). It's the simple things that will help make 2024 the best year ever! As part of this, we are encouraging you all to talk. What do you enjoy and why?

Our school is very excited to be taking part in the 'Look Who's Talking!' competition, along with lots of other schools in Gloucestershire!

#### ***What is oracy and why is it so important?***

Oracy is the ability to express ourselves clearly and communicate with others effectively, through spoken language. By teaching our children to become more effective speakers and listeners, we are all helping to give them the tools they need to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them.

How will the competition work?

Your child will get the chance to talk to their class for two minutes, about any subject that they choose and then a 'Star Speaker' will be chosen. Star Speakers from every class will then get to talk in front of the whole school. Those winners will then go on to the next stage and will represent our school in the competition, with lots of other local schools!

#### ***What can your child talk about?***

Children can talk about absolutely anything that they choose to, for up to two-minutes. They can use any props that they wish to, which will help with their talk, but just cannot use any technology, so no Power Points please.

#### ***How can you help them at home?***

First of all, please help them to think about what they would like to talk about. The more interested they are in the subject, the more passionate their talk will be! What are they interested in? What excites them? It might be a toy, their pet, a book, something they have seen on TV, their favourite sports team, something they have learned about from you at home - or anything else! It can be anything at all!

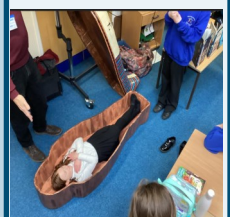
- ◆ They will need to plan and rehearse their speech, so please listen to them practice and give them lots of encouragement!
- ◆ Make sure they are speaking with big voices, nice and clearly, so everyone can hear their talk and learn about their chosen topic.

Thank you for your support.

*Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Farren and Team Norton*

On Wednesday Andy Seed, a local author, came to visit Norton. Children took part in storytelling and poetry workshops as well as finding out what it is like to be an author. He even brought in a life size sarcophagus for our year 5 and 6s! The children had so much fun and there has been a real buzz about reading which is lovely to see.

Thank you again to Norton PTA who paid for this event.



**Reception** We have had a very busy week and what a lovely treat on Wednesday to have the Author Andy Seed with us; he taught us funny poems and interviewed some animals. The children were brilliant and joined in with the actions and repeating phrases.

In Maths our focus has been circles and triangles, using this as a stimulus for Art we studied Wassily Kandinsky and his famous paintings. The children then created their own Squares with concentric circles. This also supported our fine motor skills of drawing round and round.





We are pleased to confirm that Friends Of Norton School has now officially changed it's name to Norton PTA.  
The next PTA meeting will be on Tuesday 16th Jan at 8pm. If anyone would like to join please contact  
PTA email ([friendsofnortonschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnortonschool@gmail.com)) for details.

**Year 1** children have been looking at number fact families this week. They have been using a variety of resources to work out the answers before writing down the calculation. All of the children loved their visit from Andy Seed and have been talking about his books ever since!



**Year 3** This week in Year 3 we have been comparing European and Japanese fairy tales. We loved meeting the author Andy Seed, he helped spark our imaginations about the animals we could include in our stories. In maths we have been multiplying 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers, next week we will explore what happens when the answer goes across the place value column.



**Year 2** In Year 2 this week we have been focusing on using expression and intonation in our reading. We have looked at the clues in texts which enable us to do this. In preparation for the author Andy Seed's visit we shared some of his books and prepared questions to ask him. We loved listening to him read his books and answer our questions.

**Year 4** In English, we have read our model story 'Greenling' by Levi Pinfold. We have described the setting in this story using expanded noun phrases and have just begun to plan our own version of this story.

### Important things to remember...

- > Please ring the school before 9:15am if your child is absent.
- > Please remember to complete a booking form for this term(term 3). This is so we can get the right pupil:staff ratio. If a booking form hasn't been completed your child will not be able to use this facility.

**Year 5** have been exploring the diaries of WWII women and have been developing their inference skills to prepare for their own diary entries in a few weeks.

**Year 6** Our topic within science this term is light. This week, the children created their very own periscopes. We discussed how, due to light travelling in straight lines, periscopes are able to work.



## Next week's diary...

| 15th Jan 23 | The School Day          | After School                           | Lunch Menu (week 3)  |
|-------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Monday      |                         | Book, TTRS, Cross County               | Lentil & sweet potato curry<br>Tomato Arrabiata pasta<br>Jacket potato with beans or cheese        |
| Tuesday     |                         | Gardening                              | Chicken & broccoli pasta<br>Cheese & tomato Pizza<br>Jacket potato with beans, cheese or tuna mayo |
| Wednesday   |                         | Multi skills, Dance, Card Games        | Roast gammon<br>Vegan Quorn<br>Jacket potato with beans or cheese                                  |
| Thursday    |                         | Table Tennis, Craft & Crochet, Cooking | Cottage Pie<br>Vegan burger<br>Jacket potato with beans, cheese or tuna mayo                       |
| Friday      | 2:40pm—Sharing Assembly |  | Fish Fingers<br>Cheese & red pepper frittata<br>Jacket potato with cheese or tuna mayo             |