

Ridgewell C of E Primary School Newsletter



7th October 2021

AUTUMN DAYS

Harvest thanks!

It was so lovely to see parents, relatives and friends of the school in the church last week to help us to celebrate our Harvest Festival. Our last service together was over eighteen months ago, just before the first lockdown and we didn't realise how much we'd missed coming together as a community until we saw everyone. The children are finding their beautiful singing voices once again, filling the church with songs! Thank you once again for all the donations of food which have now been sent to the Haverhill Foodbank.

Our building work is at last coming to an end and the builders have begun to put the finishing touches to the school staffroom and hall. We have been promised that everything will be finished when we return after October half-term.

We are excited to see the 'Little Woodland Tribe' nursery setting up in the Forest School site alongside the school. The leaders of the nursery are very experienced and passionate about learning in the outdoors the children joining them are going to have a great time!

The gardening club have now dug up all the potatoes, taken the sweetcorn and the last of the tomatoes. The potatoes were washed and delivered to the school kitchen alongside a very large marrow that was discovered amongst the leaves - good luck Suzy!

Mrs. Stuart

Tea/coffee in the church:

Mrs. Lowe will be in the church for tea/coffee and a chat on the first and third Thursday of every month. Everyone is very welcome to pop in after dropping children off at the school!



Whole School Council

Every Child's Voice Matters

This year, we decided to re-think how we run our School Council. One of the many things we love about our school is that every child's voice is heard. We know our children so well and really listen carefully to what they have to say. Rather than take out a small group of children to make decisions for the whole school, we decided to involve everyone.

So far this term, we have held three meetings in the hall which have led to class discussions. Children are asked to represent their class and share ideas and thoughts. Last week we discussed 'How do we help you to stay healthy at School?' Children voted, and have voted in the return of the welly walk! ☺

Foundation Days

Specialist teaching

On Wednesday, we held the first of our 'Foundation Days' in school. These days have been planned each month to allow children to be taught foundation subjects by specialists and also to take part in a community-linked project.

Each class had an in-depth music and French lesson and this month, the community project was to explore the life of St Lawrence – the saint our church is named after – and produce work to be displayed in the church. We will be creating a display of work which will be shown in the church in the coming weeks.



PTFA Re-start

We have been seeking advice about how best to restart our school PTFA group from the experienced chair of another group. She is very enthusiastic and would be happy to arrange an online meeting in November for all parents/relatives/friends of the school who would like to be involved.

In past years, our PTFA group have been invaluable in setting up events for the children and school community, raising money for school projects and funding experiences for our children.

Please let us know if you are interested in becoming involved and also what the best time for a Zoom meeting would be. We would be happy to arrange a meeting during the school day or during an evening.

Open Morning

*We will be holding an open morning for new parents on **9th November**. Please pass this information on to anyone you know with young children who are thinking about school admissions in the next two years.*



Key Diary Dates this term – 2021/22



18th October – Nursery Open Morning (contact the Nursery if you would like to find out more)

19th October – KS1 Parent Consultations

21st October – Saturn Parent Consultations

22nd October – Jupiter Parent Consultations

25th – 29th October – Half Term Holiday

1st November – Non-pupil Day

2nd November – Whole School Trip to Layer Marney

8th November – School Photographs (younger siblings invited first thing in the morning)

9th November – Open Morning

11th November – Remembrance at the Village Memorial

12th November – Children in Need Day

17th November – Autumn Welly Walk!

8th & 9th December – School Nativity event (details nearer the time)

10th December – Christmas Dinner/Jumper Day

16th December – Christmas Carol Service

17th December – last day of term