

Trowse Primary School

It's February already – how did that happen ??

What's been going on around and about?

Well January came and went in a flash – with lots of really good learning taking place all around school and some cool visits too !

Year 5 had a wonderful time being introduced to the world of Ancient Greece. They were inducted as soldiers of Sparta by Adrius, a Spartan commander, then went through the trials required to join his elite unit,



including marching, archery, use of armour and weapons. They learned how to avoid medusa's stare and a phalanx formation! What a fantastic way to introduce them to their new unit "*The Great, the Bold and the Brave!*"



We have lots of other visits planned for various year groups. What we are doing this year with funding visits, is that FOTS have kindly agreed to pay £15 per child towards the cost of school visits. Rather than asking for odd amounts, we are proposing using the £15 to pay entirely for, or subsidise, your child's Big year group visit. Reception's visit to Gressenhall next month is being fully funded, Year 5 are going to the Roman and Iceni



Dates...

Friday, 7th February
School discos

Tuesday, 11th February
YR3/4 Olly Day Road Safety Show
Safer Internet Day

Wednesday, 12th February
Spirit of the Games festival
(up to 15 children from Yr2-4)

Friday, 14th February

Last day of half-term
9.00am Celebration Assembly

HALF TERM w/c 17th February

Monday 24th February
Children return to school

Tuesday, 25th February
Yr 2 Edith Cavell workshop

Wednesday, 26th February
Parents Evening 3.30-6.30
Scholastic Book Fair Arriving

Wednesday, 5th March
Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.30

Thursday, 6th March
World Book Day – dress up as a character

Tuesday, 11th March
Reception to Gressenhall

Need to contact us?

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Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 8TU
Tel: 01603 622485

A POLITE REMINDER- DUE TO HAVING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL WITH SEVERE ALLERGIES, WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL. IF YOU ARE PROVIDING YOUR CHILDREN WITH A PACKED LUNCH, OR FOOD FOR ANY OTHER REASON, PLEASE ENSURE IT CONTAINS NO NUT PRODUCTS OR OILS.

exhibition at Norwich Castle Museum and that will be fully funded. As visits are organised we'll let you know how your allocation is being spent.

Designs were submitted by the children for our **'Go-Go Giraffe'** and Mrs Carver has agreed with the School Council the final design. Work will start this week to transform our blank canvas and we hope to include as many children as possible in the painting over the next few weeks.



Staffing Changes

We have had a few staffing changes and some surprise arrivals since the last newsletter ! We are delighted to advise that Mrs Disney (was Miss Melton), our lovely Reception TA, gave birth to twin boys early in January – they were born at 28 weeks, so are tiny and will be in hospital for quite a while, but both parent and babies are doing well.

We have appointed Mrs McClarence as the full time TA in our Reception class as maternity cover for Mrs Disney and she started this week, so please do introduce yourselves and make her feel welcome. We have also appointed Mrs Wright as our Wednesday to Friday TA in Reception (she replaces Mrs Page who left us just before Christmas, but she still pops in and helps out, which is lovely).

In Year 2 we welcome Mrs Rix, who will be working with individual children in the mornings.

Our Year 3 TA, Mrs Webb, goes on maternity leave at the end of February and she will be replaced by Mrs Johnson whilst she is away.

We also welcomed back Mrs Bannon-Phayre at the start of January, who is Teaching in Year 3 Monday to Wednesday, alongside Miss Waterfield who is teaching the end of the week.

Mrs Webster (Miss Harcourt) also returns from maternity leave after February half-term and will be with our Year 6 children.

Sporting Achievements

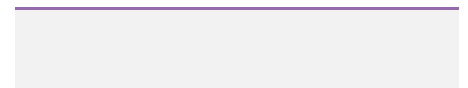
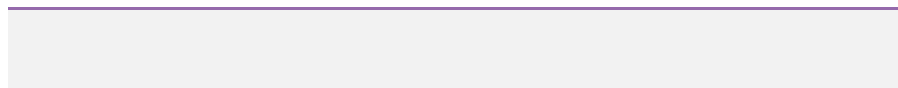
Some children from Years 1 and 2 attended a Cluster Dance Festival at Framingham Earl and had a really good experience, their leaders played them a piece of music and they were shown a dance and then they had to practice the dance and perform it at the end in front of everyone else. It was a really good experience for some of our younger children to go out and take part in cluster events.

The second group of Year 3 children have started swimming lessons and although nervous initially, they are all making great progress.

Our Year 4 children have started learning to ski at the Norfolk Snowsports Club, they get 10 weeks and again the progress is incredible after just three sessions. The last week on 25th March, parents are invited to come along to the club and see for themselves the progress they have made.

School Discos – Friday 7th February , 2025

Letters are coming home with the children today and FOTS will be at the gate for the rest of the week, collecting consent forms and donations – suggested £3 per child.



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Lunch Menus

After February half term we are changing the offering on packed lunches and there will just be one sandwich option available and we will be re-introducing the pasta pots a couple of days a week. Karen and the team not only cook and make everything from fresh every day, but they also cook for Alington school (who think our food is fantastic) and they are very busy, this will help to streamline their work.

Parents Evening

Parents evening are on Wednesday, 26th February and Wednesday 5th March from 3.30 – 6.30. The booking system is live on school cloud www.trowse.schoolcloud.co.uk. Remember, you must type Year 2 or Year 4 not just 2 or 4 for the year group, otherwise it won't recognise your details.

WORLD BOOK DAY – Thursday, 6th March

We will be celebrating world book day with a non-uniform day, when the children can dress up as their favourite book characters!

In the run up to World Book Day, we will also be hosting the **Scholastic Book Fair** again. It **arrives in school on Wednesday, 26th February and will be here for a week** – the fair will be open from 3.15 to 3.45 each day.

Safer Internet Day- 11th February

Tuesday 11th February is Safer Internet Day and we will be taking time again this year to specifically focus on this issue facing young people.

As I mentioned in October's newsletter, as school we are becoming more concerned about the impact of smartphones on children. We want to work together with you to make sure your children are safe. I will be sending a link to a short questionnaire, which I'd really appreciate your time to complete, so we can get a true picture of our community and what our families think and want. Please do try to take the time to complete it. Plus, don't forget the overall website:

Smartphone Free Childhood <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

AND SOME OF OUR FREQUENT REMINDERS...

Uniform

FIRSTLY, PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED! We still have a lot of lost property with no names! We are sorting out all of the "New to You" uniform ready for parents evening when the rails will be out, but if you want anything before then, just ask the office. Please do bring in donations of out-grown, clean, good quality **Trowse logo polos, jumpers and cardigans**. We have lots of skirts and trousers, so cannot take any more of these items and they don't sell very well, so just the Trowse logo items. All donations gratefully received.

Breakfast Club

We will shortly be sending out a parent survey about our Wraparound Childcare provision. Since the change in school starting times, we have noticed that numbers in Breakfast club have fallen and we clearly need to ensure that this is a viable option. After school club, continues to be increasingly popular, which is great. So, look out for questionnaire and please return it to the school office before the end of this half-term – we will then collate all the replies and see if there are things we can do to change our offering.

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Please note, sadly we have parents driving at speed into our car park to drop off children to Breakfast Club or collect them from After School Club. The same considerations apply as for normal school drop off – please park on the roundabout and walk your children in. The car park is for Chapelfield nursery children, taxis and staff coming to work. We have seen some close calls with cars and children and this needs to stop before an accident happens. Only in an EMERGENCY should you come onto the car park and then it is a MAXIMUM OF 5mph.

Please book in the normal way if you would like your child to come along! Breakfast will be included of course! If this interests you, then book via the 'School Cloud' App www.trowse.schoolcloud.co.uk

Next half term's dates are live on the school cloud system to enable you to book them in.

*Working parents of Primary School aged children who are accessing before and after school childcare (also known as wraparound provision) can use **Tax-Free Childcare** or **Universal Credit Childcare** to help pay for Breakfast and After School childcare.*

Tax-Free Childcare can be used by working families with children aged 0-11 years and earning under £100k and at least £167 per week, and who aren't receiving Universal Credit or Tax Credits. For every £8 you pay into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, up to £2000 per child per year.

Universal Credit Childcare can be used by working families claiming Universal Credit with children under 17 years old. Up to 85% of eligible childcare costs can be reclaimed. Parents will need to speak to their work coach for more information. Find out more information from the [Childcare Choices website](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/combining-schemes)



Childcare
Choices

Items From Home

Please do check that your children are not bringing in toys, cards, lots of stationary etc. from home. This can be particularly relevant in the new year when children have new things! We have had situations in school recently where children are giving each other things, (or children asking for things from a friend) which then becomes difficult and sometimes upsetting. The easiest way to avoid any of this, is to not bring anything in from home that may then cause upset.

That's about it for this edition – enjoy half term when it arrives !!

Stuart Odell, Headteacher

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