

FOSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL BULLETIN

Nursery and Reception

This week the children have been making salt dough ready to create their own Christmas decorations. The children worked together to add the ingredients to make the salt dough. We then used different Christmas cutters, for example, gingerbread men, bells and stars. After, the children really enjoyed painting the dried-out salt dough ready to hang in pride of place on their trees at home.



Year 1 & 2

Class 2 enjoyed listening to Christmas stories read to us by the KS2 children, the KS2 children enjoyed practising their storytelling skills for an audience and the KS1 children loved to listen, showing consideration and respect.



Year 3 & 4

had a great time at the Malton Sports Event on Wednesday. We showed a superb team spirit, and competitive nature when playing football and dodgeball with other teams!

Year 5 & 6

This week in Class 4 we have started writing our final piece of English work for this half-term: a letter home from a soldier during the war. We have also been combining our geography and drama skills and created a short news report about erosion in the Grand Canyon. We had some wonderful use of key vocabulary and some awful rock jokes. We worked on projection and our *boulder* delivery meant that it wasn't *boring*.



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Baking Club

The final baking club session will be on **Monday 18th December**. We will be making Stollen - a German bread with fruit and citrus peel. Ours will be nut-free and may include chocolate instead.

Christmas Decoration Competition

Please can all Christmas decoration/bauble competition entries be handed into class teachers **Monday 18th December**. Competition closes. The judges will select a winner from each year group and each winner will receive a prize.



School Nativity

PAFFS will service refreshments at the school Nativities, any cakes/bakes/treats will be gratefully received. There will be no tuck shop on Friday 22nd December, it will be held at pick up on Tuesday 19th December at 3.15pm.

Sharing Assembly

Our sharing assembly will take place on **Wednesday 20th December, 9.10am** at Thornton Le Clay Village Hall. Parents are welcome to attend to celebrate our pupils wonderful achievements. PAFFS will be providing refreshments.

Christmas Parties

Pupils will have their Christmas parties on **Thursday 21st December**. EYFS & KS1 can come to school wearing party clothes and KS2 wearing a Christmas jumper. This year we have decided to not do party food, instead the children will have a day of dancing, games and music!

Foston Clubs

Please find below our extra-curricular clubs for next half term. To book a place, please email the school office. For our extra-curricular clubs, these will now be available on a block basis only. Wrap around care is also available with Mrs Gibson and Miss Sidhu.

Mrs Scaife will also be lead a dance club in school at lunchtime.

	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
Club	Science Club	SATS Booster	Energy Club	Maths Club
Leading Adult	Miss Cooke	Mr Marshall	Total Sports	Mr Yip
Time	3.15-4.00pm	3.15-4.15pm	3.15-4.15pm	3.15-4.15pm
No. of sessions	4	4	5	5
Age	EYFS & Key Stage 1 (Reception-Year 2)	Year 6	Key Stage 1 & 2 (years 1 -6)	Key Stage 2 (years 3-6)
Cost for the block	£16	Free	£15	Free
Maximum	12	4	20	20

ParentPay

Please can Parents/Carers login to ParentPay and clear any outstanding balance where possible and give consent for any outstanding trips/travel.

Recently Reviewed Policies

Our governing body have recently reviewed our behaviour policy and child protection policy. They can both be found on our school website on the below link.

<https://fostonschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/FST-Child-protection-Policy-Sept-2023.pdf>

<https://fostonschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/FST-Behaviour-Discipline-Policy-Sept-2023.pdf>

Online Safety

With the Christmas festivities just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow them to go online. Even with the best intentions, many parents have a false sense of how to keep their child secure, or think their child is more secure than they actually are. Please find attached a leaflet with useful information on ensuring children are helped to remain safe online.

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Homework

Thankyou to everyone who completed the homework questionnaire. From the outcomes of this survey there were very varying views on homework and it is clear we are not able to reach a consensus that would suit everyone. We have also approached several local schools and ascertained that their homework expectations are very similar to ours. We have also contacted local feeder secondary schools to ascertain the expectations for year 7 as we wish to prepare children for the next stage of their education.

As a federation we use the Educational Endowment Fund to inform our decisions on best practice. This provides schools with evidence based research on many strategies and interventions. In their research on homework it states that children who undertake regular homework make 5 months additional progress annually than those who don't. The increased emphasis on repetition of learning to embed key knowledge emphasised by Ofsted, the DFE and educational experts highlights the benefits of consolidating learning further outside of the school environment. In looking at a way forward we felt that the below would support our children in achieving the best outcomes and being ready for the increasing demands of secondary school. We will ensure teachers communicate the expectations for days you will receive the homework on and the hand in / test date at the beginning of the new term.

	Reception	Year 1 and 2	Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6
Reading	3 times per week from phonics scheme book. Parents to write in planners that children have read. This is expected.	3 times per week from phonics scheme book. Parents to write in planners that children have read. This is expected.	3 times per week any book read with an adult or independently. Pupils can write in their planners that they have read. This is expected.	3 times per week any book read with an adult or independently. Pupils can write in their planners that they have read. This is expected.
Spellings		Weekly spellings Children are expected to practice their spellings.	Weekly spellings Children are expected to practice their spellings.	Weekly spellings Children are expected to practice their spellings.
Mental maths		Weekly KIRF focus (Key Instant Recall Fact). Children are expected to practice their mental maths as often as possible.	Weekly KIRF focus (Key Instant Recall Fact). Children are expected to practice their mental maths as often as possible.	Weekly KIRF focus (Key Instant Recall Fact). Children are expected to practice their mental maths as often as possible.
Homework menu	Challenges/next steps that are optional.	One activity per week from the homework menu. Optional but encouraged.	One activity per week from the homework menu. Optional but highly encouraged. A homework club is available to support children with this at lunchtime.	One activity per week from the homework menu. Expected that this is completed. Children will attend the homework club if not completed.
Additional worksheets				Where set by the teacher to support learning this is expected to be completed. Children will attend the homework club if not completed.

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Diary Dates

Christmas bauble/decoration competition closes	Monday 18th December
Nativity (EYFS & KS1, Thornton le Clay Village Hall)	Tuesday 19th December, 2pm & 4pm
PAFFS Tuck Shop	Tuesday 19th December, 3.15pm
Sharing Assembly (Thornton le Clay Village Hall))	Wednesday 20th December, 9.10am
Christmas Parties (EYFS & KS1 to come to school in party clothes and KS2 in Christmas jumpers)	Thursday 21 st December
Christingle Service (KS2, Foston Church)	Thursday 21st December, 2.30pm
Fantastic Friday	Friday 22nd December
Christmas	Friday 22nd December (last day at school) Tuesday 9th January (first day back)
Spring half-term	Friday 9th February (last day at school) Monday 19th February (first day back)
Easter	Friday 22nd March (last day at school) Tuesday 9th April (first day back)
May Day bank holiday	Friday 3rd May (last day at school) Tuesday 7th May (first day back)
Summer half-term	Friday 24th May (last day at school) Monday 3rd June (first day back)
Summer	Friday 19th July (last day at school)