

Delabole Community Primary School Newsletter

March 2019

See this newsletter and more on our school website www.delaboleschool.org



Dear Parents and Carers

Term 4 Our Value: Justice

Our Enquiry Question: Who holds the power?

What does it feel like to step into a new term of learning at Delabole Primary School? Well it looks a lot like this....



All around the school there was a tangible buzz of anticipation as we returned after the half term break and the children found themselves instantly transported into a variety of realms for learning. Imagine if there were a mystery to be solved and, along with your Foundation & Class 1 friends, you were challenged to decide if a band of brothers living in Sherwood Forest were heroes or villains. Picture the scene as the Class 3 children silently file past a mysterious lidded box filled with objects – each one chosen with care to suggest a great sorrow unleashed on the world. What if they had to open Pandora's box? Meanwhile, in Class 2, the children wound back time to find that there was a different sense of justice in a Victorian schoolroom, and girls did not enjoy the same opportunities as boys! And who could have known that one tiny, white origami bird and the image of a beautiful murmuration could take children on a journey of discovery which ended in an understanding of freedom and imprisonment? Binding all these learning experiences together were our words – words for thinking and wondering, words for exploring feelings and words for expressing our most important human values. Powerful learning indeed.

If you are at all curious about what our 'Beautiful Tapestry of Learning' looks like, do take a moment to visit the class pages on our website. If you click on the class page menu, a series of photo reels will be revealed and each one represents just one aspect of what it is to be a learner at Delabole School.

Staying Safe Online

The most important thing we do is to keep children safe and sometimes the conversation around how we do that together with parents, is brought into sharp focus. Many of you will be aware of a recent surge in concerns over internet pop ups, and their capacity to impact on children significantly. As a staff, we have decided not to shine any spotlight on these horrible influences which are designed to harm...rather we would ask that parents simply pay special attention to what their children are viewing online and take steps to ensure they are not unsupervised when using the internet. In school, we have spoken at length with the children without going into any details. They know that if they stumble across anything which 'feels wrong' they must tell an adult. We would ask that parents do the same at home and, rather than fan the flames of media hype, just quietly take control of this scourge on childhood. Aspire have updated their internet safety pages, so do check out the website for signposts to useful organisations.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Rather than use this day as an opportunity to dress up, we felt that we would like to shift the focus back onto our passion for reading. There are so many incredible books in the world – as many books as there are pebbles on a beach – as I told the children last week. Surely, we should celebrate our collective favourites! For that reason, we are waiting in excited anticipation for some truly creative responses to our **Book in a Jar challenge**. Please bring all jars into school on the morning of Thursday 7th – but ssshhh! Don't reveal the book title. The whole school will be challenged to guess the title and book token prizes will be awarded later in the day when all the jars are assembled in the library. We just can't wait.



Comic Relief – 'Do Your Own Thing'

In recent months, we have found that when we hold dressing up days for charity, many children forget to bring in a small contribution for the worthy cause. We understand that this is because a pound coin can easily be forgotten in the morning rush, but we would genuinely like to show some commitment to ensuring we do raise money for charity. It is important that the children feel they have the power to contribute to something which is a catalyst for positive change. This year we would like to hold a cake sale, as well as selling the usual charity goodies. Please send in your cakes – **red, spotty, wild and extraordinary** on the morning of Friday 15th March. We will hold a cake sale mid-morning. Don't forget to bring some money to buy cakes. Enjoy!



Lunchtime SOS

As a staff, we have been looking closely at our lunchtime arrangements as we have become increasingly aware that this part of our day can be quite challenging for some children. We notice that children who have had a tricky lunchtime, then find it hard to settle to afternoon learning. We would like to reinvigorate the playground by setting up a rotation of challenges and activities. We would also like to zone off part of the playground with quiet games which can be shared and used to promote friendship. Sometimes children need a more focused activity to help them negotiate relationships such as sharing and compromise and playing a game would be a focus for this. If you have any unused lego or games at home, which are good

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quality and robust enough to use outside, please could you drop them into school and we will make good use of them. Thank you.

Road Safety

Just a friendly reminder that we do need to all take responsibility for keeping our children safe. It helps families who walk to school and need to cross the road with the help of Pam, if cars are parked away from the school entrance. Please help to keep us all safe.

Best Wishes



Sue Cox and the team

Key Dates this Term

Thursday 14 th March	Class 3 visit to Tintagel Castle
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief Cake Sale
Wednesday 20 th March	Parents Evening
Thursday 21 st March	Parents Evening
Friday 5 th April	Last day of term 4
Tuesday 23 rd April	First day of term 5
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 21 st May – Friday 24 th May	Y6 London Residential
Friday 24 th May	Last day of term 5
Monday 3 rd June	First day of term 6
Friday 7 th June	Community Cohesion Day – School Closed
Monday 17 th – Wednesday 19 th June	Y4/5 Porthpean Residential
Thursday 24 th July	Last day of term 6