



School Newsletter

26th January 2024

'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds.' Hebrews 10:24

Dear Exbourne Families and Friends,

Last week we announced new class names Olive and Dove. I said I would tell the children the story of Noah and the Ark so they would understand the significance of these two symbols.

On Monday we came to school to our very own flood! A pipe had perished, and our dishwasher emptied on to the staffroom floor and ceiling of Olive class.

Thank goodness for our wonderful staff team who quickly moved children's books and class equipment over to the other building, and great thanks to our speedy Estates team who arrived with an aqua hoover, industrial drying machine and dehumidifying equipment.

I certainly was not expecting such a vivid experience to introduce the story with!

We are waiting until we have the 'all clear' before we move the class back in.



Thank You

Thank you to our PFA for buying a projector and screen for us to use in the hall. We look forward to using this in Worship, assemblies, and other events.

Attendance

I am delighted with the improved level of attendance this week!

Olive Class 98.2%

Dove Class 97.5%

Well done to all our families!



Exbourne Ethos

Thank you for taking part in our survey to help understand and develop our ethos at Exbourne. The feedback was really encouraging.

I produced this image from the words we collected to describe our school.



This has helped us create a strap line for our school. Liking alliteration (repeated initial sounds and letters) we have decided upon Exbourne: Encouraging Excellence. This compliments our vision taken from Hebrews 10:24 to 'spur one another to acts of love and good deeds.'

Communication

We also take the constructive criticism seriously, so thank you for being candid. Communication was highlighted as an area we need to work on improving. Since the survey we have relaunched our two Facebook pages as parents said this was a good way to see messages. We are keeping reminders

and 'in house' messages on our private page, whereas celebrations and photos (of those we have permission for), are shared on our public page. Search Exbourne Church of England Primary School to follow us. This week see photos of children making Ferris wheels, blowing bubbles in Worship, exploring money, writing their own Grimm tales and using practical application to understand thermal equilibrium.

Olive Class staff are looking at Tapestry as a communication tool for Early Years. Once we are familiar with this platform, we will share this with you.

There are always staff at the gate in the morning and staff available after school for quick conversations and passing on messages, if you need a longer meeting, please email admin@exbourneprimary.org.uk and Mrs Chapman will make sure this is passed on to the relevant member of staff for a meeting to be made. I am available directly at tpenny@dmatschools.org.uk

Collaboration with others

Another area parents have asked us to address is to ensure there are opportunities for our pupils to mix with pupils from different schools. We aim to be involved in more competitive sports this spring, starting this week with playing netball with local schools.

We have residential planned with other schools for Year 3 & 4 camping and outdoor activities, Year 5 to Bristol and Year 6 to France in the summer.

We have our Festival of Hope later this Spring, where we plan to work collaboratively with other schools.

We will look for other opportunities to meet up with other schools and keep you informed.

Autumn Term Highlights

Highlights of the Autumn term for parents were the Harvest festival, particularly the afternoon tea with the community, the Infant Nativity, and the Carol concert. One parent said their highlight was 'My child is thriving, and this is great to see.'

Children were particularly enthused by going swimming, reading at the Burrow, going to the Pantomime as well as citing reading favourite books, and enjoying practical and creative lessons in their classes.

We look forward to lots more school and community events over the coming months.

With very best wishes

Tara Penny

Principal