

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

**Dates for your diary:**

- INSET Day: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022
- Half term: 21<sup>st</sup> February to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- Last day of term: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year!

I hope you and your family had a good Christmas and managed to keep well! The pupils seemed to have returned to school in good spirits and have settled back in well.

This term our whole school topic is 'Celebrations' with an emphasis in the historical period of the Anglo Saxons. Those of you who have been part of our school community for some time will know that the beginning of each new term means that we begin with our 'Wow Week!' where a whole range of activities are on offer to foster pupils' interest in the new topic. This term we have decided to have a 'Wow fortnight!' given the number of exciting activities that are planned. These include each class focussing on one country and then carrying out a range of activities relating to that country. At the end of the fortnight each class will have the opportunity to share what they have made and learned with the other classes. It seems to be going well thus far, with for example Titan class who have chosen Italy, making Pizzas yesterday afternoon!

Being the start of a new year, it seems an opportune time to note that if our pupils are going to make effective progress this year then we as a school and you as parents need to work closely together. Linked to this, please continue to engage with the weekly email that your child's class teacher sends out as well as engaging with Tapestry, which shows what your child has been doing at school. Hopefully there will be opportunities this year to meet in person, but please do contact us should you want to discuss any aspect of your child's progress and learning.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts

## Mercury

Mercury have started nicely to the week! It has been lovely to see all pupils back working hard after the break. We have started our first two weeks focusing on the 'day of the dead', a colourful festival celebration held in Mexico every year for remembrance of family and friends! The boys have been learning about Mexico and have crafted some really cool work! Face masks that can be worn to 3D skulls that we will display. Learning about how and why they do it. Presentations they have been listening to and watching educational videos with questioning for better understanding. The boys have been keeping up with the expectations. Throughout our day, we have been practicing English and maths. Practical learning this week has engaged them more in learning and has been fun for them whilst learning about Geography and history. As a class, we are excited for next week as we are learning about Mexico, from the foods they eat and the tradition they have. The boys are also really excited to prepare Mexican chocolate for next week to other classes and for themselves. We will be going on a world tour! Learning about other countries in school and tasting their food made from other classes which represent other countries. The boys had also enjoyed dodgeball today for P.E at the end of the day and are looking forward to swimming next week as it is our new outdoor trip event for this term.

## Pluto

Pluto have given a warm welcome this week to two new faces. They have welcomed Miss Doctor a new TA to Pluto and a new pupil into the class. I have been impressed with how Pluto have accepted the change and helped the new faces with classroom routines. This Term's topic is Celebrations and to start the term we are focusing on the Festival Diwali. In English we listened to and discussed the story of Rama and Sita that is associated with the Hindu festival. They recalled the story and as a class we have completed a play scripts to perform next week. In the story is the demon Ravana and he has ten heads. For PHSE and art the boys created a head for Ravana and were encouraged to think about what colours would make him look evil. How his facial features and facial expressions could make him look evil. They produced very creative faces and could explain their choices in design and colour. For Maths Pluto have been learning how to find fractions of shape and amounts. They enjoyed finding half, quarter and three quarters of biscuits. Pluto enjoyed a fine motor skills session of exploring clay and created different figures, buildings and animals.



## Mars

Welcome back and happy New Year! A great start to the new term in Mars class which has seen us jump straight into our WOW starters for celebrations around the World.

We are looking at Panafest in Ghana and have been very busy researching geographical facts about the country including the continent, distance from the UK, climate and biome and animals and their habitats.

We have looked at lots of African pattern work and have spent lots of time creating our own which we then transferred to fabric to create our own mud cloths.

We plan to use all of this work as art of our display next week where we showcase our learning and share with the rest of the school.

Great work boys!



## Jupiter:

Welcome back Jupiter class! After our first morning discussing the excitement of Christmas and New Year, we learnt that we will be learning about New Zealand as part of our WOW week. This week we have been busy playing rugby, painting a New Zealand flag, looking at traditional dishes, learning the HAKA dance and creating our own clay pendants, which is an old tradition, but they used whale bone rather than the clay! In Maths, we have been looking at multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 which will lead onto next week where we are going to challenge our knowledge on this and look at 1000's. Jupiter have also been engaging in social games this week to encourage new friendships with the new pupil who has joined the class.

## Saturn

It's been fabulous seeing everyone back to school! They have all remarked on being happy to be back and we have seen quite a bit of excitement! We have started our wow week of learning around Loy Krathong, one of Thailand's most picturesque festivals that occurs every year. The children have started writing fact sheets, have created their own versions of the Thai flag and created some wonderful art work using 3D paint. We have also enjoyed cooking coconut flapjacks, focussing on calming activities like colouring in our mindfulness sessions and a particular highlight has been playing drama games like 'keeper of the keys' and 'wink murder' which has encouraged some excellent listening and attention skills.



## Galaxy:

Happy New Year everyone. A wonderful and crisp start to the term with a new look schedule, some new exciting opportunities offsite and a lot more freedom and responsibility for the boys to take advantage of. We have had some wonderful trips to Washbrooks farm, enjoying the beautiful animals there, as well as playing really nicely with each other and being courteous and respectful towards the public who were also there.

We started to explore light, discussing how shadows are formed and how they change as the seasons change, realising that a shadow is the absence of light. The next steps will be to develop knowledge and understanding of how light travels in order to be able to create shadows. I am looking forward to our inaugural trip to the BMX track to test our skill and nerve on the jumps and berms.

## Titan

A great and positive week back after a well-deserved Christmas break! The pupils in Titan have embraced the new term with a kind and respectful attitude towards everyone. They have enjoyed the WOW starter that we are going to carry on doing for this week and next week, which has us study Italy and the Venice carnival, as part of our Celebrations topic. They loved looking up facts and information on Italy and so far, they have produced some outstanding pieces of research on food, location and famous Italians.

We made pizzas on Thursday – to continue with our Italian theme – and the pupils enjoyed making the base from scratch, as well as topping it up and cooking it.

Next week we will have a go at making pasta from scratch too, fingers crossed, it will be amazing!



## Neptune

What a fantastic first week of the new year where the boys have been working really hard. As part of our Celebrations topic, we have enjoyed studying La Tamborarda which happens regularly in Spain

In Maths we have been learning about numbers that are greater or less than others and have had great fun using the smart board to play an all inclusive game which helped us learn interactively.

We're all looking forward to next week with more activities and tasks

# DINE

WITH MIQUILL

WEEK  
FOUR



• Main Meal



Sweet choices

MONDAY

**Meat Free Monday**  
Vegetable & Mixed  
Bean  
Chilli Con Carne  
Rice  
Sweetcorn

Yoghurt Bar  
Flavoured Yoghurt  
& Toppings

TUESDAY

**Sausage Plait**  
Pork Sausage Meat  
Encrust in Crispy Puff  
Parsley New Potatoes  
& Green Beans

Fresh Fruit Salad  
Freshly Cut Seasonal  
Fruit

WEDNESDAY

**Roast Turkey**  
Roast Turkey Breast  
Crispy Roast Potatoes,  
Honey Roasted Carrots  
& Parsnips  
Rich Gravy

Bread & Butter  
Pudding  
Vanilla Custard

THURSDAY

**Mac "n" Cheese**  
Classic Macaroni  
Cheese with Crispy  
Bacon & Smoked  
Paprika  
Garlic Bread  
Broccoli Florets

Upside Down Cake  
Pineapple Upside down  
Cake with Pouring  
Cream

FRIDAY

**Grab & Go**  
Grilled Sausages  
Or  
Crispy Bacon  
In a Roll  
Chunky Chips

Chocolate Brownie

JACKET POTATOES WITH VARIOUS FILLINGS & BAGUETTE/ WRAPS WITH VARIOUS FILLINGS

ARE AVAILABLE DAILY.



This menu will be served on: 10th January, 7th February, 14th March