



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023

### **Newsletter**

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Easter break; it is great to be back in school with the children. We had a great start to the week with our wonderful Key Stage 2 children performing at The Annual Governance Conference at the University of Cumbria. It was a great opportunity for the children to perform to an audience and share their amazing singing voices. I have spoken to several people from the conference who couldn't believe how talented our children are.

We have several events planned for the summer term, please refer to the separate letter containing the dates we have so far, as usual reminders and further information will be sent nearer to the time.

### **PGCE Student teacher**

We are delighted to welcome Miss Hannah Owens to Castle Carrock from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April for 10 weeks. Hannah will complete her final teaching placement with us prior to qualifying as a teacher. She will be mainly supporting in Bumblebee class.

### **Uniform meeting**

Thank you to everyone who attended the uniform meeting and to those who have already spoken to me to discuss the changes we are proposing to make to the school uniform and PE kit. I am also going to explore the company we are using to provide us with uniform to ensure we have the best quality and value for money. Please complete the Google form to express your views <https://forms.gle/7XZyvGCKN6o3DxJR9>

### **After school clubs**

After school clubs can now be booked on ParentMail, these will run until May half-term.

### **General reminders**

Queen Bee Class require their clarinets and blue music files on a Thursday.

Bumblebee Class require their ukuleles and blue music files on a Friday.

PE days are Wednesday and Thursday for Queen Bees and Bumblebees and Monday and Thursday for Honeybees.

### **Class News**

#### **Honeybee Class**

A lovely return to learning after the Easter break for the Honeybees. We have been working hard to spruce up our outdoor area and prepare a raised bed ready to plant some potatoes. We have also welcomed some new members into class – some very wriggly tadpoles who are making themselves at home on our investigations' table! It's been a great introduction to lifecycles for many of the children and we look forward to seeing them grow (hopefully) into little froglets and then frogs before the summer term draws to a close.

We have also begun our new topic for this half term - transport. We've had great fun setting up a train station in our outdoor area using grocery crates as train carriages as we re-enacted the wonderful picture book The Train Ride. We have invited the children to bring to school any books or items they might have linked to trains and other forms of transport as we find out more about how people get around.

In amongst that we have been working hard with reading and practising writing sentences. In maths the Reception children have been looking at numbers to 20, whilst our nursery children have been learning to recognise 2D shapes such as circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.

### **Bumblebee Class**

Bumblebees have had a very busy start to the Summer term. In English our focus is persuasive adverts, we began by looking at the different features and what effect these have on the reader. In Maths our topic is Place Value - Year 1 have partitioned a 2-digit number into tens and ones, whereas Year 2 have partitioned 2-digit numbers in different ways, using their skills of addition as well as partitioning. Year 3 have also been partitioning numbers, they have partitioned 3-digit numbers into hundreds, tens, and ones in different ways. In Science Year 1 and 2 started their new topic of 'Plants', we began by discussing what plants need to grow, the children used this knowledge to plant their own sunflower seeds and we will observe these grow over the next six weeks. Year 3 also started their new topic 'Forces and Magnets' with Miss Carroll, the children are learning about different types of forces and the effect they have on an object.

### **Queen Bee Class**

The children have settled straight back into their usual routines after the Easter break. We have introduced lots of new topics/units in our foundation subjects including: The Tudors in history, sculpture in art and animals and their habitats in science. In English, we have been investigating a new text called "Floodland" - this will be our focus text for the next few weeks. This week, we have been predicting what the book might be about and drafting a letter from the point of view of the main character Zoe. We will use these letters to create a "Message in a bottle" display once our final letters are complete. In Maths, we have been learning how to translate points and shapes on a coordinate grid.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss A. Carroll



Head of School