



Newsletter No. 2



Jesus said 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples'.

Our Value this Half Term is to show RESPECT November – December



Dear Parent/ Carers,

I can't believe this is my very last newsletter as headteacher of Forty Hill CE School. After ten years at this unique and special school, 21 years working in Enfield schools and over 30 years living in Enfield, I leave for a new life in Wiltshire with my family, and plans to travel for some of next year before returning to work again. It has been an absolute privilege to lead Forty Hill, and provide your children with a Vision and Values which represents our community, our history and our aspirations. Our Vision was a collaborative work with all elements of the community, and it brought me such joy last week, when the impact of the Vision and its relevance to our school was recognised during our

SIAMS inspection. The SIAMS report will be published in January, and I hope you will take time to read it in the new year. To start my headship with an Ofsted inspection, where we received GOOD in all areas, and to end with a SIAMS inspection, feels like my journey is complete, and what a journey it has been! I have faced flooding (multiple times), traffic gridlock (many times), extreme heat, bats falling through the ceiling, no hall floor for three months, major snow and ice, gates being stolen, a robin in my office, rescuing hedgehogs, adopting abandoned bunnies and many, many more crazy and astonishing situations that I never imagined I would have to face as a headteacher! But I can say with certainty, it has never been boring, and your children have brought me endless joy and determination when faced with these many challenges! I am immensely proud of our Global Neighbours curriculum, and the many acts of service and courageous advocacy that our children and community have been part of, we have made important and enriching links with Elsyng House, the North London Food Bank and Homes of Promise in Uganda- which have changed lives for the better and hopefully the mindset and world views of our children. By taking our voices to the Civic Centre in Enfield, our Year 2 children made such an impact, that I was able to meet with the leader of the Council and change his mind about the paid parking at Forty Hill. Our school vegetable garden has been a labour of love, and my one wish to the children, staff and community is to keep it looked after and flourishing. The garden provides a place where we can find peace and love as we care for the earth and watch it bloom, and it has given joy to so many pupils. The curriculum I helped develop is diverse, relevant and exciting, and ensures our children are engaged and prepared for the world they are going into, and I continue to be immensely proud of their achievements, both academically and spiritually. I have always said, that if children are happy and feel safe, they will flourish, and I believe this is the key to our success at Forty Hill CE School. I have loved teaching your children and I have loved creating a learning environment where they skip into school, care about things beyond themselves, have adventures and make memories, and instil values that will impact the rest of their lives and future successes. I would like to pay tribute to my amazing staff, who give above and beyond to the pupils and the school, it is rare and special to find a staff who care so deeply for the education and wellbeing of all the pupils in their school, as well as being so talented and committed. Thank you too, to the parents and governors, who have shown their support over the past few years, including our amazing Friends of Forty Hill, who work so hard to ensure our children have all they need as well as lots of fun experiences. Moving forward, please see below my small requests/hopes to ensure our community remains fully committed to our school vision: *'As I have loved, so you must love another. By this, everyone will know you are my disciples'* John 13:34-35.

- **Trust and respect the staff of Forty Hill**
- **Park at Forty Hill or even better, walk to school**
- **We are a nut-free school- this includes Nutella!**
- **Please read with your child every night from Nursery to Year 6- it makes a huge difference**
- **Less screens and phones, more climbing, fresh air and adventures**
- **Look after the Forty Hill vegetable garden**

And to the children- two simple instruction- be kind and work hard!

Forty Hill CE School will always have a place in my heart.

With my thanks, blessings and love,

Ms Izard

Headteacher

Nursery – Miss Bissett, Mrs Golebiowska and Mrs Sofroniou

Nursery have had a very busy and exciting term full of learning, creativity and celebration. We have been exploring night and day, thinking about how the world changes and the animals we may see at different times. The children have also enjoyed learning about a range of special celebrations, including Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance and Christmas, helping them to develop an understanding of different



traditions and events throughout the year. As part of our celebration work, the children loved getting hands-on and creative. They made their own diya lamps for Diwali, Christmas puddings and beautiful stained-glass biscuits, developing their independence and fine motor skills along the way. We also explored the work of artist Andy Goldsworthy, using natural materials and patterns to inspire our own artwork. Fine motor development has continued to be a key focus this term, and the children have worked hard through a range of activities,



which has led to the creation of a lovely new portrait display that we are very proud of. In role-play, the children have thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas Post Office, writing cards, wrapping parcels, and delivering letters to their friends. We also completed our RE learning by exploring the question, 'Why is Christmas so special?' This encouraged thoughtful discussions and sharing of ideas. It has been a wonderful term, and the children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and progress throughout.

Reception – Mrs Munt, Mrs Toumazou, Mrs Sofroniou and Ms Darby



The past two months have been full of excitement and creativity in Reception, our 'Bookvent' has proved really popular, thank you for contributing to this. Our learning has been centred around the text Owl Babies and the Nativity, which has strongly supported the children in meeting key targets within Expressive Arts and Design. The children have loved exploring different media, including printing and painting owl babies. We have also been learning all about owl life cycles, using this knowledge to create zig-zag books and to make owlets and fledglings from pinecones. These activities supported both our Understanding of the World and our fine motor skills, while



encouraging careful observation and discussion. An icy snap brought great excitement to the mud kitchen, where the children eagerly discovered ice, broke it apart and monitored

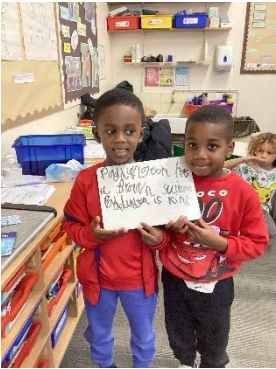


how long it took to melt. This hands-on exploration sparked lots of curiosity, prediction and vocabulary. In Maths, we have been composing numbers and developing confidence with part-part-whole models. Shape hunts have been a firm favourite, alongside drawing and constructing shapes to deepen our understanding of shape properties. Phonics has taken place every day, and we are proud to have reached the end of Phase 2 graphemes, with a noticeable improvement in blending. While many tricky words are still eluding us, the children have thoroughly enjoyed practising with the tricky word spinner (those of a certain age may recognise its former life!). Our Nativity performance has greatly enhanced our RE



learning. The songs and lyrics have helped the children to recall and retell the Nativity story with growing confidence and understanding. The children have made wonderful progress this term, and it has been a privilege to see them flourish academically, socially and emotionally. However you choose to celebrate this season, we hope it is filled with fun and joy. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Happy Christmas! 🎄

Year 1 – Miss Piccone and Ms Bowery



What an amazing half term Year 1 have had! It has been full of excitement, curiosity and wonder. Our biggest highlight was having two amazing trips in the space of just one week! The children also loved learning all about Paddington in literacy and becoming expert mathematicians while exploring 3D shapes. Our first trip was to the Christmas Experience at Enfield Community Church. The children were captivated by the immersive retelling of the Christmas Nativity and thoroughly enjoyed dressing up and stepping



back in time. Our next trip took us to Chickenshed, where we were lucky enough to see Christmas Tales. The performance was incredible, full of music, energy and festive magic, and the children were completely engaged from start to finish. A huge thank you to all of our helpers who supported us on both trips; we couldn't have done it without you. Another special moment this term was our Forty Hill Advent calendar made by the Friends of Forty Hill. Every day felt magical and brought so much joy to the children. Thank you so much for making this such a memorable experience for them.



Year 2 – Miss Wisbey, Mr Lyster and Mr Theodosi

This half term Year 2 have been so enthusiastic about their learning – it has been lovely to see. This half term, the children have been enjoying their forest school sessions, while exploring different compass directions. Debbie, our forest school teacher, taught Year 2 how to use compasses and each week set up a treasure hunt using directional language. The class loved exploring the forest school area and all the nature that surrounds our school. It has been a great few weeks of scientific and geographical learning through exploration! Within RE, we have been exploring the big question “How does the symbol of light help us to understand the meaning of Christmas to Christians?” As a class the children, have been exploring different questions each week to help them answer the big one. The children have created lots of creative responses to their questions – they created Christingles (showing “Jesus the Light of the World”) and have produced some beautiful art pieces using different mediums. The children choose foil or light oil pastels to represent light in their art pieces. Some children were able to link Jesus being a Light of the World to one of our core concepts – Salvation! In maths, Year 2 have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes. They have loved using shapes in practical exploration



and have been working together to sort shapes based on their properties. In Literacy, the class have been writing newspaper articles based on their focus book “Greta and the Giants” – They have loved learning about the life of Greta Thunberg and have enjoyed writing about Greta saving the animals from the Forest! Well Done Year 2 on a great term of learning - Keep up the hard work!



Year 3 – Mrs Ates, Mrs Watson and Ms Darby



What a fun-packed term we have had! It has been filled with adventure, new experiences, hard work and plenty of creativity. One of the biggest highlights was having two fantastic trips in just one month! We enjoyed a wonderful DT Day, where the children worked in groups to design and create their very own Roman Board Games. They worked brilliantly as teams, showing great imagination, problem-solving and perseverance. Our visit to the Verulamium Museum truly brought our learning to



life. The children loved dressing up and imagining what it would have been like to be Romans at the marketplace. Their excitement was clear as they explored the artefacts and stepped into history. And of course, a visit to the playground was an absolute must—lots of smiles all around! Another special moment this term was our Remembrance Day service. The children showed great maturity and respect as they reflected on the significance of the day. They listened beautifully, participated thoughtfully, and demonstrated a genuine understanding of why we remember. It was a moving and meaningful experience for the whole class. Our second trip took us to the Christmas Experience at Enfield Community Church in November. The children were captivated by the immersive retelling of the Christmas story, and the journey back to school on the bus was filled with happy chatter and excitement! Overall, it has been a wonderful term, and we are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved.



Year 4 – Mr Kansara and Mrs Bishop

What an exceptional term it has been in Year 4! Since returning from our well-deserved half-term break, the children have worked incredibly hard



across all subjects to ensure a strong end to the year 2025. In R.E., we explored the big question, *“Is the Christmas message of peace still relevant in today’s world?”*, which led to thoughtful discussions as we revisited all



that Jesus did to promote peace among humanity, while also considering how internal and external peace are closely connected. In Maths, the children have been focusing on their times tables, completing their times tables grid sheets every morning to strengthen their understanding and recognise number patterns. In Geography, they thoroughly enjoyed learning about deserts, and after discovering many facts and locating deserts around the world, they wrote an explanation text on how to survive in a desert, supported by our class book *The Boy Who Biked the World*, which helped us learn about different countries and languages. The cross-curricular links between subjects have truly engaged the children and helped them make meaningful connections. In Science, we investigated states of matter, with the chocolate-melting experiment—testing whether milk, dark or white chocolate melted the fastest—proving both exciting and appetite-inducing. With Christmas approaching, our advent calendar is well underway, and our first festive activity, Christmas music bingo, has lifted spirits and prepared everyone for the holiday season. From all of Year 4, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Year 5 – Miss Garcia and Mrs Buller



Year 5 have been busy spreading festive cheer and expanding their learning horizons this half term. In RE, they explored how art and music beautifully convey the joy of Christmas, while in English they sharpened their use of direct speech and tackled balanced debates to prepare for writing persuasive arguments. The children also shared their wonderful carol singing with residents at Elsyng House, showing compassion and confidence as part of their community outreach. In Science, they've been investigating forces and discovering what really makes the world go 'round, and in Maths, they've been working hard to master fractions.



Meanwhile, their Topic lessons have taken them across the Atlantic as we compare life in the UK and America. We are incredibly proud of all the progress Year 5 have made this half-term and can't wait to see what they achieve next!



Year 6 – Miss Dale and Mrs Brewer

Class 6 have had an incredibly busy and successful half-term packed with so much learning it's hard to remember it all! We began with the fabulous Shakespeare



workshop where the children were immersed in the story of Macbeth. It was another fabulous performance that they thoroughly enjoyed. After half term, the children led our Remembrance service



so beautifully and had the wonderful opportunity to write cards to veteran Donald at Elsyng House, which they delivered by hand. They made me very proud as they chatted to, laughed and smiled with the residents they met. Year 6's class assembly was magical and they spoke about their learning with maturity and passion, showing our vision and values in all their wonder and glory. Since then, the children have attacked their learning about fractions with determination and vigour and have been enthralled by our story Floodland, which really became apparent during our drama activity this week. I'm sure, after a restful break, Year 6 will return refreshed and ready to charge headlong into another half term of amazing learning. Well done and have a fabulous Christmas.



Football News

Well done to our magnificent football team who won the Small School Cup on the 4th December. You can see our great big trophy in the foyer by the school office! We are very proud of our boys and Mr Kansara.



Ways you can support the Friends of Forty Hill

Sign up to the Easyfundraising app and select the Friends of Forty Hill as your chosen charity. This means when you shop with a wide range of shops or businesses online, they will give to your chosen charity every time you spend. It is really easy to set up and can bring in regular and impactful income to the school. If you sign up using this link below, the Friends will get a bonus of £5 for every new signup once you have also raised £5!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=290529&invite=awqpnj&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=GPT-143&utm_source=easyfundraising-app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link

The Friends have also set up Asda Rewards "cashpot for schools". Everytime the app is downloaded and our school is selected by a new user, Asda will pay us £1.00.



Shop at Asda?

Raise £1 plus 0.5% of every shop for our school FREE!

Easy as 1, 2, 3...

- 1 Open your Asda rewards app
- 2 Tap 'Cashpot for Schools'
- 3 Search for and select **Forty Hill CofE School**



A Prayer for Christmas



Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the community of Church schools and the unique spirit that fills our schools. As the crisp air of December arrives, we feel the anticipation of Christmas growing among students and staff alike.

We pray for a sense of peace and joy to settle over our schools as we approach the end of this term. Help the students to balance their studies with the excitement of the season, and grant patience and rest to the teachers and staff who work tirelessly to guide them.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the true reason for the season, we ask that You remind us of Your love and light. May the upcoming Christmas break be a time of rejuvenation, safe travels, and meaningful connection for everyone in our community of schools.

May the light of Your love shine brightly in our schools and in our homes this Christmas.

Amen.

Information

Whilst we will continue to email lots of information, don't forget that our calendar and curriculum information can all be found on website, www.fortyhill.com. The information from the meet the teacher meetings, as well as spelling lists and extra information as it comes available can all be found here.

Curriculum Booklets (Nursery- Year 6) can be found in the Class News section of the website. These include a variety of different learning activities for your child to complete over the next half term.

As part of our ongoing commitment to **Online Safety**, the children will be talking about staying safe online. It is such an important life skill to understand the impact their digital footprint has and also the ways to keep themselves safe whilst experiencing all of the wonderful opportunities the internet can provide. If you haven't already seen the online video, please do click on one of the picture links below:



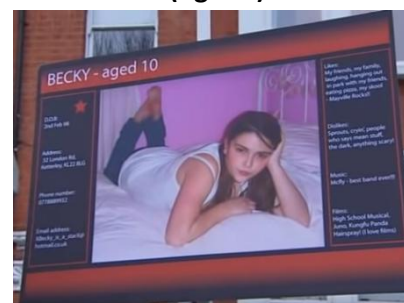
**Reception, Year 1 and 2
(Grab the Banana)**



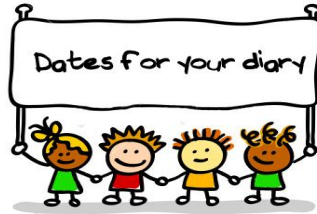
**Year 3 and Year 4
(Band Runner)**



**Year 5 and Year 6
(Jigsaw)**



For more information on Online Safety, click here: <https://www.fortyhill.com/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=51>



Forest School Sessions	
Year 1	Autumn 1
Year 2	Autumn 2
Year 3	Spring 2
Year 4	Spring 1
Year 5	Summer 1
Year 6	Summer 2 (Thu pm)

Forthcoming Dates

Monday 5th January- Back to School

Tuesday 6th January- Epiphany Service at Jesus Church 10:30 all welcome

Tuesday 6th January- Year 5 Forest School starts

Thursday 15th January- Arts Trophy Launch

Friday 23rd January – Year 5 to The British Museum

Thursday 29th January- Year 4 Class Act of Worship 9 am