



16th November 2018

Newsletter

**NEWLAND
ST JOHN'S**
C OF E ACADEMY

'With God's help we work together to help each child fulfil their potential.'

Diary Dates

Monday 19th November
Wednesday 21st November
Wednesday 21st November
Wednesday 28th November
Tuesday 18th December
Tuesday 18th December
Wednesday 19th December
Wednesday 19th December
Thursday 20th December
Thursday 20th December
Friday 21st December
Friday 21st December
Monday 7th January

Year 2 parents workshop (2:45 pm)
 Owls class worship
 Open evening for new admissions
 EYFS Maths workshop
 Nativity (2:00 pm in Church)
 Key Stage 2 party
 Christmas service in church
 Key Stage 1 Christmas Party (pm)
 Christmas Dinner Day
 Christmas Concert (4:00 pm)
 Carols round the tree
 School closes for Christmas (3:15 pm)
 Children return to school (8:50 am)



Stars of the week



Dormice Sharon
 Robins Olly W
 Hedgehogs Elliot
 Squirrels Elyssia
 Badgers. Tina
 Rabbits Blake
 Foxes. Olivia
 Otters Joel
 Owls Elena
 Deer. Kasey

Attendance

This week our attendance has been 96.9%. The best attendance was 99.6% from Badgers Class. Well done!



Pyjama Day

On Friday 23rd November children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas for a donation of £1.00 to RSPCA.

Erasers

Please ensure children leave their rubbers and erasers at home as they are not permitted to use them in their school books. Thank you.

Bake Sale

We will be holding a bake sale from 3:15 pm on Friday 23rd November. If you would like to bake some cakes/buns for us to sell, please bring them to the school office before lunchtime on the day of the sale. All profits made will go to RSPCA.

Lates

Please can we remind parents/carers that school starts at 8:50 am. Any children arriving after this time will receive a late mark.

EPESS Project

Our school has been a part of an Erasmus project working with schools across Europe. The project is called 'European healthy pupils and skilled educators via integrated food systems'. On Wednesday 10th October visitors from our Denmark & Czech Republic link schools joined us to see how we teach healthy eating, cooking and growing, as well as experience our fantastic school meals. This is what a couple of the guests had to say about their visit...

Bhav Jessani is Food for Life Local Programme Manager for Lambeth & Southwark and visited three different Food for Life schools as part of the EPESS project.

I joined the EPESS visit on day three in Hull. We were lucky to see three completely different Food For Life schools at different stages in their food journey in one day.

First up was Newland St John, a faith-based primary school with a silver Food For Life award, working towards Gold. As soon as we stepped into the school we could feel the positive vibes and see how passionate both the staff and the children were about good food. A KS2 class delivered an incredible assembly showing their learning about food and rationing during WW2; a fantastic example of incorporating food into the history curriculum. The children had clearly developed a range of skills, understanding and knowledge, meeting the history curriculum requirements but also other life skills such as cooking, critical thinking and public speaking. We were also taken on a tour of a selection of different good food activities going on at the school, both within and outside of the classroom. This included literacy work based on the children's book 'Pumpkin Soup', a tour of their allotment (or as the children like to describe it, their 'outdoor classroom') and even how they've used display boards to teach the children about healthy eating, like one literally showing the sugar content of popular drinks. The school had clearly put a lot of effort into integrating food into their school culture as well as into their curriculum so that it becomes a seamless part of their school life and not just 'an extra thing' that staff need to do on the margins of their day jobs.



Jenny Corse is a teacher at Washingborough Academy, she told us what she learnt during the EPESS project.

We began our day at Newland St Johns Primary School, who hold the Food for Life Silver award. We attended morning worship where one of the classes shared their World War II 'dig for Britain' learning. They explained how importing food produce was limited during the war so people had to be resourceful and grow their own. We were treated to a popular war time recipe of carrot biscuits and they were delicious!

After morning worship the headteacher Mrs Wilson shared the school's food journey and explained how the focus on food had an impact on the children's health and wellbeing. We had time to look through their curriculum plans and ask questions. Again, our visitors were impressed at the way food education is embedded in the curriculum in a very similar way to at Washingborough Academy.

Miss Smith's class then enthusiastically took us around the school to see some food education in action! Most of the lessons observed featured around pumpkin soup which the children were making this term. After this, we had a short walk to the school's allotment. We were all overwhelmed with what an incredible space this was! There was a vast poly tunnel where different vegetables were growing, a pond dipping area, numerous raised beds and various fruit trees. It was inspiring and provided us all with ideas for how to involve our children further in the growing and harvesting of our own fruit and vegetables.

Once we returned to school, lunch was being served. We were treated to a selection of roast meats, vegetables and of course a Yorkshire pudding! This was delicious and we're not surprised to hear that the uptake of meals within the school was over 90%. Feeling completely full after our lunch, we travelled to Sirius West Academy which is a newly built secondary school that has been awarded gold standard by Food for Life. With a focus on vocational qualifications when built, the facilities for food education were extensive. It was explained that cooking and nutrition was the second most popular GCSE subject after engineering.

Again, we had the opportunity to record our reflections on the day in our focus groups - we were impressed by the way Newland St Johns' pupils are able to see the connection of where their food comes from by growing their own and the way they use their outdoor allotment space to teach about wildlife, life cycles and habitat. It is clear the children enjoy outdoor learning in such a peaceful and beautiful environment.

