# **The Trumpington Federation**

# Newsletter



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# *News from the Federation 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024*

Choose Respect fits so well with our school vision and values. We teach this weekly in school as part of our usual provision but this week the profile has been raised as we have focused on Anti-Bullying Week.



On Wednesday, we had a visit from our OPAL school mentor and she was delighted to see the progress that we have made and the changes in the culture of playtimes. We have our final assessment day booked in for March 2025 and will hopefully achieve a hard-earned OPAL Award! Please continue to read to find out about the things that have been taking place this week and more about OPAL. Mrs Calverley

## What's been going on this week

Year 5 Science





Year 5 have been carrying out investigations into conductors and insulators in their Science lessons. Working in groups, they set up a circuit and used it to test a range of materials (classroom objects!). They are looking forward to continuing their work on the importance of fair testing over the coming weeks.

## Attendance

As part of safeguarding, we review attendance regularly to ensure we can support all children to be in school as regularly as possible. If your child's attendance is below 90%, this would be classified as persistently absent and we will therefore be in contact to discuss ways we can help to ensure they are able to attend school more consistently. Please do use Studybugs to report if your child is unwell and therefore unable to be in school. Don't be surprised if we contact you regarding your child's attendance, it is part of our safeguarding culture.

# Dates and Events

# Term Dates

These can be found on our website using the link: https://www.trumpingtonfede ration.co.uk/page/?title=Term +Dates&pid=133

<u>Thurs 21<sup>th</sup> November</u> Y2 trip to Cambridge Film Festival

<u>Wed 27<sup>th</sup> November</u> Y5 trip to Astra Zeneca

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> November at 3:10pm Y6 Fundraising Cake Sale

<u>Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm</u> SATs information session for families

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am KS1 Christmas Performance

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm KS1 Christmas Performance

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

<u>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> December</u> Federation Winter Fair

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> December End of term

<u>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025</u> Children return to school

#### **Rainbow hampers**

As the weeks whizz by it is time to start thinking about Christmas! Each year, as part of our Christmas celebrations, we make rainbow hampers. Each class is assigned a colour and we ask members from each class to donate an item in this colour. For example, if a class is purple, children are asked to bring in purple items such as a purple candle, purple, soap or bubble bath, confectionary that may be packaged in purple wrapping etc. When then raffle the hampers at our Christmas Fair. Example hampers are below:



Classes have assigned the following colours:

Nursery – Red Reception – Orange Year 1 – Yellow Year 2 – Green Year 3 – Blue Year 4 – Purple Year 5 – Silver Year 6 – Gold

## **Volunteers Needed**

Parent volunteers are a valuable resource. In the past we have had parents/carers volunteering their time in a number of different ways from maintaining the school library to listening to readers.

Whatever your skills we would love to have you. If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer please email the school office <u>office@fawcett.cambs.sch.uk</u> or call us on 01223 840299. We will need to complete appropriate checks including a DBS before you can start, this is part of our school safeguarding policy and once these checks are cleared, we would welcome you.

# **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)**

Over the last 18 months we have been taking part in a project that focusses on improving play opportunities for all pupils. Our aim is that every child will experience amazing play opportunities, everyday! We have introduced sand play, water play, den building, craft, mud play, wheeled toys, construction, music, dressing up, small world activities, hockey, basketball, floor art... the list goes on!



We have been delighted to see a reduction in playtime issues linked to the fact pupils are engaged, have choices and feel happy in the spaces that are offered. Children and adults have spent time thinking about natural spaces, quiet spaces, messy areas, inclusive opportunities and risky play.

## **Risk Benefit Assessments**

We have been carefully considering how we offer opportunities for children to identify and manage risks better. We regularly hold Play Assemblies where we discuss the benefits and risks of varied play opportunities e.g. making dens out of pallets, using large spades in the digging area and managing sand play. Managing risks is part of everyday life and we want to give opportunities for pupils to confidently discuss this with adults in a familiar environment













