



Our children leave Snitterfield curious, inspired, with a sense of their own self-worth and contribute positively to society.

October

Dear Parents and Carers,

I know I start a lot of my newsletters saying, "I can't believe..." but really, I cannot believe we are at the end of the first half term already!

Thank you to all who came to school to our Harvest Festival and parents' evenings, I do hope you enjoyed seeing the children's work and hearing about their successes and the things they may need to work on. There was a very positive feeling across the two nights.

The first half term is always a settling in and a returning term but the children all appear to have been in their classes and school (for our newer pupils) for ever in the way they behave and engage with their learning, each other and the staff. I am really pleased to say that having wellies in school has been a real bonus to continue using the field now the wetter weather is upon us. Being able to see the children enjoying our incredible outside space is wonderful.

This half term we have been looking at all our character strengths but the badge awarded is for resilience and I am pleased to share the children who were awarded the pin badges:

- Reception: Elizabeth
- Year 1: Lucy
- Year 2: Winnie
- Year 3: Archie
- Year 4: Parker
- Year 5: Esme
- Year 6: Thomas S

In consideration of building resilience, and the fact that we welcome mistakes in school (that enable us to learn), I have written a poem which I shared in assembly this morning – for those of you who couldn't attend I'm sharing it here.

Mistakes

*We all make them, adults and children alike,
Anyone that says otherwise should take a hike!
Mistakes are important and a necessary part
Of life and learning and where improvement can start.
At school we say that a mistake is the first step in learning,
From it we alter, change and start turning
Our lessons, behaviours and attitudes around
Making each of these parts of our lives more sound.
To be able to make mistakes takes courage and trust,
If this does not exist we can't adjust.*

*In school, each lesson, each day is a clean slate
A new page if you will to try again to be great!
Whether in class, around school or at play,
Mistakes can happen throughout the day.
But, through care and trust and supportive understanding
The children learn from mistakes without reprimanding.
Parents play a big part too,
Not only for your own children but for others, it's true!
Children need forgiveness, not labels and names
If they are to learn from their mistakes and achieve their aims.
So please support all our children as they move through the school
And understand that they are trying to follow every rule.
Sometimes they succeed, at others they fall short
But with patience and care they can be taught
That through their mistakes they'll improve and will know
With support after mistakes they learn and grow.
So, embrace all mistakes with a view to what is learnt
And success will follow because it is earned.*

Enough from me, let's find out what the classes have been up to in October!

Reception

Class One were fortunate to have been visited by Farmer David and his colleagues this week. They took time out of their busy schedule to bring a tractor for us to see and talked to us about the crops they sow in the fields around Snitterfield. We learned about what the different seeds grow into and what the crops are used for once harvested.



Class 2

What a busy month it has been for Class 2!

We have been enjoying the text: 'We are Water Protectors' in English where the children have now begun writing their own campaigns to help keep the River Avon clean.

In Maths the children have continued to build in their understanding of adding and subtracting; doing this practically and using number lines, Rekenreks and Tens frames to support us.



In Science we have finished our Materials topic and spent last week looking at the seasonal change: Autumn. As well as this and a lot more, we enjoyed our trip up to church to celebrate Harvest and share some of our wonderful poetry. We look forward to our busy second half of the autumn term after a well-rested break!



Class 3

We have had a productive beginning to the year. In Science we have completed our *Forces and Friction* topic by doing an investigation into how different surfaces impact on how a car travels down a ramp.



In Art we have been doing detailed observational drawings of rainforest creatures and used colouring pencils to colour them. We have also been using viewfinders to zoom in on different parts of rainforest plants or creatures and making abstract pictures.

October has been Black History Month. We have had assemblies celebrating different black people in history and we have also been discussing this further in the classroom. Class Three were set a challenge to independently investigate an inspirational person and we were delighted with the amount of interest and work that the children put in. We have found out about popstars such as Myles Smith and Whitney Houston. We have also found out about talented sports stars such as Marcus Rashford and Katrina Johnson-Thompson. Khalifa and Ariana did a special fact file all about their great grandfather Charlie Collins who was a reggae pioneer.



We are looking forward to furthering our learning after the half term break.

Class 4

In class 4 we have now finished Hidden Figures, lots of interesting writing has been created and we can now look forward to watching the film.

We are finishing our science topic of the Solar System and starting a book about the Curiosity Rover on Mars.



Mathematics has been working well, getting to grips with long multiplication and short division.

Finally, our mural project is almost done with just the scale model to complete.



We are very much looking forward to what we can learn next half term!

Thank you for all your support of the staff, the school and the children's learning.

With best wishes for an enjoyable half term holiday,

Mrs Silk