



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Blue Hills
Federation

01588 640260

ADMINNEWCASTLE@BHF.SHROPSHIRE.SCH.UK



Thank you to all the children for their fantastic hard work this term, and to parents for your continued support with reading at home and practising times tables. Just a gentle reminder that lessons start promptly at 9am, and children need a little time beforehand to settle calmly into the learning environment.



STORIES, SMILES AND STRONG MINDS

The whole school has had a wonderful fortnight of learning, creativity and reflection. Last week, we celebrated National Storytelling Week and enjoyed a range of extra reading opportunities. Children shared favourite books, listened to stories from different adults in school, and took time to explore new authors and genres. We ended the week with a brilliant dress-up day, where pupils arrived dressed as adjectives—from sparkly and broken-hearted to mysterious and sleepy! The costumes were fantastic and brought plenty of smiles!

This week, we have turned our attention to Children's Mental Health Week. Across the school, pupils have been learning about what mental health means and exploring practical ways to look after their own wellbeing. We discussed a range of emotions, how they might feel in our bodies, and what strategies we can use to be kinder to ourselves and to others. The children shared thoughtful ideas and supported one another beautifully. In music, our ukulele sessions are sounding better than ever. It has been lovely to hear the children's growing confidence and tuneful playing each week. Looking ahead, after half term the Year 3 and 4 children will be joining Oak Class for their English lessons—a change we are all excited for!

KEY DATES:

**Half Term 16th – 20th
February**

**Ludlow Castle Trip (yr R –
Yr4) – 25th February**

**Parents Meeting for Pioneer
Centre Trip
3pm 23rd Feb**

World Book Day 5th March

**Parent teacher
consultations 16th March
1–5pm**

**Yr 4 Pioneer Centre Trip
18th–20th March**

**Easter Service at Newcastle
Church with Rev. Lois 25th
March**

**Easter Holidays – 30th
March – 10th April**

Message from Ms Mullock

Oak Class have worked incredibly well this week, even with two different supply teachers stepping in. Both teachers commented on what an absolute delight the children at Newcastle were to teach—polite, hardworking and full of enthusiasm. I am so proud of how calmly and confidently they adapted to the changes and how beautifully they supported one another. A huge well done to all of them for showing such resilience and maturity throughout the week. Wishing everyone a happy, restful and very well-deserved half term. Enjoy the break, and I look forward to seeing you all refreshed afterwards!

Teacher Feature

Oak Class

Oak Class have had a wonderfully productive week filled with exciting learning across the curriculum. In English, the children have been completing their work on Shackleton's Journey by writing detailed historical recounts. They retold the dramatic events surrounding the sinking of the Endurance, describing how Shackleton's crew reacted as the ice closed in and how they worked together to survive afterwards. Their writing has shown great empathy, precision and historical understanding.

In maths, we have continued developing confidence with fractions. The class have been learning how to multiply and divide fractions by an integer and how to find fractions of amounts, using bar models and step-by-step strategies to secure their understanding.

Our science lessons have focused on the importance of a balanced diet and how different food groups help us maintain a healthy body.

In geography, the children loved discovering the highest peaks in Britain and comparing their locations and heights.



Acorn Class

Reception and Year 1 have been busy completing their wonderful Dragon Machine stories, while Years 3 and 4 have finished their imaginative retellings of Stone Age Boy. It has been lovely to see their fantastic ideas brought to life in writing.

In Maths, everyone has worked hard on addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and length. The children have also shown great effort in P.E.. During our history sessions, Reception and Year 1 have explored castle defence and Years 3 and 4 have been learning about the Mesolithic period while creating headdresses.

They also produced beautiful artwork for Children's Mental Health Week looking at feelings and emotions.

I hope you all have a really lovely, restful half term break!