Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter before half term, hoping you are all enjoying the cold, blue skies this morning! As always it has been a busy two weeks and the pupils have been working hard during this first stage of the second term. We would like to remind you as parents of the requirement that all children do need to come to school with the basic learning equipment – a blue handwriting pen, pencil, ruler etc. It is really frustrating when lessons are disrupted by pupils not having this necessity and also when they try writing with all sorts of different equipment. For that reason, we would like to embed a BLUE HANDWRITING culture at Trevelyan Middle School. It is part of our pride and presentation policy that all children should write neatly and, where possible, in joined, cursive handwriting but when looking through books, this becomes impossible when each page is covered in a variety of different coloured pens and also in a writing style that is difficult to read as their implement is a bendy pen, or the latest, extra-long pens. We can help support this by selling blue handwriting pens in the front office for £1 but would also like to really encourage you all, if possible, to ensure your child uses a blue pen for school. We thank you for your support. We will do random checking of books and present prizes to children whose presentation in books has improved or is exemplary!

This morning it was a real pleasure listening to 7EJ perform their tutor assembly again to a Key Stage 2 audience. A fortnight ago they spoke on Martin Luther King’s birthday and delivered a very powerful message on equality, including role play, video scripts and pop music. It was a fantastic assembly and the whole school enjoyed it. A big thank you to Miss Jones and 7EJ.

Plea from residents of Cavalry Crescent - please DO NOT park there as you are causing an obstruction! We do often have to include this message but please be respectful of our neighbours as they phone up complaining often. We have a car park opposite this close so please use it or get your child to walk down the road where you can safely pick them up without obstructing any residents. Thank you!

On a final note we unfortunately have to inform you that Mrs Allen, Head of PE, will be taking several months off work as she is having an operation next week. We have covered PE lessons and welcome Miss Johnson to Trevelyan on a temporary basis and also Miss Mowat has kindly taken the role of 5DA’s form tutor. We are sure you join us in wishing Mrs Allen a speedy recovery and we look forward to welcoming her back in a few months.
ENGLISH P2I’S

In December, Year 5s completed their first Pathway to Independence Project. Their task was to create a storybook designed for younger children (aged between three and four). As an added challenge, pupils were invited to relate their story to a real world event currently taking place.

This is the first time, as a department, we have run this particular project. It is fair to say that we have been immensely pleased and proud of the finished results. These projects were clearly the result of a great deal of research, creative thinking and hard work. Well done Year 5!

Perhaps the most painful job was deciding upon the top ten. We failed miserably at this task, opting for a top twelve instead (with a special reward for three incredibly special books).

Feedback has been given to children individually, but here below is our opportunity to celebrate those top twelve:

TOP 3

Thea Perkins

Thea’s "The Special Litter Star" is clearly aimed at a younger audience, which demonstrates how highly creative and ambitious she is. She also took on the tricky challenge of writing her whole story in rhyme - which worked wonderfully well!

Dillyn Walker

Dillyn’s "Amena’s New Home" responds to the challenge task of writing about a real world issue. Dillyn’s takes on the issue of Syrian refugees, but adapts this complex issue in a way that younger children will understand. A pleasure to read!

Khadija Nasir

Khadija's "Amira's Shapes" is not only highly engaging for young readers, but it is also highly educational. In a really fun and friendly way, she uses her storybook to teach young children important mathematical concepts. She also deserves praise for her use of textures. Khadija has clearly combined extensive research of younger children's books with her own unique ideas.

TOP 12

-Aoife Boyd

-Kairav Singh

-Tanya Zichawo
ACCELERATED READER

Please find below the results for AR (last 30 days). These are our top readers and have been awarded 10 house points:

**Year 5**

BD = 197.4 points (114 tests taken/103 passed) – Top reader Katie K (24.5 points)

DA = 110.4 points (63 taken/50 passed) – Top reader Freddie C (16.1)

JB = 62.1 points (74 taken/59 passed) – Joe (13.6)

JJ = 123.2 points (50 taken/43 passed) – Rebecca (53.4)

RW = 164.1 points (132 taken/94 passed) – Nawshin (17.4)
Year 6
LM = 90.1 points (17/15) – Ashlee (24.5)
MJ = 166.6 points (52/42) – Tiggy (64.4)
SS = 254.2 points (38/37) – Eisha (49.2)
TF = 14.6 points (10/9) – Richard and Lewis (3)

Year 7
CO = 246.2 points (61/51) – Juliet B (90 points)
DE = 98 points (26/24) – Aamir F (20.8)
DK = 231.5 points (41/36) – Phoebe M (48.3)
EJ = 110.8 points (32/23) – Maleeha (31)

MATHS INFORMATION

The NSPCC National Number day is next Friday. The pupils can come into school dressed as a number, or with a number on, and they will be asked to give a £1 donation. More information to follow on this and pupils will hear about it in their maths lessons but watch this space!!

Ideas for supporting your child in their maths at home.

Here are a list of Maths websites that promote a fun way to learn with free, online interactive games and puzzles:

Snappmaths.com
Woodlands Maths Zone
Education City
MyMaths
www.examninja.co.uk
www.mathsisfun.com
www.topmarks.co.uk
http://www.transum.org/Software/SW/YouTube/
https://www.khanacademy.org

Maths Apps for Android and IPhone
Mathmateer
Squeebles Maths Bingo
Operation Maths
Times tables pro
For information on what your child is currently learning please go to the school website, search curriculum, maths and click on Pupil Targets.

You will also find a parent support pack and parent tool kit for helping you support your child at home.

For information on the calculation methods that are used at Trevelyan, please go to the curriculum section, maths and click on the Calculation Policy link.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Have fun!

The Maths Team

**SHAKE UP YOUR WAKE UP BREAKFAST CAMPAIGN**

On Monday and Tuesday this week the food tech department ran a healthy breakfast scheme alongside our normal breakfast club. This was to fit into Healthy Breakfast Week run nationally. On offer were fruit smoothies; pancakes with a choice of fresh fruit ie strawberries, grapes and bananas; a selection of breakfast muffins was also available containing banana, and a sample of carrot muffins. The two mornings were very popular especially the pancakes made by Mrs Leach who put in plenty of practice in preparation for Shrove Tuesday.
Young Musician of the Year

Next month we hope to revive the long-established Trevelyan Young Musician of the Year Competition. Hopefully lots of budding instrumentalists and singers will have a go, either on their own or as part of a group. Entry forms and further details are available from Mr King or Mrs Wooders. The first round of the competition will be held on Thursday February 25th, so now is the time to start practicing!

Thank you all for reading our update and news. Please remember that the day before half term is an inset day – Fri 12 Feb – so pupils will finish school at 3.15pm on Thursday 11th February and will return on Monday 22nd February.

Mrs Nicola Chandler
Deputy Head Teacher