



## **BAMPTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

**January 2019**

Happy New Year everyone, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and are well rested for the start of the New Year.

Following a fantastic end to 2018 with the 'Hey Ewe' nativity performance and a lovely end of term Christmas service in church, we kick start the new year with a new curricular theme, 'The Land of the Dragon – China.' All of the teachers have been working really hard already to prepare for the new topic and class letters, Topic Webs, 'KIRFs' and Home Learning Sheets will be sent out this week to show you the exciting plans the teachers have and how you can help your child/children with their learning. As always, more information can be found on the school's website [www.bamptonschool.org](http://www.bamptonschool.org) and upcoming events can be seen on the school diary.

Talking of the nativity performance, don't forget you will be able to purchase a copy of the video of the performance soon. Look out on the website and School Gateway notifications for more information.

As we start a new year we welcome two new teachers to the school, Mr Rolinson in Fox Class and Mr Houston in Stag Class. They have both made a great start to the term, thoroughly enjoying their teaching and getting to know the children. I know everyone has (or will) will give them a big welcome to Bampton School. 'Meet the Teacher' meetings have been set for Monday.

The children have all settled well back into school already, returning to school as enthusiastic as ever and being really keen about the new curricular theme, with lots of questions about China. As always, we ask that you are involved as much as possible with the school and your child's learning. We will continue to focus on reading across the school. As always, reading regularly with your children and asking questions about what they have read makes a huge difference with to their development in reading and learning in general.

During the term, we will also continue to focus on our school values of 'Respect', 'Kindness', 'Trust and Honesty', 'Forgiveness and Compassion', 'Joy' and 'Friendship' and we will continue with our 'Celebrations Assembly' every Friday of course. As a staff, we have also been discussing our 'vision' for the school during the first part of the school year. We have sought the children's views about this as well and would really love your opinion about the schools vision. We will contact you shortly to take part in a short survey to get your views.





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Those year 6 who are going to London are really looking forward to the Residential in a couple of weeks time - they plan to visit Chinatown and will bring us back some yummy treats to try! Not long after that, Year 4 have the Bristol Residential to look forward to and I know the itinerary is looking really exciting for that trip too, including climbing down into the Clifton Suspension Bridge Vaults.

We also have several Educational Visits planned at the start of the year, offering exciting opportunities for the children to learn outside the classroom. These include Tag rugby for our Key Stage 2 children at Tiverton High School and a Key Stage 1 trip to Tiverton Museum for their STEM fair. We'll also be bringing you exciting news of a Chinese Dragon dancing day to coincide with the Chinese New Year.

Just a quick reminder as well, you are warmly invited to a presentation on Tuesday at 2.30pm about the Alumnis Multi Academy Trust, of which we have been part since the 1st October 2018.

Good luck next week to our four Youth Speaks teams who will be delivering speeches on a range of topics from Exmoor to Rugby to Space! Parents are welcome to come and watch at Bolham Primary School next Friday 18th January. We'll send out more details soon.

As always, if there are any queries or questions about what's happening in school at all, please feel free to contact the class teacher, school office or myself in the usual way and we will be glad to give you further information. As I said in the end of year newsletter, the next parent voice meeting will be on the 31st January. If there is anything you would like to talk about in particular, let us know in advance and we will pop it on the agenda.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy new year,

Take care, Gary.

