

February Newsletter



Dear Parents and Friends of the School,

We are so grateful to Mrs Rutter and her Learning Saturday team who gave us all the wonderful 'Play on Words' day. Bringing the two schools together and seeing parents and children enjoying time learning is always a pleasure. The buzz in the corridors as families found the next exciting activity was delightful. Listening to children reading the news, watching them set the scene for their own play, creating castles and peg characters, playing word games, casting spells and doing their own illustrations demonstrated how much can be achieved on these lovely days. The talks and plays left us with delightful memories and I hope the event will inspire everyone to return to the joy of reading a book over the holiday.

Thank you to the PSFA from both schools, parents and governors who came in to support the day by running activities or helping with the café. We were so pleased to receive so many delicious baked goodies which were enjoyed by all. We are also grateful to the PSFA for paying for the productions of Peter Pan and Robin Hood which got rave reviews from many of their audience.

If you would like to see more photographs from the Learning Saturday please visit our website <http://www.queenedithschool.org.uk/>

If you enjoyed seeing the plays, do keep **Saturday 10th March** free to see Widdershins Production of the Three Billy Goats Gruff and other Furry Tails. It promises to be a perfect production for our younger children but because the puppetry is so magical it would be enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you also to the many parents who helped us out at very short notice when we needed to rearrange the Year 6 trip to Cambridge. We so appreciated everyone's support and as you can see from the article about their trip they had a lovely time.

Best wishes to everyone for a lovely half term holiday. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 20th February 2018.

Caroline Peet

Executive Headteacher



Queens' Federation

Queen Edith
Primary School

Coming up.....

Half Term

Monday 12th – Friday 16th
February

School Starts

Tuesday 20th February

Y6 Leavers Photos

Friday 23rd February

PSFA Meeting

Monday 26th February
7.30pm

Book Fayre

28th February

Parent Consultations

Monday 5th March – All
Classes

Tuesday 6th March – Middle
Years

Wednesday 7th March –
Reception & Later Years

Thursday 8th March – KS1

Class Assemblies – 9:10am

Thursday 15th March – 3.1

Thursday 22nd March – 2.1

Foundation: Nursery & Reception

Nursery



Nursery children have been enjoying the story 'The Train Ride' by June Crebbin

We have enjoyed so many activities related to the story such as making our own trains, learning about numbers and letters in our station game, writing our own tickets, making sandwiches like the little girl in the story and making flags.

R1

R1 have been learning the story 'Lost and Found' this term. Many of our activities have been related to the story and children explored ice and enjoyed finding out about different parts of the world. In PE, we developed a winter dance to the music from 'Frozen'. This ended with every child catching their own snowflake on the last note. They also created their own story involving a unicorn instead of a penguin!



R2



This half term, R2 have enjoyed reading and learning the story 'Lost and Found'. As the story is set in the South Pole, we learned all about it and discussed cold climates and ice. We also made our own boats and then tested whether they could float or sink. Additionally, this half term we performed our class assembly. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing what they have been learning this term with their parents. One child said after the assembly, 'I want to keep going. We are having too much fun!'.



To see more of what our children have been up to please visit

<http://queenedithsschool.org.uk/Year-Groups>

Key Stage 1

1.1 & 1.2

Year 1 have really enjoyed travelling all over the world with Sunny the Meerkat this half term. We have learnt the names of all of the continents and major oceans and explored lots of different types of maps. We made journey lines and planned Sunny's holidays all over the globe!



2.1



In 2.1 we have really enjoyed looking at artwork based on The Great Fire of London this term. We thought a great deal about the artists, the contrasting colours they selected as well as how they created tints and shades. We sketched from our imaginations and mixed colours effectively. We brought all these skills together to create our own final Fire of London pictures.

We love Art in Year 2!

2.2

This week, Year 2 has begun learning about Ernest Shackleton's escapade across Antarctica. To get to know the story and begin to understand the journey they went on, the children acted out and froze in different scenarios that Ernest and his 27 crew members would have encountered.



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Middle Years

3.1 have really enjoyed learning about skeletons in our Amazing Animals science topic this half term. We worked in groups to make a human skeleton, learning the scientific names of the bones and how they fit together. Then, we compared our skeletons with those of other animals. There were lots of differences and we discovered that an animal's skeleton gave us clues about how it moves! For example, did you know that birds have hollow and light bones to help them fly well?

3.1



3.2



3.2 have loved our BIPS topic this term. We've taken a tour of different regions on India, riding camels in the Thar Desert, picking coconuts in Kerala and exploring the bustling city of Jodhpur. This week, Year 3 had a fantastic day celebrating the end of this exciting topic. Dressed up in our colourful Indian outfits, we tried out henna, made symmetrical rangoli patterns, animal masks and careful miniature watercolour paintings. We also cooked and feasted on delicious curries and rolled out lots of chapatti! Working together, we created our own paisley print blocks from string and used them to print a beautiful year group wall hanging – we're very proud of it!

4.1

Our Year 4 topic this half term has been "Electricity". As well as finding out about the history of how electricity was discovered and developed, we have been learning how to make working circuits, with batteries, bulbs, buzzers and switches. We made our own switches from card, foil and paper clips, using the properties of conductors and insulators. After designing a room in a cardboard box, we then used our knowledge to protect the room with a burglar alarm circuit.



4.2



This half-term we have been learning how to play netball. We spent time on the main rules and also on pivoting, mastering different passes and marking our partners. These skills were put into practice in outdoor games where we worked as a team and concentrated on remembering the key rules.

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Later Years

5.1

The Year 5 visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park was a great success! We held and stroked cockroaches, stick insects, snakes and fluffy rabbits. The children's behaviour was on top form as they searched for porcupines, red pandas, alligators and all sorts of other animals around the park. They braved a bat cave, got briefly caught in torrential rain, and asked some fantastic questions to a zoo keeper who talked to us about the rescued tiger she was feeding.



5.2



This term year 5 have been learning about Africa, and as part of this topic produced some excellent pieces of writing. We learnt about the life and times of Nelson Mandela, and wrote a biography covering his incredible life story. We also took part in a series of debates, looking at the differences between childhood in the UK and childhood in Kenya, before writing a balanced argument on the topic. We have also looked at the pros and cons of tourism in Kenya, and written our findings in topic lessons.

6.1

Year 6 took a coach to Churchill College on 30th January, where we were met by Shelley who kindly told us a little about Churchill College, gave us our own guidebooks and led us to a lecture theatre. Maria from the Department of Engineering then met us and there, she taught us about how birds fly and their wings and we were able to understand different forces such as lift, tension, gravity and drag. We were then able to create our own (pretty wonderful) paper planes which used our newfound knowledge of curves and birds' wings. As the lecture theatre we were in was raked, we leapt onto the balcony to test our planes.



6.2



After our morning at Churchill, we walked along 'the backs' past St John's, then Trinity College and finally Clare (the second oldest of Cambridge's thirty-one colleges which was one of only three Cambridge colleges to admit undergraduate women in the 1970's) before going into King's College and wandering through its beautiful grounds. We loved the bridge over the Cam that we paused at. Some of us even waved at the punters below, enjoying the peaceful river.

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Events

St Faith's Year 4 Maths Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 4 teams of mathematicians who competed in the St Faith's Maths Challenge this term. With over 120 children attending, the Queen Edith pairs did really well to come 4th and 9th in the final placings. The challenge included a wide range of activities, needing quick thinking and mathematical reasoning, and the children were great representatives for the school.



P.E

We have continued to see a high level of interest in our range of sports clubs this term - Craig Nicholls has kindly given his time to start a Year 5 and 6 fitness club which has proved very popular, and despite the cold weather the number of children attending after school sports has remained high. After a quiet half term we are looking forward to next half term, which will see Queen Edith entering teams in tag rugby, hockey and netball competitions.



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Executive Headteacher:
Mrs C M Peet M.A.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Increase in cost of school meals

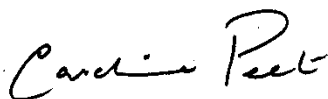
We have held our price for school meals at the Queens' Federation very successfully for a few years now at **£2.10** per meal. However, despite our best efforts the price of £2.10 no longer allows us to cover the total cost of school meals.

As a result we have taken the decision that the price of a school meal will increase to **£2.30** per meal from **Tuesday 17th April 2018**. This is in line with other local schools all of whom already charge £2.30.

This change will not affect those who are entitled to free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals programme in Reception and in years 1 and 2. It will also not affect children in Key Stage 2 who have access to free school meals. If you are unsure about your eligibility for this please contact the School Office who would be happy to assist you. Alternatively, if you would prefer, you can email confidentially on office@queenedith.cambs.sch.uk or office@queenemma.cambs.sch.uk.

If your family would be entitled to free school meals but you have previously chosen not to make an application, there are many benefits to making an application and we would encourage you to do so. Again, if you would like to know more please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Peet
Executive Headteacher