<u>Newsletter</u>

We have had such a fantastic half term and a very exciting, festive lead up to Christmas!

Our pupils have been brilliant and have worked hard to gain lots of new skills. We have had lots of new pupils start with us in September and it has been lovely to see them settle in and flourish as the term has progressed. It has also been great getting to know our new families and thank you for your ongoing support. As you know we were visited by OFSTED earlier in this half term. It is always a pleasure to show visitors around our building and the pupils really did us proud.

Some of our KS3 classes have just completed their very first independence week which has seen them accessing rail travel, purchasing items from shops, filling in forms and cooking a three-course meal. The meals were lovely and school smelt of a restaurant! Our KS4 classes took part in independence fortnight which enabled them to learn first aid skills and complete a team work qualification – we are so proud of them!

Please see our 2022 / 23 School Improvement Priorities below:

1. To further develop the broad database of well-matched, work/training experience opportunities, providing a range of work-based learning.

2. To continue to embed a love reading for all pupils.

3. Following the uncertainty caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, ensure that impact on behaviour is minimised.

4. Increase frequency of opportunities for pupils to enhance their cultural capital.

5. To continue to engage in school council ideas to improve the school and environment to enhance pupils' experience.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support over the past term. As always, our door is always open to come and speak to us about any celebrations or worries that you may have. Alternatively, if you would prefer to contact us via email, you can email me directly at kbanks@bluebellschool.co.uk or contact any of the senior team by telephone on 01782 987012.

Wishing you all a restful and joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming all of our families back in January.

Kind Regards,

Кау

Hello parents and carers

Below is a link to a new initiative, led by Team Teach, called 'My Family Coach'. This is a resource that supports schools, but more importantly, families, particularly during difficult periods such as holidays. As we all know, holidays can induce some anxiety with some children and subsequently impact on the lives of families.

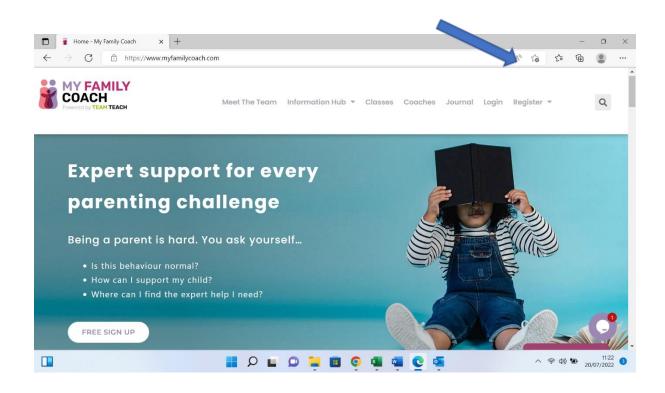
https://youtu.be/Csw-f2vYKiE

Schools Landing Page - My Family Coach

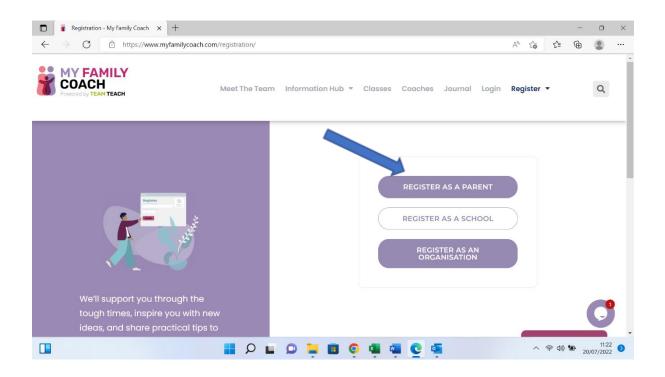
My Family Coach works in conjunction with Team Teach, a school partner, to enable families to access a range of resources, courses and webinars to support you. Details around how to register, should you be interested are below:

Click the link or type the address in the search bar. Alternatively, type 'My Family Coach Team Teach' into a search engine such as Google.

• Click on the very end at the top on 'Register'



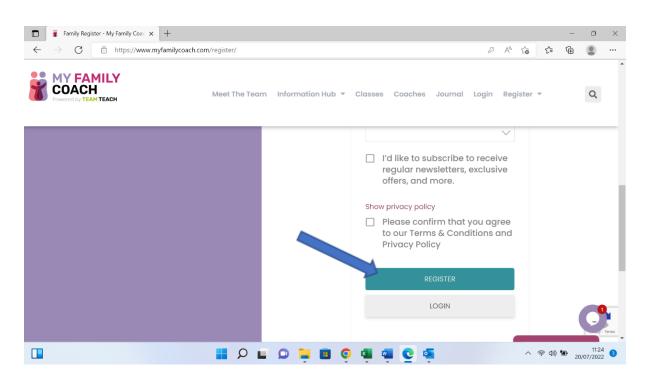
• Click Register as a 'Parent'



- Enter details such as Name, email address etc. In the box 'Where did you hear about us', you type 'School' in there and name us (Lavender Field School)
- Enter a password that you will use to access the resources when you need to use them

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• Click 'Register'



• You will then be asked to check your email to verify your address.

• Click on the email to verify your account and you will then be able to access the resources and navigate the website. The resource is free for aspects such as podcasts, webinars.

My Family Coach is an excellent for supporting families to with relationships, improve communication, and understand challenging behaviours.

<u>Minton</u>

Class Minton have had a lovely half term full of lots of fun!

In Science, we have continued our learning on space and planets. We also completed lots of tasks about how day and night occur using experimental activities. From this, we began to learn about nocturnal animals.



During English we have looked at a range of stories with different themes. We looked at 'On the Moon' and 'Whatever Next' which had links to our science topic. We also looked at Writing for a purpose, predicting what might happen next on the basis of what has been read so far and using descriptive words within our work. We enjoyed the stories 'The very hungry caterpillar's night before Christmas' and 'Father Christmas on the naughty step' as we began to get excited about Christmas arriving.



During Math's we have been learning about money, coin recognition and coin value. We had lots of fun using practical activities to explore money and moved onto being able to add and



take away using money. We particularly enjoyed using the role play shop activities.

We have continued to progress well with our phonics and have taken part in lots of reading activities to support our learning. We have used lots of practical activities to support our understanding when reading and writing.



We enjoyed a trip to Peak Wildlife where we saw lots of different animals. We also went to Santa's workshop and completed lots of activities such as making Christmas decorations and writing our letter to Santa's, which we posted in the magical post pox. Santa even came to visit us whilst we ate our lunch! A lovely day was had by all!

From all the staff in class Minton we hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and a happy New Year!

Gladstone

Class Gladstone have had an excellent term in the run up to Christmas. We have had lots of fun engaging in practical and sensory activities to expand our learning across the curriculum.

During our maths lessons, we have been exploring different topics, including addition, time, money and shape. We have improved our understanding of these areas using mainly concrete and pictorial methods to practice applying our knowledge. We have taken part in plenty of sensory activities. When learning about shapes, we have had to find them hidden within different materials, like sand and water, or used the sensory bag to help us to focus on identifying the properties of shapes.



In English, we have continued looking at a range of different texts. In KS1 and KS2, we have been exploring a range of stories and nursery rhymes, focusing on language, sequencing and comprehension. We have engaged in plenty of activities, including creating characters using play dough, retelling stories through role play and making predictions. In KS3, some of us have continued our Step-Up project called 'Writing for the Web'. This has included lots of work on various writing and language techniques, such as using adjectives and alliteration. Other children have also been focusing their skills on poetry and have spent their time reading the poem using sensory play to comprehend the poem better.



Within our Science lesson, each key stage has focused on a different topic. Key Stage 1 have been exploring different materials to discover how they can be used for a purpose and carrying out experiments to test the suitability of materials. Key Stage 2 have been discovering what Space is like through the use of sensory play, visual aids and experimentation, focusing primarily on night and day; how night and day occur, our routines during night and day and how the different times may look. Key stage 3 have been investigating different forces using arts and crafts, toys and sensory play to experiment with the different forces.



Well done class Gladstone for an excellent term. Have a lovely Christmas break.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



<u>Wade</u>

What a lovely half term with lots of fun events! We had a very special visitor join us in December, here are some of the amazing things we got up to.



He set up our Christmas tree, helped us to write red words in snow and many other things.

We had a lovely time at the Pantomime watching 'Goldilocks and the three bears'.



Oh no we didn't..... oh yes we did.....

In Maths we have had lots of fun looking at money. Children were able to explore money values and then move onto adding and taking away with money!











In English we have read lots of different stories from different themes where we looked at fireworks in November and Christmas in December. Children really enjoyed Father Christmas and the naughty step. They all wrote letters to Santa saying what they wanted.







<u>Dudson</u>

Dudson have had a fabulous half term, packed with so many fun learning activities! This half term, the children have been on different off-site trips, such as developing their love of reading by going to the library, and also going to the local café for hot chocolates to develop their social skills in the community!



During English, we have continued to learn about target audiences and website designs. This half term, the children received a letter from a mysterious alien-being from another planet, requesting that the children create him a website to sell his mind-blowing candy! The children all said they were up for the job and were able to plan, design and even evaluate the websites they created using the given criteria!



In maths this half term, we have been learning all about time. The children have been able to tell the time from an analogue clock, digital clock and then even begin to convert this to the 24-hour time. All children have really impressed staff this half term with their determination and perseverance with learning how to tell the time and have even begun to apply this knowledge to real-life situations.





Throughout our topic sessions this half term, we have been focusing on map skills and compass work. The children have created their own birds-eye view map of the classroom, and also made their own compasses. We have used these compasses to then travel to different places in the school following only a set of instructions. The children have also really enjoyed learning about different transport available to us and how we see different environments.



We have all had a blast this half term and have thoroughly enjoyed getting ready for Christmas. The children have enjoyed lots of different Christmas crafts, creating their own music single, a trip to the pantomime and also a Christmas dinner!

Class Dudson have been amazing and I am so proud of all their hard work this half term. I really do hope you have an amazing Christmas holiday and I can't wait to welcome the children back to continue with their fab learning in the spring term!

Merry Christmas! All the best, Abbey 🙂

<u>Spode</u>

<u>Maths</u>

In maths, we have been working on addition, subtraction and place value, revising the values of digits. We completed money problems and were able to find the value of money. We also created our own shop and shopped for items, taking turns to be the shop keeper and helping one another to check the change.

<u>English</u>

Spode have been learning about poetry, with a particular focus on free verse. Pupils learnt that this style of poetry does not have to rhyme. We have been discovering verbs, adverbs and adjectives, completing sorting activities. We have also been working on preposition and considered similes and metaphors. Pupils were able to complete extended writing tasks and had great fun discussing creative links.

<u>Science</u>

In Science, we have been learning about plants and everything related to growing them. We have visited a Garden Centre to buy seeds in preparation for planting them. Pupils learnt about germination and completed an investigation to see which conditions seeds need to be able to germinate. We discovered how seeds disperse to enable production of new plants.

<u>Topic</u>

Over the last few weeks, we have been continued our rain forest topic. Pupils had conversations about the effects of deforestation and created their own 'Through the Window' art work. We have learnt about geographical features and have made our own salt dough to create continents, then painted and labelled them.

In PSHE, we have been learning about being responsible pet owners and the demands it holds. We have thought about healthy living and planned and created our own healthy meal. We have discovered how important it is to save for our future and to take responsibility for our money, learning how to be responsible for money we earn.

In P.E, we have been continuing with our Swimming lessons. The children are being super sensible when walking to and from the Centre and are really enjoying the new skills they are learning during the sessions. The instructors have been really impressed with the progress.

The children are continuing their swimming sessions learning lots of new skills.

In R.E, we have learnt about Humanism, the values they hold and the work of the Red Cross.

In PSHE we have been learning all about how to be a responsible pet owner, how to plan and create a healthy meal and how to save for our future.

We have been learning about sharing in Social Skills.

In French we have revisited numbers and have been learning each other's favorite language.

We paid our respects to the fallen, visiting the Memorial Gardens holding a minute silence.

We had great fun decorating the classroom with Christmas decorations, including making our own paper chains. We Also loved the Panto.

Middleton

Class Middleton have had a wonderful half term, we have had so much fun and learnt lots of new things.

We have really enjoyed science this term looking at many different forces. We looked at air resistance and created our own parachutes and paper airplanes which we flew from the playground climbing frame. We looked at different liquids, learning all of the different textures.





In PSHE we have spent time looking at becoming more independent and looked at different choices we have to make in life each day. We went to the shops and got resources to make ourselves a jam sandwich. Pupils then worked in pairs and created our own mid-morning snack.





<u>Moorcroft</u>

Class Moorcroft have had an extremely busy half term and have all completed a range of exciting activities during the second autumn half term.

In maths the children have all covered a range of different topics within their key stage. Key stage 2 have covered addition and subtraction to consolidate their learning and have used a range of resources to support. They have also explored place value, shapes, ordinal numbers and odd and even numbers. The children in key stage 3 have been able to show a great development with their understanding of topics such as fractions, shapes, place value, and challenging addition and subtraction questions bridging 10 and 100. The children covering functional skills have shown fabulous resilience and have covered a range of topics which will meet the criteria of their exam. The children have looked at ratio, proportion, fractions and percentages and decimals.





In English the children have engaged in some amazing sessions and developed their English ability, working on their phonetical knowledge and spelling. Key stage 2 have been exploring free verse poems to begin the term and they used their new knowledge to write a great poem about Autumn. Following this the children have looked at persuasive language and applied the learnt information to create a range of different adverts. The children also were able to explore figurative language and the impact of this within writing. Key stage 3 pupils have paid particular focus to different narratives and have also explored the mystery genre. The children explored in detail and looked at the types of character and settings. To end the term, they wrote a great story in the correct genre. The key stage 4 pupils have explored formal and informal writing and then wrote a great example of each. They also explored the spoken aspect of the exam.





During our other subjects we have covered a range of different topic areas. In PSHE the key stage 2 children really enjoyed planning and making a healthy meal. In topic the children have paid particular focus and resilience to tribal art and our DT topic within our overarching rainforest topic. In key stage 3 the children really enjoyed looking at budgeting and real life situations they can link this to. In topic, they have explored the weather and how this can cause erosion and issues on the coastline.



Over the term the children have also engaged in a range of different diversity events where they have really enjoyed partaking in practical activities and developing their social, moral, cultural and spiritual understanding.



The children have continued to build fantastic relationships with both their peers and staff. They have showed great development towards their targets and should all be proud of their work.

Have a great Christmas and a Happy New year.

Charlotte and the Moorcroft team! 😌

Burleigh

Class Burleigh have had another brilliant half term in the run up to Christmas. We have welcomed a new student to Class Burleigh and the class have made him feel so welcome. The students should be so proud of all of their achievements they have made within the last seven weeks.

In English we have been looking at mystery. Students have been looking at what kind of things

make a mystery story. We looked at some famous mystery stories such as Sherlock Holmes and the famous five. Students towards the end of the half term planned a short mystery story before writing this in full.



In Maths we have looked at a number of different topics, including being to tell the time. We have also looked at number bonds



within two- and three-digit numbers. Towards the end of half term, we have been able to work with money. This has included going to the shop and working within a budget,



students were given an amount of money to stick within so that we didn't spend more than we had. In Science we have been looking at living things and were able to look at how both Animals and Plants rely on each other. We have also looked at photosynthesis and how it works. Students completed a science experiment, where they tested different foods to see if they contained starch or not.

In Topic this half term we have looked at the environment. Students looked at how different kinds of weather can affect everyone's lives. We also looked at how the rising sea levels are putting people's homes at risk. In PSHE this half term we have been looking at Money, which ties in with both our maths lessons and our independence week that we



completed towards the end of the half term. Students were able to look at how interest rates work. We were able to look at what a bank statement is and how we need to

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ensure that we check these regularly to avoid any mistakes being made. In our PE lessons, we have been continuing with our topic of Invasion,

<u>Churchill</u>



Class Churchill have had a fantastic end to the Autumn term! In Maths, we consolidated our learning about money and moved onto identifying 2D and 3D shapes. Pupils have also been learning about the different properties that the shapes have.

In Science, we have continued to learn about earth and space. We enjoyed a visit to Jodrell Bank and took part in a variety of practical experiments, as well as walking around the Lovell Telescope.





During our topic lessons, we have been comparing the lives of Vikings to the present day. We have explored clothes, food, houses, transport and materials.

> In English lessons we have continued to explore a variety of texts linked to current events such as bonfire night, seasons and Christmas. Pupils have created lists, designed posters and practised writing for a variety of different purposes.

We have had a lovely festive end to the term by going on a visit to Peak Wildlife Park to spend the morning in Santa's workshop. Pupils wrote letters to Santa and reflected on their year. They also fed the reindeer and made Christmas decorations.

The staff team in Class Churchill would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year!





<u>Beswick</u>

Beswick have had an excellent half term this time. We have had plenty of different learning opportunities throughout the term and everyone has had fun taking part in these.

In Science, we have explored the multiple different forces that exist on the earth such as air resistance, friction, and water resistance. We have created our own parachutes to discover how air resistance acts and then tested these by throwing them off the climbing frame. We have also taken part in group activities to explore the different textures of lubricants and created plenty of bubbles with soap and baby oil.





This term in Topic we have focused on the way that we read maps and compasses, which then linked in nicely to how our local neighborhoods are connected to other places in the United Kingdom and also the world. We have been on local trips to the train station and also counted how many bus stops are around the Kidsgrove area!





In PE this term we have enjoyed taking part in a range of different invasion games such as Football, Basketball and even a little bit of hockey. Everyone has enjoyed the lessons with the different coaches that offer their own unique style of delivery.





Class Beswick has had an excellent half term and on behalf of the class team, we hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas holiday we can't wait to get started with even more fun learning opportunities in the spring term.

Merry Christmas

Jordan, Rachel and Callum

<u>Wedgwood</u>

Class Wedgwood have had a fantastic end to the Autumn term. We have been learning how to tell the time using real life clocks. We also created our own clocks using the numicon and towards the end of the term, we have been learning about money and eve set up our own class wedgwood shop.

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In English, we have continued our work on nursery rhymes. We have explored the story sacks and started to structure sentences. Pupils have worked hard during our read, write Inc lessons and formed sounds using different materials.



Science lessons have been so much fun! We have made sensory bottles and taken part in lots of different experiments.





The last few weeks we have enjoyed creating Christmas crafts and recording our own class wedgwood Christmas song. On behalf of Class Wedgwood we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year!



Doulton

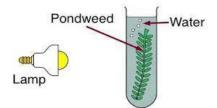


What a great build up to Christmas we have had, the class have worked really well this term and have with staff and pages



engaged positively with staff and peers.

During Science lessons, we have focussed on several key learning topics. The pupils learned about photosynthesis and how it's important to a plants survival. We completed an investigation regarding photosynthesis and investigated whether leaves need light for photosynthesis.



Experiment for photosynthesis.

In Maths, we have developed our understanding in several key areas of study, including percentages, ratios and capacity. All the children have had lots of water fun

when identifying the capacity of different objects.



In English, the GCSE group have continued their work on Macbeth where we have been analyzing the story of his life. The rest of the class have been working on their reading, writing and comprehension skills.

As part of our class celebrations we have been creating personalized decorations for the Christmas tree and having fun baking and playing Christmas games

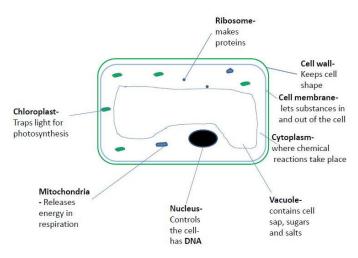


Merry Christmas and a happy new year from class Doulton and the team

<u>Twyford</u>

Twyford class have had another super half term. Pupils should be extremely proud of the progress they have made and the fabulous work they have produced!

In Science, Twyford class have explored 'Plant Growth'. Pupils began by investigating how gas exchange occurs in plants. They then moved on to describe the adaptations of leaves and plant cells for photosynthesis. Pupils particularly enjoyed completing the test for starch. They were then able to describe how starch is used as a food storage material.



During our English sessions pupils have become mystery writers! The class have been able to explore key features of the genre. Once they had a secure knowledge they analysed how settings, characters and the plot help to build tension. We read a range of inspiring texts including: 'The Adventure of the Speckled Band' and 'The London Eye Mystery'. Pupils created their own mystery story at the end of the term. These were extremely exciting and engaging to read!

During our Topic sessions, Twyford class have focused on Geography. They began the term by exploring weather and climate. We were able to understand what drives weather, ways to measure it and why it is so changeable. The class then moved on and understood why climate varies so much from place to place. Pupils enjoyed sharing their own experiences of weather around the world. In the final weeks of the term we focused on coasts. We learnt about waves and how tides shape our coastline. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed exploring Newquay, Happisburgh and Norfolk as case studies. We used VR headsets and Google Earth to discover the places in more detail.



In Maths, we have furthered our understanding of multiplication and division, fractions and time. We have also spent time focusing on discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods, including bar charts and time graphs.

Throughout this half term, Twyford class have impressed us with their ability to work positively with peers on and off-site. We have particularly enjoyed our educational visits to places such as Cannock Memorial and our independence week activities.



Well done for all your hard work Twyford class. Have a lovely Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year for lots more fun!





Lauren and the Twyford team 😊

Aynsley

This half term we have spent some time learning about plants and ecosystems. The pupils learned about photosynthesis and its important to a plants survival. We completed an investigation regarding photosynthesis, discussing whether leaves need light for photosynthesis. We used two different leaves, one of which had been in darkness for 12 hours and one that had not. After submerging the leaves in water and then boiling ethanol, we then added iodine solution to identify whether starch was present. This then showed if photosynthesis has occurred as starch is a by-product of photosynthesis.





Throughout this half term in Topic, we have focused on Geography. We have explored different weathers and climates, how the weather is driven and ways to measure the weather. We then linked our learning with our next topic of coasts and the affect the weather can have on the coastlines around the world. The pupils have really enjoyed watching different documentaries around global warming and its effects on our planet.

In PE this half term, we have been playing hockey. The pupils have really enjoyed learning new skills and playing in team games against their peers.



The pupils have worked hard in PSHE this half term, where we have learned about budgeting and its importance. We have researched different types of current and savings accounts, then identified the best ones for interest.

We hope all the pupils have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward seeing you all in the new year.

Kate and the Aynsley team 🙂

<u>Coalport</u>

An amazing half term in class Coalport!!

Pupils have taken part in activities such as Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community.

All pupils in Coalport have completed an extra qualification, working on their teamwork skills and developing action plans to reach their goal.



PE

We have all enjoyed PE this half term. We have been participating at Flip Out and the full class have enjoyed using the facilities.







Have an amazing Christmas break and see you all in the new year!

Chris, Chantel and Charlotte