

# Emerald Class Newsletter



## Thorpe Church of England Primary School *Faith, Love and Excellence*

Autumn Term 1

September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful summer. We are delighted to welcome you and the children to Emerald Class. It was lovely to see all the children come back to school with such enthusiasm and keen to learn. We are all looking forward to a very busy autumn term. If you have any queries or suggestions please feel free to arrange a time to come in and have a chat.

Many thanks

Mrs Kaul and the Emerald team  
Mrs Wade, Mrs Elmer,  
Mrs Manning, Mrs Chamberlain  
and Mrs Ives

### Emerald Class PE days

Our PE lessons will be on **Wednesdays and Fridays**. Children need to come to school on those days wearing their PE kit, with no earrings or jewelry and with long hair tied back.

### Reading and Home Learning

Please continue to read and share stories with your child every night. Reading books, reading records and homework grids will be issued shortly.

Reading books will be changed each Friday so please ensure that reading records and books are brought in every Friday morning.

Thank you for your support. Do let us know if you have any questions regarding your child and/or their learning.

Our topic this term is '**Awesome Autumn**'

We will be looking at how the world around us changes and what the weather does during this exciting time of year.

Activities will include:

Observing how a tree changes through the year

Looking at weather patterns and their effect on us.

Using autumn objects as a stimulus for Art.

In **English** we are looking at stories with familiar settings e.g. A

Squash and a Squeeze and stories with patterned language e.g.

Bear Hunt

In **Maths** we are learning to sort, count, order and recognise numbers to 10 and beyond. We will also be learning number bonds to 10 including addition and subtraction ie  $3+2=5$ ,  $5-2=3$ ,  $5-3=2$ .

We will also be looking at shapes.

Our Topic in **RE** is 'Why do Christians call God creator?'

In **Science** and **Geography** we are learning about UK weather and the four seasons.

In **DT** we are exploring sliders and levers and will plan and make a model to demonstrate a weather forecast.

In **PSHE** we are learning about 'Being ourselves', including what makes us special and how important our feelings and thoughts are.

In **Computing** we will be looking at how a mouse can help us on a computer. We will also have online safety lessons

**Opal Play** - as a whole school we will continue using our exciting activities for the children at playtime. To get the most out of this opportunity, each child should have a pair of **NAMED** wellington boots and a **NAMED** waterproof coat with a hood. Please note that your children may get muddy and as we are teaching them to manage risks they may have the odd bump and scrape; Opal Play call this 'hurt and dirt' - we have a comprehensive risk assessment and will be teaching children how to keep themselves safe. This has included safe climbing.

Please ensure that the children have these items at school with them every day:

- A bottle of water
- A snack pot containing a healthy snack eg fruit or raw vegetables

Please check that everything the children bring into school is clearly **named**.

## **Year 1 Emerald Class PSHE and Citizenship - Relationships – Be Yourself**

### **Autumn 1**

#### **Be Yourself**

This unit is inspired by the idea that having confidence to 'be yourself' can have a positive impact on mental health and emotional wellbeing. It aims to enable children to recognise their positive qualities and appreciate their individuality. In this unit, children are encouraged to recognise different emotions and explore different strategies to help them manage any uncomfortable feelings they experience. They will learn about how big life changes impact on feelings and emotions and explore the importance of sharing their thoughts and feelings.

**We start each week with enquiry questions which will be used at the end of the unit to assess understanding;**

**Lesson 1:** What makes us special? Why is it important to be kind to ourselves?

**Lesson 2:** What are our different feelings called? How can we describe them?

**Lesson 3:** When do we feel happy? What other good feelings do you feel?

**Lesson 4:** What things make us feel unhappy or cross? What can we do when we have uncomfortable feelings?

**Lesson 5:** How does it feel when things change or we lose something precious? What can we do to help ourselves and others when this happens?

**Lesson 6:** Why are our feelings and thoughts important? How can we explain our thoughts and feelings to others?

**Children will be taking part in a range of activities, including the following:**

Creating a star and celebrating their own special traits on the star, creating a role play to show different emotions, making a collage to show the things that make them feel happy, drawing pictures to show things that make them feel unhappy or cross, drawing pictures to show times of change in their life and confidently and politely expressing their own opinion.

#### **About PSHE and Citizenship Education**

PSHE and Citizenship Education deals with personal, social, health and citizenship education. It is an important part of the school curriculum that aims to teach children the knowledge and skills that they need stay safe, happy and healthy, while preparing them for their life ahead.

We understand that some parts of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum involve exploring sensitive or controversial issues. That's why all adults involved in delivering the children's PSHE and Citizenship education will make every effort to establish a supportive and positive environment for learning.

Children will be given opportunities to ask any questions they may have, and adults in the class will set aside time to explore any questions or issues that are raised in the course of the lesson.

## Emerald Class Homework Autumn 1 2023



Alongside your regular reading, online reading and spelling, you are going to choose one of these projects to complete. When it's ready, please bring it into school to share with the class before the half-term break. If you would like to do more than one project then please feel free to do so. Please enjoy this choice of activities and make them your own.

We look forward to sharing and celebrating them.

### What trees and leaves do you know?

Go for a walk and look at the trees and leaves. Notice their shape, size, colour. Use a tree identification sheet to help, or an app on a phone.

*Draw or paint a picture of the tree, or make a simple poster about some trees and their leaves.*

### What is the weather like today?

Go outside and think about what you can see and feel. Think about the words you might use to describe the weather e.g. hot, damp or cloudy. Make a weather diary for the week using words and symbols.

### How

Choose a tree that you see regularly, either in your garden, local park, or somewhere you pass. Take a photo of the tree each month, and talk about any changes you see.

Make sure you choose a deciduous tree and not an evergreen so you see some changes.

What type of tree is it? What changes do you notice?

*Bring in a photo to show the class, and tell us what you have noticed.*

### What are clouds like?

Look at the clouds! Take a picture or draw the clouds you see. How many are there? What do they look like? Bring the information into school and we can compare it to the clouds we can see at school.

### What is your favourite story?

Read one of your favourite stories. Retell it in your own words using pictures and some words, or create a story map or make up your own version of the story.

*Be ready to tell the class what your story, or show us your pictures.*

### What should I wear?

Design an outfit that is suitable for a particular type of weather. What is it made of? Think about why your outfit is suitable to wear.