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Autumn 2021 Edition 1

Wow, this term has gone extremely fast! It does not seem five minutes ago since the children were walking up the path on the first day of the new school year with their new shiny shoes on. We have enjoyed trying to get back to some normality with teaching by reintroducing assemblies, school trips, extra-curricular clubs and even a visit from Elsa! We are determined to continue to give the children MAGICAL experiences to help enrich their learning experiences at school. The teachers have many exciting activities planned for their first day back after Christmas to launch their new topics. Look at their class page to see what exciting topics your child is learning next term. We are really hoping to reintroduce face-to-face performances, starting with the Easter performance for year 1. We know how much they mean to you and how much the children enjoy performing for you. Our fingers and toes are crossed for this, but we cannot promise anything at the moment. We will need to see what the Government guidance is at the time, as we have now entered the government's 'Plan B' with COVID restrictions as a country due to the fast spreading Omicron variant.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support and understanding during these difficult times. We really do appreciate it as things are still extremely challenging in terms of managing COVID, but we continue to follow the government guidance and will update our risk assessments to ensure everyone is as safe as we possibly can.

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Principal's End of Term Message I am delighted to be able to announce that Esprit MAT - the Multi-Academy Trust that runs Grove, Hamilton and Northwood Broom Academies - has entered into a long-term agreement with Frank Field Education Trust (FFET). Frank Field Education Trust is a Trust of two secondary schools; a primary and SEND school and 3 associate primary schools based across the North West and West Midlands. They are the Trust that support and run Birches Head Academy and they were a natural partner to work with, because of our shared values and because so many of our children go on to Birches Head. Frank Field Education Trust's vision is for Social Justice through Excellence in Education and they are committed to delivering this educational excellence in our area of Stoke.

Following the departure of our much-loved CEO, Steph Moran, Frank Field Education Trust will be supporting our three schools as we continue to improve the quality of education for your children. They will also be providing support with our premises and with finance.

Mark Unwin, Deputy CEO of FFET and an outstanding Primary and Special Needs Headteacher, will be acting as Executive Principal and supporting Mrs Carrigan and myself to continue the ongoing improvements at all three of our schools: Grove, Hamilton and Northwood Broom. The CEO of Frank Field Education Trust, Mr. Tom Quinn, and the central team led by Stephen Gauller will be supporting Esprit with the refurbishment of premises: Governance, HR and Finance.

Esprit and FFET share a commitment to make all three schools into outstanding places for your children's education and over the coming months, we look forward to offering many exciting opportunities for the children as result of this partnership.

Finally, I hope that you have a MAGICal Christmas with your family, stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all on the 5th January 2022.

At the perfect time to look
back at our most memorable
moments...

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Glaister Academy Principal Dan the skipping Man pays a visit.

Dan the Skipping Man visited us to teach us some basic skipping skills. We have been skip, skip, skipping throughout break time and lunch time, having fun and keeping active with our skipping ropes ever since!













Remembrance Day

We marked Remembrance Day in school on Thursday 11th November. Children across the school learnt about what Remembrance Day is and why it is celebrated. Children all created different pieces of Remembrance art work. The Year 2 children celebrated Remembrance Day via a virtual assembly for parents to view.



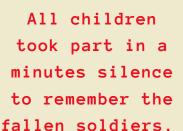


















Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying week

Week commencing 15th November 2021 was Anti-Bullying Week.

The key theme for 2021 was 'One Kind Word'. Children were invited to come into school wearing their odd socks on Monday, 15th November, to show how we are all the same, but different. Children looked fantastic on the day! Throughout the week, children learned about kind words and random acts of kindness.







What a week it was!



Dave and Kate Visit

Dave & Kate's visit.

As part of Anti-Bullying week, we had a visit from Dave and his guide dog Kate. Children discussed and celebrated our differences. Dave explained how Kate helps him in his day to day life and how she trained to be a guide dog.

Thank you, Dave for sharing your story with us. What a hardworking companion Kate is!







Well done. Kate!





Children in Need









19th November 2021 was Children in Need day. Children were invited to come into school wearing something yellow or something spotty. Children learnt about giving to charity and thought about others who are less fortunate than us.

Lots of fun activities took place throughout the day, all to raise awareness of this worthy charity and to raise as much money as we could. Thank you for your support in our efforts!

Steelite Plate Workshop















Painters from Steelite International visited our Key Stage 1 children and worked with them to design and create a Christmas plate. The plates were taken back to the factory to be glazed and fired. Children then sold their ware as part of our enterprise project.









Elsa from 'frozen' Pays of Visit...











As part of our 'Good to be Me' day, we had a visit from a special guest - Elsa! She shared her special talents with all of our children, bringing that extra bit of MAGIC.



Christmas Dinner & Christmas Zumper Day











Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day took place on Friday 10th December. Children were asked to come to school in their favourite Christmas jumper or winter top. A delicious Christmas lunch was on offer to all children, which they enjoyed with their friends.

