



# Comberton Update

Friday 17th<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## **Attendance**

Years 1-3 Class Winners – Year 2 Miss Lewis with 99% 2<sup>nd</sup> week in a row!

Years 4-6 Class Winners – Year 5 Mrs Morris with 97.6% knocking Miss Poyner's class off the top. Congratulations and keep it up!

## **Learning**

It has been a particularly arty week across school this week! Year 5 have created some beautiful prints with a real focus on the exploration aspect of their designs in their sketch books. Year 4 have been inspired by a Spanish artist named Francisco Goya and have been focussing on sketching techniques including crosshatching and shading. The children have been really proud of their work.

Some year 3 children visited me to show off their progress in writing since the start of the year. They have made huge improvements with their handwriting, but also have been acting upon feedback to develop the complexity of their sentence structures. Year 3 have also been continuing their scientific enquiries into how forces work and were testing the strength of different magnets through a range of materials.

Year 6 have been busy cutting, chopping and then cooking a delicious stew as part of the food aspect to their design and technology curriculum. There were some very positive reviews all round!

Year 2 had a really exciting visit to the synagogue in Birmingham. They had a wonderful time and were very keen to share their learning from this when they returned. The guides from the synagogue commented on how impressed they were with both the behaviour and subject knowledge of our children.

## **Governor Safeguarding Visit**

Our Deputy Safeguarding Lead Governor visited school this week and joined me in a pupil conversation regarding safeguarding in school. As part of the visit, we took a walk around school and she was really impressed with the level of focus and engagement in all the classes we visited.

We met with a group of year 4, 5 and 6 pupils who gave us their views on safeguarding and how we help to keep them safe. All the children felt that school was a very safe place to be and talked about it feeling like where they 'belong' and a bit like 'home', where everyone looks out for each other.

They described in detail how the PSHRE curriculum teaches them particular aspects of safety such as healthy relationships and also made significant reference to the teaching around online safety in school. All children felt confident to share their worries in school and could name many trusted adults that they could go to. They feel that assemblies allow us to explore topics around mental health and wellbeing and managing their emotions and also reflected on the systems and processes in school that are designed to keep them safe such as site security, visitor checks and fire alarms and lockdown procedures.

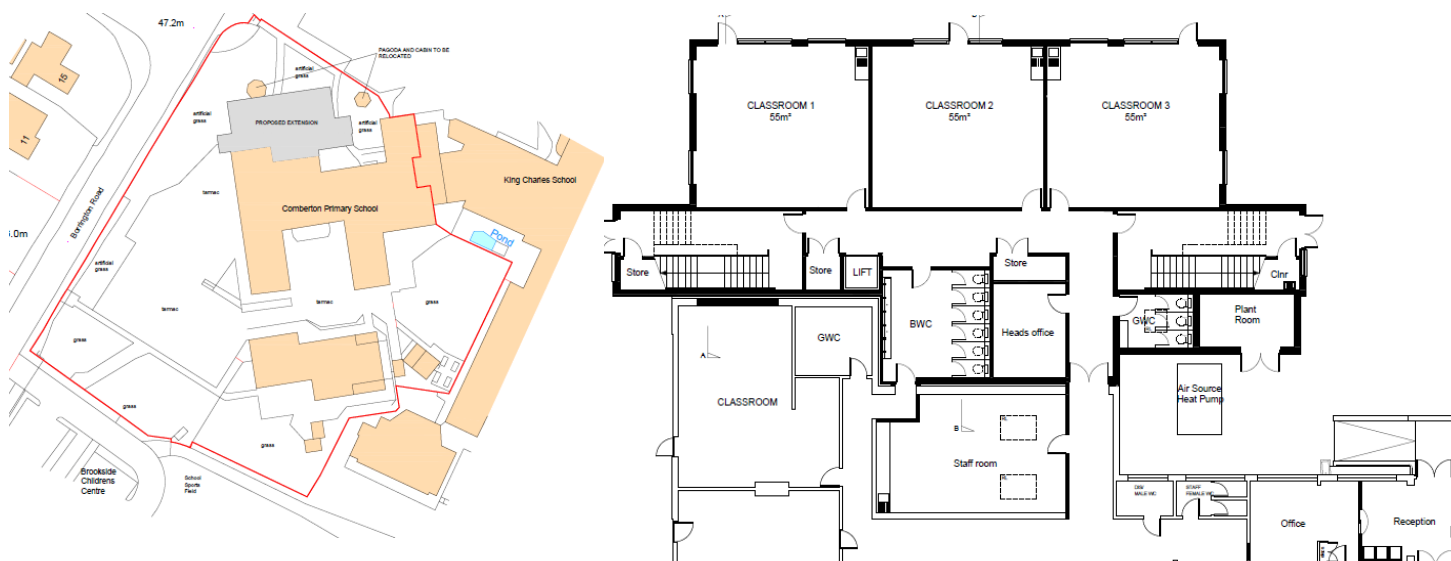
The children could recall wider curriculum opportunities such as road safety walks and NSPCC work and were also very positive about the different pupil roles in school that promote a safe and positive environment such as our wellbeing champions, digital leaders and play leaders.

As always, the children were thoughtful, reflective and articulate and were a pleasure to talk with.

### Exciting News – Building Project

We are delighted to inform you that after many years of waiting, Comberton have finally been allocated a grant from the Local Authority to replace the temporary mobile classroom units in years 4, 5 and 6 with a permanent 2 storey building (3 classrooms on each floor). This is a wonderful opportunity for us to develop our school to enable the children to have the fantastic learning environment that they so deserve.

The drawings and plans are being submitted to planning next week so we are hoping to have the green light to go ahead very soon. The proposed schedule of works is to begin over the summer holiday, with a likely completion date of Easter 2024. Please rest assured that we will be working hard to ensure minimal disruption throughout the project and the current mobile classrooms will remain in use until the completion of the new build.



### Wear it Red Day – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Thank you to all of those that supported Wear it Red day for Midlands Air Ambulance. The children enjoyed learning about how their fundraising would support the charity through an assembly, where we even had a recorded message from the air crew themselves.

### Welcome Wednesday

We had even more visitors this week and it was lovely to see so many adults sharing books with their children. Hopefully, as the weeks go by, we will see more and more parents/carers/grandparents being able to pop in and read with your child for the first 15 minutes every Wednesday.

### **Safer Internet Day Competition**

We have continued our focus on internet safety this week with our fantastic digital leaders going out to each of the classes to deliver online safety assemblies. They did a great job and received certificates in assembly this morning.

We have had many wonderful entries for our competition and they will now have the difficult job of judging these entries with Mrs Bennett, our Computing lead, to decide who will win the prize! This will be announced after half term.

### **Goodbye Mrs Williams**

This week we said goodbye to Mrs Williams who has been working at Comberton for approximately 8 years. Throughout her time, she has taken on several roles such as supporting children 1:1, leading clubs (especially craft and spy club!), leading lunchtimes, helping on trips and is probably most well known for being our school librarian. The children had some lovely messages for her in assembly yesterday in order to wish her well as she starts the next exciting chapter in her life – retirement!

On behalf of all the children and staff at Comberton, we would like to thank Mrs Williams for her hard work, dedication and passion.

### **School Uniform**

There are a lot of children coming in to school in trainers at the moment. We appreciate that you may be intending to get new school shoes over half term, so please can you ensure that the children return in full school uniform, looking smart and taking pride in their appearance.

We have also noticed that some children are wearing their 'own clothes' on PE day. Please ensure your child comes to school in school PE kit which consists of dark joggers or leggings (navy or black), white t-shirt and blue or red plain fleece. If children do not have a fleece then please send them in their school jumper or cardigan.

### **Dates:**

Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Return to school Pm - Year 4 swimming
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Peter Copper assemblies
Weds 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Industrial Action Strike Day - School open to invited pupils only
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day – come in PJ's!
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Harriers

### **Looking Ahead**

9&10/03/23 – Science workshops

15/03/23 - Industrial Action Day. School open to vulnerable pupils by invite only.

16/03/23 - Industrial Action Day. School open to vulnerable pupils by invite only.

21/03/23 – Open the Book Assemblies

27/03/23 – Year 4 visit to the Hindu Temple

30/03/23 – 2pm -3:15pm Easter Fayre (more information to follow)

31/03/23 – Break up for Easter

17/04/23 – Return to school

18/04/23 – Phonics Screening workshop for year 1 children and parents 8:45 – 9:45

26/04/23 – Year 5 visit to Envirosort  
01/05/23 – May Bank holiday – school closed  
02/05/23 – start of 4 week window for SATS for year 2 children  
08/05/23 – Bank Holiday for the King’s Coronation – school closed  
09/05/23 – Year 6 SATs week  
15 – 17/05/23 – Year 6 Residential visit  
26/05/23 – Break up for half term  
05/06/23 – Return to school. Start of 2 week assessment window for Statutory Year 4 Multiplication  
Tables Check  
09/06/23 – The Animal Man visiting Nursery and Reception  
12/06/23 – Year 1 Statutory Phonics Screening Check week  
21/07/23 – Break up for Summer

*Have a great half term*

*Kind Regards*

*Mrs Frost*