

# CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL



5<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

With 2019 having started in earnest, I'm proud to say that the children have settled down to the 'nitty-gritty' reasonably well, after the enjoyment of Christmas - all of which seems a distant memory. Although the weather may have been a little on the chilly side, the excitement of our brief 'splash' of snow seems to have momentarily dispelled those January blues and the nights are definitely drawing out.

A quick reminder that if you would like to 'keep a track' of what your child is learning, all Year Groups have posted their 'Planning Clouds' on our website, which can be accessed by following these links; from the Home Page, click on the coloured pencils which denote your child's Year Group, and then on the Planning Cloud icon, or, using the drop-down box from the top of our Home Page, click on, Our School, then Curriculum. Choose your child's Year Group from the menu on the right-hand side of the page, and then, again, simply click on the Planning Cloud icon. I am hoping that your child has already shared their learning experiences with you however, if they remain tight-lipped about this, the clouds will help you both support and question them on their daily activities.

Learning Outside the Classroom (LOTC) can be a little 'nippy' at this time of year - but still, staff are offering the opportunities and children, despite the odd grumble about the cold, are wrapping up and getting stuck in! Please remember to insist your child brings their coat to school during these chilly months, as regardless of the fact that some may not consider it 'cool' to wear one, it is extremely necessary for their comfort and well-being.

To end, I am happy to share some fabulous news. Conifers has been a THRIVE school for over a year now - and we are very proud to announce that we have recently been given the title of 'THRIVE Ambassador School' in recognition for all the support staff give our children in understanding their own feelings, the feelings of others and how to build positive relationships. We will of course continue with this ethos and look forward to welcoming Headteachers from across the country who will be recommended to visit and reflect on what they could adopt within their own schools.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Johnson  
HEADTEACHER



## Join SafeWise Family Tours at Half Term!

19 & 20 February

Sign up as a Junior Safety Inspector and explore SafeWise's learning village!  
Certificate & pack for everyone that completes the tour!  
Cafe SafeWise will also be open to buy lunch or a snack from.

£3 per person (under 4s go free).

Book online at [www.safewise.org/events](http://www.safewise.org/events)



### Year 1

Miss Curtis would like to say a huge well done to all of the children for their fantastic art work which we have entered into the Global Canvas Children's Art Competition.

All year groups have worked really hard and embraced the topic of Plastics in the Ocean to create this amazing display. Thanks to the staff for making this possible.



Miss Curtis

### Year 3

We had our impact day in Year 3 Stone Age. Children made Stone Age stew over an open fire, moulded jewellery out of clay (which was very messy), built dens using natural materials and created natural paints from coal, clay and chalk to create cave paintings.

Mr Young and Miss Nokes

## Year 5

As part of the "Plastic in the Ocean" awareness week Year 5 took a trip down to Chesil Beach to see first-hand the effects that this pollution causes in their local environment. Whilst they were there they collected and properly disposed of plastics and litter left along the beach. They came across some shocking finds such as: an abandoned tent, parts of a kite, plastic food wrapper and Mrs Moorley even found a fishing knife! This experience allowed the children to see the effect it has on their local environment and how easily it can be resolved.

Miss Worley and Miss Jones



## Global Learning

This year we are working extremely hard to re-establish our link with our twinned school, Katharaka, in Kenya. In the past term we held various fund raising events, such as the Halloween movie night, in order to raise money for a new cooking system for the school.

Currently, Katharaka use large pots to cook their school meals. Unfortunately, due to their economic climate fuel to run this cooking system is very expensive and it also creates an unbearable working environment as it produce lots of steam and heat. Our aim is to raise enough funds to replace this with a more affordable method of cooking that will also be more bearable.

The purpose of the establishment of the Global Learning team is to allow children to create exciting and new ways to help the children connect across both schools. This team will suggest activities for in school and help establish more frequent contact with our schools sponsored children. They will work in correlation with both the school council and the RRS leaders.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and will share photographs at a later date of all the exciting activities the children participate in.

Miss Jones and Ms Bridge ( Global Learning team)

## **Orienteering**

During the last half term the Orienteering team has been preparing for an up-coming Orienteering competition between some local schools. They have been practicing reading maps , and had great fun trying to guess the meaning of symbols for Ordnance Surveying maps.

Our aim is to now focus on using the map correctly to find the Orienteering squares , and working on time management when doing so , as the competition focuses on who is the quickest !

The competition begins on March 5<sup>th</sup>, with a different round each week until the finale on 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Nothe. I am sure you will agree, our Orienteers will do great!

Thank you to all the parents for their continued support with this club.

Miss Jones and Ms Stavrianos ( Orienteering team)

