

## The New National Curriculum


From September 2014, our school became subject to a new National Curriculum. I would like to share some examples of how this has had an impact this term so far. For more information, please do explore the 'Teaching and Learning' area of our website. This contains information on our objectives and plans for every area of the curriculum and is building all the time. This year, Y3-Y5 are particularly governed by the changes to the curriculum. The children have been working in a more 'cross-curricular' way where their writing, in particular, has benefited from using History or Science for example as a particular focus. The Y5 class assemblies this term have been particularly rich examples of how this revised approach is having an impact. I hope that your child is talking about work in class with greater enthusiasm as the staff certainly are!



Year 3 have been very excited about their 'Big Dig' and decoding Anglo-saxon runes. Y4 have immersed themselves in their Bright Sparks theme and are now investigating 'Who were the greatest builders of all time?'. Y5 have been led by a Science investigation into Space and are now using WW1 as a prompt for many of their activities.



Finally, 'Computing' has replaced ICT and the children in Y5/6 have been learning how to code using 'Scratch'. This skill is certainly challenging for some (including staff) but is proving very popular and rewarding for the pupils. I look forward to sharing more information in the Spring Term on how we are engaging our pupils so that they have a thirst for knowledge and a love of learning.

Mr McTaggart 

## Fundraising Feedback

*We managed to send off 53 boxes to benefit children in Zambia as part of the Operation Christmas Child campaign. Thank you to all those who contributed and especially to Mrs Mordaunt and Mrs Barrett who organised it.*



## FOBFS—Christmas Craft Morning 6th December

10am-12pm

Barnes Farm pupils £2.50 for entry and one free craft + drink. 50p per craft activity after that. Tickets are limited and going fast!

## Other Key dates

**Weds 10th Dec** Y3 production 2pm  
Y4 production 7pm

**Thurs 11th Dec** Y4 production 2pm  
Y3 production 7pm

**Wed 17th Dec** Upper school production (two performance times 9:30/10:15) at Church of our Saviour

**Thurs 18th Dec** Christmas jumper day in aid of Save the Children

**Thurs 18th Dec** Christmas lunch

**Fri 19th Dec** End of Term - 3.15 pm

**Mon 5th Jan** Pupils return



Our School Choir is running for an extra fortnight this term due to their upcoming performances at the Writtle Singers Concert as well as at Farleigh Hospice. Thank you to all the pupils and Mrs Summers in particular for their effort and dedication in continuing and enhancing our proud traditions.



We are delighted to be using 'IRIS Connect', an innovation in teacher professional development, which uses a secure video system to enable teachers to reflect and share examples of excellence in teaching and learning. The lessons captured by IRIS Connect are only accessible by the teacher that recorded them, or within school for specific professional development. The recordings take place in a normal lesson and will not require any additional preparation, we only ask for their usual effort and co-operation. We hope that you will be happy for your child to be included and if you need any more information or if you have any questions regarding this project then please do get in touch with Mr McTaggart

## Do you love to sing?

Please feel free to join Hylands Young Voices and be a part of their Christmas Concert. Rehearsals from 3:30-4:15pm on Fridays 28th December onwards at Hylands School. No experience required just enthusiasm!