



**THEY'RE SO CUTE!** We LOVE mini-donkeys—they're just so cute! Thanks to FOFSA, we were joined in assembly last Friday by three gorgeous donkeys from Minidonks: Jack Rabbit, Bo-Peep and Saffron. We found out that these hard-working animals and a team of volunteers visit schools, special schools, old-people's homes and hospitals spreading well-being and comfort and bringing joy to many. We certainly enjoyed getting to know them, grooming them and taking them for a short walk. Thank you FOFSA for a lovely morning.

## WILDER SCHOOLS

We're really excited to be teaming up with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust to take part in the Wilder Schools project. Over the course of the year, the children in Colorado Class will be working closely with Lauren Mack, a project worker at SWT, to assess our school grounds then plan ways in which they can be made more wildlife-friendly.

The project will consist of 9 project days delivered by Mrs Mack over the course of the year. It started this morning with a really engaging assembly about wildlife in Suffolk. Children from across the school have been encouraged to share their ideas for improvements either by talking to the Eco Committee or to the School Council. It will be wonderful for the children to explore the changing seasons and to monitor the impact of their improvements on the wildlife living in our school grounds.

## CHANGES TO THE ATTENDANCE POLICY

A letter has been sent home detailing some changes to the Trust's Attendance Policy, in particular the way it will affect holidays taken during term time. The school governors reflected at length before adopting these changes but, given that raising attendance is a school and Trust priority, have committed to its implementation.

We know that good attendance is vitally important and is one of the biggest factors in determining how well a child will achieve. The amended policy will come into effect after half-term on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Please see the letter for more details.

## NEW MURAL

You might not yet have seen the progress Mr and Mrs Vigrass-Bobby are making with the mural outside Waveney Class, but it looks great. We'll publish photographs of it when it is all finished, but feel free to wander down the alleyway to take a look. We'd like to say a huge thank you to both of them, and also to Mr Chrystal and Ms Marcham for supplying the paints for the job completely free of charge. Thank you so much!

## CONGRATULATIONS AQUILA!

At the end of *last* year, Aquila (Green) won the House Point competition. They have reminded me (a few times!) that they haven't yet had their non-uniform day prize. So this will happen on Friday 20th October—the last day of term. We'll announce the next winners of the competition on the same day.

## NEW SCHOOL COUNCILORS

Congratulations to the new School Councilors, who were elected by their year groups last week and who held their inaugural meeting yesterday. The School Council play a really important role in the life of the school. This year, Ms Perry will be working with the School Council and FOFSA to share ideas about what would make the school a better place. We're sure they're going to do a really good job. We would also like to thank all the children who stood for the role; it is a brave and noble thing to put yourself forward for positions of responsibility and we're sad we couldn't appoint you all. We are certainly very proud of you. The new councilors are: Dawson and Ada in Year 1, Lyla and Barclay in Year 2, Belle and Henry in Year 3, Isaac and Harriet in Year 4, Elizabeth and Edward in Year 5 and Bella and George in Year 6.

## PARENTS EVENINGS

We are looking forward to meeting with you all at parents evenings, which will be held on the evenings of Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October (3.30pm—6pm). As explained in the previous message, the rearrangement of the Cross-Country to Thursday means that the meetings for parents in Congo and Yangtze Classes might all be delayed depending on the time we arrive back at school. We will send a message on the day to explain by how much, but apologise in advance for any inconvenience this might cause.

## POLYTUNNEL WORK PARTY **TOMORROW!** CAN YOU HELP

Thank you to the team who helped with the Polytunnel last week. Progress has definitely been made and a skeleton is now in place. Next we need to create the frames for the sliding doors, then pull over the plastic and we should be there. If you can help us with this, please join us on **Saturday 14th October from 9-12am** and bring your tools. If we have a big enough team of volunteers, we would also like a gang to focus on **improving the wildlife pond**. This area needs the nettles weeded and the bull-rushes removed from the pond. So, please bring your gloves and wellies. Finally, if anyone has a **trailer** to remove the cuttings from the school garden, that would also be very much appreciated. As an incentive, Mrs Lindsey, who runs Garden-  
ing Club, has promised to supply bacon sandwiches! We hope you can join us. Thank you.



# IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER

## HSSSP FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Our footballers played with heart and passion at the HSSSP Football Tournament on Wednesday. The team had been entered into the *Compete* section, which is the tougher of the two competitions and they performed really well. Staff and parents were particularly impressed by the team's communication and with the way they encouraged each other. These are vital teamwork skills and they led to some very closely fought matches and some success too. The team eventually finished fifth out of nine teams. Well done all.

Each time the school sends a team to an HSSSP event, one individual is identified for the way they embodied one of the sporting values. This time it was Lydia who, as a defender, seemed to be in all the right places at all the right times. In assembly, she was presented with a **determination** medal and certificate. Well done Lydia.



## MRS FOSTER'S GOODBYE CONCERT

All of Mrs Foster's piano students are feeling very sad about the fact Mrs Foster will shortly be leaving us. Mrs Foster is a gentle, encouraging, wonderful teacher with endless patience. She teaches with kind words and smiles and (as I know from my own daughter) her students love working with her. Her kind approach has helped children to excel at an early age and—as we have seen with their contributions to assembly and at the wonderful piano concerts each year—many have achieved fantastic results in their grading exams. I know how much Mrs Foster has enjoyed teaching the children here over the last few years. In addition to the 1:1 teaching, Mrs Foster has been kind enough to help us with our Summer Productions. Since joining for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in 2016, she has sprinkled her magic dust over each performance, which has—as I'm sure you'll agree—helped elevate them all to extraordinary levels.

In order to say goodbye to Mrs Foster and to wish her well for her move to Derbyshire, we will be holding a special performance by all her current pupils in assembly on Friday 8th December. The assembly and performances will start at 2.30pm. We would love it if you could join us: please let the office know if you are able to. If you would also like to contribute to a collection for Mrs Foster, please contact the office.

## WELLIES

Many children don't appear to have wellies in school at the moment. Please could they come in with a pair to keep at school marked with permanent marker. If you don't have a spare pair of wellies at home, simply let us know and we can give your child one of the very many pairs of spares we have.

OUR SCHOOL VALUE THIS TERM IS: **CREATIVITY**

DATE	EVENT
Mon 2nd— Fri 6th Oct	Support Plan Update Meetings with parents
Wed 4th Oct	HSSSP Football Comp: Hartismere (10am-12pm)
Wed 4th Oct	Sukkot Child-Led Assembly
Thurs 5th Oct	National Poetry Day
Fri 6th Oct	FOFSA Harvest Disco (After school)
Fri 13th Oct	Cross Country at Mellis Common (KS2) (12.45-2.30pm)
Wed 18th— Thurs 19th Oct	Parents Evenings (3.30—6.00pm)
Wed 18th Oct	HSSSP Girls Football: Hartismere (12.15pm-2.45pm)
Thurs 19th Oct	Harvest Festival (9.30—10.30am)
Fri 20th Oct	Black History Month Celebration—Black Britons
23rd—27th Oct	HALF TERM
Wed 1st Nov	Curriculum Meeting for Parents in Waveney Class (5.30—6.30pm)
Mon 6th—Wed 8th Nov	Y4 Hilltop Residential
Fri 17th Nov	Children in Need Dress Up Day
Mon 20th Nov	Flu Immunisations
Wed 22nd Nov	Tag Rugby Comp: Thomas Mills (12.00pm-2.45pm)
Thurs 23rd Nov	VANCOLS Individual Photos
Wed 29th Nov	Panathlon (Time TBC)
Tues 12th Dec	Waveney, Danube & Colorado Christmas Nativity Dress Rehearsal (9.30—10.30am)
Wed 13th— Thurs 14 Dec	Waveney, Danube & Colorado Christmas Nativity Double Bill (9.30—10.30am)
Fri 15th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner and Christmas Fair
Mon 18th Dec	Christmas Panto in School
Tuesday 19th Dec	Christingle Service and Cups at the Church 9.30-10.30am
Tues 19th Dec	Last Day for Pupils
Wed 20th Dec	PD DAY

## CURRICULUM MEETING—YR

We are hoping the parents of children in Reception will be able to join us for a meeting about the Early Years Curriculum on Wednesday 1st November at 5.30pm. The meeting will cover phonics (we will be teaching you how to use 'pure sounds'!), approaches to early reading and the development of early maths skills. We look forward to seeing you.