

St Wilfrid's CE Primary School

January 2019 Newsletter



"...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." *Isaiah 40:31*

Dear Parents and Carers,



The Spring term has started well and the children have been enjoying the different learning experiences taking place. This half term we are focussing on the 3rd of our school values 'Aspire' and we have been thinking about who we want to be and what we hope to be successful at. This has led us to think about how we can be successful now and what we want to succeed at in the future.

Snow and ice

As you will have seen there is a small possibility of snow later and icy conditions tomorrow and for the rest of the week.

In the unlikely event of a need to close the school at any time, it will be communicated by ParentMail, a text and will be on the school website. We will try to make the decision as early as possible, however there are a number of factors to consider when making the decision and this may delay the communication sent out. Messages will also be broadcast on BBC Radio Sussex and More Radio.



If there is snow, please be aware that the children may still play outside and will require appropriate clothing in a named bag:

- Wellies and indoor shoes to change into
- Spare trousers/skirts and socks/tights in case they get wet
- Layers of clothes so they are warm outside
- Hats and gloves
- A waterproof coat

If at any time we need to close the school during the day and send children home, we will send a message by ParentMail and text.

Every morning, if the 2 slopes at the entrances are too icy then we may take the decision to close the gates and ask people to enter through the car park gate.

How to become an effective learner – Developing a 'Growth Mindset'

' I can't do it.....yet!'

Over the last term, children in all classes have been working together to develop a better understanding of what makes an effective learner and finding out about how to develop a 'Growth Mindset'

Children (and adults) with a 'Growth Mindset' know that intelligence is not fixed and that we can all 'grow' our brains so that our talents and abilities can develop with time. Research has found that developing a growth mindset can make a huge difference to our ability to learn and how successful we are at reaching our potential.

Each week, children have been thinking about a different aspect of learning. This has included:

- how we can learn from mistakes – mistakes are not failures but a crucial part of the learning process.
- the importance of challenging ourselves and taking risks – just doing things we can easily

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already do won't help with our learning!

- how to persevere, practise, focus and stick at things, finding ways of overcoming obstacles and not giving up.
- giving and taking on praise and feedback and using this to motivate us to develop new strategies for learning – feedback can help us learn and is not a criticism.

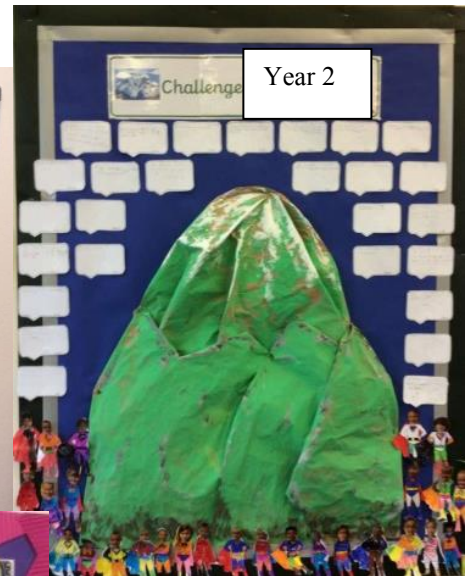
Here are some photos of the fabulous displays in our classrooms, that capture our work on Growth Mindset.



Year R



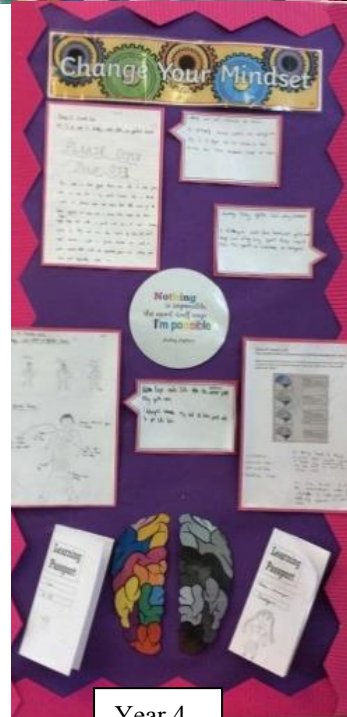
Year 1



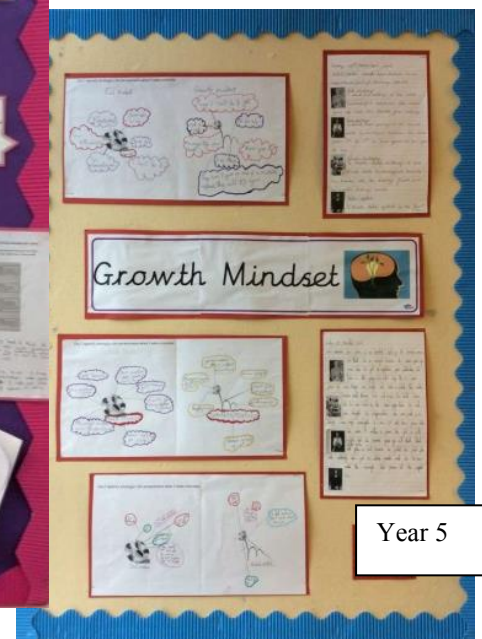
Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6

If you would like more information about Growth Mindset and ways that you can support this approach to learning, then <https://www.mindsetworks.com> has some interesting ideas. (We do not suggest that you sign up/purchase the brainology program!)



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500 words



Every year, Radio 2 run a story writing competition for children called '500 words' and I am sure some of our children have entered previously. This year's launched today and all the information along with helpful hints and tips can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1>.

Taylor Wimpey

Following the charity box scheme run at the Taylor Wimpey South Thames Greenhill Gardens development, our school received the most votes and have been awarded £250.

'Freshen Up' day!

Following on from our two successful days in the summer, we have arranged a 'Freshen Up!' day for Saturday 9th March from 10am until 4pm. On these days, we have had teams of volunteers painting, gardening, constructing and clearing spaces and they have made a real difference to our school. If you have any time on that day to give then it would be great to see you. More details of the day will follow.

Kind regards,

Simon Hateley



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