

King Offa Primary Academy Newsletter ~ February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a really busy and productive term. There have been some really exciting opportunities for the children to be involved in and all classes have made great progress in their learning. Teachers are working hard on continuing to develop the curriculum so that it is really interesting, exciting and challenging. Some highlights from this term included children in Year Two visiting the Sealife Centre in Brighton, Key Stage Two children taking part in a virtual reality day, firemen visiting Reception and Nursery children and pupils in Year Five producing the most amazing art work using digital images of themselves.

On pages 2 & 3 of this newsletter you will find the outcomes of the survey we shared regarding our wider curriculum. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond. The information was really useful and has helped us to make decisions about how we develop the curriculum. You can now find curriculum

information for all year groups on our website by clicking on the 'school info' tab on the homepage.

This term we said goodbye to Mrs Pleasants who has been Chair of the Local Academy Board since King Offa became an academy in September 2012 and before that was a member of the governing body. Mrs Pleasants provided invaluable wisdom and guidance to myself and the whole staff team. She had a huge role to play in the rapid improvements in the school over the past few years and invested a great deal of her own time in helping us to provide the best possible standard of education for all the children. It goes without saying that we will miss Mrs Pleasants support but are extremely grateful for the contribution that she has made and wish her well with her new role within Aurora Academies Trust.

James Freeston - *Headteacher*



Parent Portal

We are excited to be able to start using 'Parent Portal' as another way of keeping you informed. You should have received a message this week with the login details for your Parent Portal account. Once you have logged in you will be able to see information about your child's attendance and book times at parent's evenings. In the future we hope to be able to share even more information with you in this way and hope that along with emails, text messages, our Facebook page, letters, the school website and seeing staff face to face at the start of the school day, you will have all the information about your child and school that you need.



If you have any difficulty accessing the Parent Portal please speak with Mrs Courtnell in the School Office.

If you have not supplied the School Office with an up to date email, could you please do so as soon as possible.

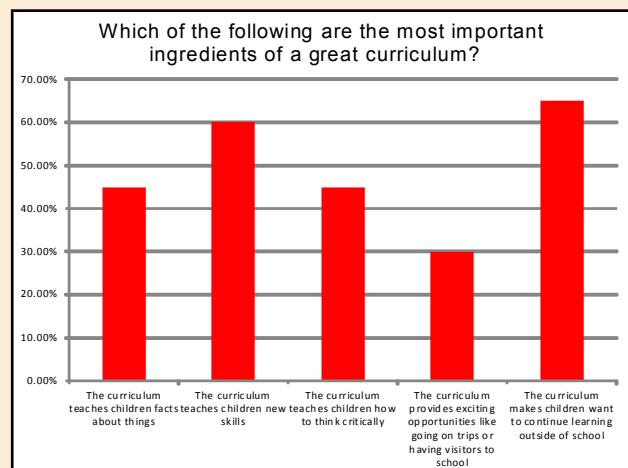
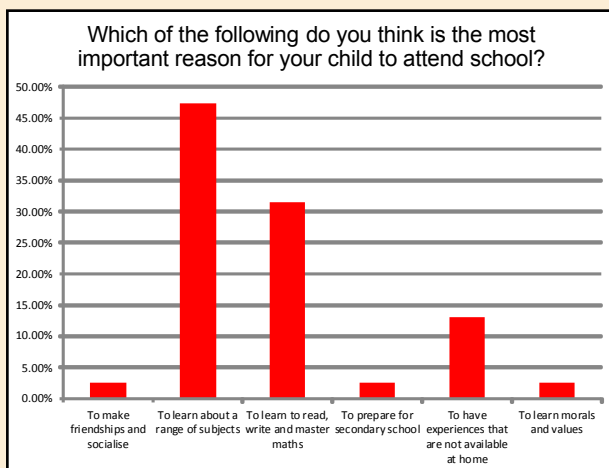
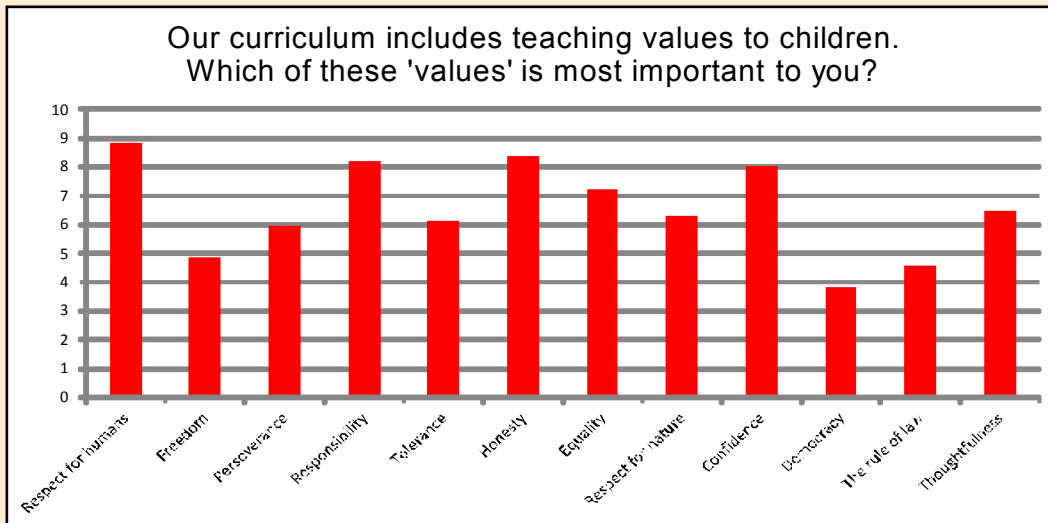
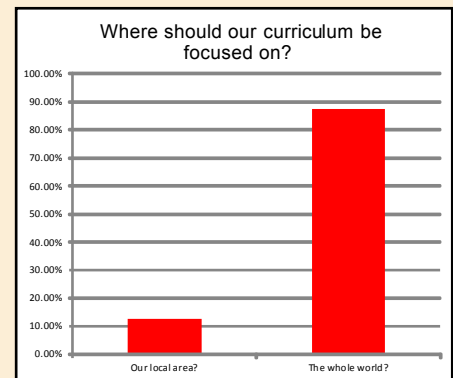
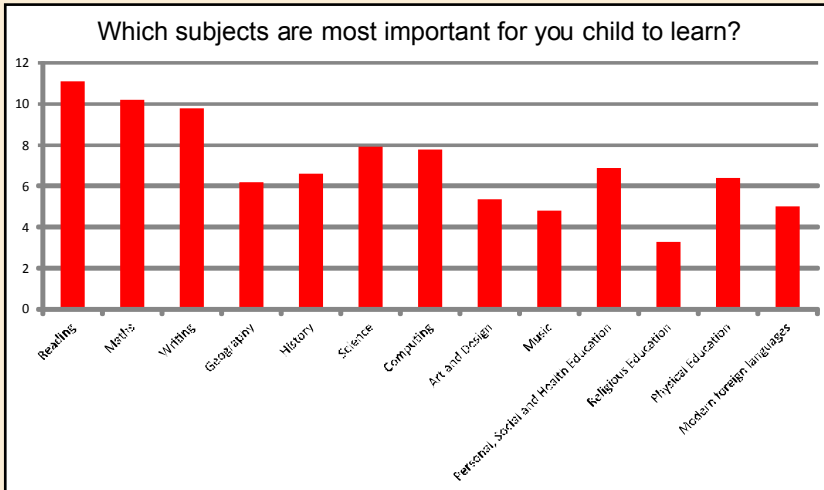


Down Road, Bexhill on Sea, TN39 4HS
01424 211548

KingOffaOffice@auroraacademies.org www.kingoffaprimaracademy.org

Curriculum Survey

We recently asked for your views on how we develop and improve the curriculum we offer to children at school. Thank you to everyone who responded. Your opinions have been really useful and are helping us to make choices about how we plan and deliver the curriculum for all children. You can see the results of the survey on the following pages along with how we have interpreted them and what we plan to do with the information.



You Said	We did (or plan to very soon!)
<p>We want our children to learn about lots of different things when they come to school.</p> <p>Reading, maths and writing are really important subjects for our children to learn but we also want them to study a range of other subjects.</p>	<p>We know that giving children the skills they need in English and maths are crucially important for their futures. However, we also know that a broad and balanced curriculum that gives all children the chance to shine is incredibly important. We constantly evaluate the amount of time that we spend on different subjects and teachers plan carefully to make sure that children get a good balance of all the subjects. This includes combining subjects to make the best use of time and planning creatively so that English and maths skills are practiced in other lessons without being the main focus.</p>
<p>We want our children to follow a curriculum that focuses on the whole world and not just the local area.</p>	<p>The Paragon curriculum that all children experience has a truly global outlook and gives children the opportunity to find out about every corner of the globe. That said, we also make sure that children develop their local knowledge and awareness and have adapted Paragon to make sure that it includes local contexts, for example the Battle of Hastings and teaches children about the geography and history of Great Britain.</p>
<p>There are many things that a good curriculum should include, but above all we want our children to want to continue their learning outside of school.</p>	<p>Helping children to recognize their strengths and want to continue to learn is really important to us. We have designed our curriculum to teach children critical thinking skills so that they become inquisitive and curious learners. This, coupled with the exciting activities in our curriculum, should make all children enjoy their learning and want to find out more.</p>
<p>Respect, responsibility, confidence and honesty are the key values we want our children to learn but there are many that are important to us.</p>	<p>Identifying the values that are most important to us is really hard because there are so many! Our school behaviour policy and ethos is centred on respect for each other and ourselves. The children's behaviour and attitudes are excellent for this reason. When teachers plan lessons they consider the values that we teach and make explicit links between these for children. Our staff team also make sure that they model the values we want for the children in their work every day.</p>





Remember to check out our Facebook page and 'like' it. You will then see any updates we make. You do not need to have a Facebook account to view our page - just search for



KEY DATES 2018

Friday 9 th February	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 19 th February	First Day of Term 4
Tuesday 20 th February	Planetarium in School for Yr 2
Tuesday 20 th February	Parents' Meetings 3.20-6.00pm
Thursday 22 nd February	Parents' Meetings 4.30-7.30pm
Thursday 22 nd February	Yr 4 to Battle Abbey
Monday 26 th February	Yr 1 to Drusillas
Wednesday 28 th February to Friday 2 nd March	- Yr 5 Residential Trip to PGL
Wednesday 7 th March	Yr 6 - Safety in Action
Wednesday 14 th March	INSET Day
w/b 26 th March	Paragon Events
w/b Monday 14 th May	Yr 6 SAT's
w/b 21 st May	Paragon Events
Monday 18 th to Friday 22 nd June	Yr 6 Residential Trip to London
Friday 15 th June	INSET Day

New Phone Number? Moved house?

If you have changed any of your contact details recently please complete the form below and return to the office. Thank you.

Child's name and class:

Address:

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Phone Email:

Mobile: