

## Value & Author of the Month

For this half term, our focus school value is: Equality. In assembly, we have been discussing the protected characteristics within the 2010 Equalities Act. To launch this this week, I explained to the children that they had been working so hard, they deserved a treat. With a random spinner, we selected 4 children across the classes to receive a Yorkie Bar. I then took them off the girls and explained that a while ago, Yorkie sold them with the slogan, 'Not for girls!' The girls were, understandably not particularly impressed! This led to a discussion about equality, fairness and gender. *(We did decide the girls should have them back, and I explained Yorkie have withdrawn that advert some time ago).*

This all forms part of our, 'No Outsiders' message:

***At Summerseat, we are all different but we all belong.  
There are no outsiders.***

Across the year, children use picture books to explore the protected characteristics in the Equalities Act.

As we are learning about the value of equality, the author this month is David McKee who has written many popular books such as the Elmer series which helps celebrate uniqueness. He has also written 'Tusk, Tusk' which highlights the protected characteristic: race.

## Attendance

As we are at the start of the new year, I wanted to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance at school whenever possible. Going to school every day is important. What your child learns each day builds on what they learned the day before. If your child misses school, their learning routine is broken. Children can also lose confidence and miss out on building their friendships. *When your child misses one day per fortnight, they miss upwards of 4 weeks per year which equates to one year missed over their school life.* This has a significant impact now and on future learning. I fully understand and appreciate that attendance has been a challenge over the last couple of years due to Covid and also unavoidable general illness. I would just ask that as we move forwards, we work together to maximise attendance in school wherever possible. I will be talking with the children about this and introducing an attendance award to help build good attendance habits from next week.

## Newsletter

**Friday 14th January**

Website: <https://www.summerseatmethodistprimary.co.uk/>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Summerseat\\_mps](https://twitter.com/Summerseat_mps)



## Award Winners

### ***Who has been shining this week at Summerseat?***

<b>Class One</b>	Shine Award— Xavier
<b>Class Two</b>	Values Award — Eleanor
<b>Class Three</b>	Shine Award — Devon Values Award— McKinley
<b>Class Four</b>	Shine Award — Yvie Values Award— Georgia

### **Dates for your Diary—*for dates further ahead, please visit the calendar on the school website.***

<b>Fri 21st Jan</b>	Class 3 Swimming—Start of C3 swimming block (10 weeks, consecutive Friday's)
<b>Fri 11th Feb</b>	School closes for half term—3:30pm
<b>Mon 21st Feb</b>	School Re-opens for Spring 2
<b>Wk Beg: 28th Feb</b>	Book Week
<b>Thurs 3rd Mar</b>	World Book Day—Details TBC
<b>Thurs 3rd Mar</b>	Class 4—CPR Training with Millie's Trust
<b>Wk Beg: 14th / 21st March</b>	Assessment Weeks
<b>Tues 22nd Mar</b>	Class Photographs

## Update to Covid Isolation

Yesterday, there was an update that from Monday 17th January, people with Covid can end their self isolation after 5 full days. This means they should take a LFD test on day 5 and day 6 and if the tests on day 5 and 6 are negative and the person has no temperature, they can end isolation. Individuals who are still positive on their rapid lateral flow tests must stay in isolation until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests taken on separate days. If after ten days the test is still positive, from day 10, you can end self-isolation.

## Homework

Please remember, homework will be set for all children in all classes on Teams this term. The aim of this is so that children remember how to use the Teams platform and remain familiar with how to log-on, access assignments, submit work and view teacher feedback. We hope that children remain in school but understand that children also may need to be set work for any periods of isolation so this will help the children (and teachers!) remain familiar with Teams. Teams also has the advantage of homework not being lost between home and school and can give greater flexibility to what is set. Homework will be set for all children on a Friday to be 'handed in' by Wednesday. Please make sure you encourage your child to complete their weekly homework as it does support and contribute to what is being taught in class. Remember to check back on your assignments for the feedback from your teacher.

In addition to the weekly tasks set on Teams, we ask that you ensure you are reading with your child each day for at least 10 minutes. This is vital to ensure reading fluency and also understanding. From Year 2 onwards, children should also regularly log-on and practice Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed to rehearse these key skills.

All log-in details should be in the front of your child's reading diary. However, if you cannot access any of these online resources, please contact the class teacher via the school office who will be able to rectify this for you.

We really appreciate and value the support you provide at home in these key areas.