



Friday 21st June 2024

### **Gardening Week**

Thank you to everyone who made a contribution this week, whatever form that took: sending in plants, coming in to help, sending your child in with gloves etc. The children have enjoyed weeding and planting. It has made some children more aware of the grounds and how pretty they can look. We would like to reinstate this as an annual event. Gardening and the beauty it can bring is a good positive boost for everyone's mental health. There is still some work to do so you may find your child is still involved in this project for a few weeks yet. If you would like to come in and help, please have chat with your child's teacher.



### **Sports Day**

We are scheduled for next Tuesday (25<sup>th</sup>) as advertised in previous newsletters. The plan is for KS2 to begin at 9.30. Please could all parents leave the playground at 8.45 as usual in order for us to clearly know who is on site and also set up before opening the gates to allow Sports Day Spectators to join us.

KS1 will be from 1.30. Please arrive after 1.20 if you plan to come over and watch the event.

Weather alert : We are conscious that Tuesday afternoon could be extremely hot for KS1. We will keep a close eye on the weather and either shorten the event for the afternoon and finish it in school another day, or we will move it to Thursday morning (which was our advertised back-up date) when it will possibly be cooler. We will let you know on Monday afternoon. Please also check the front page of the school website for this information in the scrolling banner. We apologise if this causes any difficulties for parents' timetables but we must put the children's health and safety first.

### **Quadkids**

On Tuesday we entered year 1 and 2 for the Partnership Quadkids Tournament. This is an Athletics tournament requiring the children to sprint a short distance, run a longer distance, to throw and to jump.

We had 4 teams. Our A Team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the A competition – well done team!. For the B, C & D competition we came 1<sup>st</sup> in each!! We had two individual medal winners overall. These were Fergus and Lula.



Our Olympic Values Winners were:

A Team- Barnaby and Frances

B Team- Fergus and Freyja

C Team- Rozario and Isla

D Team- Isabella and Jacob

Well done to everyone that took part.

### **Staffing News**

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Natalie Heath will be joining Oak class from September, sharing the teaching with Mrs Proctor. Mrs Heath will be teaching on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Heath has had many years of experience working with young children and many of you will know her from the Cabin Pre School. We are looking forward to her bringing her wealth of experience to the children in Oak class.

### **Drum lessons**

Peter Terry, an ex professional drummer and local drum teacher, joined our assembly on Thursday afternoon to play the drums and speak to the children. Mr Terry will be starting lessons in school from September so if your child is interested in learning please email [p.terry6@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:p.terry6@yahoo.co.uk). A drum kit is not required. Children will be given a free set of drumsticks and a book. Lessons are charged at £25.00 for half an hour. Peter also teaches at other primary schools and the children say it is really good fun!

### **Coffee Afternoon**

You are invited to join us on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July @ 2.30pm for coffee and a chat with Mrs Welsh our SENCO and Mrs Snowden our Elsa.

### **Sunhats/suncream**

Now that summer seems to have finally arrived please can we remind you to send your child to school with a named sun hat and apply suncream at home.

### **Class Photographs**

A reminder that class photo orders need to be ordered on line or returned to the school office by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

## Lunch Time Supervisor Vacancies

We currently have positions available for working as a Lunchtime Supervisor, both full-time and part-time, as the usual Lunchtime Supervisory Role and also 1:1 support positions across lunchtime. If you are interested in any of these, please get in touch via email, phone or speak to the School office.

## Class Updates

<b>Oak</b>	<p>It has been a busy third week of term in Oak class. The children have been writing a fact file about themselves to take to Mr Neal when they visit Year 1 on Monday morning. The excitement of the week is the completion of the sheltered outdoor area! Thank you so much to everyone who was involved in organising this and to Mr Jarvis for doing a superb job. The children are delighted to have use of this area again and are loving it! In handwriting, the children have been forming the upper-case letters T, U, J, Y, R and N. Any practise that you can do at home would be appreciated. We also looked at the life cycle of a butterfly and discussed the four stages of the metamorphosis process! In maths, the children have been practising subitising (recognising a number without needing to count) and deciding whether it is odd or even. In P.E. we have been practising field games such as 'egg and spoon' and 'throw the beanbag' to prepare for Sports Day. The children became little gardeners on Friday afternoon when Mrs Gibson visited; we all enjoyed some time in the school's front garden preparing the Oak class bed and planting wildflower seeds. We also had a story under the shade of the large cherry tree. Thank you so much Mrs Gibson!</p>
<b>Hornbeam</b>	<p>Firstly, we had an amazing trip to Pizza Express in Wallingford. Alex, the restaurant manager, welcomed us with open arms, he taught the children all about the ingredients that make pizza dough and then they each rolled their own pizza, spun it in the air (with various levels of success) and then added tomato sauce and cheese toppings. After the experience Alex hosted us in the restaurant and gave us some activities such as a wordsearch and colouring for us to do. As if Tuesday wasn't busy enough we then went straight to Quadkids athletics tournament where the children competed in two running races as well as a throw and a jump. In both parts of our day the children behaved impeccably and were a real credit to the school. Well done children!</p> <p>In the remainder of our week we have continued sports day preparation in PE - beginning to practice the egg and spoon races as well as standing long jump. In English we have been writing letters to Pizza Express to say thank you for our day and in topic we have been looking at the different elements of the UK, which 4 countries make it up and what are the names of the 4 capital cities.</p>
<b>Beech</b>	<p>Beech class have had a busy week! We had a great time at The Oratory School competing against some of the other schools in our partnership Quadkids event. We won lots of medals and a trophy. Our children all supported each other beautifully and we are proud of them all. Gardening week has been in full swing. After getting rid of lots of weeds, we added compost to our class's flower bed and planted some flowers. We started to think about which plants we would like to add to attract some pollinators. In English this week we have written some character descriptions of the wolf, remembering to include adjectives and fronted adverbials. The children also looked at the punctuation needed to write direct speech and used it to write a conversation with the wolf. They are finishing up their turns position and directions unit in maths this week. All of the children enjoyed doing some weaving with wool during our art session.</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>It has been nice to see some sunshine this week for gardening week and it fitted in very nicely alongside our Year 3 Science topic on Plants. We looked at what plants need to make food and this helped us when we went outside to garden on Wednesday. In History this week, we moved into the Bronze Age and learnt about all the new inventions that changed people's lives. And in Maths, we have been thinking about time; Roman numerals, telling time to 5 minutes and to 1 minute. Practise at telling the time at home would be really helpful. Next week, will be our</p>

	last swimming lesson in Year 3. A busy day with Sports Day and Swimming so an extra snack at breaktime might be needed.
<b>Rowan</b>	This week, we have been continuing to learn about time in maths with a focus on converting the 12 hour clock to the 24 hour clock and vice versa. In English, we have been reading the story of Beowulf. We will be using this as a model to write our own legends. We have been preparing for Sports Day, practising the different events - we are very much looking forward to the real thing on Tuesday! Please remember to apply suncream in the mornings before school, and ensure everyone has a sun hat everyday. Have a lovely weekend - we look forward to seeing you at the Big Summer Bounce!
<b>Maple</b>	Yet another busy week in Year 5! Maths has seen us continue our work on decimals, this week comparing them against fractions and starting to recognise how we can convert fractions that don't have a factor of 10 as a denominator. In English we've been continuing to think about our WW2 poetry whilst also spending some time on our play for this year, 'Porridge.' Many of your children have done a fantastic job learning their lines and we're really looking forward to putting on a show in a few weeks time! We also got the opportunity this week to head up to the Oratory to watch their performance of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.' We thought they did a great job with a very minimal set and really enjoyed spotting a few of our own ex-pupils that have moved up to bigger things! Finally we wrapped up our week with some rounders on the rec, ukuleles in the classroom and a topic lesson all about the Battle of Britain!
<b>Willow</b>	A huge thank you to all those parents who were able to attend our open afternoon, it was lovely to share our residential moments with you and the Year 5s. This week we have spent time testing our bridge designs and a range of different materials to see if we could 'balance' our forces. We were joined on Wednesday by Mr Logie, one of the Science teachers from Langtree, it was lovely to meet him and we can't wait for Science lessons at secondary school next term. We also spent time discussing what we would like to do for the end of term. The vote was for Laser Combat which we will do on the 16 <sup>th</sup> July, a letter will follow in the next couple of weeks about arrangements. To help fundraise for this, we will be having a cake sale in school on the 5 <sup>th</sup> July. If you are able to provide a cake for this, it would be much appreciated. The class also decided they would like a <b>Games and Quiz night</b> on the 16 <sup>th</sup> July and will be writing invitations for this next week but please put the date in your diary. Remember our Leavers Assembly is on 19 <sup>th</sup> July - 9.30am (until just before 12)

Year 1 had an enjoyable trip to Pizza Express.



The children in Oak class enjoyed their transition treat with Cabin Pre School. They spent time on the field, listened to stories and enjoyed ice lollies.



### **Important dates**

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	New starters Sept 2024/ children in class & coffee morning for new parents 9:15 – 10:15am
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day – KS2 9:30am & KS1 1:30pm
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Back up Sports Day
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am - 12.30pm FOWPS Coffee Shop and Second hand uniform sale
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Reception intake Sept 2024 in school 9:30am – 1:05pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Inset Day – no children in school
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	UKS2 performance dress rehearsal
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	UKS2 Performance – pm – further details to follow nearer to the time
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	UKS2 Performance – pm - further details to follow nearer to the time
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 end of year treat – Laser combat
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	SEN Coffee afternoon @ 2:30pm – all welcome
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers assembly – parents very welcome from 9:30am
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Disco with DJ Ethan – more details to follow nearer to the time Volunteer sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Oak class – Scientist day
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of Term – 1:00pm finish

### **FOWPS**

Natalie (Bryher and Ada's mum) organises our community coffee shops in the old school house to raise money for our school. Our next coffee shop is on Saturday 29 June. To run coffee shops we really appreciate donations of cakes (homemade or bought). Please message Natalie on 07733356314, if you can provide a cake! Thank you

## **Other News**

### **Woodcote Village Fete on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

The competition guide can be found in the school reception outlining all of the different categories on offer. Please help yourself.

**Autism Champions** – please see the attached flyer.