



**Friday 15th March**

### **Comic Relief**

Thank you for your support with this fundraiser, the children looked great dressed in red and the cakes went down a treat. If you baked or bought cakes, thank you very much. We will let you know the final amount raised in due course.



### **Year 2 Appointment**

We are delighted to inform you that Miss Kate Hawker has been appointed to join our teaching team for 2 days a week in year 2. Mrs Morris and Miss Hawker met this week to share planning ideas and Miss Hawker also stayed in the class for the day to meet the children. She will be in again next week and the final week of term as orientation days so do please say hello if you see her. Miss Hawker will take over the Thursday and Friday teaching after Easter. We would like to thank Mrs Peacock for all her hard work in covering this gap since Christmas. The children have had a lot of fun.

### **KS2 snacks**

We are conscious that many KS2 pupils are not bringing a snack for break time, believing that the school has provision for them. We are provided with fruit for KS1 children but schools are not provided with fruit for KS2. We will, of course, try to source something (we sometimes have excess in KS1) for those who have forgotten on occasion, but we cannot guarantee to have any available. Therefore, we ask that parents provide a piece of fruit for their child to have as a breaktime snack, once you reach year 3.

### **Start of the school day**

Please can we remind you that all children should arrive promptly in the morning, the gates open at 8:35 and close promptly at 8:45 when all parents and carers should be off site. This is particularly important so that the teachers can start the day with no interruptions and the children do not miss out on their valuable learning time. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Year 3 & 4 play – Jonah a fishy tale**

The children were sent home with tickets yesterday, we do have a few left for the performance on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, please email the office if you would like any more. These will be given out on a first come basis.

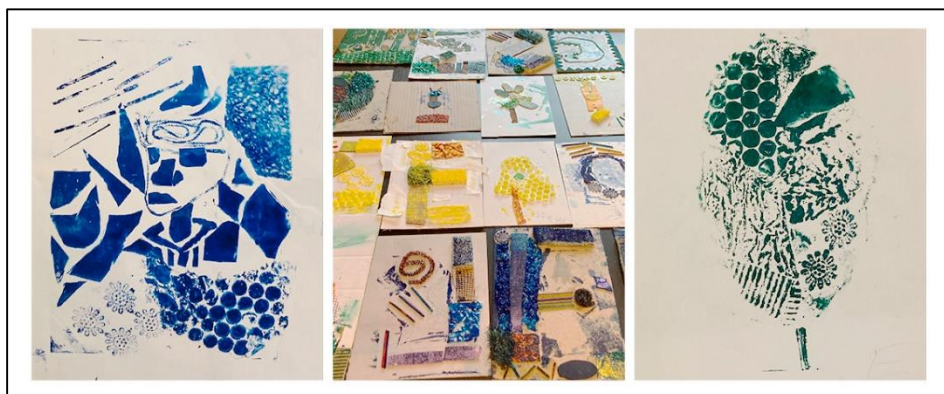
## Fabulous news!

We are delighted to be able to share the news that Mr and Mrs O'Neill have welcomed baby Jack to their family. Jack was born on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. All 3 are well and are very happily enjoying their new life together.

## Art Club:

We have spent the last two weeks working on our colographs in preparation for printing and experimenting with mono printing. What a productive afternoon we had! We completely covered the walls of Spruce with spectacular artwork!

Next Tuesday we'll be using Acrylic paint. Please **bring an overall/old shirt**. This paint does not come off clothes!



## Threadworms

We are aware of some cases of threadworms amongst children in school. For more information, please click on the link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

## MyNameTags

Thank you for purchasing name tags through MyNametags. We were delighted to receive a cheque for £58.00. If you need tags and haven't used this company, perhaps have a look and help the school funds at the same time.

## Globefit Easter Holiday Club held at Woodcote Primary School

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Don't forget to book your place!

<http://www.bookwhen.com/globefitkidsclubs>

## 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.

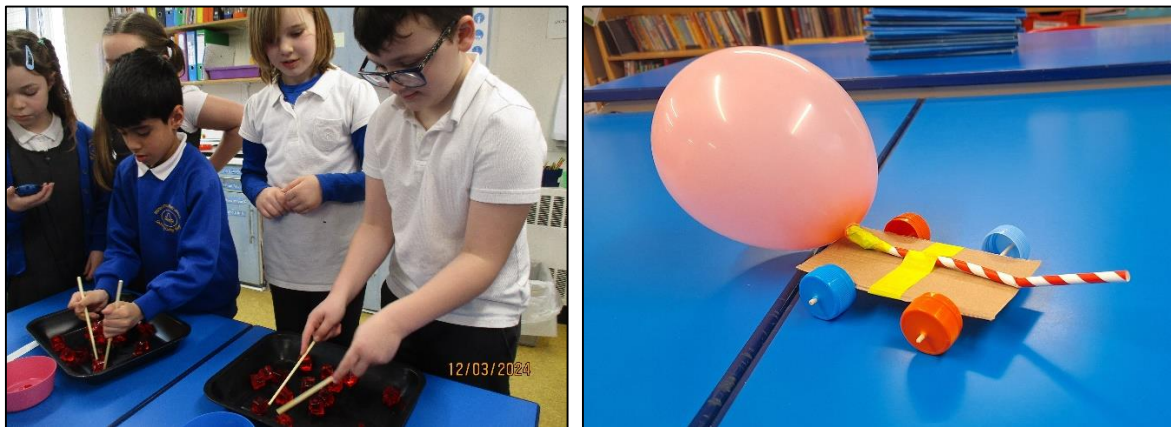
## Class Updates

<b>Oak</b>	What a wonderful, eventful week it's been in Oak Class! As part of the school STEM week we have been learning about time in lots of different ways; making sand-timers, jumping as they can in a minute and learning about the past and present. Our class trip to Wallingford Museum gave the children the opportunity to explore the past and look for ten special clues including an old chest that contained all of Wallingford's treasures and a huge mammoth tooth! They loved their time with the two story-tellers, Sue and Peggy and all the children would like to return with you! We can't recommend it enough. We were very lucky that the sun came out in time for our picnic lunch in the Castle Gardens. The children had lots of fun exploring the gardens and looking down from what was once the Wallingford castle walls. They are certainly worth a visit. The children are making super progress in their phonics this term so thank you for all your help at home with this. This week in handwriting the children have been learning how to form 'k' and then 'c' and 'o' so any extra practice at home will support them. A call out to any parents who would
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	like to come and talk to the Oakies about their culture, traditions and foods or recipes from around the world please do let us know, as we prepare to explore the wider world next term! A date for your diary...there is an Oak Class cake sale on the final day of term, so any baking contributions would be great! Please can these be taken to the kitchen chalet on the final Thursday. Thank you.
<b>Hornbeam</b>	This has, once again, been a very busy week in Hornbeam. Over the weekend our visitor, Beegu, left our outdoor area but in his place left a story all about his time at Woodcote. We have been exploring the story and have written our own versions. In maths we enjoyed learning about centimetres and have been measuring just about anything (and everything) in our class room. On Tuesday we enjoyed a trip up to St Leonards where Rev. Benskin allowed us to explore what a church looks like and identify the special features inside such as a pulpit, an altar and the font. Finally, to celebrate STEM week the children created their own water clocks as a way of measuring time. Next week as we move forward, we will be beginning to look at some Easter Poetry in class and constructing our own poems around Easter.
<b>Beech</b>	Beech class loved science week, this week. As we have been learning about animals, plants and their habitats, we discussed how we could attract more wildlife into the school grounds. We decided to make bird feeders out of recycled materials and hung them outside the front of school. In addition, we created a hedgehog tunnel and put some cat food inside, hoping to attract a hedgehog and find some little footprints. The children also wanted to attract minibeasts, so we planted some seeds to grow flowers. To finish off science week, we made sundials and added Roman numerals to the front. Unfortunately, we couldn't test them out this week due to the lack of sun. Hopefully, the children can try them out at home on a sunny day. In English, we have been learning about some of the features of an instructions text so we can write our own recipe soon.
<b>Ash</b>	Excitement is building in Ash class for our performances of Jonah next week as we have continued to rehearse for our play and tried on our costumes. Back in the classroom, we have had a busy time with STEM week activities; linking our investigations to our Science topic on Forces and Magnets. This included an investigation with bar magnets, another with jelly and chopsticks and, finally, making balloon powered cars and timing their travel over different surfaces. In our Maths lessons, we have been learning about the division of a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number with remainders. And in Art with Mrs. Hood-Cree, we have been looking at collage and the artist Eduardo Paolozzi to use in our Iron Man project.
<b>Rowan</b>	This week we have been busy investigating pendulums and using stopwatches to time how long a pendulum swings for. We started by visiting the swings in the park and timing their swing from start to stop. We ensured fair tests and made predictions about how long it might take. We then averaged out our times, not an easy calculation when you measure in minutes, seconds and hundredths. In the classroom we made simple pendulums and investigated how shortening or lengthening the string, or adding card for air resistance affected the swing time. A great couple of days. Last week you had a chart to record your plastic waste over the week. Please remember to bring it in on Monday, named, so we can look at totalling it all up and sending our results to Greenpeace. We shall also use this information after Easter to write to supermarkets and food manufacturers to ask about what they are doing to reduce their use of plastic.
<b>Maple</b>	Well, STEM week has certainly been exciting in Maple Class! While our 3D designed boats have been quietly (or not so quietly) printing in the background, ready for our buoyancy experiment next week, we took a detour to explore Space. We've been trying to prove we live on a spherical Earth, explored the position of planets in our Solar System and tried to explain how night and day occur. We also had a fantastic opportunity on Tuesday to head over to the Oratory and hear about renewable fuels (we can now tell you what sound Hydrogen makes when you set it on fire) and are fully onboard with a green future! Meanwhile, Maths saw us dipping our toes into division and English saw us writing our first drafts of our newspaper stories. Final versions coming soon! We wrapped up our week with another trip up to the Oratory

	with Year 6 to see their amazing performance of Oliver (Nancy can really sing!) and then finished the week by learning Frere Jacques on our ukuleles. Another great week in Maple Class!
<b>Willow</b>	This week we have enjoyed Science Technology Engineering and Maths week by becoming Formula 1 teams. We looked at how we could help the McLaren team make Lando Norris' car faster. We timed cars and used a range of materials on both a ramp and on the tyres. We also looked at aerodynamics, how much the paint might slow us down and created sponsorship designs. We programed our Microbits to play logos and jingles for adverts to gain more sponsors. We discovered that more weight added to the car can actually speed it up when it's going downhill but, on a flat surface or uphill, it slows the car down. Just 1g difference can also make a huge difference to timing. We'll be passing this information onto McLaren. We also had a very interesting talk from a Horologist who spoke to the class all about clocks. Thank you to Miss Somerville for arranging this visit.

The children in Ash class made balloon powered cars and took part in other fun activities during STEM week.



On Thursday Oak class children went on a trip to Wallingford Museum followed by a lovely picnic in the Castle gardens.



Children in Willow class enjoyed working out ways to help the McLaren team!



### Important dates

Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	FOWPS Coffee Shop & Uniform sales @ The Old School House 10:00- 12:30
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 and 4 Play dress rehearsal
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 and 4 play @ 6:30pm
	Oak children visit to the coffee truck & park
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 and 4 play @ 6:30pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 6 presentation – all parents welcome – 2:30pm
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 trip to The Living Rainforest
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term – 1:00pm finish
	After school Year R and 4 cake sale
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	National offer day for Primary School Admissions September 2024

### FOWPS

Please join us for a brew and a slice of cake at Saturday's **Coffee Shop** in the Old School house from 9:30-12:30. We will be holding another **secondhand book sale** and the **uniform shop** will be open too. Hope to see you there.

Last week we raised **£250** at Friday's **Disco** and **£100** from secondhand book sales on Thursday! Thank you for your donations and help!

### **Other News**

'The Great School Run' is back again this year. It is taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at Stonor Park from 9.30am. It is a cross-country event for children aged 3 to 18 (and their parents) from across Henley-on-Thames and the surrounding areas. I was wondering whether you may be able to help promote the event to your pupils, parents or members please. It is free to enter, organised by Education Henley and hosted by Stonor Park.

**Booking is now open.** We encourage people to book in advance so that we can plan the event effectively. The event website is: [The Great School Run of Henley - Home](#)

The Great School Run is free to enter, but we are encouraging a suggested donation of £2 per participant for [Be Free Young Carers](#), a local charity which is devoted to improving young carers' wellbeing and opportunities.



Sailing & Watersports Open Day - details as per the attached flyer