



Friday 7th February 2025

Football tournament

On Tuesday, two teams of girls from years 1 and 2 went over to Langtree School for a Schools Partnership Football Tournament. Team A were 2nd in their group, they won 2 games and lost only 1. The medals went to Frances for her leadership, encouragement, and determination and to Raya for her resilience and determination. Team B also finished 2nd in their group. They won 2 games, drew 1 and lost 1. The medals for the B squad went to Keira for never giving up and her leadership, and to Tiffany for having never played before and getting stuck in and even scoring!

Well played girls!



Front row - Team B; back row - Team A

Mental Well-being Workshops

On Wednesday different classes took part in a workshop courtesy of a teacher from the PSHE team from SCARF – which stands for Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship. The classes had a workshop on Mental Well-being. They learnt strategies on how to take care of their own feelings and how to bounce back from negative emotions. If you have children in Oak, Hornbeam, Beech, Ash or Rowan – ask them all about it.

Emailing staff

On the subject of mental well-being; can we please remind parents to direct emails through the school office and not directly to a member of staff. If the email contains confidential matters then please mark it as such and it will be passed on in a suitable manner. It can be quite draining for staff to receive emails in their evening or weekend time when they are marking or planning for class. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Tummy bugs

We have had some children suffering with upset tummies over the last few weeks. Public Health Guidance states that children need to remain absent for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea, this is to reduce the risk of spread. It is marked on the register as an absence following Public Health advice.

Medical Appointments

Where possible, please make non-urgent medical appointments outside school hours. If your child absolutely needs to attend an appointment during the school day, please make arrangements for them to attend school before and after the appointment if possible. Please let your child's Teacher know and also email the School Office with a copy of the appointment letter/text message. We are required to keep this evidence on file. Thank you for your support.

Cake sale – next Friday 14th February

Donations of nut free cakes will be very much appreciated next Friday morning ahead of the sale at the end of the day. All funds raised go directly back to the Classes to spend as they choose. Thank you for your support.

Moving On....

Sadly we are soon to say farewell to Mrs Ward. She has been offered a job working as a Young Carers Project Worker for West Berkshire. Mrs Ward has been with us at Woodcote Primary for 4 & 1/2 years and has worked in every class across the school. We will all miss her but wish her all the very best for her new role. We will therefore be recruiting a new full time HLTA to the team. She leaves at the beginning of March.

From last week's Newsletter:

Parents' Evening

A reminder that Parent's Evenings are next week. We hope you already have the dates in your diary for Monday 10th February 3:30pm – 7pm and Thursday 13th February 3:30pm – 6pm in the School Hall. Bookings will go live next week on Tuesday evening at 6.30pm. If you have already had a Pupil Profile Meeting with your child's teacher (this will not apply to all parents) you do not necessarily need to book a Parents' Evening appointment but if you would like to, you are more than welcome.

Easter Holiday Club

We are just waiting for final confirmation that there will again be a holiday club running here on site for the second week of the Easter holidays (Monday 14th April to Thursday 17th April). We will confirm the details once known however we thought it would be useful for you to know in case you need to make childcare arrangements for over the holidays.

Class Updates

Oak	<p>Thank you so much for coming along to the stay and play session on Tuesday morning. The children all loved sharing their maths activities with you!</p> <p>We have been counting up to 30 and beyond this week and have been noticing how numbers go up by one each time so that we can say that 5 and 1 makes 6 altogether and so on. In phonics we have been learning about the 'ur sound'. Just before Christmas we gave you Monster Phonics login details (in the children's reading records) so that you can access some extra reading books at home. If you haven't managed to log on, just let us know if you need any help with it. We have added more of the books onto the account now so there are some new ones to share with the children. The children are also loving all kinds of sensory messy play activities, water, sand, shaving foam, paint, jelly, cooking etc. so if you want something to fill the time over half term that might be worth a go. We hope you all have a lovely weekend.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>In Hornbeam we have been all sorts of creative things from painting with vegetables to playing tennis using our hands!</p> <p>Our week started with a new focus book in English - Owl babies. The children have greatly enjoyed learning the story in preparation for rewriting the story next week. To help learn the story we have done lots of sequencing activities and on Wednesday we even had the opportunity to take on the roles ourselves as we acted out the story in small groups. In maths, we have been learning to add numbers (within 20), using our number bond knowledge as well as resources such as tens frames, number lines and part whole models.</p>

	<p>Now for the more creative things. It started on Monday when we collected in our bird feeders to analyse which had been the most popular. To our surprise (including the adults) there was no clear winner. In each location a different type of feeder won. This led us to have many more questions than when we started - but sometimes that is science, what we expect doesn't always happen. On Wednesday to round off our 'paint and colour' topic we mixed paints to create secondary colours and used a variety of different fruits and vegetables to make prints using patterns. We looked at famous print artists, such as Orla Kiely, and replicated some of their work in our own unique style. Then in PE on Thursday, with coach Sarah, we continued looking at ball skills, progressing on from bouncing and catching we were challenged to bounce it to one another and try to hit the ball back to our partner using the palm of our hand. Replicating early ball striking skills used in sports such as tennis, squash and cricket.</p>
Beech	<p>Beech class have been learning about the features of an instruction text this week so we can learn how to make and then write instructions on how to make bird feeders next week. In maths, we have been grouping real objects to help us divide. We then solved some tricky problems involving multiplication and division. We have also been measuring mass in grams and kilograms and calculating with mass. On Wednesday, we took part in a workshop to explore feelings of gratitude. We enjoyed taking part in some drama and role-play activities and met Harold the giraffe. Well done to the year 2 girls who played amazingly in the football tournament this week. All the children made us proud with their positive attitude and resilience. We can't wait to see how the children get on in next week's match.</p>
Ash	<p>We have started to make our Egyptian shadufs in DT this week; carefully measuring and sawing wooden batons to construct our water irrigation systems. Keeping with the Egyptian theme, we have been writing a biography of the Egyptologist, Howard Carter, in our English lessons and took part in Mummification School, creating our own mummified pharaohs (barbie dolls), as part of our History lesson. For Children's Mental Health week, we have thought about ourselves and our achievements, alongside a great PSHE workshop on Acceptance delivered by Sarah, who visited us from Coram Life Education.</p> <p>It's our turn for the Cake Sale next Friday, along with Willow Class. If you are able to help at the end of the School day and/or if your child would like to stay a little longer, please let Mrs Harbord know.</p>
Rowan	<p>It has been a busy week in Rowan Class! In maths we have had lots of fun learning how to find the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, including rectangles. This has involved lots of time outdoors and making shapes on geoboards. In English, we have been writing paragraphs for our non-chronological reports about animals, using the facts we found out for homework. We have also been learning to write expanded noun phrases as part of our grammar lessons. For our independent writing this week, we wrote about Christopher Columbus' voyage to America and his first sighting of a manatee, applying what we learnt about expanded noun phrases. Everyone who wanted lines in the play has now got their script; children should have brought them home today. Please help your child to learn their lines off by heart. If they would like to practise the songs, the music can be found by clicking the following link: Hoodwinked Children's Musical Out of the Ark Music Have a lovely weekend.</p>
Maple	<p>Well, another busy week of Year 5 done, plenty more to go! Our English has seen us planning out some mystery stories we're going to be writing next week. There are twists and turns, tension and suspense, clues and the occasional murder! Meanwhile in Maths we started the week looking at translating shapes on a coordinate grid, but quickly moved on to look at turns and angles. We'll be focussing on using protractors next week to measure and draw angles. In Topic we continued to look at mapping, this week exploring how six-digit coordinates work. Science has seen us polishing off our work on Space, taking some time to learn about International Date Lines and how time differs depending on where you are on the planet. We wrapped up our week learning some Beatles songs on the ukulele and spending some time discussing our mental health for Children's Mental Health Week!</p>

	A reminder to sign your child up for bike-ability if you haven't already done so - the deadline is today!
Willow	This week we have been looking at Biomes in Geography - what these are, where they are and how climate change is effecting them. In Maths, we continued to look at percentages and will move on to linking these to decimals next week. In English, we worked on our persuasive language and creating posters to encourage tourism to Joya - the island in our class book. In Science, we investigated how we see colour and were rather shocked by how small the visible light spectrum is. We also discussed our Restless Earth project and what this will look like. This has also pinged out on Teams so please make sure your child has shown you. It's our turn for the Cake Sale next Friday, along with Ash Class. If you are able to help at the end of the School day and/or if your child would like to stay a little longer, please let Mrs Wornham know.

Important dates

Monday 10 th February	Parents evening, 3:30-7pm
Thursday 13 th February	Parents evening, 3:30-6pm
Friday 14 th February	After School Cake Sale – nut free donations appreciated
Mon 17/02 – Fri 21/02	February half term holiday
Friday 28 th February	FOWPS Disco with DJ Ethan
Monday 3 rd March	Years R & 6 NCMP (National Child Measuring Programme)
Week of 3 rd March	Year 5 Bikeability Training
Friday 7 th March	Dress up as a book character for World Book Day

FOWPS Update

No update this week

Community News

Online Workshop for Parents:

We are pleased to be able to offer an Online Workshop for Parents on Responding to Behaviour. Thursday 13th February, 9.30-10.30am.

The graphic features several elements: a speech bubble with the word 'WHERE?' inside, a blue brain, a circular icon with a question mark and the word 'Behaviour' below it, a text box that reads 'HOW TO BE AN EMOTIONALLY SAFE RELATIONSHIP FOR YOUR CHILD', and a photograph of a person in a yellow raincoat standing on a beach. To the right of these images, the text reads: 'Workshop for parents 'Responding to Behaviour' Thursday, February 13, 2025 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM (GMT)'.

Tickets for this workshop can be purchased via Eventbrite link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1144081792439?aff=oddtcreator>

Tickets only cost £5.93 (£4.99 plus Eventbrite fee).

Pilates with Katie

Monday

Woodcote Village Hall
7:30 am

Upper Basildon Village Hall
9:30 am

Tuesday

Woodcote Village Hall 9:45 am

Wednesday

Upper Basildon Village Hall 9:45 am

Mixed ability class for all
Beginners welcome

For more information

Call Katie

07773 399 263

Printed January 2025

