



**Friday 30th January**

### **A fond farewell**

Today we said a fond farewell to Mrs Hunt in her final Sharing Assembly. All of the pupils, staff and Governors were able to thank Mrs Hunt for her hard work, dedication, enthusiasm and love for the pupils she has cared for over the last 12 years. It was fabulous to reminisce together and celebrate all of the joyful moments – so many smiles.

### **Moving from Integris to Arbor**

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, we are changing our Management Information System (MIS). This is something that all Oxfordshire schools are having to do over the next few weeks. The MIS is the place where we store the pupils' details, take registers and link in with the DfE. We don't anticipate any problems but please do bear with us if there are any at all. Please note this should not affect the use of ParentMail.

### **Spring Parents Evenings**

These are coming round again! As usual there will be 2 evenings. These will be held in the school hall on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 3.30 - 7.00 and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 3.30 – 6.00. The bookings will go live on ParentMail on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.00pm. Please note that if you have recently been in for a Pupil Profile Review you don't need a meeting but you will be very welcome should you wish to come and meet your teacher again.

### **Year 5 & 6 Football**

We took a fabulous group of year 5 and 6 boys to the Cranford house football tournament at Wallingford Sports Park on Wednesday afternoon. The boys were impeccably well behaved, played some brilliant football and were very supportive of each other. We were undefeated and finished second overall. Well done boys!



## School Name tags

If you wish to order name labels for your child's clothing, water bottles etc you may wish to use My Name tags, please click on this link <http://www.mynametags.com/> and use code **ID 293739** which means the school will receive commission for any orders placed.

## From Last weeks newsletter

### Parental Contributions to support the school

Thank you very much to those families who have kindly donated to the school it is very much appreciated. You can still donate via ParentMail.

## Class Updates

<b>Acorns</b>	<p>We have focused our learning on the colour Green, the number 4, and Safari animals. The green playdough at dough disco is an activity we do at least once per week, then letting the children play independently with the dough, always ends in some new animal or creation. Playdough is a great way to strengthen young hands in preparation for prewriting activities.</p> <p>We have grouped lots of safari animals into groups, finding new ways to explain a group of animals - we really liked a tower of Giraffes and a crash of Rhinoceroses. Some of the boys were very pleased when they completed their floor puzzle. The green wobbly Jelly we made on Thursday gave the children the opportunity to see change, learn new words, dissolving, measuring, dividing, and equal.</p>
<b>Oak</b>	<p>This week the children have been so focussed and engaged. We have been learning l, ll and ss and using them in our writing. We have sent home letter flash cards. The children need to be able to know the sound that each letter makes and then to be able to write the letters so that they can then write their own words using the letters. If you could spend 5 minutes a day practising this at home it would really help the children become confident with their reading and writing. The children have enjoyed bird watching and making bird feeders and we have started to think about maps and what they are for. On Wednesday we had a SCARF (PSHE) workshop with Harold the giraffe who talked to the children about how to stay healthy and safe. They listened brilliantly and really enjoyed the session. Next Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb is our Stay and Play morning where you are welcome to come into the classroom with your children between 8.35 and 9am. Have a lovely weekend.</p>
<b>Hornbeam</b>	<p>This week in Hornbeam we have been demonstrating our writing skills. Each child has written a 'sequel' to the Story man on the moon, called 'Aliens on Earth'. It has been a real pleasure reading these stories and we hope to share them at parents evening in two weeks, but to give you a flavour of what to expect we have had; aliens in bathtubs, aliens playing in the garden as well as eating pizza, having a party and eating cake. Thankfully all the aliens seem to be friendly. In maths we have concluded our number topic, learning how to use a number line to estimate where a number belong as well as comparing and ordering different numbers using the 'hungry crocodiles'.</p> <p>In science we completed our fourth investigation of the term, Magic Milk. The name of the investigation gave the children a great sense of intrigue and led to some brilliant predictions but our focus this week was on writing up the results and explaining what happened. On Wednesday we were joined by a lady from CORAM education who came in to deliver a workshop, linked to our PSHE work all about the body. She explained to the children about healthy diets and the need for exercise to maintain a healthy lifestyle.</p>

<b>Beech</b>	<p>Beech class wrote some fantastic non-chronological reports this week and created stick insects out of craft materials to add to a class display. We then used the laptops to research facts about robins. We have started a non-chronological report about them, remembering to include a range of tricky grammar features. We took part in a SCARF workshop on Wednesday to help us to understand our feelings. We loved joining in with the drama and role-play activities. In P.E, we continue to develop our passing and dribbling skills. In maths, we have been adding 2-digit numbers using efficient methods and solving some tricky problems too.</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>In Ash Class this week, we have continued our learning about Ancient Egypt by looking at hieroglyphics and the Rosetta Stone. We created our own cartouches, with our names written in clay in hieroglyphics. We are looking forward to our museum trip next Wednesday. In maths, we have been multiplying and dividing by 3 and practising our 3 times table. And in music, we have been learning about 1960s music, comparing it to 1950s Rock N Roll from our last lesson.</p>
<b>Rowan</b>	<p>This week, we have been working on calculating the perimeter of rectangles using efficient methods. We have explored how to use possessive apostrophes correctly and how to ensure our tenses are consistent in our writing. We also attempted to write a persuasive text about whether children should or should not be required to wear school uniforms, and we shared some strong opinions on both sides!</p> <p>During RE, we learned about the features of a synagogue and how it is used within the Jewish community. In Music, we listened to Joseph Haydn's <i>Symphony No. 94</i>, also known as the "<i>Surprise</i>" <i>Symphony</i>. It was great fun listening out for the surprises he included in his composition. We explored dynamics and mood by using cymbals, drums, triangles, maracas, sticks and bells, working together to play along with the piece. It was quite tricky keeping to the beat and coming in at the right times!</p> <p>In PE, we are enjoying dance and challenging ourselves to move creatively and expressively to music.</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p>While Year 5 are sad that our visit to the O2 for Young Voices is over and we will have to wait another year to go again, it has been nice to get ourselves back into the swing of school and a regular routine! English this week saw us continuing our work on our class text 'The Longest Night of Charlie Noon.' We have dived in to the characters with some hot seating, worked on using relative pronouns and clauses in our writing to be descriptive and have been enjoying all the twists and turns of the book. In maths we've been continuing our work on fraction, this week ordering and comparing them by using equivalence to find common denominators. Topic this week saw us look at a variety of maps of Woodcote, which we spent some time attempting to label with places we recognised. Meanwhile, in Science we've been looking further afield into Space and have been exploring the history of humans travelling out into the pitch black. We especially enjoyed learning about all the animals that went up, though were a little disappointed with their fates. We wrapped up the week with some Scratch coding, learning about social media and finally got a chance to get the ukuleles out again!</p>

<b>Willow</b>	<p>Thank you for your support with our trip to the O2 for Young Voices – it was my first time going to the event and I was blown away with the enthusiasm and energy of everyone attending. Thanks also to those who made the trip, the children were super excited to know you were watching. The Woodcote pupils were amazingly well behaved and made it a fantastic day for all – so, thank you.</p> <p>In English this week, Willow have been writing a recount of their adventures at the O2 – making sure that their pieces flowed in chronological order over a number of paragraphs. We will be finishing our look at Ratio in Maths, before moving onto Algebra (page 56 in the revision guides if you want to get ahead). In Science, we are continuing with Light and reflection of light from a light source. Our Restless Earth Geography topic covered the movements in the Tectonic plates creating a visual display in our books. Spellings cover the long ‘e’ sound – using the ‘ei’ spelling.</p> <p>Next week, we will be completing a fresh set of assessment to support our preparations towards SAT’s later in the year. There is no need to get anxious or panic, no revision needed - these are regular check-in’s so we can check for misunderstandings and find areas we need to refresh and revise.</p>
<b>Lunchtime news</b>	<p>Despite the changeable weather we managed to enjoy lunchtimes outdoors and by the middle of the week football resumed to the delight of the children. Yr1s continue to do a fantastic job as litter pickers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Hunt for all the support she has given to our lunchtime team and children, managing to smile during difficult times including a pandemic, and always being there for us. We will miss her so much and we wish her many happy days ahead as she embarks on new and exciting adventures.</p>

The children in Acorns enjoyed doing a very large animal puzzle.



### Important dates

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	NHCMP for children in Reception and Year 6
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	8.35 – 9.00 Oak parents invited to stay & play in Oak classroom
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 trip to the Ashmolean – please check ParentMail for details
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop & Second hand uniform sale
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents evening 15.30 – 19.00

Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents evening 15.30 – 18.00
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Spring half term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	National Offer Day for Secondary school places
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day in School – dress up as your favourite book character
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	8.35 – 9.00 Oak parents invited to stay & play in Oak classroom
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop & Second hand uniform sale
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	End of term – 1.00pm finish
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday – School closed
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	National offer day for reception class September 2026
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday – school closed
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Summer Half Term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET day – School closed
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET day – School closed
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	School summer holidays begin – school closed
Tuesday 1st September	INSET day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET day

## **FOWPS**

No news this week.