



Dear parents/carers,

What a week it has been weather wise - I was expecting snow and ice and got rain instead! However, this has not dampened the children's spirits and they have been as excitable as always. It is fantastic to see their smiling faces in school.

The children are now nearly halfway through their new History units; this is the next area of curriculum the teachers have been working hard to develop. Mrs Blake has been to see all of their learning in action and was blown away by the children's enthusiasm, inquisitive questioning and how well they remembered what they have learnt. I hope you have also seen and heard about this at home, if not, ask them to share their learning with you!

Year 4 finished their 3-week swimming block; they have thoroughly enjoyed their lessons. I have spoken to several of them about their experiences and they all reported that their confidence has grown, alongside their swimming (and diving) ability. Many of them expressed a desire to continue with their lessons and spoke about how they would be spending even more time in the swimming pools on their next holidays!

Year 5 had their last outreach session for the Generation Ocean project where Becky from the Ocean Conservation Trust came out to take a workshop in class, please see below for more details. This has been a fantastic project to take part in, the children have thoroughly enjoyed it and learnt a lot. We hope that we have inspired the marine biologists of the future!

As you may have seen, we have a damaged fence next to the drive, the insurance company for the delivery driver who did this has the matter in hand, but it might take a few weeks to mend. Please make sure your children do not go up the grass bank next to the slope path before or after school.

Strike days: next week 15th and 16th March are the next planned strike days by the NEU as you are aware, teachers do not have to let me know if they are planning on taking strike action, however, the teachers here have indicated to me their current intentions. As of today, **all** classes will be **open** on Wednesday 15th March. On Thursday 16th March **Years 3 & 4 will be closed** and all other classes will be open. However, please be aware that this could change and if it does, I will let you know as soon as I can.

Parents evenings: Next week all classes are offering a chance for you to attend the Spring term Parents evenings, please make an appointment if you haven't already, it is a great opportunity to see their amazing work and celebrate their progress, as well as find out ways you can support their education at home. Year 5 will have an open classroom on Monday from 3.20 - 5.45; I will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Red Nose Day: On Friday 17th March we will be taking part in the national Red Nose Day - your child can come to school wearing something red in return for a donation via Parent Pay. When you log on to your Parent Pay account you will see a special Red Nose donation page.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, despite the rainy forecast; the perfect excuse to stay in and watch the rugby...come on England!

R. Baptiste

Foundation: This week we have been innovating our story by adding new characters. In Maths we have been exploring number bonds to 10 by playing games and learning a number bond rhyme. We have also learnt all about the changes Florence Nightingale made to hospitals and training nurses.

Year 1: For World Book Day, year 1 participated in 'The Great World Book Day Draw-along with Dave Pigeon'. We got to hear all about where the brilliant author/illustrator duo Swapna Haddow and Sheena Dempsey get their ideas, their top tips for creating our own stories, and we got the chance to give it a go ourselves in class with a live draw-a-long. We also talked about each of our costumes and drew and described the characters we were dressed as.

Year 2: This week year 2 have been starting to learn about length and height. They have been measuring in cm and m and learning to make estimations of length. In history this week we were learning about the attack on the Spanish Armada. Ask your child who won!

Year 3/4: We have started to learn all about the Stone Age in our History lessons. This week, we looked at how people lived during the three different parts of the Stone Age (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and the Neolithic) and compared them to how we live today.

Year 5: We have been debating about the settlers in the new world. Can it be called a new world if people were already living there? Also in English, we have been writing our own version of the fairy tale Rumpelstiltskin.

Year 6: We have completed another round of SATs practise over the last 3 weeks and I am so proud of how the children are applying themselves to these, taking it in their stride and showing their potential. The children are really benefitting from learning test techniques, learning from mistakes and, of course, celebrating successes. I am really proud of all of the children.

Dates to remember:

17/03/2023 - Red Nose Day - Children to wear any red clothing. - Donations via ParentPay- no cash donations.

A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation:
Year 1: L.Mann
Year 2:
Year 3: O.Nichols
Year 4: J.Cater
Year 5: A.Moloney
Year 6: H.Hannigan

This week's attendance winners are:

Year

Well done !!!

