

Newsletter

23rd April 2021



Message from Acting Principal, Miss Julia Gawn

Firstly, can I say a big thankyou to all the children, staff, parents and LAB members who have made me feel so welcome over the past few weeks. I have worked closely with Wheelock for a number of years through my work within the Learning for Life Partnership and I am really looking forward to getting to know everyone even more over the coming weeks as your Acting Principal. I appreciate that Covid can make it difficult to meet people and face to face meetings are still not possible but if you need to get in touch with me you can do this by emailing or phoning the office. It has been lovely to meet many of you on the gate in the mornings.

This week it has been delightful to see the children out enjoying the sunshine. At Wheelock we enjoy taking our learning outside but a bit of sunshine helps – let's hope this good weather continues!

Have a great weekend

Miss Gawn

Term Time Absence

In line with Government policy now all children have returned to school following the last lockdown, all children are expected to achieve at least 95% attendance in school. Any attendance which falls below 90% is considered a cause for concern and schools are expected to work with parents to bring about an improvement. In cases where a child's attendance remains below 90%, it is classed as persistent absenteeism, and further absences will not be authorised. Along with unauthorised holidays, such absences will be passed to the Local Authority who may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued in the following circumstances:

- Ten or more sessions (five days) of unauthorised absence in any two consecutive half terms
- Persistent late arrival (at least ten incidences) after the register has closed
- Ten or more session (five days) of unauthorised absence due to holidays in term time.

Any absences meeting the above criteria will be referred to the local authority and a fixed notice may be issued. This will incur a fine of £60 per child per adult if paid within 21 days; or £120 per child per adult if paid within 28 days. If after 28 days the fixed penalty fine has not been paid parents will be summonsed to appear before the Magistrates Court on the grounds that they have failed to secure their child's regular attendance at school

Lateral Flow Tests

Lateral flow tests are available to all families of school age children to regularly test for Covid-19 with or without symptoms to try and ensure the school community remains safe. They are available from Chester Street Car Park, Crewe, CW1 2ER between 1.30pm – 7pm daily. Booking is not required and they are free of charge. Please do not go to the testing centre with Covid-19 symptoms, contact NHS 111 for advice on getting a PCR test.

Class News

Penguins and Puffins

We have had a fantastic first week back in school for our final term in Reception.

The children have loved their new topic 'Superheroes' and we have been finding out all the fun things the children did over the holidays.

On Monday the children independently wrote a sentence about their holiday adventures and it was so great to see so much confidence when writing independently.

In maths the children have worked on counting up on a number track. The children knew when counting up the numbers got bigger and they could count up in 1's to find the new number.

In the classrooms the children have enjoyed dressing up in superhero costumes, experimenting in the science area, jumping on the hopscotch, performing on the new stage area and painting flowers outdoors.



Owls, Woodpeckers and Robins

It's the end of our first week back after Easter and Robins, Owls and Woodpeckers have really hit the ground running. We have kicked off our new topic 'We're all Wonders' by reading the book of the same name. The children made some interesting observations about the main character Auggie and predictions about what might happen in the story. We looked at how to be good elephants and polar bears this week by thinking about how we can all be good bucket fillers and help to build each other's confidence and out own at the same time. We're not bucket dippers, we're bucket fillers! How do you help to fill your child's bucket? In maths, we have been looking at position and direction. Please help your child to remember some key ideas, like left, right, clockwise and anticlockwise. Let them give you directions around the house or plan out a map around the garden. Everyone enjoyed the sun this week and some of us were able to get outside for a picnic lunch!

Sandpipers, Swans and Kingfishers

Waterbirds have had a great first week back after the Easter holiday. They have loved starting their new topic 'Waterbird Wonders.' This week, we have learnt all about Rosa Parks and how she was a significant historical figure who brought about change. The children took part in a 'boycott' of the buses just like Rosa and created a fact file about her life. In Science, the children have started their new topic 'Animals including humans'. They have looked at the nutrients they need to keep themselves healthy and how their diet differs to animals. In Maths, the children have focused on statistics. They have collected data and drawn their own pictograms and bar charts. In Literacy, we have used the book 'We're all Wonders' as a stimulus for our own writing. We have thought about how the main character of the story feels and the situations he faces in life. The children are now learning about diary entries and what needs to be included in them. Great week this week!

Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels

Year 5 and 6 have had a great first we back after Easter. We were very excited to finally start our 'Wonder' topic that we had planned for the Spring term before the lockdown announcement. In this topic we will be looking at how people of all race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation and backgrounds can be a 'wonder'. In Book Club, children have been full of questions as we begin reading 'Journey to Jo'burg' where we have had fantastic discussion on fairness. In Literacy, we have started looking at extracts from 'Wonder' by R.J Palacio, working on our first unit of writing, which will be a character description. So, this week, the children have been using their skills of empathy to understand character's thoughts and emotions. In our Individuality lessons, the children have completed an 'All about me' page showing why they are a Wonder. We celebrated 'Stephen Lawrence Day' on Thursday, where the children showed a heart-warming level of understanding on the need for equality and fairness. In our Creativity lessons, the children have begun there learning on how to sketch facial features. In Science, we have started our unit on the 'Wonder of Life Cycles'. This week children have learnt about metamorphosis and incomplete metamorphosis. What a busy week! Well done year 5 and 6.

House Points

Pegasus: 28

Griffin: 22

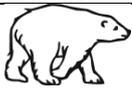
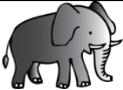
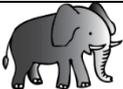
Dragons: 23

The Hive

We have been delighted this week by the glorious weather! Several of the children have formed a gardening group and they have been very busy turning tired earth into a welcome bed for vegetables and fruit to grow. Digging, turning and raking, the children have worked very hard to make sure the new seeds have a lovely soft bed to begin their growing journey. We have thoroughly enjoyed our outdoor space, some children have skipped for miles whilst others have enjoyed delivering spectacular gymnastic displays, we certainly have enjoyed ourselves.

Inside, pool and table top football remain firm favourites and the children never seem to tire from clacking Connect 4 counters! In other news, Acorn room have been colouring and creating imaginative story led pictures, their characters have had amazing adventures with crocodiles brought to life before our eyes! We have had such a joyful week and look forward to next week's adventures.

Praise Winners

Class	Name	Animal	Reason
Penguins	Sid		Always making everyone smile and being super lovely.
Puffins	Fearne		Including everyone in her play and always been kind.
Robins	Jacob		for thinking about the layout and presentation of his work and concentrating on his literacy.
Owls	Cody		for showing independence with his writing
Woodpeckers	Ethan		for coming back to school ready to learn.
Swans Teachers Award	Isla		for great contributions to our discrimination talks this week relating to Rosa Parks and Stephen Lawrence
Swans Teacher's Award	Lewis		for pushing himself towards his own targets
Sandpipers Teacher's Award	Alannah C		For sharing her thoughtful comments about our new topic.
Sandpipers Children's Award	Megan S		For being an amazing, supportive friend when they need you.
Kingfishers Teacher's Award	Daniel B		For thoughtful contributions to our discussions about Stephen Lawrence
Kingfishers Children's Award	Elliot C		For being a kind, caring and thoughtful friend to others when they were upset
Kestrels Teacher's Award	Oliver H		for showing great empathy towards others during class discussions
Kestrels Children's Award	Noah M		for working hard to translate shapes- he rose to the challenge when solving tricky problems.
Hawks Teacher's Award	Will R		for a fantastic contribution to our discussion on equality and diversity
Hawks Children's Award	Jess M		for participating in all discussions well.
Eagles Teacher's Award	Olivia G		For fantastic progress in her reading, maths and writing.
Eagles Children's Award	Isabelle P		for speaking confidently about equality and discrimination.