

Newsletter

30th April 2021



Message from Acting Principal, Miss Julia Gawn

Thank you for engaging so well with this week's Parents Evening appointments. It has been lovely to share with you the progress the children are making and there was a real buzz around school as staff updated you all on how things are going and discussed any areas for improvement. We hope that you found the telephone discussions useful.

Thank you for continuing to adhere to the social distancing arrangements we have in place at drop off and pick up. By now we all know that this is about keeping our community safe. Please continue to stagger your arrival on site at the start and end of the day. As well as preventing the spread of the virus this enables us to have a calm start to the day.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend.

E-mails re your child

If you need to contact the school for any reason regarding your child please use the office@wheelock.cheshire.sch.uk email address. If your child gets a positive Covid-19 test at the weekend or during a school holiday please email covid-19@wheelock.cheshire.sch.uk.

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. If you would like to get a Covid test for anyone in your family but have no symptoms there is a testing centre at the Wesley Centre, Sandbach between 9 and 5pm but you must pre-book by visiting the Cheshire East website or by telephoning 0300 123 5032.

Mrs Julie Critchley

After 19 years at the school Mrs Critchley is leaving on Thursday 13th May. I'm sure you would like to join us in wishing her well. Everyone at Wheelock will miss her but she has exciting plans how she will spend her time.

Class News

Penguins and Puffins

Thank you to all our parents for a great Parent's Evening. It was a lovely opportunity to catch up and celebrate the amazing progress that your child has made this year. Despite an unusual year, the children have been so resilient and continue to be excited by their learning. We would like to thank you also for all the kind words you all expressed about our Reception Team - it really is appreciated.

This week we have used the story 'Supertato' as a focus for our learning



In Literacy we have all written sentences about Supertato; thinking about his super powers, who he helps and who his enemy is. We have been very impressed with the children using their phonic knowledge this week. Well done Puffins and Penguins.

In Maths we have been using Number Tracks to count back. This is always a little more tricky than counting on, but we have had a great time using counters to jump backwards on the track. Have a go at home!

Our artwork using Guiseppe as a stimulus produced some fantastic portraits. We were amazed by the children's creativity. Don't forget to look at the art gallery on Tapestry. Look out for a Creative Home Learning Challenge for the weekend too.

Owls, Woodpeckers and Robins

This week in maths, the children have been introduced to weight and mass. We have used a range of different scales to measure how heavy various items are, either by reading the scale or balancing weights. We have compared different weights using $<$ $>$ and $=$ and made estimates about larger objects around school. Children have recorded mass and weight in non-standard units of measure, such as cubes, and standard units of measure, such as grams and kilograms. Towards the end of the week, we started to explore volume and capacity and we will continue this exploration next week.

In literacy, we have analysed the text of We're all Wonders, looking at different adjective types to describe Auggie's appearance and personality and how to add additional detail to a sentence using conjunctions. The children learned about the amazing accomplishments of Hellen Keller and explored different ways of keeping themselves safe when online. The children talked about which games are appropriate and why and what they should do if they feel unsafe.

Sandpipers, Swans and Kingfishers

The Waterbirds children have had a fantastic week. They have continued to immerse themselves in their new 'Wonder' topic. In individuality, the children have thought about their own strengths and talents. They created a 'self praise jar' and worked on building their confidence. In Community, the children discussed what qualities make a good friend and how they can resolve conflicts. The children then designed their own friend posters. All week in maths, the children have been focusing on statistics. They have collected different data and made decisions about how to represent it. The children especially enjoyed collecting data about the cars travelling past the school. In literacy, the children have been continuing to learn about diary entries. They have identified features of a diary, written rhetorical questions and finally wrote their own diary entry in the position of Auggie. In science, the children used their newly gained maths skills to collect data about children's diet and nutrients intake. They then presented this data using a bar chart. Well done Waterbirds on a fabulous week!

Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels

This week year 5/6 have continued reading 'Journey to Jo'burg' and have been shocked to learn about segregation during apartheid in South Africa. We have discussed at length about segregation on buses, benches and schooling etc. We have dived deeper into the history of apartheid where the children have created a timeline of the key events leading up to Nelson Mandela becoming President of South Africa. In our community lessons, we have been looking at events in history that have involved discrimination. The children have plotted these events on a world map and matched the correct flag for the country. In Literacy, the children have been writing detailed character descriptions on a range of characters in the story of 'Wonder' based on their reactions and impressions towards Auggie. In Science, the children have continued their work on life cycles, learning about the human life timeline.





House Points

Pegasus: 57

Griffin: 38

Dragons: 33

Phoenix: 44

The Hive

We have had a lovely week in The Hive and the week has flown by. In the garden, our seeds have settled in nicely and enjoyed the attention of excited children. We are hoping for sunshine and showers to help them grow and it looks like our wish may come true! Inside, our crafty children have had a go at rubber stamping, we used stamps and inkpads to achieve some very stylish crafty creations. There are lots of rubber stamps to select and colour, the end results are beautiful! Meanwhile, some of the older children have had access the hall, they have played Dodgeball, Corners and made up hooping games, it has been a real treat. The children in Acorn Room are very much looking forward to having stories around a camp fire, this week they

are sourcing all the amazing books that will transport them to faraway places. The favourite game this week is a family favourite and we have listened to the familiar buzz of Operation almost every day! There has not been a dull moment and we are very much looking forward to the Bank Holiday to have a well deserved rest!

FOWS News

Just a quick update from the FOWS.

Although we haven't been able to organise our usual fun filled events over the past 12 months we have still been able to do some things behind the scenes.

Sadly, the old outdoor classroom was condemned last year due to unstable foundations and a large amount of rot. Thankfully, our pre Covid fundraisers meant we had already raised enough funds to be able to replace this for the school.

Outdoor learning has always been a key part of Wheelock's curriculum and not having access to this had a huge impact. Not only on the outdoor lessons but also the children at playtimes.

These structures have to be provided and installed by approved companies and comply with a multitude of regulations, for that reason they don't come cheap!! A building like this costs in the region of £9000 so you can see why our fundraising is so important.

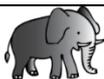
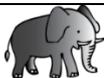
I'm sure you will all agree that the new structure is a massive improvement and will hopefully bring a lot of joy for many years to

Come.

We will fill you in a bit more on FOWS activities in next week's news



Praise Winners

Class	Name	Animal	Reason
Penguins	Jacob		for fantastic independent writing - making a poster for our show.
Puffins	Neve & Franki		always kind and friendly to others.
Robins	Alys		For showing a great deal of maturity in the classroom and during literacy lessons.
Owls	Oliver		for showing determination when writing.
Woodpeckers	Francesca		for being a friend to many in woodpeckers.
Swans Teachers Award	Sophia		for pushing herself in maths this week and producing some lovely graphs to represent data
Swans Pupil's Award	Tilly		for being a kind friend
Sandpipers Teacher's Award	Layla		for increased concentration and independence with her work.
Sandpipers Children's Award	Jemima		For being a helpful talk partner by helping children improve their work.
Kingfishers Teacher's Award	Leoni		For outstanding dedication to improving her handwriting and providing a superb role model for other children
Kingfishers Children's Award	Ellie		For always working hard in every lesson and showing increased self-confidence
Kestrels Teacher's Award	Bailey & Reuben		for encouraging each other during the golden mile. Super team running!
Kestrels Children's Award	Lexie		- for being a great friend who always boosts her friends' confidence
Hawks Teacher's Award	Dylan B		for being a kind and supportive talk partner this week.
Hawks Children's Award	Lauren M		for being a kind and thoughtful member of the class
Eagles Teacher's Award	Ethan		for fantastic progress in all areas of the curriculum. keep it up!
Eagles Children's Award	Finlay		for working hard, always trying his best and being a great friend.