

Newsletter

5th February 2021



Mrs Sweeney's Elephant Challenge

Well done to all the children who took part in my elephant challenge this week:



Grace and Sam baked shortbread for a neighbour who has been poorly.



Orla painted kindness rocks to hide to cheer people up.



Herbie made sticky toffee pudding for his family



Franki made a bird feeder so that the birds in her garden wouldn't go hungry.

I have been so impressed by all the acts of kindness Wheelock children have been doing over the last few weeks – it shows what great elephants we have in our school.

This morning, my crochet elephant was delivered to Neve and Skye. I thought that braving the cold and the mud to make the rail trail a nicer place for everyone to enjoy their daily exercise was a brilliant idea! Well done!

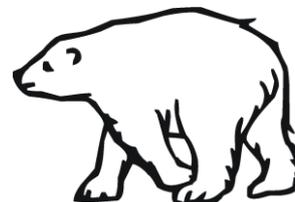
I hope that even though my challenge is now over, you will all keep up the good work and keep looking for ways to make other people smile.



Mrs Sweeney and Mrs Byrne's Polar Bear Challenge – Speak Out and Stay Safe!

Being in a lockdown has been very tricky for lots of us, both grown up and children. There have been many challenges and changes to our normal routines, which have made lots of us feel a little bit confused. With our half-term break fast approaching, we felt it was a good time to remind ourselves, and others, of who we can turn to if we are worried or need a little extra support. There are lots of people in your home, school and wider community who are there to help you in times of need. I would like you to spend some time watching this NSPCC clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwz43KoadhE&safe=true>



Then have a chat with a trusted grown-up about how you are feeling and what it means to be safe. Your grown-ups will be able to offer some support if you are worried or anxious. Remember, there are grown-ups at school who are also be happy to have a chat with you if you need it, as well as the organisations mentioned in the video clip.

During the half-term week, we would like you to design a 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' leaflet (KS2) or poster (KS1). The key three themes of your design should be:

Speak out and be heard

What it means to be safe

Get help when you need it

You could include the kind of worries children are facing at the moment, and who they can talk to if they need some help. Including names, phone numbers or websites would be a great idea too. Everybody who enters will have their name added onto a Wheelock Polar Bear! The winning posters and leaflet will be used to make a booklet which will be shared with all of the children at Wheelock. Mrs Sweeney is also hoping to spend half term making a crochet polar bear to give to one extra special entry – let's see if it ends up looking anything like a polar bear though!!



Good luck with your entry, the closing date for designs is **Monday 22nd February.**

Class News

Penguins and Puffins

Aliens love underpants!

This week the children have enjoyed the story 'Aliens love underpants'. We have been busy exploring the book and working through lots of fun activities. Well done to everyone who made their underpants and we have hung them up at the school gates if you would like to visit. We then thought about drawing our own alien. What would it look like? How many legs or eyes would it have? Once the children had created their fantastic aliens we wrote a few sentences to describe them. The children looked carefully at capital letters, finger spaces and using their own phonic independently. In Maths we finished off our number bond work, looking at how we could see number bonds in different ways around the house or school. We asked the children to hang 10 pieces of clothing on the washing line and work out the different number bonds when items were removed. The children also revisited their part, part, whole model to keep those number bonds in mind. This week we have also been telling jokes in our afternoon zoom for wellbeing week. The children had some fabulous jokes that had everyone laughing

'How does a spaceman get a baby to sleep..... Rock-it' – Jacob Hodder

'Why can't Elsa hold a balloon?....because she will let it go' – Hollie McCabe



Owls, Woodpeckers and Robins

This week, Robins, Owls and Woodpeckers have

started looking at shape. The children looked at the difference between 2d and 3d shapes and started to name them. We looked around our environment to see what shapes we could see in everyday objects. The children practised using a ruler to accurately draw 2d shapes of different sizes. They also used different items to make shapes: straws, lollipop sticks, tooth picks and more were used. Some children even had a go at building 3d shapes! We finished the week looking at vertices and sides of 2d shapes and their lines of symmetry. In literacy, we took a trip to Africa to visit The Ugly Five. There were some amazing animal creations, from giant elephants to warthogs

and shiny lions! We put our describing skills to the test, writing incredible sentences that included expanded noun phrases, prepositions, capital letters and full stops.



Sandpipers, Swans and Kingfishers

Another fantastic week of home learning Waterbirds! This week in Literacy, you have been learning how to punctuate direct speech using inverted commas, explored synonyms and practised using prefixes. You have written a description of Bee and Dog and read the first chapter of our new book 'How to Skin a Bear'. In Maths, we have continued on measure. You have learnt how to add and subtract length and even completed some tricky problems using length. You also completed an arithmetic test to go over taught arithmetic methods such as column addition and partitioning.

In Science, you have been exploring shadows and making your own shadow puppets. Some of you have experimented with creating coloured shadows and shadows of different sizes. For our Stone Age topic, you have sketched amazing Stone Age animals using your drawing skills including smudging and shading. You have also made incredible Top Trump cards based on Stone Age animals. Well done Waterbirds! We are really proud of you all and can't wait to welcome you back when it is safe to do so.

Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels

This week year 5 and 6's inventions topic has been linked to clothing. The children have created a timeline of their choice (e.g. football kits throughout the years / changes in women's fashion / the evolution of the Nike trainer). They have learnt French vocabulary for clothing on Linguascope; described different climates and the perfect outfit to suit each condition; and finally, the children have tried their hand at either tie-dyeing, sewing or designing. In literacy, the children have been writing instructions using the video of 'The Shirt Machine' as a stimulus. In maths, year 6s have been continuing their workbooks covering ratio, scaling and percentages. Year 5 have been securing their understanding and essential life skills involving money. A busy and productive week- go team!

Parent and Staff Games Night

It was lovely to see those of you who were able to join us for last night's parent and staff games night. Huge thanks to Miss Newton for organising and running the quiz and well done to Miss Wilkins who was the winner. Next week is going to be A Question of Sport with Miss Warburton.

If you are able to join us, we'd love to see you at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th February using the link:

Topic: Parent and Staff Games Night

Time: Feb 4, 2021 07:30 PM London

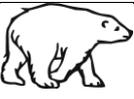
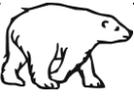
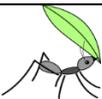
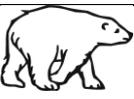
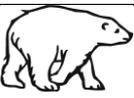
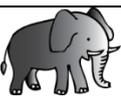
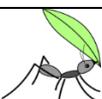
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tflfp.zoom.us/j/96289879646?pwd=ZEhwd2xMUTJmNzVYOUJRd0ZBblpvZz09>

Meeting ID: 962 8987 9646

Passcode: 593918

Praise Winners

Class	Name	Animal	Reason
Penguins	Alfie		For working really hard on his blending to write more confidently
Puffins	Theo		For really good focus in his reading and lots of independence
Robins	Anniya		For joining in on Zoom and sharing all the work she'd done
Owls	Ted		For showing a brilliant attitude to learning and always getting stuck in
Woodpeckers	Liam		For working hard with his writing to complete great sentences
Kingfishers	Jason		For settling back into school and working hard all week
	Aurora		For hard work and enthusiasm with her home learning and for sharing her work so confidently on Zoom
Swans	Fin		For being an excellent role model to his peers and brilliant interactions on Zoom
	Poppy		For creating a wonderful obstacle course with her brother – what a creative way of keeping fit!
Sandpipers	Henry		For working hard to complete all his maths tasks this week

	Joe		for an excellent sketch of a stone age animal
Kestrels	Reuben and Rebecca		for excellent focus this week in the key worker bubble. Well done!
Hawks	Jessica		for working extremely hard in all areas this week and sharing some fantastic work
Eagles	Alex		for his confidence in recording a verbal report on the evolution of the football kit and uploading it to Padlet