

# Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> May 2021



## **Message from Acting Principal, Miss Julia Gawn**

Thank you so much to all our parents for continuing to follow social distancing whilst on the school site. We have 322 children and their accompanying adults coming on and off the site every day so it is really important that all adults continue to wear masks and maintain their distance from other households. We also ask that only one adult comes on site to drop off and pick up. Adults should avoid congregating on the school grounds at drop off and pick up time so staggering the time you arrive on site is really helpful. By continuing to follow these measures we will keep our community safe. Thankyou

## **The Hive**

In-line with Government guidelines regarding Covid-19 and the numbers of children allowed to mix in before and after school clubs, we are currently unable to offer any ad-hoc provision at The Hive. Apologies for the inconvenience this may cause, we can assure you it is constantly under review and if guidance changes we will be in touch.

## Class News

### **Penguins and Puffins**

Although this week has only been four days, we have been so busy this week. In Literacy we have been thinking about the different powers that Superheroes have. Working on pairs, the children have been writing simple sentences to explain these powers. We have also made some Superhero game cards for the game, 'Headbanz' which the children love to play. This activity will be shared with other schools in our trust as we have been challenged to design a COVID safe game that can be played by everyone linked to our 'No Outsiders' theme.

In Maths our week has been full of measuring. We have focused on the language of size and comparing lots of different lengths and heights. Our home learning challenge this week will link with this so look out for it on Tapestry. We have also started to use non-standard units of measurement - cubes, hands, feet etc. to measure distance. This has been great fun.

### **Owls, Woodpeckers and Robins**

This week, the woodland bird classes have been working hard on their character descriptions for Auggie from 'We're All Wonders'. They spent time planning their description, thinking about appearance, personality and hobbies. They then put together well thought out sentences which include lots of great detail about the character. In maths the children have been looking at measurement, in particular capacity and volume. They have used cups to measure out how much water a container can hold and then built up to reading millilitres and litres on a scale. In science, we have begun a topic on plants by looking at seeds and seed dispersal. Children sorted seeds to match them with the plant they would become as well as thinking about how seeds are dispersed. Finally, we have begun to look at Pablo Picasso. The children were really interested to learn about the artist and cubism. We linked colours to feelings to begin with and we will work towards creating a piece of art in the style of Picasso.

### **Sandpipers, Swans and Kingfishers**

It's been another busy week for Waterbirds. In Maths, they have been learning all about money. They have converted between pence and pounds and started to look at the value of numbers past the decimal point. They have identified tenths and hundredths. The children have also compared and ordered amounts of money. They will continue with this topic next week. In Literacy, they have started looking at adventure narratives. They have read two different narratives this week, described characters and sequenced the story. In Science, the children have learnt about the three different skeletons. They were fascinated to find out that some animals have their skeleton on the outside of their body. In French, the children have practised how to describe someone including their eye and hair colour. As part of our Wonder topic, the children have learnt about Christianity. They found out what Christians believe and the different symbols associated with Christianity. Great work Waterbirds.

## **Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels**

This week Year 5/6 have been recapping on their knowledge of the 6 main world religions, as well as identifying similarities and differences between them. They used a range of both internet and textbooks to research the key features of each religion. Linking to their 'show respect' learning, the children used land art in the Woodlands to create images of religious symbols connecting to each religion. In Literacy, we have started our new unit on diary writing. The children have identified key features of diaries, reading a wide range of diary extracts. We have also spent time in SPaG learning about tenses and using semi-colons. In Maths, we have continued our rotation of algebra, mental arithmetic and fractions/decimals/percentages equivalents. Finally, in Science, the children have learnt all about the life cycle of flowering and non-flowering plants. A quick reminder that children should aim to read every night and record it in their planners; home learning is due on Thursdays; and remember to complete TTrackstars and Spellingshed home learning activities each week. Another great week- well done Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels.

### **House Points**

Pegasus: 63

Griffin: 59

Dragons: 33

Phoenix: 40

### **The Hive**

We hope everyone had a wonderful Bank Holiday break, we have thoroughly enjoyed listening to all the children's adventures at messages time. The children love to share their news and it gives them a fantastic opportunity to practise their public speaking skills. It has been a fast week with lots of opportunities for fun and games. The Hama Beads have been very popular and amazing works of art have found themselves flung under the iron and startled into pictorial eternity. Meanwhile, Jenga and Lego have been fashioned into all manner of complex structures and the wooden train track has meandered hither and thither encouraging engines and carriages to clackety clack faster and faster! Outside, the weather has not been kind and we have tugged our collars and zips close. We have enjoyed cricket and badminton (in the hall) on rainy days. The sun has on occasion shone on excited children scampering, scrambling and squealing on the climbers outside and we have been very grateful for her precious rays, even a hawk came to join in! We feel very lucky to have had such fun.

### **FOWS News**

Here is a little intro to the FOW's. For new parents at the school, who haven't yet been able to attend any of our events and see what we do. (Hopefully it won't be too long before we can start organising them again!)

#### **Who are the fows?**

We are a friendly group of parents who meet every 4-6 weeks (currently on zoom, but normally in the pub) to organise fundraising events for the school.

#### **Who can join?**

Everyone is welcome to join. We are always looking for new members to bring along fresh new ideas. You do not need to attend every meeting or help at every event. Any help is greatly appreciated and don't worry if you don't know anyone, we are a very friendly bunch and you will soon fit in.

**What do we do?**

We organise various fundraising events throughout the school year to raise much need funds for the school.

Disco's  
Christmas Merry Market  
Chocolate bingo  
Summer fairs  
Film nights

To name but a few.

**Why do we need the FOWs?**

Due to budget constraints, there are many expensive items the school just can't afford alone. The money raised is spent on IT resources, outdoor play equipment, books & craft supplies etc which adds value to their education. Every parent wants their child to have the best education available. We feel that our fundraising efforts can help make this possible.

If you would like to attend a meeting to find out more please contact [fowscontact@gmail.com](mailto:fowscontact@gmail.com)

## Praise Winners

Class	Name	Animal	Reason
Penguins	Aurora & Holly		for becoming so much more confident when writing independently
Puffins	Teddy & Harley		for great reading this week
Robins	Phoebe		for being a helpful member of the class.
Robins	Harry		for being brave with trying new foods at lunchtime
Owls	Oliver		for showing perseverance and determination when improving work. You always strive to make your work the very best you can.
Woodpeckers	Wren		for using strategies learnt in maths to solve tricky problems.
Swans Teachers Award	Kayleigh		extra hard work every day this week.
Swans Pupil's Award	Reggie		for being a great member of Swans
Sandpipers Teacher's Award	Jemima		For beautiful presentation of her topic work. It was creative and well written.
Sandpipers Children's Award	Bodhi		For being a fun friend who always makes people smile
Kingfishers Teacher's Award	Leo		For a consistent effort with his handwriting
Kingfishers Children's Award	Billy		For developing his confidence and focus towards his work.
Kestrels Teacher's Award	Jessica		for having more confidence in her own abilities
Kestrels Children's Award	Liberty		for being an excellent talk partner.
Hawks Teacher's Award	Lucas		for working hard in all areas of school life this week
Hawks Children's Award	Tyler		for being a kind and caring member of hawks.
Eagles Teacher's Award	Alannah		for showing independence in her mathematical progress and striving to do her best on her weekly MA tests
Eagles Children's Award	Chloe		for continuing to push herself in her 10minute running even after pushing herself to the MAX!