

Weekly Newsletter Friday 1 December 2023

Message from Mrs Langton:

Welcome to this week's newsletter, I hope you enjoy it. What a change in the weather! It has suddenly got very cold and dark, Winter has arrived. Can I just remind you to make sure the children are dressed appropriately as they will be outdoors whenever possible during breaks and lunchtimes as it's so important for them to have time to run around and have fun with their friends. Attendance and lateness are improving gradually but can I make a plea on behalf of the office staff that if your child is going to be late or not able to come into school could you please give them a call as soon as possible in the morning. Please also do not be offended if you receive a text about lateness or absence as it is part of school policy to follow things up.

We are looking forward to Sparkle Day on Monday to begin our Christmas festivities, I hope everyone will be able to join in. Enjoy the weekend.

Dates for your diary:

Next week:

Mon 4 Dec	Christmas Sparkle Day
Thur 7 Dec 2.45pm	Parents Christmas Craft

More dates:

Mon 11 Dec 2.45pm	Foundation Christmas sing-a-long
Tue 12 Dec 10.45am	Foundation Christmas sing-a-long
Wed 13 Dec 2.15pm	Phase 1 Production (Midwife Crisis)
Thur 14 Dec 2.15pm	Phase 1 Production (Midwife Crisis)
Mon 18 Dec	Christingle Celebration
Wed 20 Dec	Christmas lunch and parties
Thur 21 Dec	Last day of term
Tues 9 Jan	Return to school

More information will follow regarding individual events.

Parent/Carer's information:

Christmas lunch - Wed 20 December - FREE

School money has been updated to show the free Christmas lunch - if you have already pre-booked can you please amend your option.
Thank you



Foundation stage - F1/CG

In the Foundation classroom this week, the children have started learning a new story of 'The Enormous Turnip.' They have already started learning the story using signifiers and drawing story maps. We have practised sequencing the different parts of the story and thought of some synonyms for 'Enormous.' The children thought of big, giant, massive, huge, and gigantic! We will now use this new vocabulary within our story writing ideas. All the children have also taken home a copy of the story map we drew, and we cannot wait to see their story telling videos on Tapestry really soon.

We have had quite a focus on vegetables this week, printing, patterning, weighing, peeling, observational drawing and painting using watercolours. The nursery children have particularly enjoyed using the watercolours this week as a new media. The nursery children investigated whether the different vegetables would float or sink. First predicting and then finding out through their investigation.

The F2 children have learnt lots this week about prepositions. We focused on the use and understanding of the vocabulary: on top, under, behind, in front, inside. We have followed instructions to where to place the teddy and challenged, where possible, with two prepositions such as 'put the teddy inside the shoe under the table.' We also continued to learn more about the number 6. Our focus was telling number stories about six objects and write number bond sentences from the number stories we thought of. In F1, the children have focused on finding one less. Using objects to count carefully up to five and then practically finding one less than the given number.

Outside, the children have had great fun pretending that the heavy tyres are turnips from the story. We tied ropes around the tyres and the children used them to act out that part of the story. They even challenged themselves by piling up the tyres to make it heavier and then even tried to transport children in the tyres, working as a team to pull the tyres along. They all loved this idea! We took this opportunity to use new vocabulary such as heave, pull, tug, drag!



Finally, please remember to keep checking Tapestry, Facebook and Twitter. We have included many photos again to share with our parents.

School Attendance:

Our whole school attendance for last week stands at **93.6%** Individual classes were as follows:

F1 - 98.0%	CG - 91.2%	BC - 93.2%
HD - 97.0%	RK - 95.2%	SB - 93.4%
JS - 86.2%	CM - 94.8%	CH - 98.3%

Well done class **CH** having the highest attendance last week.

ClassDojo team winners:

w/e 24.11.23 - **Wilberforce**

Weekly wins so far this school year:

Johnson = 3	Sullivan = 2
Skelley = 2	Wilberforce = 3



Year 1 - BC

This week we have spent a lot of time rehearsing our Christmas production with the rest of Phase 1. The children in Year 1 have learned one of two dances and a letter will come out separately regarding what they will need to bring in to wear for this. They are really enjoying the dances and are much more confident about when to come on stage and where to stand.

We have completed our story map for 'The Three Billy Goat's Gruff' this week and that will be sent home tonight. The children have been learning about adjectives and were able to come up with some great ideas for describing the troll. They have used these to write a character poem about the troll and also a 'Wanted' poster.

In maths the children have become much more confident with fact families and we have also begun to explore number bonds for the numbers to ten. That is pairs of numbers that make another number. In more maths we have continued to explore patterns with shape with the children using 2D and 3D shape to make and continue a range of patterns.

The children learned about how homes have changed since their grandparents were children in history this week. We looked at the type of furniture our grandparents may have had and what would have been in their homes. I think the children were most surprised by the fact that there were only three TV channels and no remote controls! They also found it strange that many people had no central heating and the phone was attached to the wall.

During Jigsaw this week we developed our understanding of bullying and the different forms it can take. Jigsaw Jack was feeling upset as he was being bullied and the children had some good ideas of what he could do to stop the bullying.

Finally this week just a reminder that Monday is Christmas Sparkle day and we are also really looking forward to seeing you on Thursday afternoon for our Christmas Craft in the classroom.

Year 2 - HD

What a start to the week! The children discovered two mysterious boxes as they came into the classroom. The children spent the first lesson discussing what could be inside before describing what they could feel in the box. After describing what they thought was feathers and twigs they decided it must have been a bird narrowing it down to an owl. Over the week the children have been introduced to the model text based on the story 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson. The children have begun to learn actions to orally retell the story using some Makaton signs.

In Maths we have moved onto subtraction. We started the week subtracting two 2-digit numbers that do not cross 10 using both practical and written methods, remembering to subtract the ones and then the tens. We have now begun looking at subtracting two 2-digit numbers that cross 10 starting practically using tens and ones.

The children became architects in history this week. The children discussed how the fire spread so quickly and what they thought should happen to improve the streets. They looked at the laws King Charles II made after the fire and then drew their own designs to show how a London Street should be rebuilt.

In PE the children used the skills of attackers and defenders to score goals in a variety of games.

The children are working hard to learn their lines and the songs for this year's Christmas production of 'Midwife's Crisis'.

Year 3 - RK

Another lovely week we have had in Year 3. In our English lessons this week, we have begun planning our own 'defeat the monster' story using a version of Little Red Riding Hood as inspiration. The children have become increasingly confident in spotting writing features and are now revising the word classes such as: pronouns, proper nouns and adverbs. In maths, we have begun our Multiplication and Division topic. Starting off with our three times tables before looking at the four times tables next week. This would be great to practice at home too. As well as this, during our Fluency in Five sessions we have been refining our skills with addition and subtraction. Our More Maths Friday topic has moved onto 'money' looking at recognising different coins and building amounts. In Jigsaw, we discussed again how to be a good friend and make positive choices. We have looked at how we can help each other if we feel others are unkind. The children are very passionate about playground justice and it's lovely to see them demonstrate this at playtimes. For our Science lesson this week, we grouped rocks into two categories, which we discussed could be a range of things. We talked about materials which are permeable and impermeable. Once again we have been practicing our Christmas production and are becoming very excited to perform this for you in coming weeks. We would like to say thank you to those who are reading and practising spellings at home, it doesn't go unnoticed. We are seeing such huge improvement in reading speed and fluency as well as beginning to infer character emotions through the use of authors' language.

Looking forward to another amazing week in Year 3, have a great weekend.

Year 4/5 - SB/JS

This week in classes JS and SB we have really enjoyed our learning. As always, there have been lots of things going on including the excitement of the first signs of winter! In Maths, JS have continued their work on multiplication and division focussing this week on multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. In SB, the children have also continued looking at multiplication and division, focusing their learning on the 6 and 9 times tables. In English, we are all really enjoying learning our new text Elf Road, learning the story of Billy's adventure through the mysterious door. This week we have focussed on some of the tools from the writing toolkit including expanded noun phrases, sentences of 3 for description and writing compound sentences. In addition to this, we have all carried on reading our class novels focussing on fluency when reading out loud, learning new vocabulary and looking more at comprehension skills! This week JS also looked at a non-fiction text on the Greek Gods and SB looked at one about the Romans. In PE this week, SB have been doing some dance called The Carnival and JS have continued focussing on symmetric and asymmetric balances working independently, in pairs and as part of small groups. JS turned into architects in their Art lessons this week, designing their own dream houses both inside and out! There were some amazing and also very interesting ideas! SB also did some E-Safety work based on bullying online as part of their Computing. Just a couple of reminders as we move into December, on Monday next week we are having our Sparkle Day and can't wait to see all of our children in their festive clothes. Also on Thursday, we are looking forward to welcoming you all into our classrooms for our Christmas crafts.

Year 6 - CM/CH

What a great week of learning we've had again in year 6 this week, the children should be very proud of their work. In English, the children wrote and edited their final meeting tale piece of writing using the toolkit and 'Little Vixen Street' to guide them. We have also started our new text which is persuasive writing; they have looked at some of the key features included in preparation to imitate a new model text. In reading, we have focused on chapter 19 this week 'We find out the truth, sort of', focusing on the author's (Rick Riordan) tone and mood as well as producing their own maps of the underworld based on the author's description. In maths, the children have continued to work on fractions, adding and subtracting them as well as working with mixed numbers and solving multi step problems. In Art, the children have drawn by interpreting forms from direct observation, successfully creating their own monuments to some of the Greek gods and goddesses as well as themselves. In RE, both Class CM and Class CH have focused on the symbolism of a candle and how it represents the 'Prince of Peace', the candle reminds us of the importance of peace in our lives. In Jigsaw, the children have looked at strategies for managing their feelings in bullying situations and for problem-solving when they're a part of one. Lastly, each child will be bringing home their invites for parents for our Christmas craft afternoon next week. We hope to see you all there.