

A message from the Head Teacher

Hello everyone!

Once again we have come to the end of a successful half term. Although this is our shortest half term, it has been packed with lots of wonderful learning opportunities and experiences for our children. This newsletter celebrates examples of work across the school but please also have a look at our website where class teachers post regular learning updates.

This half term we were also able to share our Ofsted report following their visit on the 29th and 30th November 2023, with our school community. We are delighted that the inspectors could see the hard work that everyone has put in to making the school a 'good' school and the positive feedback from parents / carers. Of course we are striving for even more for our children and we are committed to continuing our journey to be even better. We have pulled out a few of the highlights from the report below. The full report is also available on our school website and a copy included with this newsletter.

I wish you all a restful and safe half term break and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 19th February.

Best wishes,

Mr Chetty
Head Teacher

Senior Leadership Team



Mr Africa has settled in well to his first half term as Assistant Head. As part of his role he continues to lead on Maths and oversee his year group but now

he has also taken on the roles of leading on Behaviour and the attainment of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL). We would like to congratulate him on his first successful half term in his role!

A reminder that as part of our senior leadership team, we have an Early Years Lead and Senior Leaders in place across the school. They have a number of responsibilities across the school but are also a point of contact for parents / carers, after the class teacher.

Early Years Lead: Mrs Britton

Key Stage 1 Lead (Years 1 and 2): Ms Kerr

Year 3 Lead: Ms Soar

Year 4 Lead: Mr Rogers

Year 5 Lead: Mr Africa

Year 6 Lead: Mrs Guvercintasi

Please can we ask that parents / carers do not congregate outside the classrooms when dropping off or collecting children so that all parents / carers are able to collect their children quickly and safely.

Ofsted Report

Pupils at this school benefit from being in a safe, inclusive and caring setting.

Pupils study a rich and carefully considered curriculum that is broad and balanced.

Overall effectiveness – Good

The quality of education – Good

Behaviour and attitudes – Good

Personal development – Good

Leadership and management – Good

Early years provision – Good

All pupils access the curriculum successfully, including pupils with SEND...for whom provision is particularly strong.

Early years...children enjoy playing and learning together in a stimulating and very well resourced environment.

Attendance and Punctuality Updates

Attendance

Our school target and our target for every pupil is 96% or more for attendance. Whilst we had not reached our target for Autumn Term we were very close.

Autumn term attendance		
Nursery – Year 6	Reception – Year 6	Year 1 – Year 6
95.2%	95.1%	95.5%

Spring 1 has seen a dip in our attendance. We have recently sent out letters inviting parents / carers to meet with us to discuss how we can support. It is important that you attend these meetings if invited in, if you do not attend and your child's attendance is still a cause for concern then we may have to refer directly to the local authority.

Spring 1 attendance		
Nursery – Year 6	Reception – Year 6	Year 1 – Year 6
94.2%	93.8%	94.1%

A reminder that although we may authorise illness, your child's attendance record is studied for repeating patterns of frequent illness and this may result in not every absence being authorised. You can keep up to date with your child's attendance on WeDuc.

Punctuality

As you will be aware, punctuality is just as important as good attendance – 'every minute counts'. We have been monitoring the punctuality of all pupils across the school and have sent out letters where punctuality is a concern. Please be reminded that continued lateness counts as unauthorised absence and we may refer to the Local Authority who may issue a fine.

We are continuing to work with families to help support improving their child's attendance and punctuality, if you need support then please ask to meet with a member of the attendance team.

Fundraising

Proudly supporting



We are pleased to say that we have raised £659 for Doctors without Borders!

Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF) is the world's leading medical humanitarian aid organisation. They work in over 70 countries - in conflict zones, natural disasters and epidemics. They are independent, neutral and impartial, providing medical care where it's needed most.

We are pleased to say that we have raised £6127.41 towards our whole school trip to Legoland!

We will be sending out our calendar with fundraising events on there – please look out for this.



Year Group News

Year groups across the school have continued to enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum offer, enhanced by trips and visits.

Year 1



During our DT lesson, we constructed our own lighthouse using our design brief.

Year 2 visited the National Gallery and looked at paintings from various artists, including Picasso.

Here they are trying to pose in the same manner as some of the paintings.



Year 3: The Tempest



Year 3 enjoyed a tremendous 3 days of excitement, working with Anthony Glenn from Shaking Up Shakespeare. On the first day, the children learnt about the story of The Tempest and practiced various acting styles which involved acting individually, in pairs and in groups plus careful listening! On the second day, everyone was allocated a part in the play and rehearsals were underway! On the third day, costumes were given out and everyone felt like proper actors. We had two performances to the other year groups and parents/carers. The feedback reviews were very positive indeed! Well done everyone!

Year 5 made Stone Age shelters after reading Wolf Brother in and learning about the Stone Age in history.



Year 6



This term year 6 was full of learning, preparation to SATs and having fun through using our counter-argument technique and skills. This term our unit was about The Little Mermaid. In our Literacy lesson, we are preparing to write a letter to support Ursula and prove she was not responsible for Ariel's actions. Thus, we have worked in pairs on a counter-argument in the role of one of Ursula's creatures. We had to provide a counter argument to show a different point of view, use evidence to justify our point and follow the P E E model.

Year 4 joined two online workshops put on by the Royal Opera House London, alongside schools from all over the country, to meet and learn from the performing cast of their productions. We took part in dancing and singing exercises and were able to ask questions about their professional lives.



Reception read Jack and the beanstalk. Then we all planted some beans and we are watching them grow. We also made some plants and labelled the parts.



In nursery we have read the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have then drawn some pictures to show what she looks like.



Bring your parent / carer to school!

We have had parent / carer in class sessions for the following classes so far:

Y1 Holly

Y3 Rosewood

Year 5 Acacia

Year 5 Aspen



It has been great seeing parents / carers join their child in class, working alongside them! We are really pleased with the feedback so far and we are glad that you are finding these sessions beneficial. Please check the calendar for the day and time for the remaining classes.