



10th March 2021

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NEWSLETTER

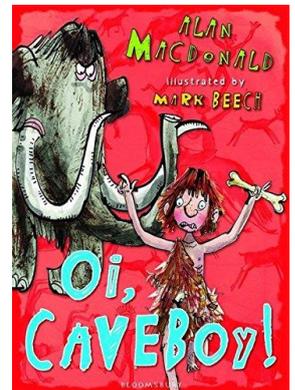
Dear Parents

Welcome back!

I am delighted to see all the children back in school – this week so far we have achieved 96% attendance, which is an amazing start to our re-opening. Whilst the weather has not been able to maintain its sunny start, the school feels full of life and looking forward to a much more positive summer term. Here is a summary of the first few days in each year group.

Year 3

We are incredibly proud at the way the year 3 children have settled so quickly back into class. They are turning up each day looking smart and ready to learn. We have enjoyed celebrating some of the successes and stories around home learning and are busily ascertaining any areas that may need revisiting. The children continue to love our Early Britons topic as we travel from the Stone Age through to the Bronze and Iron Ages. We have started a new novel, *Oi, Caveboy!* which they are really enjoying and have planned some wonderfully messy cave painting inspired artwork. We are also immersing ourselves in a rich variety of science opportunities and as Easter approaches will be exploring the idea of changing emotions through the bible story.



Year 4

It has been great to see the Year 4 children looking so smart and happy on their return to school. They soon settled into their familiar routines from the autumn term, and they enjoyed finding out about different types of plastic as one of their many Science activities this week. On Tuesday, the children were blessed with some glorious sunshine as they participated in their first day of Stubbington activities including pond dipping, den building, team building games, mapping skills, identifying signs of spring and building contraptions to protect eggs before they were flung across the field! We are all looking forward Day 2 of Stubbington activities next week. This term the children will be enjoying a rich curriculum including painting landscapes and basing their writing on the story *Sky Song*, creating animation in ICT, and exploring rhythm in music.

Year 5

It has been a fantastic first few days back for Year 5. They have all come back 'raring to go' with their learning! We have all been extremely impressed with how they have settled back into the school routines already. They are all incredibly enthusiastic about writing their 13th Trial for Hercules and have created some fantastic beasts that he needs to overcome in order to complete his trial! We also had fun learning about the Greek alphabet and how it differs from ours today. We are looking forward to learning about the Ancient Greek Olympics soon before we move on to learning about the Maya. We have another trip to the pond planned for later on in this term to continue collecting data about pond life for our

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Britain was progressing through the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age. The timeline has been stimulating some great discussion amongst the children in year 3 as they pass it each day!

The timeline extends all the way through the Year 3 corridor and up the stairs. Below is a photograph of one section of it.



Plant a Flower Day



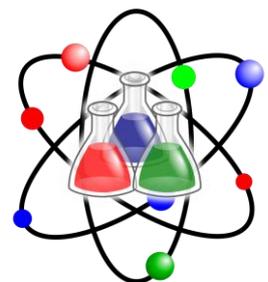
This week, our school has had a special visitor from a representative from the Mountbatten Hospice. They have invited the children at Stoke Park Junior School, to plant a sunflower to celebrate 'Plant a Flower Day' which is this coming Friday 12th March. This was launched in assembly on Monday, by Mrs Grist and your child will come home with their sunflower seeds this week. The idea of the initiative is to plant a sunflower, to spread a bit of cheer, in what has been a very difficult 12 months. We invite you and your child to grow your sunflower at home - this can be in your garden, on your balcony or on your doorstep. More details are going to follow, as we plan to organise Year Group growing competitions and would love to see photos of your child planting their sunflower or pictures as it grows. Please email these to school office and we will share them in class and if you have previously given permission for your child's picture to go on the

website, you never know your child's photo might appear on there!

We are also going to be planting some sunflowers around the school grounds - look out for them in the coming weeks.

Science Week 2021

Don't forget to enter the competition – INNOVATION. The deadline for entries has been extended to Friday 19th March.



Allison Jenkins
Headteacher