



19th January 2022

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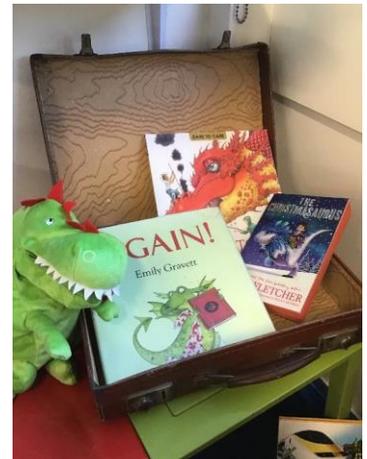
NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

Despite the return of the cold weather and the impact of Covid, which has been challenging for both staff and children alike, the children continue to enjoy the wide variety of learning opportunities within the respective year groups.

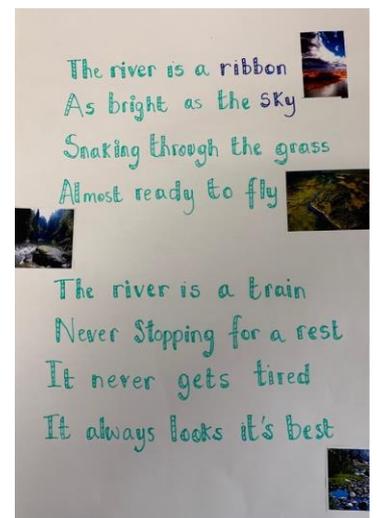
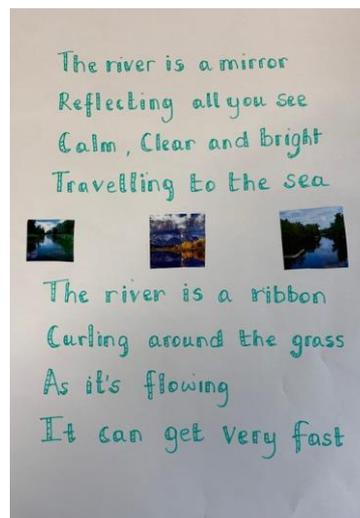
Year 3

Year 3 arrived back to school, to start the Spring term to the shocking news that a large, fire breathing dragon had landed in the school grounds! They then spent their time writing wanted posters to keep everyone safe. They have started to read a fantastic book called, The boy who grew dragons, by Andy Shepherd. As well as all the dragon fun, they have been investigating magnets in Science, learning how to mix colours in Art and how to play the ukulele.



Year 4

Brownlee Class have been exploring similies and metaphors in their writing this week. They have been studying the poem 'The River' by Valerie Bloom. They have written their own poems about a river using similies, metaphors and precise vocabulary. Lily Webb, Brennan Houghton and Teddy Brooks shared their ideas and wrote this fantastic poem with their Teaching Assistant, Mrs Hayball. I am sure you will agree that it really captures the essence of a river and is an impressive piece of creative writing. Well Done!



Year 5

Year 5 have kick-started 2022 with a journey to space, to infinity and beyond! Well as far as the planet of Pandora - a planet of incredible danger and strange beauty. During their explorations of the moon planet, the children have learnt all about the wonderful and weird creatures that inhabit this land, including the incredible hexapods. Intrigued to learn more? Ask your children. They are the Pandora experts now, after having written a non-chronological report all about it.

The space theme continues in the children's learning within their Computing lessons. Their mission is to research, design, create and present a space rover mission to a planet of their choice using PowerPoint. We look forward to seeing their completed missions presented to us.

Back on Earth, the swimming lessons are now well underway. The children are enjoying their Wednesday afternoon trips to Places for Leisure and are doing very well at remembering all that they need to bring each week. Thank you for your support with that! We take the odd missing item of clothing and pair of shoes on the wrong owner's feet as a successful swimming trip!

Next week, we are looking forward to working on the next part of our Longitudinal Study with another trip to the pond. We will be looking carefully at the changes in and around the pond since our last visit in November. So wellies at the ready please and may the weather be with us!

Watch out for the children's next English learning journey where one of the greatest conspiracy theories ever will inspire their next piece of writing. What will your views be on it? Were they real or were they fake?

Year 6

Year 6 have had a great start to the Spring term. They are thoroughly enjoying the class reader "Clockwork" by Philip Pullman. This book is also the stimulus for our writing, currently the children are writing in role to recount the strange events at the castle!

In science we are exploring respiration in animals and are looking forward to investigating how exercise will affect the pulse rate and in music we are creating musical patterns, using different musical instruments to recreate the sound of a heartbeat. As you know, the Year 6 residential to Conover Hall is fast approaching and the children are really looking forward to this adventure. Don't worry, if your child is not going on the trip, they will have an equally fun time at school - we are planning a range of activities for them to participate in!

Curriculum Maps

Curriculum Maps for each year group for this term are attached to the newsletter, they can also be found on the website. I hope that you find these useful.

Lunchtime Stars of the Week

This week our stars are:

Willow – Potter Class, Casey – Sande Class, George – Hawking Class and Zachary – Shackleton Class.

These children have been identified by our lunchtime supervisors as making the correct choices as regards their behaviour and behaviour towards others on the playground.



Well done!

Heart of a Book Competition

Congratulations to the winners of this competition. A display of all their work will be created in reception.

Charlie – Moore, Elden – Sharman, Logan – Potter

Alba – Brownlee, Philippa – Peacock, Gaia – Adlington

Isaac – Ezra, Maria – Sande, Callum – Barlow

Marcel – Wallis, Alexa – Hawking, Florence - Shackleton

New Covid Self Isolation Information

This week, new government guidance regarding self-isolation came into effect. This guidance applies to both children as well as adults.

Anyone who is self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Borrowbox

This is a free eBook and eAudiobook offer from Hampshire libraries. Anyone living in Hampshire can join the Hampshire library, it can be done on line, or in person at your local library.

Borrowbox provides access to both eBooks and eAudiobooks which can be downloaded for free for 21 days.

There are no charges for using the service, making reservations and no overdue fees. If you haven't returned items by the time they're due, you'll no longer have access to them. If there are no outstanding reservations you will be given the chance to renew items on loan.

You can listen to eAudiobooks or read eBooks on portable devices, a tablet or phone using the BorrowBox app. They can also be downloaded to your home computer via the BorrowBox website.

Dyslexic readers can select a dyslexic font, for easier access.

All you will need is your library card number and PIN.

Reminders

The school will be closed for an Inset Day on **FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2022**.

Residentials - In order to secure your child's place on their forthcoming residential visit, deposits for places must be in school by **Tuesday 1st February** at the very latest. Applications for places will close on this date.

Year 5 Bikeability - To book a place you need to follow the link in the letter sent out last week. The deadline for booking is Sunday 30th January.

Year 5 Swimming - The remaining dates are:

Wednesday 26th January

Wednesday 2nd February

Friday 11th February

Wednesday 9th February

Wednesday 16th February



Year 6 Height and Weight Checks - If you do not want your child's height and weight to be measured, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight, please let us know by writing a letter to us by Wednesday 27th January.

FREE Courses for Parents

Libraries in Hampshire are offering various free courses for parents.

For more information or to book please call 02392 232957 or email learninginlibraries@hants.gov.uk

Online Courses include: How Children Learn to Read and Write, Raising Resilient Children, Positive Parenting, Building Resilient Teenagers, Let's Get Ready for School, Starting Secondary School.

They also offer face to face courses

Many thanks, once again, for your continued support.

Allison Jenkins

Headteacher