

WOODLEY

C of E Primary School

Issue: 6

March

2017



Dear Parents,

So we come to the end of another busy term and I find myself reflecting on the achievements of the children over the term and looking forward to what the summer term will bring.

Up, up and Away

The Lower Junior children excelled in this wonderful performance that combined music and dance to a high standard. Lots of exciting facts were shared with us about what it is like in Space and high quality work was on display in the school Central Area. I would like to thank the children and staff for all their hard work and thank parents for supporting their children at the three performances.



Cross Country

One of the successes of the last few months has been the schools performance in the Cross Country League this season. I would like to thank all the children who have taken part, all the parents who have transported children and the staff who have accompanied me to the events. We have had some super individual performances but Mrs Poole and I were over the moon when we found out that our girls year 5 and 6 team finished overall in first place at the Reddam House event.



Hello and Goodbye

As mentioned in my last newsletter, we are saying goodbye to Mr Cutting and Mrs Thompson and welcoming Mrs Baker and Mrs Webb (the former Miss Gilham) to our school. Some of you have asked for more information about Mrs Baker and I am pleased to tell you that she is an experienced teacher who has worked in our school on many occasions when teachers have been absent or on courses. We are very fortunate that she is able to join us on the morning that Mrs Poole is not in school. Mrs Brennan will be joining us next term as a teaching assistant and she will be working mainly in Rowan Class. Mrs Hickmott will be dividing her time between Aspen Class in the morning and Rowan Class in the afternoon.

All that remains for me to do is to wish you all a very Happy Easter. The children all deserve a good rest so they are ready for the demands of the Summer Term. The last term of the academic year is really important as assessments are made on the progress of the children over the year and of course we have SATS tests in Year 2 and 6.

Best Wishes, Louisa Gurney, Head Teacher



Curriculum News

Foundation Stage:

Foundation have had a very busy month reading the story of The Three Little Pigs. They have demonstrated their superb acting skills whilst re-telling the story and have also made some story maps. They then had a go at writing the story all by themselves and all of the adults have been very impressed and proud of what they have written.

This week we have been doing lots of Easter activities with a favourite being making the Easter chocolate nests. The children helped to weigh out all of the ingredients, write instructions and enjoyed making their own baskets to take them home in.

We have also been very lucky to have had RE Inspired in this week who have put on some wonderful activities around the Easter story.

In your child's book bag you will find some tricky words for your child to learn at home over the Easter period. We all hope that you have a lovely break and look forward to seeing you for the Summer term!

Miss Lord, Phase Leader.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1&2):

This month, KS1 have been thoroughly enjoying our Castles and Knights topic! We have been on our school trip to Windsor Castle where the children learnt 'How to be a Knight'. The lady who ran the workshop commented after both groups on their excellent behaviour and understanding of history and monarchy. When we came back to school, the children learnt how to write a recount of their day out and they were able to remember many of the exciting things they had experienced - particularly their 'delishoos' packed lunches! This week, we've been looking at writing instructions for 'How to be a Knight'. The children really benefitted from the real life experience at Windsor Castle and they have produced some beautiful work.

This week the children are learning about time. They are learning o'clock, half past and quarter hours. When they are ready, the children will move on to reading time in 5 minute intervals and so on. Telling the time is a really important skill and it would be really helpful if the children practiced their skills by reading the time on different clocks at home, in the car and out and about!



Mrs Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader.



Curriculum News

Lower Key Stage 2: (Years 3&4)

This month has certainly been a busy one for the Lower Juniors! We have been exploring our space topic and have found out some interesting information. Did you know that every year the moon moves 3.8cm away from Earth?

In English, we have been looking at poetry. We have spent time learning about different poetic devices such as rhyme and alliteration. From this we wrote our own alien poems which we are really proud of. We have been hunting for right angles in maths whilst learning about obtuse and acute angles. Ask your child if they can explain the difference between them.

Science has been electrifying this half term. We are now experts in building circuits and have created our own game which lights up when they right answer is selected.

We have ended the term with a big bang! The Lower Junior production; 'Up, Up and Away!' was a giant success. We celebrated the work we have done this term through a variety of mediums. We hope you enjoyed our singing and dancing whilst learning new information about space. The Lower Junior Team are really proud of how hard the children have worked this term. We hope you all have a lovely Easter break.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5&6)

A month filled with celebration. World Book Day gave us the opportunity to dress up as our favourite book characters – Where's Wally and Harry Potter were again popular, but there was also an Oompa Loompa and a fantastic Mr Fox! The school bus was transformed into a magical world from the picture book, 'Leon and the place between'. It inspired us to write fantastic poems and some imaginative, descriptive pieces of writing. Our science investigation, into air resistance, was assisted by a strong breeze, our prediction was right, 'the larger the parachute the longer it remained in the air'.

The year 5s had a great opportunity to visit The Microsoft Campus this term. They were able to test the latest gadgets, code using Microsoft surfaces and experience what the working environment of a technological company looks and feels like.

Always a welcomed visit, RE Inspired reminded us to think about the events that led up to Easter and again, helped us to reflect at this important Christian time of year.

Finally, we celebrated the end of our topic 'Ancient Greece' with an afternoon of: 'Chiton' making; Petteia playing; Greek food tasting (with homemade pitta bread); javelin throwing and we even had a go at Greek dancing! It was a fun way to end the term.

Mrs Sharman, Acting Phase Leader.



Sporting News

Football

We completed the football season with a visit to Westende Primary School in Wokingham where our A and B teams played. The A's played well but were defeated 3-0 and the B's had their first victory this season winning 3 – 2. A big thank you to all the support from parents and relatives at the matches.

Cricket

We are looking forward to the summer term where we have entered a cricket league, quad kids and tri golf competition. We will be holding cricket trials for our Year 5/6 children when we return.

Reminders from the Office

School Clubs

Club forms will be emailed out. The deadline to return forms is Friday 21st April. We will now be drawing names out of a hat for oversubscribed clubs. Clubs will start week beginning 2nd May and finish week beginning 10th July 2017. Reminder to please not park in the school car park if dropping off for morning clubs or picking up at the end of the day. All clubs will now finish at 4.15pm.

New Term

Reminder school returns Wednesday 19th April 2017.

P.E.

Please can Foundation children have a pair of trainers in school on a Friday afternoon so they can go outside for PE during the Summer Term.



Dates

March

Friday 31st - Term Ends 2.30pm

April

Tuesday 18th April - Inset Day

Wednesday 19th April - school returns 8.40am

Friday 21st - School nurse - eye tests Foundation children

Monday 24th - 8pm - PTA Meeting

Tuesday 25th - EYFS trip to Rushall Farm

May

Monday 1st - school closed - bank holiday

Tuesday 2nd - school clubs start this week

Friday 5th - Family Friday's start

Monday 8th - Thursday 11th - Year 6 SATS week

Friday 12th - Bags 2 School collection

Monday 29th - Friday 2nd - HALF TERM

June

Monday 5th - INSET Day - school closed

Tuesday 6th June - school returns 8.40am

Thursday 15th - Class / team photographs

Friday 23rd - Year 6 Residential trip to Little Canada

Monday 26th - Year 6 return from Little Canada

Wednesday 28th - Year 6 transition day to secondary schools

July

Friday 7th - PTA Summer Fair

Monday 10th - Final week for clubs (parents invited to watch)

Tuesday 25th - Term Ends 2.30pm

