



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Spring Term Issue 8
8th March 2024

"So many books, so little time", said Frank Zappa and I could not agree more! I absolutely love to read and don't get nearly enough time to do it, particularly when it comes to reading for pleasure. Inevitably as Headteacher I need to read documents and guidance that are published for schools and that is an important part of my job, but that ability to just sit down with a book I really want to read and immerse myself in it, is something that I do not get to do nearly as often as I would like. A really good book allows you to be transported to a different world and to imagine the characters and the situations that are being described: it allows our imaginations to be expanded - whatever our age.

Yesterday was World Book Day and we celebrated all these things in school with a variety of activities. The majority of staff and pupils dressed up as characters from books and there were some brilliant costumes. Mr Guilder and Fish Club started our day with a Collective Worship for World Book Day and focused on the Bible and all the different types of books that are included in the Bible. We were once again very grateful to our friends from the North Mymms Book Swap who came to school and gave the children the opportunity to donate one of their old books and take away a different book to read. We then had some online presentations and, in the afternoon, we had a visit from Lisa Bentley an author who came to speak to the younger children. It was a really good day and my particular thanks to Mrs Bartlett who organised the various events.

We had our first netball fixture this week against St Philip Howard School. Although the team didn't win, they played really well together and I am grateful to Miss Males and Mrs McGeady for their work in coaching the team. We look forward to our next fixture.

This morning we had our PTA Mother's Day sale and the children had the opportunity to buy gifts for those who are important to them and look after them. As ever, I must thank the members of the PTA who came in to run and help with the sale: these are important events and we couldn't run them without the dedicated support of our parents. I hope all those of you who look after our children do get spoilt by the children on Mothering Sunday at the weekend.

To return to the theme of reading, I will conclude with a quote from Charles W. Eliot: "*Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counsellors, and the most patient of teachers.*"

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

Headteacher



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Forgiveness

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins.

1 John 1:9

Contact us 8:30am to 4pm at...



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HOUSEPOINTS



I am pleased to report that House Points this week were as follows:

230



169



167



98



Well done Hedgehogs!

Running Totals:

404

345

307

245

STARS OF THE WEEK

The following children were nominated by the TAs for good manners and joined Mr Petty on the Star Table .

Reception - Oakley

Year 1 - Robert

Year 2 - Mohammed

Year 3 - Shalom

Year 4 - Kristy-Anne

Year 5 - Termeh

Year 6 - Justin

Weekly Teacher Nominations this week were:-

Reception - Polly

Year 1 - Peony

Year 2 - Favour

Year 3 - Binudi

Year 4 - Holly

Year 5 - Lenny

Year 6 - Moni

Congratulations to all these children.

ATTENDANCE STARS

Hawking	99%	
Elizabeth	97.8%	
Luther King	96.2%	
Curie	93.6%	
Attenborough	93.6%	
Goodall	90.4%	
Mandela	90%	

SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Friday 8th March	PTA Mother's Day Sale
Tuesday 19th March	Year 1 and Year 4 trip—The Natural History and Science Museum
Wednesday 20th March	Year 3 and Year 5 trip—The British Museum
Friday 22nd March	Arts afternoon 3:30pm
Monday 25th March	Year 2 and Year 6 trip—RAF
Thursday 28th March	End of term service 1pm AT SCHOOL
Thursday 28th March	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Monday 15th April	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 16th April	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am
Thursday 2nd May	Reception screening children born after 1st March
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday—School closed
13th May—17th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week
27th May—31st May	Half Term
Friday 14th June	PTA Father's Day Sale
Saturday 22nd June	Summer Fayre 12pm till 4pm
Thursday 4th July	Year 6 trip to Stanborough Water Park
Thursday 11th July	Transition Day
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Monday 2nd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 3rd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Wednesday 4th September	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am

PTA - Mother's Day Sale

A huge thank you to the members of the PTA who organised the Mother's Day Sale and helped raise a fantastic £550. All funds go towards the school.



“

We are a welcoming Christian community where every child has the chance to flourish.

We bring and share joy, inspire daily and creatively equip children for the future.

We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



The Desmond Tutu Award for

Forgiveness



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

Be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ.
(Ephesians 4:32)

Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

For all the silly things I have done wrong I am sorry.

For the serious things I have done wrong I am sorry.

For the things I didn't even know were wrong I am sorry.

For all the things I need to put right. Make me strong.

Amen.

Reception - Elizabeth

What a lovely week Elizabeth Class have had! We have been practising our writing (shhh, don't tell the Mums about the surprise!), doing lots of independent measuring using tape measures, rulers and cubes, and learning about time by sequencing the events in our everyday lives. And of course we had all the excitement of World Book Day and a visit from real-life author Lisa Bentley, who entranced the children with a reading of her own story about feeling good about ourselves and proud of our individuality. Every single child (and adult!) in Elizabeth Class dressed up to take part in this amazing day of learning and appreciating the joy of books! Remember you still have until Monday to send in a photograph of your child reading in an unusual place - could it be in the park? Up a tree? Upside down on a climbing frame? You decide! I can't wait to see what ideas your wonderful children come up with!

Have an amazing weekend!



Year 1 - Curie

What a busy, busy week Curie class have had, lots of learning and lots of fun! Wednesday afternoon saw Yr1 taking part in an interactive activity of drawing around each other and then labelling key parts of the body. We welcomed a visit from our Chair of Governors, Sheila Hoile, who joined in with the activity and talked to the children about their learning. Thank you Sheila for joining us, we hope to see you again soon! Thursday was another exciting day! The children looked wonderful in their costumes and we enjoyed taking part in the 'book swap', sharing books with year 6 and talking to the wonderful visiting author, Lisa Bentley. As this newsletter goes 'to print' we will hopefully be in the woodland area making natural land art! Have a great weekend.



Year 1 - Curie



Year 2 - Hawking

This week has been great fun for Hawking class. We have welcomed one of our school's Governors to join a Science lesson and show off all our wonderful learning! We have also celebrated World Book Day and it was lovely to see all the characters the children dressed up as. Book Swap came to St Marys and every child was able to choose a new book. Finally, we had a visit from children's author, Lisa Bentley, who brought puppets for the children to use to bring the story to life! the children had a lot of fun and even had the opportunity to ask Lisa some questions about being an author. Have a lovely weekend!

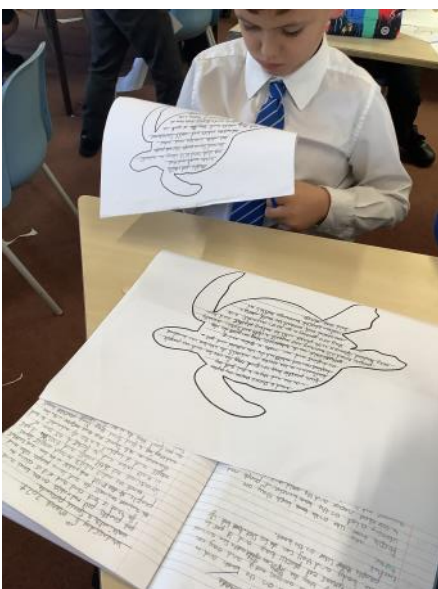
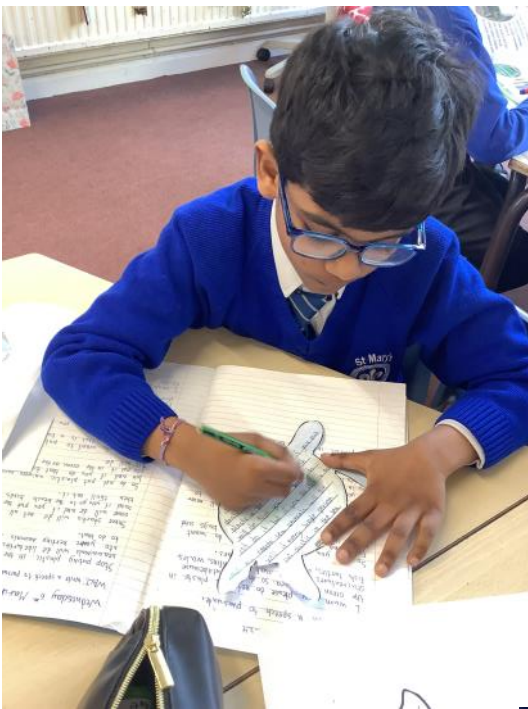


Year 3 - Mandela

Mandela class have worked incredibly hard on their plastic pollution speeches and have managed to finish and read their persuasive writing to year 2. There have been some impressive, passionate speeches which include the key components of a speech. Using imperative verbs, repetition, expanded noun phrases and rhetorical questions. We have also explored some facts and figures to help strengthen our plea. Please see below, their incredible work as they read their speeches out to year 2.

In Maths we have completed work on Shapes. We have explored and experimented on 2-D and 3-D shapes and their properties. We have even started measuring the width and length of shapes as we will start work on using these numbers.

In geography we have learned about mountains and glaciers. "I liked Mount Everest because it's the biggest mountain in the world." Freddie.



Year 4 - Attenborough

It has been another busy and exciting week in Attenborough class. In English, we have been continuing to look at our book 'Until I Met Dudley', we focused on conjunctions, prepositions and adverbs of time, using the book to help inspire our writing. In Maths, we have been using our new booklets to look at fractions, we have been looking at understanding the whole, counting beyond 1 and partitioning a mixed number. In Science, we continued to look at states of matter, we did a class experiment using fizzy drinks to help investigate how much carbon dioxide is in the fizzy drinks. We then all took turn shaking the fizzy drinks and releasing the bubbles to see if the drink would then weigh differently. On Tuesday, we were lucky enough to listen to a talk given by a member of 'Give Racism the Red Card', it was very interesting and the class were very engaged. A highlight of the week was World Book Day, it was lovely to see every member of the class dress up, we had a day of reading books, joining online quizzes and designing our our book covers. It was such a fun day that the class all really enjoyed.



Year 5 - Luther King

It has been a busy week in Luther King class this week. We have had the usual lessons as well as some extra special events to make our learning exciting.

In Maths we have continued to learn about fractions and how we can use our timetables to help us make the denominators the same so we can add the fractions together.

In English we have continued our poetry unit and have been writing our own poems, edited and published them. There are some budding poets in Luther King class.

Thursday was very exciting as we had so many of Year 5 come in as their favourite book character. All day we focused on reading and as soon as we heard the bell ring, we would drop everything and read. We gave book recommendations and even joined other schools throughout the UK in a live lesson on reading on the BBC. Everyone enjoyed our hot-seating activity when the class could ask one of their peers' questions about the character they had come as and about the book the character is from. Lots of reading related activities happened throughout the day that really got us excited about reading. So another very productive week in Year 5 this week.



Year 6 - Goodall

This week in Year 6 Goodall, the classroom was a whirlwind of literary characters! It was of course, World Book Day, and the children came dressed to impress: we saw a whole host of superheroes leaping around; a delegation of students straight from Hogwarts; there were even a few Barbies ready to take on some adventures! The fun didn't stop there, as the class enjoyed a day filled with book-themed activities. Looking ahead, next week Year 6 Goodall will be taking on a special challenge – a mock SATs week! This will be a great opportunity to put their learning into practice and prepare them for their exams later this year.



World Book Day

Children and staff thoroughly enjoyed taking part in various activities linked to reading throughout the day. We enjoyed live webinars from authors, live quizzes, reading with different year groups and much more. A big thank you to our volunteers from the community book swap for coming in to school and helping every child choose a book to take home and read for pleasure. Also, we were delighted to have author Lisa Bentley visit Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3. She commented on the warm welcome we gave her and what a lovely school we have. If you are yet to enter our World Book Day competition, we have extended the deadline until Monday 11th March.



Mandela class made some great art work for the special women in their lives to celebrate Mother's Day. They are being displayed on the church railings.

