



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I hope that you all had a good Christmas break and that you were able to spend some quality time with family and friends during the festive period. It has been really good to be back at school this week and it has been really good to see the pupils working hard and fully engaging with their learning.

As I do at the beginning of every term, I want to remind you that attendance remains a focus for us, as we continue to build on the progress that we have been making. A large number of our pupils finished last term achieving either an award for high levels of attendance or for improved attendance and several achieved awards for both! I have attached our Attendance information sheet along with this newsletter, as I do every term and I would ask that you do read it carefully and share the information with the children, as it outlines the key reasons for good attendance and the negative impact of absence, both academically and socially.

We have also recently reviewed our guidance about the content of packed lunches and that was circulated to parents yesterday. If your child has a packed lunch, please do read that information carefully, as it is so important that the children have a balanced and nutritious meal in the middle of the day - it is key to their success in class in the afternoon!

Our half termly value for the first half of this term is courage. In Collective Worship this week, we have looked at what courage means and how we can all, children and adults alike, demonstrate the value of courage each day in school.

During this season of Epiphany in the Church calendar, where we commemorate the visit of the wisemen to the baby Jesus, we recall their courage in following the star to Bethlehem, meeting with King Herod, worshipping the new born baby and then heeding the message they received in a dream to return home by another route. All this took considerable courage, but they remained convinced of the importance of what they were doing in going to visit and worship the Christ child: something, more than 2,000 later, Christians across the world continue to do.

I look forward to the term ahead and all that we will achieve together and I leave you with a quote from Nelson Mandela:

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

Headteacher

Spring Term Issue 1
10th January 2025



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Courage



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



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Dellsome Lane, Welham Green, AL9 7NE

HOUSEPOINTS



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

115

133

101

136



Well done Hedgehogs!

115

133

101

136

STARS OF THE WEEK

ATTENDANCE STARS

The following children were nominated and joined Mr Petty on the Star Table at lunchtime today.

Reception - Ned

Year 1 - Chalya

Year 2 - Jasmine

Year 3 - Toby

Year 4 - Charlotte

Year 5 - Holly

Year 6 - John

Congratulations to all these children.

Curie

97%



Luther King

95.3%



Attenborough

93.7%



Elizabeth

92.7%



Hawking

92.1%



SCHOOL DIARY



| Date | Event |
|----------------------|---|
| 17th - 21st February | Half Term |
| Friday 4th April | Easter Service—10am St Mary's Church |
| Friday 4th April | Term ends - 1:45pm |
| Monday 21st April | Bank Holiday - School Closed |
| Tuesday 22nd April | Term Starts - 8:40am |
| Monday 5th May | Bank Holiday - School Closed |
| 26th - 30th May | Half Term |
| Wednesday 23rd July | End of Year Service—10am St Mary's Church |
| Wednesday 23rd July | Term ends - 1:45pm |

CLASS PE DAYS

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Elizabeth - Year 1 | Mondays & Fridays |
| Curie - Year 2 | Tuesdays & Thursdays |
| Hawking - Year 3 | Mondays & Thursdays |
| Mandela - Year 4 | Swimming Mondays & Wednesdays |
| Attenborough - Year 5 | Wednesdays & Thursdays |
| Luther King - Year 6 | Tuesdays & Fridays |

“

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 Harriet Tubman Award for

Courage



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

Remember, I have commanded you to be determined and confident! Don't be afraid or discouraged, for I, the LORD your God, am with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

Prayer of the Week

Dear Lord,

Give us your strength to face challenges. Help us to remember we need to take small steps to begin with, but it's starting the journey that matters.

Thank you that you have promised to be with us, wherever the journey leads us.

Amen

Reception - Donaldson

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all!

This week in Donaldson class, in Maths, we have been subitising numbers one to five with a dice and then writing numbers from one to ten. In English, we have started a new book called 'The Magic Paintbrush' the children have enjoyed painting pictures inferring what they think will happen next in the story. The children have also been able to write some words from the story book onto paper using their phonics knowledge. In PE, we have started a new unit called gymnastics. The children loved pretending to be different kinds of animals in the rainforest, by using different parts of their body to move in different directions. We have also started to explore animals and their habitats. The children were very excited to learn where different animals live and why they may live there. A brilliant first week back, keep up the good work Donaldson class!



Year 1 - Elizabeth

Elizabeth class have had a brilliant first week back and have worked incredibly hard. In English, we started a new text called 'The Comet' by Joe Todd-Stanton, about a little girl who moves home and struggles to adjust. We have concentrated on grammar this week and identified nouns both in the book and in our classroom. We then thought of adjectives to describe these nouns and wrote sentences using our neatest handwriting. In Maths, we are exploring numbers from 10 to 20 and using a number line to order numbers and solve problems. In Science we have started a new topic, learning about animals including humans. The children were able to name common animals and put them into species groups. Well done Year 1 on a super start to the new year.



Year 2 - Curie

Happy New Year!

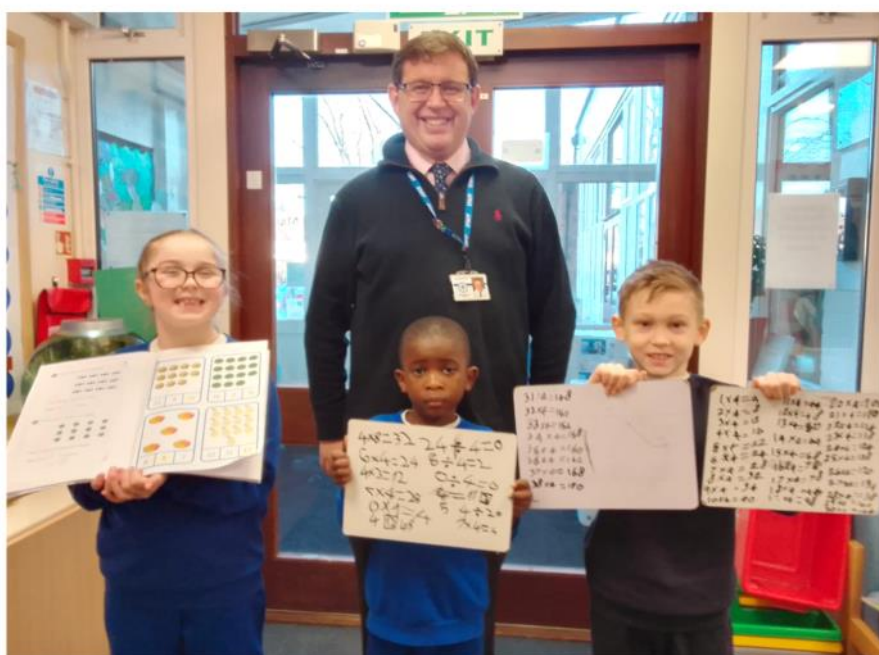
Curie class have settled back in the swing of things fully refreshed. There has been a noticeable improvement in their work ethics, so thank you for your continued support with this.

In Maths, we have started a new topic on money. They have worked hard counting money using intervals and grouping different denominations. Lots of Maths skills are being used to work out questions. Keep up the hard work.

In English, we have started a new book called 'The Bear under the stairs.' I thought finding footprints in the classroom was bad enough, but now the class are faced with a new problem, a mysterious object hidden under a blanket. Despite the class being curious and wanting to pull off the blanket, the object has been wrapped with a caution tape and different warning notes. They have been given a few clues but are still none the wiser. The plot thickens as we read more of the story. Keep up the amazing detective skills Curie class.

In PSHE, the class have been learning about personal successes and how it made them feel. They were given an opportunity to share these with the class and feel even prouder. Well done!

They were shown various pictures of people and had to decide if it showed a success and explain their answers. Brilliant discussions.



Year 3 pupils showing their work to Mr Petty this week.

Year 3 - Hawking

I would like to welcome Hawking class back to a new year of growth, happiness and success! However you all spent your time away, I hope you rested and ready for a jam-packed Spring term.

This week in English, we have learned what prepositions, present perfect and writing to an 'Agony Aunt/Uncle' letter looks like. As a class, we have decided Oscar is a great 'Agony Uncle'.

In Maths we have looked at our 3- and 4-times tables and then dividing by 3 and 4. The children are working really hard and doing well in their Maths lessons.

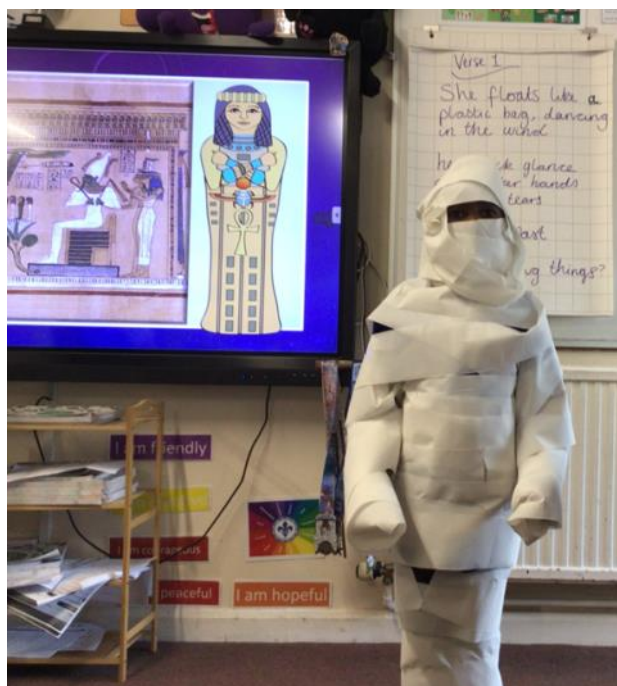
History may be a highlight of the week this week as we have started looking at Egyptians and managed to mummify Davidzo and place him into an (imaginary) tomb. Scarlett and Poppy did save him, so all is well. We do have some excitement around History so, if you have any artefacts, books or anything of interest which links to this topic, you are welcome to send them in so we can find them like archaeologists! Please do not send anything that your child may break, smash, rip etc. Please do just hand them over to an adult so we can take care of it and show it under the visualiser.

In Art, we have looked at the architect Christopher Wren and the famous St Paul's Cathedral. Hawking class can tell you what an architect is and how they had to understand the concept of symmetry to help draw the cathedral themselves.

I would like to thank all parents for working so hard with your little ones, they are progressing in different ways and I hope you are observing this at home.

Please do continue to read, do your times tables and spellings, Hawking Class!

This week's newsletter was written by Ms Garip



Year 4 - Mandela

We have had a good first week back in Mandela class getting stuck into our new learning. This week we have begun reading about Frindleswyld a frozen creature causing lots of trouble. In reading, we were excited to learn about how fireworks are made in preparation for reading The Firework Maker's Daughter. We have also started to learn about the Anglo Saxons in history and created soundscapes in Science for our school.



Year 5 - Attenborough

Year 5 have made an excellent start to the Spring Term!

We have begun the new year thinking about our hopes and ambitions in PSHE.

In Maths, we have been using formal written methods to solve multiplication calculations.

In English writing we have begun our new Literacy Tree unit which is centred around the picture book The Island by Armin Greder. This text has led to some thoughtful discussion about how to treat newcomers and careful writing about showing hostility vs hospitality.

In history, we have begun our learning about the Ancient Greeks. We made observational pencil drawings of the Francois Vase and have begun learning about Greek Gods. Our Literary Leaf reading text this half term is Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans.



Year 6 - Luther King

In Year 6 this week we have been learning about bacteria, viruses and fungi in Science. We are also learning about the Stonewall Inn and rights for the LGBTQ+ community in our English lessons. Maths this week we have multiplying decimal numbers. HAPPY NEW YEAR from all of Year 6.

By Benjamin and Qabid

