

Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School



Newsletter



Newsletter 08

Thursday 7th April 2022

"Amaze, Excite, Inspire"

What a week, what a term! So much to celebrate, so much to reflect upon as our spring term comes to a close.

This does seem to have been the term where the school has had the most absence—staff and children, and whilst guidance has changed to 'Living with Covid', it is still within the school community. At Langley we will continue to work within the baseline measures to help manage the spread of infection in school:

- Encourage pupils to take up the offer of the national vaccination programme including COVID-19 and flu
- Ensure occupied spaces are well-ventilated and let fresh air in
- Reinforce good hygiene practices such as hand-washing and cleaning

We are very fortunate that throughout, the school community has been resilient, positive and adaptable. It has been business as usual—and our curriculum has enabled children to be 'amazed, excited and inspired' in many aspects of school life; from the application and development of academic, social and emotional skills to wider curriculum learning including transition visits, dance performances, visiting musicians and church services. With this term's newsletter we have included class end of term newsletters which capture some of the great things that have been happening in your child's class. We hope that you enjoy reading these.

I was pleasing to hear positive feedback from this term's Parents Evenings. Whilst most appointments were remote, being able to discuss the progress made and share next steps in learning and having a consistent message between home and school is key in ensuring strong partnerships. The summer term is as important, if not more so, in terms of attainment and progress, as the opportunities to build on knowledge and skills together with preparation for the next steps in your child's learning will be an integral approach to next terms planning. There will be the expectation for your child to work hard and be purposeful in their learning, and I know that you will support in this.

Tomorrow, the school finishes for the Easter break, after what will be a very 'egg-citing' afternoon of Easter Egg Hunting. Thank you to the PTA for organising such a special way of ending this term. I would like to thank Natasha Halliwell in particular, for her tireless trawl of all the supermarkets in Chippenham and beyond to ensure that all the eggs were donated. The school returns on Monday 25th April.

On behalf of all the governors, staff and children, we wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Easter.

Karen Winterburn

Values in Action



***Just as the Lord has forgiven you,
so you must also forgive each other."***

Colossians 3:13

Term 4: FORGIVENESS

The BIG QUESTION - Do you have to earn forgiveness?

This term the school value we focused on was 'FORGIVENESS'. **Forgiveness can be difficult and costly, it takes strength and courage, but without it a new start is impossible.**

Which Bible stories can your child remember about forgiveness?

What conclusion have they come to about the BIG QUESTION - Do you have to earn forgiveness?

As Christians prepare to mark Holy Week and celebrate Easter, we remember that God is abounding in love, slow to anger, and forgives all our sins completely, because of Jesus' death on the cross.

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ, God forgave you."
(Ephesians 5:1)*

A prayer for this term:

Dear God, thank you that you are a loving heavenly Father. When we have done or said wrong things, you are always ready to forgive us when we ask you. We ask you to help us to forgive others when they do wrong to us. Amen



Hercules Class End of Newsletter Winter Term 4

Topic – All at Sea!



Welcome to our class end of term newsletter. Although everyone settled back in amazingly well after the half time break, this term indeed has been All at Sea in more ways than one – with staff and children off with Covid and sickness. A big thank you to everyone for pulling together - staff and children alike - and for being amazingly resilient this term in the face of change and uncertainty.

This term we have been exploring lighthouses and learning about the oceans around the world. The children wrote down lots of questions, and we have been reading 'How Lighthouses Work' by Roman Bellaev to find out the answers, and help us design and build our own lighthouses. We have conducted science experiments to research different materials and their properties, as well as taken part in Science Week. We also dressed up as Superheroes for Comic Relief. Finally, we have read 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' by Ronda Armitage and designed and wrote down instructions on how to create the ultimate Lighthouse Keeper's sandwiches.



All the children have worked so hard this term and the Year Ones have undertaken their first official assessments papers. I have been just so very proud of each and every one of the Year Ones and their outstanding approach to the assessments showing great resilience, determination and commitment.



As always we thank you for all your parental support and hard work supporting your children to come into school through these tricky times and clock changeover, as we know that it is never easy. Have a wonderfully relaxing Easter break, let's hope for a summer term full of sunshine and bright days! All the best from the Hercules Team.

Pegasus Class End of Spring term 2



Pegasus Class have had an exciting, but also exhausting term. The children have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum. We did some narrative writing about The Lighthouse Keeper and created paintings in the style of Maud Lewis, a Canadian folk artist. The results are wonderful and the added DT aspect of a moving basket, makes the painting even more attractive. Continuing on the lighthouse topic we created our own 3D lighthouse and are hoping to be able to install a light circuit before the end of the term. And as if this



wasn't enough, the children designed and made a lighthouse sandwich and were given the opportunity to taste new things.



The life story of Garce Darling and her bravery inspired the children even though it is hard to imagine what it would be like to row out into the sea in a heavy storm.

We celebrated Science Week and learned about plants and trees. Who will be the winner of the Whole School Bean Growing Competition? An increasing part of teaching was done by our student teacher, Mrs Akin, and we were sad to say good-bye to her.



In Maths, Y2 have been solving lots of number problems, as well as deepening their understanding of money. Y1 have also worked with word problems as well as being introduced to multiplication and division.

It was delightful to hold our Easter Service at St Peter's with some parents joining us to do so. It feels quite special to be able to congregate again as a school and with the wider school community. This week will continue to have a strong focus on Easter, not just with chocolate eggs, but also by sharing the story of Jesus and the importance of his life and death for Christians.

We hope, your children have enjoyed this term and wish you all a very happy and restful Easter!



Mrs Nathanson, Mrs Svendsen and Mrs Stables

PHOENIX CLASS END OF TERM 4 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

I don't know about you, but to me, Term 4 seems to have gone past in a flash! There has been lots going on in class and around the school, and the children have kept a positive and enthusiastic attitude throughout. Our attendance numbers in Phoenix have been ok, with just a few periods of absence for some children.

Our class topic has been the study of the ancient Maya people. This civilisation study provided us with many different areas of learning that we could cover across various subjects. The Geography side of things got us exploring the atlases and looking more closely at Central America (or Mesoamerica as it used to be called) and the countries that saw the lives of the Maya. They should know these five main countries – please ask them. We also looked at the landscape and climate of this area of the world and compared it with cities in England. For the history side, we began by finding out how the area was discovered, explored and attacked by the Spanish during the 15 and 16 hundreds. Through this learning, the children considered the different implications of such acts, and we discussed these issues passionately in PSHE sessions. We also looked at how artefacts can tell us a great deal about the past. We became archaeologists and came to many conclusions about how the Maya lived.

We learnt about the religious beliefs of the Maya. Phoenix were shocked to discover the details on sacrifices and blood-letting, both to please the many different Gods. This was especially important to the Maya Sun God, as the ancient people thought that the sun would not rise if they didn't show their honour and respect in this way! Masks were worn for various reasons back in those days, and the children in Phoenix designed, created and evaluated their own Maya masks for our classroom wall. They looked great.

In connection with the popular Maya crop of cacao, our class reading book and comprehension text as well as our inspiration for writing in English lessons has been Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children have been thoroughly enjoying this wild and wacky story and it has given opportunities for creative writing on settings and characters, and non-chronological reports. We even got the chance to word process our reports using the laptops over the last week of term.

In RE we studied the 'Followers of God'. Ideas for our learning came from the Understanding Christianity resource. We first looked at the Bible story of Noah. The class were very good at considering the thoughts and feelings that Noah may have experienced. We went on to study how God's promise in the Bible has influenced people to make their own promises to God. From here, we also looked at the marriage ceremony and how people make their promises to each other.

Towards the end of this term we have also watched a great interactive concert by a brass trio. These visiting musicians were excellent and really engaged and educated the children in the arts of the brass instrument. Also, Phoenix had a visitor who worked with us on song writing. This is something that will go towards a singing event later in the school year alongside other school. This should be really exciting.

I do hope you enjoy your Easter break and the chance for a rest. Please try to keep up with regular reading and the practising of times table facts where you can.

Best wishes
Mr Osler



CHAMELEON CLASS END OF TERM 4 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has been a busy one for Chameleon class!

On the first week back, we had lots of fun for World Book Day. The costumes were fantastic and we enjoyed a 'book tasting' where the children read extracts from lots of different books and voted on their favourites. Thanks to the PTA, we were then able to order lots of the books for the library – these will be available for the children to read after the Easter break!



A couple of weeks later, we celebrated British Science Week, featuring an interesting investigation about mud and a visitor who definitely inspired the children as they found out about all the different types of scientists that exist. The whole school bean growing competition was good fun too!

The street dance group went to Bath Forum to perform. We were so proud of them for getting up in front of such a big crowd. As always, their sportsmanship was fantastic.



In between all of the excitement of this term, the children have been working incredibly hard. Our topic about the Maya has been fascinating and we have really enjoyed making masks using papier-mâché in art. In science, we have learned about what living things have in common and how they are classified. In our writing lessons, the children have been particularly enthusiastic about writing adventure stories set in the Amazon Rainforest. Another highlight for the children was learning to use GarageBand this term to create a piece of music during their computing lessons. They also enjoyed making bird boxes to put up in the church yard.

Next term we will be starting swimming again on Fridays so children should only come to school in PE kit on Thursdays (not Mondays) and bring their swimming things for Fridays. The Year 6 children have been given maths revision booklets to work on over the holidays, as SATs will begin on 9th May. They all did brilliantly in the practice and have nothing to worry about, but it would be great to keep their brains awake over the holidays!

We hope that you have a restful Easter break.

Mrs Webster and Mrs Flynn