

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER



May 2023

Welcome to our May newsletter, we hope you have been enjoying the sunshine. This is what we have been up to this month.....

Beech Class

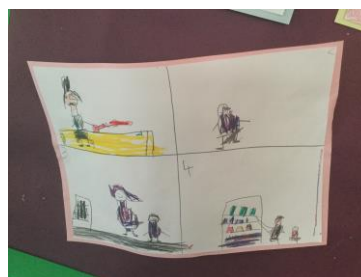


We had an amazing trip to Woburn where the children had the opportunity to see animals roaming freely from the safety of our coach and to learn about them from our educational tour guide – Akira. She answered lots of questions from very excited and curious children. We saw ostriches, antelopes, buffaloes, zebras, elephants, rhinos, tigers, bears, wolves, lions, monkeys and alpacas, to name just a few animals. We walked around the walking safari enclosures and saw penguins and sea lions and finally, we had an outdoor lesson about rainforest's animals and habitats. It was a wonderful day and we all learnt so much.



Elm Class

Year 2 have been thoroughly enjoying our class text, *The Legend of Spud Murphy*. We have made good use of the library for some of our reading sessions, which has helped us imagine the antics of Will and Marty, as the story is mainly set in a library. The boys come from a very busy house so their mum decides it would be a great idea for them to spend a lot of time in the library during the holidays! They encounter the librarian who is rumoured to have a gas-powered spud gun and have several intriguing interactions with her but, in the end, Will and Marty discover a love of books and a different opinion of Spud Murphy to the one they had in the beginning. We wrote some interesting book reviews and this showed how popular the story was. It received a high number of stars out of 10.



Willow Class

May has been such a busy month, where does one start? Here is a snip-it of what we have been up to. We came back after the Spring Bank Holiday to celebrate the Kings Coronation. We had an amazing day finding out about the new King, having lunch with our buddies in Nursery and Reception (we were so lucky that the rain stayed away for us) and then had an afternoon of learning with them and helping them decorate a crown shaped biscuit.

The next week was SATS, where we could come in each morning, if we wanted to, and have breakfast to rid us of any nerves, it worked a treat. Then on the Friday we feasted on a sumptuous buffet lunch to celebrate all our hard efforts.

Historians, Mick and Christine came into school giving us such a fantastic talk on WW2, we learnt so much and we even got to have a ride in an original Willys Jeep and a Dodge WC52.

Mrs Begum has been in talking to us about The Festival of Eid. This enabled us to really understand first-hand the significance of this celebration. Mrs Begum very kindly made us a traditional dish of the most mouthwatering pilau rice and samosas. Some of the children even asked if she would come and cook the school dinners as they had not tasted such delicious food. We also learnt the art of Mehndi and had a go ourselves using water colour paints.

And at the time of going to press, we will be holding our Table Top Sale to help raise funds for our Leavers Party, Chosen Charity and Legacy Gift to school and having our leavers photo taken. We look forward to sharing with you what we get up to in June.



Sycamore Class

This half term we've been looking into more complex coding on Scratch, and recently got to have a go at making our own games! We made chase games, clicker games, and had loads of fun playing each other's creations!



Acorn Class

The children have enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and we are enjoying our caterpillars change into chrysalises – in a couple of weeks hopefully they will emerge into Painted Lady butterflies. The weather is finally turning warmer and we went for a walk on the field, looking for bugs and insects, we used our magnifying glasses. We found bees, flies and worms and saw some butterflies.

The children had a wonderful time celebrating the King's Coronation with our Year 6 buddies. We ate our picnic together and then decorated crown biscuits and decorated flags.



Ash Class

In the month of May, Reception began by thinking about the coronation of King Charles III. We created some colourful portraits of him and made golden carriages. We have also been thinking about using weaving in our art work. We have been using a range of resources for this, including the kitchen cooling trays! As the sunnier weather appeared, Reception has been outside and developing the garden in the outside area. We have planted lots of new plants and created homes to attract lots of minibeasts. In our English, we have been writing instructions for planting seeds which we will be using to plant sunflowers. In maths we have been recalling double pairs and number bonds to ten, using these also in our weaving!



Oak Class

In Year 4 we have been studying the Vikings in history. We have looked at various aspects of the Viking lifestyle and we have studied their different modes of travel. The Vikings came to England on 'long ships' and we had a go at creating them.



Fir Class

Year 3 have been finding out all about Ancient Greece. The children have enjoyed learning Greek Myths of the Minotaur and Medusa and the Wooden horse of Troy. They have learnt about Alexander the Great and what life was like during this period of History. This week we found out what sports were part of the Ancient Greek Olympic games and then carried out our own Olympic competition! With the city of Athens victorious!



A warm welcome to our feathery friends.



After the Easter break, our Year 5 children were excited to receive some fertilised eggs. Twenty days later, we spotted movement within the incubator. It had finally started, and overnight two new chicks joined our school. It was so nice to see the children hear of the news, as some were so excited, they even ran into school that day.



Our chicks received a big welcome - Sycamore and Redwood. The children were so excited (it was hard to get them to do any work that day) as they waited in anticipation, to see who would be joining us next.

Within a day, two other chicks hatched - Willow and Oak. The children were so desperate to cuddle the chicks, but knew they should wait (never over-handling them) as we didn't want to stress them. After a while, leaving them to settle in, our first task of that day was to say hello with a gentle cuddle.

The chicks have grown so quickly, their feathers have changed and they began to eat chick food. They especially enjoyed a treat of grass (in small doses) and were used to being cuddled by the children and staff!



Over one weekend, as the weather was warm and for a short time only, the chicks explored outside. They were so keen to see what the 'green carpet' was at their feet!



Day by day, the chicks have grown quite quickly. They are eating well and had their first mini molt, around 6-8 days old. This should be completed by 4 weeks, when the chick's down is replaced by its first feathers.

Year 5 have opened their doors, so everyone in school had a chance to see the chicks, before the time comes for them to be returned to the farm.

We have had fun researching about chickens: **Did you know ...**

Chickens are living descendants of dinosaurs, they can dream and have better colour vision than humans!
What great facts 😊

Forest School

The children have been busy this month and have also been taking advantage of the sunny weather. Some of the children made tree of life hanging sculptures, some have built their own fire and kept it going enough to cook a marshmallow, some have made Nordic friendship bracelets and some have made summer crowns. All of the children used natural products to make portraits of King Charles for his coronation.



Football



On Wednesday Overstone A defeated Begrove 5-1 in the Bucks County cup Semi-Final which means they will either be playing St Louis or Long Crendon in the final. The boys played with such desire and amazing teamwork and have been incredible all season. They are also one win from winning the league with the fixture against Cheddington happening next week.

What is coming up in June

- **Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June** – Half term
- **Monday 5th June** – INSET day – school is closed
- **Wednesday 7th June** – Drug and alcohol information session – Years 5 & 6
- **Saturday 10th June** – School fete
- **Wednesday 21st June & Thursday 22nd June** – Year 6 residential at Hudnall Park
- **Monday 26th June** – Year 6 trip to London
- **Tuesday 27th June** – Year 4 trip to The Living Rainforest
- **Tuesday 27th June** – Hazard Alley knife crime intervention workshop for Years 5 & 6
- **Tuesday 27th June** – New Reception parents welcome meeting
- **Thursday 29th June** – Sports day – 9.00 to 10.30 – Years 1, 2 & 3. 10.30 – 12.00 – Years 4, 5 & 6
- **Friday 30th June** - Sports day – 9.00 – 10.00 – Pre- School and Reception
- **Friday 30th June** – Year 5 Camp Out

And finally....

Enjoy the sunshine and have a lovely Half Term

