

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER



March 2024

Welcome to our March newsletter. Time is flying by this year and everyone has been working hard.

Fir Class



As part of the Year 3 unit of work on 'Why did the Romans settle in Britain?', the children participated in a Roman Day. During the morning, the children were apprentices in a Roman Fort learning from Master Crafts People how to make wax tablets, metal foil necklaces, pomanders to keep themselves smelling fresh, clay charms, pouches for their charms, mosaics and a Roman game. In the afternoon, there was a celebration of the defeat of Boudicca. The children took on different roles within the Roman Fort to celebrate. Some were Roman soldiers, who demonstrated their drills and manoeuvres. Others were actors and actresses performing two of Aesop's Fables and a performance from a troop of dancers. This was interspersed with a feast of refreshments including 'wine' in silver goblets!



Elm Class

Elm class have had a very busy few weeks! The children have been testing the stretchiness and the strength of different materials in Science through various experiments. The class had lots of fun exploring OS maps of Wing and the local area and then created their own sketch maps in Geography. In Music, they listened to music from The Planets by Holst and composed their own motifs. In Computing, Scratch Jnr has been a real hit and the children designed their own characters and even recorded sound effects! It's been non-stop learning in Year 2.



Redwood Class

In Year 5 we have done a lot of fun things this half term. We've coded pedometers and games in Computing, dissected flowers in Science, talked about souls in RE, created horrifying mystery stories in English and even learned some first aid in PSHE! I think one of our favourite things though was our Art unit, where we created space-themed collagraphs inspired by retrofuturism!



Beech Class

In Year 1, March has been very busy and incredibly exciting. The children enjoyed our visit to Woburn Safari Park enormously, learning about lots of animals. They loved watching the lions eating their breakfast, the bears climbing trees and laughing as monkeys climbed on top of our coach.



In Geography, the children have enjoyed learning about weather in the United Kingdom, using atlases and learning about compass directions.



Acorn Class

This half term we have been reading our favourite fairy tales and acting some of them out. We have made gingerbread, decorated ginger biscuit faces and invited our families to come and share some of our stories with us. Thank you for coming in, the children really enjoyed showing you their acting skills!



PTA

The staff and children would like to thank the PTA for all their hard work organizing the Easter Fair for the children. There was great excitement on the day as the children took part in all the activities and had a go on the stalls. There is a huge amount of work that goes into organising an event such as this and we all appreciate everything the PTA does to raise money for the school and to all those who support these events.



Ash Class

March has brought Spring to Reception and we have been looking for signs of its arrival. We have been collecting spring flowers to create sculptures, looking carefully at Spring flowers to paint them and thinking about the different weathers the season can bring.



In Mathematics, we have been learning about 3D shapes and investigating which can roll and which can be stacked to more sculpture making. The story of Little Red has been our focus for our Literacy work. Throughout the month we have been writing stories, planning to trap a big, bad creature and retelling the story in the role play area. We have also been learning about the past and present in Understanding the World activities, including looking at objects from the past, guessing what they were used for and how they look now within our homes.



Science Fair

We would like to thank everyone who took part in our Science Fair. We had so many wonderful experiments and investigations and the children did an amazing job of explaining what they were doing and how their experiments worked. It was very well attended by parents and all the classes visited.

Quotes from children:

'The whole school made their own science projects for the science fair. We put our experiments in the hall in the morning once we found our table spaces and there was a room for the volcanoes. The whole school came to look and the judges walked around and talked to everybody.'

'I did my experiment with my friends and we gave people stickers to vote on what they thought would happen. Then people tested the experiment.'

'In the morning, other people could look at different stalls and they could tell people what they liked and test the experiments.'

'All the projects were very different and each project had lots of effort put into it and some were very disgusting.'





TRENCHARD MUSEUM RAF HALTON

Year 6 enjoyed a visit from the RAF Trenchard Museum in Halton on Wednesday 7th February 2023. The day started with all the children having to show their ID cards to the Air Warden, who was checking for spies! Suddenly there was an air raid and everyone were taken into the 'shelter' with sirens, light and smoke.



After this, the children were divided into four groups and had the opportunity to explore life at home with Air Wardens talking about what life at home was like during WW2:

- ARP/Home guard/Fire Watching /Evacuation
- Women at work /Reserved occupations
- Sending/receiving letters (censorship)
- Demonstration of gas masks and other items.



The next activity, this was for some the highlight of the visit, as they had the opportunity to handle and discuss the use of small arms used by the armed service



The children went on to listen to Nick Ellins (our link lead to RAF Wing airfield) on the history of the site, whilst looking at artefacts found during excavations and metal detecting on site.



Finally, the children came face-to-face with uniform and back-packs from the era. A re-enactor was dressed in uniform of the time and demonstrated and allowed the children to try on the equipment.



The children had a fantastic time, learnt lots of information on WW2 and had the opportunity to handle, try on and ask questions throughout the visit.

Oak Class

This month, year 4 took part in Bikeability. The children learned to ride their bikes safely with expert teachers. They learnt how to check their bikes over for defects and then they learnt how to stop safely using their breaks correctly. While riding, the children were able to discuss important safety rules while riding including while out in public on their bikes.



Parking

Please can we continue to ask all families who have to drive in order to drop off and collect children to park considerately for our school neighbours. Please do not park on the pavements as these need to be clear for pedestrians and please do not block driveways and access points, even if you are only stopping for a few moments.

Can we also remind everyone not to park in the school car park at drop off and collection times unless you have a blue badge or this has been agreed by the school.



Forest School

The children have all been very busy in forest school this month. Reception have been looking for signs of spring, Year 1 have been getting the allotment area ready and have planted potato seeds and Year 2 have been enjoying a very muddy forest school whilst making bees out of pinecones. We were lucky enough to be given some large branches so Year 3 practiced tool safety using the pull saw and have replaced the safety area around our fire pit. Year 4 have been busy building shelters and making tree spirits and Year 6 came down to forest school on World Book Day and enjoyed reading to the Reception class.



What is coming up in April.....

- Monday 15th April – Term starts

And finally

Have a very happy Easter

