

# OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER



April 2023

Welcome to our April newsletter. We hope you had a great Easter break and although we have only been back at school for a couple of weeks, we have all been busy. This is what we have been up to in April....

## Willow Class



The Summer Term has started with such enthusiasm as the we begin our last term of Primary School - can you believe it? Already with only 2 weeks of April to report on, we have been hard at work. The children are very excited about our new topic in History - WW2. The children have been sharing stories of family memories and memorabilia which has been handed down through the generations; we are also looking forward to having visitors in to talk to us about WW2 in a couple of weeks. We cannot wait for May's newsletter to share all the learning we will have done.



## Fir Class

Year 3 have been studying The Iron Man in English. We have been looking closely at a scene from the book where the Iron Man falls from a cliff and then repairs himself. We acted this out in small groups which the all the children really enjoyed. This picture shows the reformation of the Iron Man after the fall.



## Beech Class

Year 1 have been very busy this month. The children have enjoyed learning about seasonal change in Science - we have created a rain gauge, predicted and measured the rain fall, week by week. In RE, the children learnt the Easter Story and tried to debate whether everybody should follow Jesus. They remembered the importance of accepting everyone's point of view and belief.



### Acorn Class

We welcome all our new children and families; the children have seemed to have settled in well. They are enjoying learning the pre-school routines, making new friends and enjoying exploring the pre-school environment inside and out. This half term we are looking at, and discussing, the lifecycle of a butterfly and a frog. We will be planting and growing some sunflower seeds and broad beans. Hopefully enjoying a bit more of the sunshine and warmer weather.



### Ash Class

During April, we have been thinking about the important changes which take place throughout Spring. For our Understanding the World learning, we have looked at the changes in the life cycles of both frogs and chickens. We have created some colourful birds in their nests for our season display. We have also looked at the changes that are taking place on the trees and getting ready to plant more seeds, to link with our Literacy book - The Extraordinary Gardener. In maths, we have been exploring 3D shapes and matching amounts of objects to the vocabulary of more or fewer.



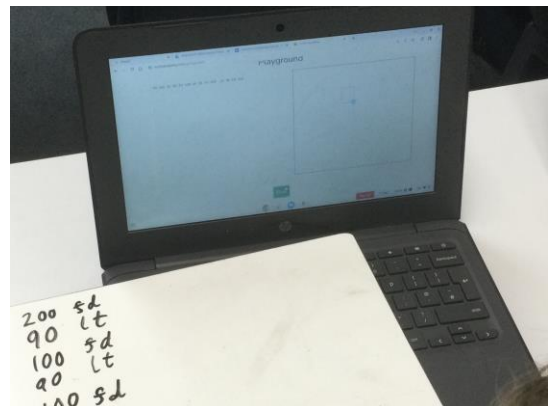
### Elm Class



Last week in our RE lesson we listened to the Bible story of Joseph from the Old Testament and thought about and discussed what we might be able to learn from the story. After recapping the main points, the children had fun devising plays to retell the story. They worked together well, deciding who was going to be each character, discussing which parts to include in the play and rehearsing them. Year 2 were a considerate and encouraging audience, watching each other's plays with interest.

### Oak Class

Year 4 have begun their first unit of 'Coding' in our computing lessons this term. The children have learned about typing accurate and specific instructions in order to programme their 'turtle'. The children tried and tested many different codes and were able to use a code to draw different numbers on the screen.





**Year 5 went off to Space this half term!**



On Thursday 20th April, Year 5 children and adults ventured to the National Space Centre in Leicester. As we approached the Centre, we were all very excited to see the 42-metre-high Rocket Tower!

Our first activity was the 'It Is Science' workshop. This was a live, exciting and explosive show, exploring the history of rockets - from the colourful fireworks of ancient times, to the mighty space exploring rockets of today. We loved the experiments the speaker showed us!

Our next stop was the Planetarium, where we explored the amazing worlds of inner and outer Space, from floating around the International Space Station to manoeuvring through microscopic regions of the human body. It was fun to discover the perils that lurk in Space, and discover how 'Chad', the test astronaut, dealt with everything that Space had to throw at him.

The next challenge was an interactive workshop using Maths, Computing and problem-solving skills to code the LEGO NXT rovers. The children had to program their rovers to drive in circles, stop after certain distances, and analyse alien life forms without touching them!



Once everyone had completed this workshop, we wandered around the galleries before exploring the 42-metre high rocket. The children had such a fun and busy time, from posing as an astronaut to seeing a moon rock sample that had been brought back to Earth.

Thank you to all the parent helpers who came with us on the day, it was such an exciting and interesting trip.



## Forest School

Everyone has been very busy in Forest school over the last few weeks:

- Nursery have been measuring sticks
- Reception have been making dragon eggs and nests and have talked about which animal lays eggs
- Year 1 and Year 2 have been planting strawberries plants and runner bean seeds along with preparing the allotment ready to plant things
- Y3 have made Greek pots linking to their history curriculum
- Y4 have been classifying bug and leaf formation linked to their science curriculum
- Y5 have made dandelion cookies and worked as a team to make dens
- Y6 have had a go at hapa zome, Japanese leaf dye made from leaf bashing between a folded piece of material



## District Cross Country



Last Saturday a group of KS2 children took part in the District Cross Country race. They all had to run a specific course which went through the grounds of Ascot House. and Ava in Oak came 9th out of 85 girls and Noah in Oak came 7th out of 85 boys which is amazing. They both received a special medal for finishing in the top 10 in their races. All of the children that took part thoroughly enjoyed it and they were a credit to Overstone.

- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – Bank Holiday – School, Pre-School and S4A will be closed
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May** – Coronation celebrations
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank Holiday – School, Pre-School and S4A will be closed
- **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 SATS testing
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 1 trip to Woburn Safari Park
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 History visitors to school
- **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Year 3 – First Aid day
- **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – Year 6 - Table Top sale
- **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 – Drugs and alcohol workshop

And finally....

The PTA are busy organising the summer fete on **Saturday 10th June, 12-2pm.**

If you are able to help on the day please fill in the form that children have brought home.

If you have any unwanted good condition soft toys please save them for our collection in May, or hand them into the school office before. They will be used for the adopt a toy stall at the fete.

We also need new or unused adult and children tombola prizes, for example: alcohol, chocolates, candles, toiletries, small toys, stationary, books, games. We will be doing a collection in May but donations can be handed in before.

Thank you.