

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER

February 2024



Welcome to our February newsletter. There has been a lot going on in school this month.

50 Years!

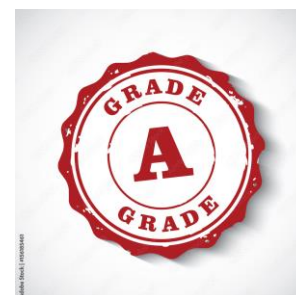
In February we celebrated the most wonderful achievement in our school. Sue Bryans, one of our midday supervisors, has been a member of Overstone staff for 50 years! In that time, she has helped the children over lunchtime, serving meals, opening packets and tidying up. She has seen hundreds of children pass through the school and many, who are now adults, remember her care and kindness. We celebrated Sue's dedication to the school with afternoon tea where she received gifts and cards from the staff, governors and children. A speech was made by our longest serving governor, Dave Varey, who has supported the school for 37 years – almost as many as Sue!

We thank Sue for her loyalty, her hard work and for the way she has helped and looked after so many children at Overstone.



Health & Safety

Last Tuesday the school welcomed one of the Local Authority Health and Safety Inspectors for the day to carry out an audit. Schools have these inspections every 3-4 years and some of the areas checked are fire safety, asbestos management, risk assessments and site safety, to name but a few. It was a long day but I am very pleased to share that the school was given a Grade A – Excellent – rating. Thank you to all the staff and the caretaking team who help to keep our school safe and well managed for everyone to enjoy.



Young Voices

On 18th January, 28 children from Overstone School took part in a concert at the O2 Arena. This was run by Young Voices who have been running since 1996! This made us part of the World's Biggest Children's Choir which is pretty exciting! Since the start of the school year, we have been practicing the songs each week in our after-school club and we had over 30 songs to learn either all or part of. Some songs we even had to learn two parts! These songs included a wide variety of genres – from Matilda the Musical to Glenn Miller. We sang Gospel, pop and even a song in Korean! On the day itself, we arrived at the O2 Arena for a full afternoon of rehearsals with over 8,000 other children in our choir that day! These went on until 5pm when we took a break and prepared ourselves for the evening concert!

Our parents, friends and family arrived - a sell-out audience in the thousands as well as the 8,000 children in the choir. We were sat almost up at the top of the arena – it was absolutely incredible to see all the other performers. When the lights went down it was just magical to be part of such a huge crowd. We also got to sing with Natalie Williams – a famous Jazz singer, MC Grammar and Lydia White who plays Miss Honey in the West End Musical Matilda.

It was an excellent experience and one that we won't be forgetting in a hurry. "Young Voices was so much fun. The best part was probably when we sang "A Sky Full of Stars" and everyone put their arms around each other and swayed side to side" Tabatha.

We also performed at school so that anyone who couldn't attend the concert could come along and we were also able to show our singing to all our classmates too. It was so lovely to see so many members of our families there supporting us and feeling proud of us all.

"Young Voices was a life-changing experience and I will always remember the shining lights, the rush of excitement, singing our hearts out." Alice



NSPCC Digit Day



On Monday 5th February we celebrated the NSPCC Number Day.

The children came into school wearing a number and we saw such a variety of outfits and accessories, from caps to sports shirts. We even had some creative attire including a human sized calculator and dice!

The children learnt about the NSPCC and throughout the day undertook a selection of activities whilst having fun with maths.

We raised £144.50 for the NSPCC which is fantastic so thank you to everyone who supported this event and thank you to Mrs Willett for organising the day here at Overstone.

PTA Valentine's Cake Competition

Thank you to all the families who entered cakes into our Valentine's Cake Competition organised by the PTA. We had some amazing entries and they all looked delicious. The winners were:

Anya – Year 1

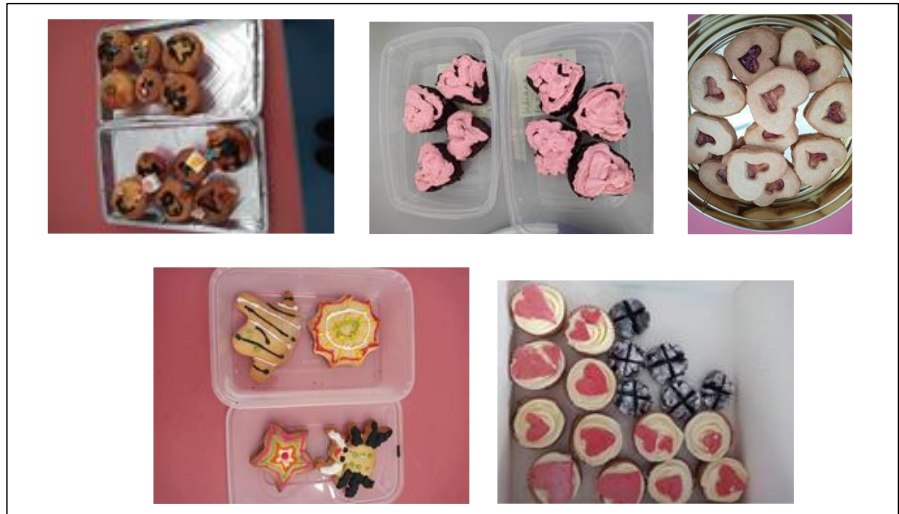
Maddie – Year 3

Chloe & Poppy – Year 4

Savannah & Indiana – Year 1/Year 3

Kaelan & Amelia – Year 2/Year 6

We hope you all enjoyed seeing the cakes that were part of the competition and thank you for buying these treats at the end of the day.

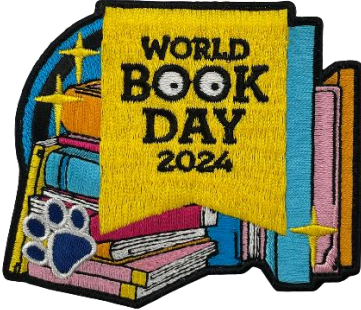


What is coming up in March.....

- **Tuesday 5th March** – Football match at home against Berton
- **Thursday 7th March** – Football match away at Haddenham
- **Friday 8th March** – World Book Day (we are celebrating on Friday even though the official day is Thursday) – Come to school dressed as a word
- **Monday 11th March** – Science week
- **Friday 15th March** – Red Nose Day – the children are welcome to wear their red noses to school
- **Tuesday 19th March** – Year 3 Roman Day
- **Wednesday 20th March** – Year 1 trip to Woburn Safari Park
- **Wednesday 20th March** – Years 3 – 6 visit the church for an Easter lesson
- **Friday 22nd March** – PTA Children's Easter Fair

- **Wednesday 27th March** – 9.15am - Year 5 Easter service at the Church – Year 5 families welcome
- **Thursday 28th March** – 3.10 – End of term
- **Monday 15th April** – 8.35 – Return to school

And finally



Don't forget to come dressed as a word on Friday to celebrate World Book Day!