



# Spring Term 2014 Newsletter

## New doors

If you have visited recently you may have noticed a change to the classroom. We have new doors! These are a great improvement and are already making the classroom much lighter and brighter. Many thanks to Neil Dennis and the Estates team for fitting the doors ahead of schedule.



## Sainsbury's vouchers

We are currently collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's. We have collection boxes outside the classroom and in the Oasis restaurant so please have a rummage at the bottom of your bags and in your pockets and see what you can find. Thank you!

## Creative constructions

You may remember from our autumn newsletter that we had entered a community competition with Create Construction and had created art work on a buildings theme. Great news! Six of our pupils were chosen as winners and have since received book vouchers. Julia went along to the site to have a look at the art work and to collect the prizes. Well done to Cameron, Helena, Jaspreet, Keiran, Daisy and Miley!



A proud winner!



At the Create Construction site in Exeter

## 新年快樂 (xīn nián kuài lè)



We celebrated Chinese New Year –the Year of the Horse with a selection of Chinese activities. Lily, one of the catering staff, came to tell us all about how the New Year is celebrated in China and helped pupils to speak, and write their name in Chinese.



It was fascinating! We also learned about the naming of each year and the characteristics thought to belong to each animal, made dragons and did tangrams. A big

THANK YOU to Lily for making the day so special.

Can you match the members of staff with their animal year?

Julia Paul Jane Vanessa  
Jackie Elaine Karen

Dog Rabbit Monkey Sheep Pig



## World Book Day



World Book Day was celebrated in style with a visit from Clare Barker author and illustrator of the children's book *Magical Mail*. We enjoyed learning all about what inspires her as a writer and she helped us to create characters and generate ideas of our own. We all came away feeling very inspired! Book -marks were also made and favourite books brought in to school from none other than David Walliams of *Gangsta Granny* fame! David has generously given us a boxed set of his books with each copy individually signed. Have a look for his postcard in the main classroom.

## Fun with fonts

We also looked at fonts and have created some of our own.

*This is Paul's font. This is Jackie's font.*

*This is Karen's font. This is Cai's font.*

This is Emily's font and her code font below.

©1999, 99, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005.

## Pancake Mayhem



It has been great to see John and Sheila from the chaplaincy on their weekly visits. John came in to share Shrove Tuesday with us and talked to us about Lent and the things we could do to both understand the situations of others and also to show acts of kindness. He proved a real expert when it came to tossing pancakes! Thankfully no pancakes ended up on the carpet and were enjoyed either the traditional way with lemon and sugar or topped with other tasty things!

## Time to get outside



Our outside area is looking really pretty at the moment with the daffodils, primulas and crocuses in full bloom -spring definitely seems to have arrived! We have been busy preparing a growing area where pupils have planted runner beans, carrots, onions, sweetcorn and courgettes and salad leaves. We are looking forward to harvesting these later in the year and preparing delicious soups and salads! We have also been



busy buying all sorts of new resources including bikes, scooters, chalk boards, parachutes, a new basketball net (much needed!) bug kits.....the list goes on! We can't wait to get out and start using it all!



## *Bramble Display Cabinet*

Look out for the new displays in our glass cabinet outside the ward as you're waiting to come in. We now change them regularly and you may even spot your own work!

## Getting creative



Hesta has been in once again to work her magic and has introduced us to a range of amazing craft activities. Recycling textiles was the name of the game. We turned felt, old woolly jumpers, willow and feathers into exquisite Mothers' Day gifts for our pupils to take home. We made bees from pine cones, felt eggs, felt characters, dream-catchers and beautiful brooches made from - would you believe it - curtain rings! One young lady learnt how to knit and crochet.



## Sheep Signage



We were tasked with creating a sign for the Capener Ward for their Children's Day Case. Jagen visited the ward and took a full brief, assessed the needs and produced a 3D sign (upcycling one of our sheep who was bored in the garden). He was very well received by the ward staff and we look forward to hearing about his exploits.

## New Managers

We are delighted to welcome Dr Patrick Oades and Mrs Nikki Bland to the Management Committee and are looking forward to having them as part of the management team.

### Next term dates

School opens again on	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2014
May bank holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2014
Staff training day	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2014
Half term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2014
Term ends	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2014

Thank you for your continued support this term.  
We wish you all a very happy Easter and hope that the sun shines!

*Julia Allen, Elaine McIntosh, Jane Adcock, Paul Melling, Jackie Taylor,  
Vanessa Fortune, Karen Squires.*