



# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

Dear children and families,

I can hardly believe that we are at the end of the half term. Although everyone looks a little jaded, the time has flown by. Thank you for all of your support this term – not only in helping us with the Covid 19 changes but also for your ongoing support for the school in general.

Sadly, there have been positive cases at NCA this week. Should anyone in your household have a positive Covid 19 test result, please can you inform us via phone during the school day or via email during the evening or weekend. Please email [office@grove.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@grove.cambs.sch.uk) and put Covid 19 in the header. Should we have a positive test result in our school community, then I will be taking Public Health England advice which will inform me about my next steps. I will then inform parents in the relevant bubble and let them know what has to happen next, including having to self-isolate. There will also be a letter to all parents about what they should also be doing.

For example, the first letter I mentioned starts off this way:

**Letter for parents of close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case in an educational setting: Advice for student/child to self-isolate for 14 days**

Dear Parent,

We have been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

Your child has been identified as a close contact of the confirmed case. In line with the national guidance your child is advised to self-isolate for 14 days since the last contact with the confirmed case. The date of last contact with a confirmed case is day zero. The 14 day self-isolation period will end on **<insert date>**.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 day period they will be able to return to school on **<insert date>**. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms arrange for a COVID test. This can be done via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

**If their test is negative they must still continue to self-isolate for the 14 day period, regardless of the negative test result.**

**If their test is positive** they will need to self-isolate for **10 days** from the date when their symptoms start. All your household members must self-isolate for 14 days.

**The date of symptom onset is day zero.**

It is very clear we are all being very cautious about the symptoms and I appreciate parents doing this and then getting a test as quickly as they can. With the cleaning and working in bubbles at school, this is our best defence against the virus. I have attached a poster from the Government to remind us all what we are being asked to do.

On a very different note, we have been able to book a session with our usual school photography company to do the children's individual photographs. This will take place in January and they have sent through a very comprehensive risk assessment. In line with COVID guidance, we will unfortunately be unable to offer family group shots this year (including those with younger siblings). Class photos will be created from all the individual photographs and also be available to purchase. We will publish the exact date after ½ term in our dates section.

Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.

Take care,

Miss Shaw



# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

## Parent/carer meetings this term

Just another reminder! You should have received a letter about how to book a time to have a phone call with your child's class teacher. We are not yet able to offer you a virtual meeting but hope to be in this position for our next set of meetings.

Class	Date/times	
Wren	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Duckling	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Gosling	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Aviary	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 4.30pm – 7.00pm

## **SECONDARY TRANSITIONS 2021 – DEADLINE APPROACHING**

All year 6 parents can now start to apply for a Secondary School for next September. You need to have done this by **the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**. It is vitally important you complete this online form as without it your child will not be allocated a school place for Year 7. You will receive your offer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. If you have any issues, please let the office know and we will do what we can to help you.

You will need to log into the Citizen Portal to make your application and the link to the website is:  
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school>

If you do not wish to do the application online, paper application forms are available on request if you call 0345 045 1370. Any students that have deferred places must apply via a paper application as the portal will not accept their date of birth for this transfer group.

If you have any questions about the application or online processes please refer to the booklet on their website **"Next Steps - Starting Secondary School; a guide for parents 2021-22"**.

Please check the secondary school's websites for their virtual tours and more information.

*Please remember that you need to apply for a place – your child in Year 6 will not automatically get a place at Secondary School. If you need any help, please contact the school office and Mrs Bramley, our Family Support Worker will get in touch with you. She will also be contacting families who have not made an application to offer help.*




# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

## Attendance

The School Parliament and I met a couple of weeks ago and we discussed attendance and how we could promote good attendance at school. The national expectation is that attendance for an academic year should be at least 96%. Our school, historically, has an overall attendance of less than that so our challenge is to improve it. This is really important as there is a direct link between attendance and getting 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 and above. If you have an attendance of at least 96% across your time at school, the greater the chance of achieving those grades at GCSE.

So, from this week we will publish each class's attendance and the class with the highest attendance will be invited to join Mrs Hardy and me for a milkshake on a Monday. The winning class will also have The Grove Owl with their class for the week. At the end of the term, I will also be handing out certificates to children with 96% attendance and above.

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	
Class Name	% attendance
Eagle	93.4
Kestrel	98.3
Kingfisher	94.2
Woodpecker	92.3
Kiwi	94.6
Ostrich	97.7
Flamingo	100.0 
Wren	91.3
Gosling	88.6
Duckling	99.0
The Aviary	90.1

**Well done Flamingo Class!**





# Miss Shaw's Newsletter



Rosettes at achievement assembly were presented to:

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Kestrel: Lily, Filip, Amírah

Eagle: Edmund, Julia, Kai

Kingfisher: Zari, Joseph

Woodpecker: Zune, Austin

Kiwi: Calan, Emelia

Ostrich: Ibrahim, Lyra

Flamingo: Simon, George

Wren: Albie, Shwarji

Gosling: Yuan Yuan, George

Duckling: George, Polly-Anna

The Aviary: Faiza, Michael

Rosettes at achievement assembly were presented to:

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Kestrel: Adam, Hafiza

Eagle: Alex K, Alex B, Alicia, Adriana

Kingfisher: Julia, Elijah

Woodpecker: Seren, Jasper

Kiwi: Trim, Crystal-Lee

Ostrich: Daniel, Gracie-May

Flamingo: Devraj, Gabriella

Wren: Samuel, Lincoln

Gosling: Harshan, Noah

Duckling: Martha, Michael

The Aviary: Jake, Braden



# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

## Class round-ups for this half term

### Ducklings and Goslings

It's been a really busy half term in Ducklings and Goslings. We're settling really well and getting to know our classroom, and have made lots of new friends. We have been busy learning our sounds to help us start to read and we have been really enjoying all the Phonic Fairy's stories. All the adults have been impressed with the children's enthusiasm. A particular highlight has been making porridge as part of our work on Goldilocks and the Three Bears – we all had a go at making porridge and cutting up some fruit for a topping, before tasting it. We have been observing seasonal changes in Autumn, and we've been on walks to Forest School to collect leaves and conkers. We've made windsocks to help us assess the changes in the weather, and our rain gauge has been very full in the past few days! Mrs Fish even helped us made some Autumn playdough which smelled of cinnamon!



### Wren

This half term in Wren Class we have learnt a lot! In English we have focussed on some stories we know and love, such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Three Little Pigs, and used these as a basis to write our own stories. We have looked at adjectives and how they can make our writing more exciting. Our maths learning has been exploring numbers, solving addition and subtraction problems using a range of resources. We have loved using our maths to solve real life problems.

We've discovered all about the seasons in Science and what weather we see in each season. We've kept track of the weather each week by completing weather diaries and looking at our class rain gauge. This has been supported by our learning in Art, where we collected leaves to draw and rub with chalk and paint. We have also learned about how important instructions are in computing; maps and directions in Geography and all about Christianity in RE.

We have done all of this, all while continuing to learn about being kind friends, sharing our things and having lots of fun while we learn.



# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

## Ostrich and Flamingo

What a fantastic start to Year 2 Flamingo and Ostrich Class have had. We've been so impressed by the children's enthusiasm to learn and their readiness to share their ideas. They have loved reading 'On the Way Home' in our English lessons and they got really stuck into writing their own narratives based on 'Six Dinner Sid'. Many of the children were convinced that they had seen Sid the cat in their gardens or on their way to school!

In History, the children have been learning about homes through history. They enjoyed being history detectives to work out what household objects from the Victorian era were used for, whilst comparing these to modern day objects. Some of their favourite artefacts were the range, mangle and thaumatrope.

The children are especially proud of the learning they have been doing in DT this half term. They have been designing and making their own picture frames. Everyone managed to carefully measure and safely use a saw to cut their own pieces of wood. They have also decorated and painted their frames to either make them look expensive or modern.

Everyone has worked so hard this half-term, and they deserve a well-earned rest this half-term! We are really excited to see what the next half-term brings.



## Kiwi

Kiwi class have had a great start in Year Three! This half term we have been learning about the Stone Age. We have enjoyed finding out about how the first people survived, making their homes from caves, and collecting their own food. We have looked at how archaeologists find out about the past, how the first tools and weapons were developed and even had a go at being hunter gatherers in the forest. In art we have looked at street art from artists such as Keith Haring, Thierry Noir and Stik. We have used our special A3 sketch books to have a go at creating our own versions of the artists' work as well as working on presenting our work attractively.





# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

## Kingfisher and Woodpecker

This half term has been full of fun and learning for Year 4. It has been great to see everyone back in school and ready to learn.

In English, we began by studying the Journey by Aaron Becker, a wordless story. This provided lots of opportunities for creative writing and imaginative thinking. Then, we delved into the story of The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. We explored the techniques of descriptive writing and imagery, additionally the children have used the structure of The Iron Man to create their own suspense stories this week.

In Maths, we have been recapping both mental and written methods from Year 3 before progressing onto more complex Year 4 work, including column addition and subtraction with exchange.

During the afternoons, we have been learning about the Romans and how the Roman Empire impacted modern Britain. Within this, we have also been replicating and designing Roman Mosaics in Art. This half term's science topic has been electricity and the children have been investigating simple circuits to develop their knowledge of electricity and its uses.

Finally, in RE we have been broadening our understanding of Christianity and the parables of Jesus, specifically The Healing of the Leper and the story of the Good Samaritan. They children have discussed the relevance of these stories to Christians today.

We look forward to another half term of enthusiastic learning.

## Eagle and Kestrel

In Kestrel and Eagle classes we have had an extremely busy half term and are ready for a break!

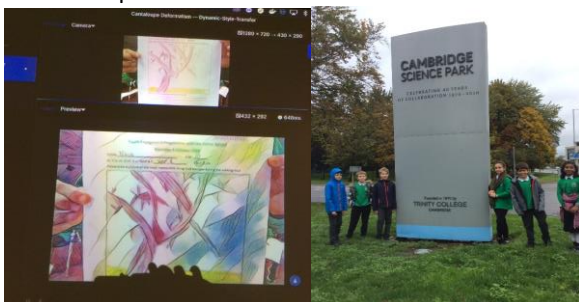
As well as working hard on our English and Maths, one highlight was our trip to The Science Park. We enjoyed our guided tour of the new building works and the area around the Bradfield Centre. After drawing our favourite item, we ate a delicious packed lunch and had a lecture where our drawings were transformed into a computer generated light show.

The children who took part in Bikeability sessions thoroughly enjoyed them and everyone made excellent progress.

In Geography we have learnt about hurricanes, how and where they are formed and their social, economic and environmental effects. Our Art topic this term has been very popular, and we have created lino prints based on the work of Japanese artist Hokusai. Understanding negative and positive space and how to use the sharp lino cutter safely were key skills.

We have enjoyed investigating Forces in Science, where activities ranged from making and testing helicopters to designing a parachute and using a Newton Metre to measure the force required to pull a large tricycle on different surfaces.

We are so proud of all the children and can't wait for next half term.





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## **The Aviary**

What a busy time we have had in The Aviary! We have got used to our new surroundings and have been making good use of the different spaces and facilities. The whole team have been so impressed with how well the children have settled back into their learning.

Our new topic began with the surprise appearance of a robotic arm! Ever since, we have become enthralled in robots, with our new curiosity cube being home to various robot pieces and electronics. The children have been very inquisitive and asked lots of interesting questions that they wanted to find out. We explored two different texts; 'No-Bot, the Robot with No Bottom' for the KS1 children while KS2 enjoyed reading 'The Iron Man'. We have been really focussing on our number skills – our Maths robots have been particularly helpful in counting and adding numbers together. Our older children also produced some fantastic electronic books on Roman soldiers. Looking back over the children's learning journals, it is astounding how much they have accomplished in just 7 weeks!