



Spring Newsletter

We've come to the end of the spring term already and although the time has flown by it certainly has been packed full of events! I've just come from the FS class assembly where they have shared their work on 'spring bursting out', and I must say I think at school we are bursting with pride on the children's achievements. From an amazing performance from our Year 5's 'brass band' at the Royal Albert Hall, to our sporting achievements (more about that later), class events and our Year 3 and 4's performances of 'Splash', it has been an incredible term!

World Book day saw us all coming to school in our pyjamas and the book fair raised us a fantastic £357 in commission to purchase new books for classrooms. Our Year 1 class led our Red Nose Day with their assembly and between cakes, cookies, red noses and mufti we raised an incredible £517! Thank you to all of you for your support. Amidst all the excitement, it was lovely to see so many of you during parent consultation evenings, sharing in the progress your children have made.

As always it seems we have a few goodbyes to say at the end of term. Mrs Haddon has decided to leave us sadly, but she certainly has done above and beyond the call of duty over the past twenty plus years. We wish her well in her retirement. I'm pleased to announce that Ms Alex Titley has been elected as our new Chair of Governors.

Sporting Events

The term started with Year 3 and 4 competing in the Quick sticks hockey tournament. They came third, only missing out on going to the finals by one goal! Well done team!

The year 5 and 6 dance team competed in the Cottesloe Family dance festival and came first, taking them through to the regional finals. Four weeks later they entertained the audience (and judges) with a fabulous performance and they came first! Huge thanks to Mrs Ruff for all her efforts and expertise.

Year 5's badminton team went to Cottesloe to compete in the badminton tournament. After playing eight schools and sixteen games, they also came first, meaning they go through to the finals in June. Three days later our KS2 cross Country team competed at Waddesdon Manor. After all the races they achieved five top ten places and with the overall points we came in first place.

I'm going to count Chess as a sport, and I'm thrilled to announce that for the first time ever our Chess team have been awarded places to the Megafinal of the Delancey UK Chess Challenge in May. Congratulations to Dhoeton White (our School Champion) and good luck to all the team.

We have held two interhouse competitions this term so far: The first was a tennis / badminton challenge and Green House won first place. Children also competed once again in our film festival. The entries were amazing and I know the judges found it very challenging. Best Film was awarded to Ammar Mustaqim and Dhoeton White, well done boys! All entries were awarded credits.

Scores so far:-

Red Explorers- 1640

Blue Conquerors- 1570

Green Pioneers- 1562

But ace cards are being counted as I type and the Interhouse Football tournament is tomorrow, so watch this space!

Foundation News:

This half term, Foundation class have been keen to explore the outdoors now that the weather has improved. We have really enjoyed digging and discovering; our growing experiment is well under way. We have spent time learning about, and practising how to put things in the right order; we have sequenced pictures and life cycles using our fine motor skills. We have made a range of booklets and designs about beanstalks and castles in the clouds. The rest of the school have been impressed by our confidence and speaking: we asked about favourite pets and recorded the data on charts that we made ourselves. Thanks to Year 5 we have also started to learn Zumba!



Year 1

We have had another busy and successful term. Our topic this half term has been Superheroes and the children have been enthusiastic in creating their own superheroes and villains. We've also learned about some real heroic explorers and adventurers, such as Amy Johnson, and the people who help us in emergencies. In English we learned how to use the features of non-fiction texts which focused on nocturnal animals. The children have been amazing us with their recall of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and we have started counting in 3s.



We've been identifying coins and using their values to buy items in our role play shop. We've also been sorting objects using Venn diagrams and Carroll diagrams. The children have been creating their own superhero comic strip adventures using Comic Life on the computers complete with speech bubbles and onomatopoeia words! Our new Challenge Area has been popular for solving word problems and open ended investigations. In Geography, we have located and labelled the five oceans of the World. We've had two successful theme days; World Book Day and Red Nose Day. We've grown Broad Bean seeds in Science and completed a weekly diary of their progress. Our Class Assembly was on the theme of Red Nose Day and doing something funny to raise money. Thank you to all Year 1 parents and carers for your support again this term and it was great to see so many parents at parents evening and at our Class Assembly. We've seen some amazing homework including 3D superhero dens. We're having a great year – hope you agree!



Year 2



Year Two have had a fantastic term! We became explorers and ventured across the world's continents and oceans using compasses and atlases to navigate. We became confident mathematicians practicing our times tables and have tried really hard becoming detectives hunting for clues in our reading comprehensions.

Keep up the reading challenges, homework, spellings and reading, you're doing so well. I hope you have a relaxing and fun Easter holiday and come back excited for our new term!

Year 3

As our Spring term comes to a close, we can reflect on how busy we have been in Class 3!

Your children have continued to work very hard – in class and with the production, which hopefully you have all enjoyed this week! The photograph shows one of our writing activities, where we used the book 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne to inspire our writing – and it certainly did! The children have made solid progress through the term, so again you should be very proud of them all. Although the production has dominated our curriculum during the last few weeks, we have completed some great topics this term: 'How rocks and water change our world' has been a hit in Geography, particularly learning about volcanoes and earthquakes; equally, 'Rocks, Fossils and Soil' has been enjoyed in science. Thank you for sending in so many rocks, etc. from home!

Next term we will start new topics, with a history topic on 'Ancient Egypt' taking the starring role! As part of this, I have booked a trip to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford for Wednesday 24th May. Put this date into your diary now, and you will receive more information about it after the holiday!

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter break, and that the children all recharge after their late nights this week! Thank you all for your continued support this term!



Year 4 *Quo Vadis?*



Well, it has been another action packed term for year 4. We have continued exploring our theme 'What did the Romans ever do for us?' and lots of fascinating facts have been shared in the classroom. In English we have written our own endings to a mini film and even studied a little bit of Shakespeare!

(Following the Roman theme it had to be Julius Caesar of course.) In maths we have been enjoying a very creative curriculum. We identified the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and accompanying nets. Then, to the delight of the children we

constructed our own 3 dimensional shapes around a MINECRAFT theme and created a Minecraft tableau. We also hope you liked the mother's day boxes the children worked so hard to make. Our teeth and healthy eating work in science has concluded in some interesting experiments with coca cola and egg shells. Please ask your child about the conclusions we came to about healthy drinks! We have started using 'eSchools' for some online homework and the children have enjoyed using their own personal log in and password to access our page on the school website. This is an exciting new venture that will continue next term. Finally, of course, much of the recent weeks have been taken up with learning songs and lines and rehearsing for our 'Splash' production. I would just like to take this opportunity to say a huge WELL DONE to all the children. The performances have been a resounding success and I am extremely proud of every member of the class for the effort they have put in. We have had many messages of congratulations already and I am so pleased with the splendidly mature way the children rose to the challenge of such an ambitious undertaking. So, again, a big well done to every single child. Enjoy a well-deserved Easter break.



Year 5 News



We started off the term with a Viking day, where we learnt different crafts such as weaving, reading runes and candle making. During the day we spent time learning to be Vikings in our new settlement, we learnt battle formations in preparation for war against the Anglo-Saxons. Thank you for all of our brilliant costumes.

On Monday 20th March Year 5 went to London to take part in a concert at the Royal Albert Hall. We had been preparing during Music lessons with Mrs Gooding and Mr Humphries a collection of songs based on poems by Enid Blyton, learning to play our instruments and sing the vocals too. During the day we took part in rehearsals, then after lunch we visited the Wonderlab at the Science Musuem. After performing a

concert with around 2000 children from Buckinghamshire we arrived back at school at midnight. Although it was a long day, it was enjoyable and the children were a credit to themselves and the school.

We were lucky to have a visit from Rachel and the Bridgebuilders team. We did an 'Easter Cracked' workshop, which involved singing, games and competitions whilst learning about the meaning of Easter

Year 6: Spring Term Newsletter

It's been another exciting term for Year 6, with many activities and projects around Victorian England, H.G.Wells 'War of the Worlds' and research around John Snow and his hunt for the cause and eventual cure to cholera in Victorian England. As well as this, the Year 6s have been working hard in S.P.A.G., Maths and English, developing their skills in the run up to the S.A.Ts in May.

In sport and competition, the Year 6s have also done the school proud in representing and winning both the County Cross Country Competition (first overall school winners and first overall boys) at Waddesdon Manor; and demonstrating their dancing brilliance by winning the Buckinghamshire KS2 dance competition.

Let's hope this continues into next term, as the Year 6s will have the opportunity to represent the school in cycling, triathlons and athletics competitions, as well as the Year 6 games.

In the coming term, we have some great activities to look forward to including: the year 6 residential; the year 5/6 production; topic research into mountains; and of course the S.A.Ts in May.

Over the Easter holidays, I hope the Year 6s have a great time, with moments to rest and relax before coming back fresh faced and bushy tailed for the last few very busy months of Key Stage 2.

Our Newton Longville / Magaya School Twinning

Just a quick update on our twinning with Magaya School in Zimbabwe:

We received many, many letters earlier this term from the children and staff of Magaya School, which were distributed to our children across the school. Our children were so excited to receive their letters, and many who didn't write the first time were inspired to write this time. Replies have been written and duly sent back to Zimbabwe. Some of our staff have begun writing letters too!

Your generous donations of clothes, shoes and games, etc. were warmly received by the ladies from Lux E Tenebris, the charity which supports our twinning. We will let you know when these things arrive in Zimbabwe! Thank you again for your generosity.

We will, of course, keep you updated with news of Magaya School.



- Tuesday 18th April is an INSET day so the children come back to school on **Wednesday 19th April.**
- The Buckingham School and The Royal Latin are holding a parents information evening on E-Safety at the Royal Latin School on 20th April 6-7.30 pm, all parents welcome
- Please may I remind you that only children who walk home alone should bring a mobile phone into school. These must be logged into the school office in the morning and collected at 3.15.
- Please see our website for the 'Children's news' presented by Year 6 and more photos of events.

Have a wonderful Easter break with family time together!

