

## Spruce, Sycamore and Walnut

11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### News and Reminders

The children have had a great first couple of weeks back after half term and have been very busy with trips and assessments since our return! Just before half term, we took part in our art and DT week which we are excited to report on in this newsletter.

A couple of weeks before half term, we announced our house captains and subject ambassadors in celebration assembly. A massive well done to everyone who applied for a role. The rest of the school voted for who they wanted to be their house captain. We spoke about the importance of democracy. A big well done to the following children.

Kyle and Grace	David and Emily
Karenza and Joe	Lucinda and Jayden

<b>Literacy/Library</b> Lyla and Emily		<b>PE:</b> Emma, Stanley M, Tommy, Maxwell	
<b>Maths:</b> Micah, Dylan J and Toby	<b>STEM:</b> Naila and Isabella	<b>RE/Spirituality:</b> Gabbie and Lyla	
		<b>OPAL/Play:</b> Jessica, Emily and Grace	

### Year 5 and 6 Christmas Rehearsals

The Year 5 children have now been assigned their parts for our Christmas production and should be practising their lines at home. Year 6 have also started to learn their dance. Costume letters will be sent out within the next few weeks.

### Children in Need

This takes place in school next Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Children have been told that they can dress up in pyjamas or can wear something spotty.

### Waddesdon

A reminder that year 5 children should have received their codes so that you can book your trip to Waddesdon if you wish to.

### **Homework**

A reminder that maths and SPaG activities should be being completed weekly on purple mash.

On top of this, children should be taking part in regular times table rock stars practise and completing their 4 spelling activities on spelling shed each week. We still have a large number of children not completing their spelling tasks. We will be encouraging children who do not complete homework to go to homework club on a Friday.

If children finish a book at home the website to quiz on is: [www.ukhosted93.renlearn.co.uk/6703196](http://www.ukhosted93.renlearn.co.uk/6703196)

If you have any problems with completing homework, please contact us to let us know so we can support you.

## Our Learning

### Remembrance Day:

Today we went to watch year 1 and year 4 lead our Remembrance Day assembly. It was a beautiful service and allowed us all to spend some time paying our respects. This week we have spent time painting our 'Remembrance Rocks' which you can see displayed out the front of the school. Here are some pictures of our designs.



### Literacy:

This half term, we begin our new Literacy text: A monster calls. We have been producing some fantastic writing about the nightmares that Connor experienced. We have been including different writing techniques such as personification, alliteration and metaphors to try and make our writing more vivid. We are excited to watch the film as a treat at the end of term.

### Maths:

Our new year 6 topic over the next couple of weeks in maths is fractions. After completing our fractions topic, we hope that the children will find answering the fractions questions in their homework a little easier as we have had lots of questions about how to solve some of the fraction questions. Year 5 are learning about multiplying, multiples, factors and prime numbers.

### Art and DT week:

The week before half term was Art and DT week. It was a very busy week! We spent 4 days completing 3 different tasks! We completed a unit on photography where we created our own music albums and took photos of fruit. We used a special app to enhance our photography skills. We then designed and made our teddy a waistcoat - a big thank you to our Mums

and Dads who joined us to help us sew. Finally, at the end of the week we designed and made our own playground structures. The children had a fantastic week and our STEM ambassadors have shared their thoughts about the week: *My favourite part of art/DT week was when we made the playground models and also designing and making waistcoats. It has really inspired me to start arts, crafts and sewing at home.*

*I loved making the playground structures out of lollipop sticks, white tak, glue, straw and tinfoil. We enjoyed it but it was a challenge.*



**Ufton Court trip:** On Monday we went on our school trip to Ufton Court to find out about the lives of Anglo Saxons for the day. We had brilliant time and learnt a lot. Throughout the day we got to study artefacts and had a guess at what they might have been used for. We then got to practise making thread and had a go at using a flint and steel to try and create a small spark. The Anglo Saxons would have done this in order to start a fire. Finally, we got to play the part of an Anglo Saxon on trial. We discussed whether we thought they were guilty of their crime and then what their punishment should be. Prisha in Sycamore class has described part of her day, *"My class went outside into an Anglo Saxon house and*

*there were examined some tools used in their lives. After that, we went in a barn and there our activity was about crime and punishment - my favourite. There was a thane, a priest, the accused, the accuser and the public. I learnt from this that the Anglo Saxons did have laws."*







### **Topics for this Half Term:**

**Literacy:** We are basing our writing on 'A monster calls' for the next couple of weeks. We will then be going onto look at persuasive speech which will also link into our Anglo Saxon and Viking humanities topic.

**Science:** Our Science unit for this half term is 'Animals including humans'. This topic will look at the circulatory system, how our muscles work and the impact of exercise on our heart and drug and alcohol abuse on our bodies.

**Humanities:** We will be continuing our Anglo Saxon and Viking topic.

**RE:** Our key question for this half term is "*Is God made man*" a good way to understand the Christmas story? We will be finding out about the biblical version of the Christmas story. We will then be discussing whether the story makes a difference to how Christians live. Finally, we will compare the Christian belief of Jesus to that of the Hindu belief in avatars.

**Computing:** In Computing, the children will be completing different activities linked to spreadsheets and networks.

**Christian Value awards:**

**Walnut Class:** Ethan A - co-operation

Naila - Responsibility

**Sycamore Class:** Sara and David - co-operation

**Spruce Class:** Thomas - Responsibility

Joseph - Respect

**TTRS**

**Top score on TTRS (Last 14 days)**

- Walnut: Tommy

- Sycamore: Zachary

- Spruce: Aryana

**Diary dates**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need Day

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November - Progress report to be emailed home. Mufti day for Christmas raffle donations.

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Parent's evening (virtual)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Disco.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December - hot Christmas lunch for children (needs to be ordered)

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 production and bring an orange in for the Christingle service

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Production

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas party day



Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - break up at 1pm



# Sharing images online



## Conversation starters

- What type of things do you like to share online? Is there anything you wouldn't share? Why?
- What advice would you give a friend if someone share an image of them online, without asking permission.
- With teens you could discuss an example from a programme or an article about a celebrity who shared an image and something went wrong. Ask – what advice would you offer the person?

## Pick one action to do as a family

- Visit our [CEOP Education website](#) and search for tips on how be safe when sharing pictures for different ages, by typing 'sharing' into the search box.
- As a family, look at the privacy settings for the apps, sites and games you use. Talk about how they can help to stay in control of what is shared online.
- Create a list of who your child can talk to if they are worried about something they have seen or shared online. This may include you, other trusted adults, or trusted organisations like [NSPCC's Childline](#).

## Fun family activity

Find a website or app to create a meme - your child will probably know how to do this - if not, search 'create a meme' in safe search mode. Ask each family member to create a family meme. It might include a family motto or something you say to each other.

**Use this as an opportunity to talk about permission, if using a photo of others, being kind and thinking about sharing with others.**

**For further information about this topic and more on how to keep your child safer online, visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)**