

Little Sutton Church of England Primary School

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Newsletter 3rd February 2023

'With God, all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Let's find out what our children have been enjoying and discovering in their learning over the last couple of weeks.

A message from Mrs Carciero

Year I have been very busy this week looking for signs of spring. They made some fantastic daffodils that reminded us of sunshine and the fun we can have in the sun! Year 5 were using all their mathematical and scientific knowledge to make bridges that had to hold 500g of weights. I think we definitely have some future engineers in school! The children worked incredibly hard.

We had a visitor in school this week who came to see how well the children were doing using Little Wandle to develop their phonic skills. The visitor was delighted with how good the children were and how much they were enjoying building the skills reading for early reading. A huge thank you to parents who are reading regularly at home as we do need this support.

Owl Class:

The Owls have continued to explore dots through a study of Japanese artist, Yayoi Kusama, who 'covered everything in dots and wasn't sorry'. We turned our doll's house into a home for Yayoi by designing dot patterns and covering all the walls and floors in dots, just as she did to her New York apartment. We think she'd love to live in our 'Dot House'. As part of our project, we also designed Kimonos for her to wear in the house and made bracelets with repeating patterns.

Our teachers have also been extremely proud of our writing this week. We are putting our phonics knowledge to good use to write labels and sentences to accompany our pictures, drawings and models. To write a word, we count the sounds: sh-i-p is three sounds. We then write the grapheme for each sound. Finally we check the word we've written by blending the sounds. There is a lot to think about when writing, but we are working hard and making great progress.











BIG NEWS: Thanks to your support in reading at home, we've earned our next secret reader.





Red Kite Class:

We would like to say a huge WELL DONE to everyone for their 'reading at home' engagement over the last two weeks. We have noticed a significant improvement with our Boom Reader entries and this is something that all pupils and families should be proud of. What a fabulous achievement!

In English, we have continued to explore our focus text, *The Lion Inside*. Children have been considering how the mouse character felt at different points in the story. We have discussed how we could find evidence in the text to support our ideas.

In design and technology lessons, we have been making our windmills. Red Kites have explored the three key components needed for a windmill and then they set about designing their own structures. The results have been impressive! Great work Red Kites!









Merlin Class

What another busy fortnight for Merlin Class! In Maths, we have been learning about money and we have been busy recognising coins and notes and making amounts using different coins. This has linked nicely with our PSHE lessons where we have been thinking about where money comes from, what we spend our money on and what are banks. If you have any coins at home, please encourage children to make different amounts and let them play with

I have been so impressed with the number of children who are reading at home and recording it so I can see. A big thank you to everyone who has supported the children with their reading at home this week!

In our history, we have been learning about how the Great Fire started and how it spread so easily before it eventually stopped. We produced some great storyboards to show this- well done Merlin Class! In music, the children have been learning about structure and texture within a piece of music and we have started to compose our own piece showing this with body percussion, our voices and instruments. There are some very creative musicians in Merlin class! In our English, we have been focussing on different types of sentences where the children have identified and created statements, questions, exclamations and commands in their writing.













Osprey Class:

Ospreys have been really immersed in their learning and are loving our current Stone Age topic! In English, they've been learning how to include dialogue in their writing by making 'speech sandwiches', and we have also been busy starting to plan their very own Stone Age story. In maths, we have continued our unit of work on multiplication and division, including dividing with remainders. They have also learned how to multiply using an expanded written method. We are just over half way through our class novel of 'The Iron Man' and the children have been hard at work in guided reading, developing their understanding of the different areas of reading and understanding the text. The children have amazed me with their super science work on 'rocks and soils' and were able to demonstrate their understanding of how rocks are formed, by making their own chocolate rock formations! They then wrote up their findings using scientific language. Ospreys have learned more about Stone Age life in history, including researching the famous landmark Skara Brae - the best preserved Neolithic settlement.



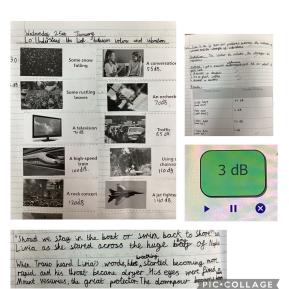






Kestrel Class:

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been doing all things science related! We have made lots of predictions about what will happen in experiments. Then, we have planned, as well as carried out investigations to answer questions that we have developed. 'Which is the noisiest area in school?' 'Which is the quietest area?' 'Does the distance away from a sound source affect the volume?' After that, we've drawn conclusions and checked to see if our predictions are correct or not. We have measured decibels using a data logger and started making a sound map of the school. The time of day



makes a big difference to the decibel readings. We have ordered sound sources according to their decibel readings too and we were quite surprised by some of our results. We found that a rocket launching is not that much louder than a rock concert! In class we tried to keep our decibel readings below 40dB so that we could concentrate!

In our maths work we are now focussed on division and we're looking at remainders too. Our writing and history work is coming on brilliantly. Everyone has been using the most fantastic word choices and lots of Kestrels have been doing further reading about Pompeii and the Romans. We are all fascinated with the topic!

As well as all this, our 'Boom Reader' engagement levels are improving every week. We've even had children in class who have reached their 5 times a week reading target by the beginning of the week.! Keep it up Kestrels. Let's try to get even more of us meeting that reading target next week!





Buzzard Class:

Year 5 have had a fantastic couple of weeks. The children have participated in a Design Technology day where they had the opportunity to research, design, make and evaluate a bridge structure. We tested all the bridges using weights to see how strong and sturdy the structures were! The children researched the Arch, Beam and Truss Bridge structures and made prototypes to test initial ideas to further improve their final design. The children were all so engaged in their learning and I think we definitely have some architects of the future in Buzzard Class. Well done Y5!

In our Music lessons, we have been looking at the Blues. The children have learned to play a 12-bar blues tune as part of our music topic. Last week, we also learned about the Chinese New Year celebration and created some beautiful pieces of art. The children drew Chinese dragons and used chalk to make colourful backgrounds.



<u>Peregrine Class:</u>

Well it's been another busy fortnight for Peregrine Class. We have finally come to the end of fractions topic in Maths and started learning all about ratio and proportion.

In Science, we are continuing our 'Classification of Living Things' topic and discovering how to identify similarities and differences in plants and animals; to enable us to group and classify them using their characteristics. We have learnt all about the characteristics of certain flowers and we have started to grow mould!

In English we have been writing in a formal Victorian era style, while enjoying our book 'The Selfish Giant'. The children have written some amazing letters and diary entries as we tighten up and sharpen our writing skills.







In PE this term, we are developing our dodgeball skills. Improvements are definitely being made and the games are certainly a little competitive!!

Our SATs practice is well underway. You will notice, from the homework I have set, that we are getting used to SATs style questioning and this will continue throughout the term. Please can you continue to support your child, by reading with them every night and updating the Boom Reader App. Reading regularly is key to understanding the questions that will be set in their SATs so please encourage your child to read to you every night. Keep working hard Peregrine Class, it will all be worth it in the end.

READING AT HOME

We ask all of our families to support our pupils and their reading development by reading at home.

You can do this by:

- Reading with your child at least 5 times a week STRIVE FOR FIVE
- Record all 'reading at home' sessions on our online platform, Boom Reader
- Ensure that school reading books return in a good condition ready for the next pupil to use

Teachers will support you by:

- Ensuring that pupils bring home an appropriately match book to their current level of learning
- Checking Boom Reader daily to monitor engagement
- Offering support to families that are not reading at home regularly, in line with our target
- Celebrate and recognise those pupils and families who read at home regularly

	DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
February 6/2/23 14/2/23 17/2/23 28/2/23	Children's Mental Health Week Safer Internet Day School closes for half term Parents' Evening
March 1/3/23 2/3/23 17/3/23 19/3/23 23/3/23 30/3/23	Parents' Evening World Book Day Red Nose Day Mother's Day World Maths Day Easter Service at St Paul's - led by Father Mark

MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

- Please refrain from parking in the staff car park between 8:15am 4:30pm unless prior permission has been obtained.
- Please can we ask that all of our families park considerably during school drop off and pick up. Please remember that school is located in a residential area.

