

Message from the Head Teacher

RE Enrichment Week



We have really enjoyed holding our RE Enrichment Week this week which this year was themed on prayer. We linked to the programme of study that the children have been doing in their RE lessons throughout the term including 'Does God Communicate with Man?' (Owl Class) and 'Does Prayer Change Things?' (Fox Class).

We found many creative ways to think about prayer and to encourage to take time to just pause and reflect. We are grateful to Owl Class for investing time to create wonderful prayer spaces for us all in the classroom and hall as well as on the website and also using our outdoor space to create a prayer garden.

Other activities have included:

- Prayer cups
- Fizzy prayers
- Lego prayers
- Prayer Doodles
- Prayer Plates



We also introduced a new initiative called 'Space Makers' which we will continue to integrate in the weeks and months ahead.

Cake Sale



Thank you to everyone who very kindly made cakes for our cake sale last Friday. They were incredible. Thank you also to those who generously bought tea, coffee and cake and offered donations too. We are delighted to say that we raised £280 for Red Nose Day.

PTA

Thank you to the PTA for kindly providing the Easter eggs for our annual Easter Egg hunt. The children all loved finding the hidden treasure. Also, thank you for running another incredible film event.



Chicks



A huge thank you to Mr Wodzynski for kindly allowing us to have some eggs to incubate and hatch. The children have loved having the chance to learn about the life cycle and specially to hold the fluffy chicks. A number of adults were spotted having a cuddle too!

Pencil Cases

We have noticed that a number of children are coming to school without the equipment that they need for their lessons. Please can you use the Easter holidays as an opportunity to restock their pencil cases with: pencils, blue ink pens (KS2), a rubber, ruler and glue stick. Thank you.



Goodbye and Thank You



Very sadly today is Mrs Coates' last day working in the office. We are grateful to her for all of her hard work and support in the office whilst she has been with us. We wish her well for the future. We are currently advertising the role of Office Administrator, if you know anyone who might be interested, then the job details are on our website.

Kind regards
Mrs France



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Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class:

This week we have been preparing to celebrate Easter. The children have been thinking about the significance of Jesus in the Easter Story and the symbol of the cross. We have been talking about the importance of prayer, the things we can pray for and the ways we can pray. The children have taken part in lots of fun activities to help them understand this idea including 'fizzy prayers', 'prayer cups' and 'prayer gardens'. We have also learnt a song about the Easter story from Palm Sunday to the resurrection which we performed in the church service on Friday. In Maths the children have been thinking about doubles and using stem sentences to understand the part-whole concepts of this number operation. In phonics we have been practicing the long and short oo phoneme. They have worked so very hard this term and made phenomenal progress so we wish them and you a wonderful Easter break and can't wait to see them back for our summer term!



Squirrel Class:

And just like that my first term as Squirrel Class teacher is complete! What an amazing term it's been with so many wonderful events and opportunities for the children. This last week was no exception, and we had brilliant fun learning about the importance of prayer, with lots of hands-on and creative experiences for the children to complete, so a big thank you to Mrs France for all her ideas and resources for RE Enrichment week. We spent our English lessons looking at poetry and using all our knowledge of the Great Fire of London to create acrostic, shape and performance poems. In maths we have been learning about measurement, with a focus on length and height. We have been using different tools to measure items in the classroom and playground and comparing lengths and heights. We have spent some time this week completing whole class guided reading sessions too, with an aim to improve our skills at answering questions about a text accurately. So, if you hear your child mention VIPERS please note it is nothing to do with snakes and all to do with our reading! 😊 I wish you all a restful Easter break with your loved ones and look forward to seeing you on 17th April for the start of our summer term.



Fox Class:

Where has this term gone? Children finished, edited then published their own chapters of The Iron Man which will go into a class book for them to read during our ERIC time or in you are in class any time! They worked really hard on their work and I am really proud of what they have achieved. In Maths, Year 3 and Year 4 will continue with their fraction journey next term but have shown a solid understanding of what they have learnt thus far. Please keep practising times tables with your child as we will begin to look at fractions of amounts and times tables will be invaluable. We have spent time this week focussing on our RE Enrichment activities and children have really thought carefully about the power of prayer. They have carried out a range of activities and made things that they will have brought home to help focus on where to pray and who to pray for – even Lego came out and enabled us to think of others and appreciate our differences. You may be wondering what is on our windows in our classroom well we are recreating the water cycle! We learnt about the 3 processes involved and added them onto the plastic bags with coloured water inside. We should see the cycle happen throughout the day! With the focus of fastenings, we made our book covers by sewing fabric then adding on our choice of fasteners. This could not have happened without some fabulous parental support so thank you. The children worked really hard and should be delighted with their efforts. Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and happy Easter break and I look forward to welcoming the children back on the 17th April for another exciting term of learning!



Owl Class:

Oh my! What a whirlwind term it has been! Owls have really pushed themselves all term, but this week especially, with many a Big Write, practise paper, end of unit assessment or science project confronting them. However, as we know about our Owls, they threw themselves into the challenges - creating newspaper reports about how King Arthur recruited Merlin to help him solve the murder of the Lady of Shallot, using our transition phrases to make sure our writing 'flows', identifying metamorphosis in animals in Science, (and finally clearing up that Pokémon do not evolve: they metamorphosise into a whole new animal), and finishing our Statistics unit in Maths: there should be a pie chart dedicated to just that for this week! As all this happened, the children also took part in our prayer week, creating prayer cups, crosses and discussing wonderful ideas about the idea and power of prayer. Year Six have also been rejuvenating the prayer garden with fresh paint, and colourful decorations to create an open and welcoming space for reflection and prayer. I would like to take this chance to wish Owl class and their families at home the very best for this well-earned Easter break. I look forwards to seeing you all again in April!

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7

Photo Diary of the Week



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Whole School Topic: Spring Term: Once Upon a Time

Values: Outreach

In this week's Collective Worship we looked at how we respond to God's love for us in how we reach out to others and how we can be cheerful givers. We looked at how the way that a gift is given can mean as much as the gift itself. If the person giving is glad to give and enjoys giving it, the gift becomes very special.

'God loves a cheerful giver.' 2 Corinthians 9:7

Climate Warriors Challenge

'When we see the Earth from space, we see ourselves as a whole. We see the unity, and not the divisions. It is such a simple image with a compelling message: one planet, one human race.' Stephen Hawking, Theoretical Physicist. 'Brief Answers to the Big Questions'.

Astronauts looking back at our Earth from space have spoken about how it completely changes their view of our planet - blown away by its beauty, and its fragility. Taking a step outside of our everyday lives helps us to see things differently. This holiday Young Climate Warriors are encouraged to explore our planet with 'different eyes'. To explore a tiny patch of nature close to home that they have walked past a thousand times before, and see it with different eyes. According to the pioneer astronaut, John Glenn, the most powerful quality in an astronaut is curiosity. Where will their curiosity take them?

Book Review



This brand-new prayer book for the children in your life will put the amazing power of prayer into perspective as they pray for their friends, their families, their neighbourhoods, their schools, their towns, their country, and beyond. KS2 children will be guided to pray for positive change in the world as they encounter the many ways they can make an impact through their conversations with God. The 'Be the Change' sections after each prayer will also encourage kids to 'act' as they listen for God's voice and direction for their lives.

Have a conversation with God today, and see how He works *through you* as you listen for His voice and direction in your life.

Term Dates

Please note that the term dates for the next academic year are now on the website.

Happiness Calendar: Mindful March

This month, we're encouraging you to try something new! You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Housepoints

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	31	280
Eden	35	220
Galilee	40	233
Jerusalem	39	229

Congratulations to **Bethlehem** who are this half term's winners.

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Fmails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
28 th March	Email	All classes	PTA	Reminder letter
28 th March	Email	All classes	JR Football	After School Football Club

Diary Dates Spring Term 2023 (New or revised dates in bold)

April	
Monday 17 th	Summer term begins
Thursday 20 th	Hedgehog Class trip to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital
Friday 21 st	Year 5 Cycling starts - also on 28 th , 5 th May, 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 19 th - Test 22 nd May
May	
Monday 1 st	Bank Holiday
Friday 5 th	Coronation picnic and games for families of Aston Rowant School on school field
Monday 8 th	Bank Holiday
Tue 9 th – Fri 12 th	Year 6 SATs (Tue SPaG, Wed Reading, Thurs 2x Maths, Fri Maths)
w/c 15 th May	Year 2 SATs
Friday 26 th	INSET
June	
Friday 9 th	Year 6 Cycling starts - also on 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th , 7 th July and 14 th – Test 17 th July
w/c 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 15 th	Bags2School
Monday 19 th	Garsington Opera Workshop on The Barber of Seville - Owl Class
Tuesday 20 th	Dance Festival at Lord Williams's School - Fox and Squirrel Classes
Monday 26 th	Science Day at Lord Williams's School
Wednesday 28 th	The Look Out Discovery Centre - Squirrel Class trip
July	
Thursday 6 th	RE Inspired Year 6
Friday 7 th	PTA AGM – electing new Chair, Secretary and Finance Officer
w/c 10 th July	Sports Enrichment Week including Sports Day Wednesday 12 th
Monday 17 th	End of Year Reports
Tuesday 18 th	Owl Class visit Wormsley Estate to watch The Barber of Seville by Garsington Opera
Friday 21 st	End of Term 13:30

Academic Year Calendar 2023-24

Autumn 22	
Tues 5 th Sept – Thurs 19 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 23 rd – Fri 27 th October	HALF TERM
Mon 30 th Oct – Wed 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 23	
Tue 9 th Jan – Fri 9 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Monday 12 th – Fri 16 th February	HALF TERM
Mon 19 th Feb – Thurs 28 th March	Spring Term (2)
Summer 23	
Mon 15 th April - Thu 24 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd June – Wed 24 th July	Summer Term (2)

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