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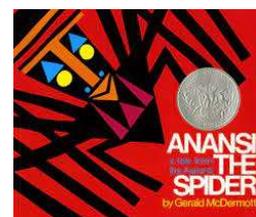
Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

3rd March 2023

World Book Week – 1st March 2023

Brilliant! Great fun! Enjoyable! These are the words said by children during and after our World Book Day 'Once upon a time' themed day. It was a joy to see the richness of our language displayed on the children as well as their creativity in making their word come to life! Our school really came into its own displaying many values but particularly Outreach as this was the first occasion this academic year for vertical learning as the children worked together in their Houses. Owl Class stepped up as leaders ensuring that the younger members were included in every activity.

Children heard the African/Caribbean traditional tale of the mischievous spider Anansi leading them on to making African drums and silhouette puppets. Building skills were required when children learnt about the Three Little Pigs. Children could choose their resources before being tested on the big bad hairdryer! It was lovely to see the older children focussed on simple tasks such as building with bricks – something they may not have done for some time. After re-enacting the Enormous Turnip using drama, children were tasked in putting in action the working together ethic seen in the story along with the pulling skills! They were tasked in their mixed groups to see how long they could stretch a curly wurly. This was a tough task as they had to handle chocolate and caramel but not one curly wurly touched their lips! After a set time each group had their not so curly wurlys measured, two groups managed to exceed three metres! One child said how proud he was of his leadership skills as he was making sure everyone could stretch it. Rapunzel was renowned for her long hair and children were able to recreate her tresses with finger knitting. Nimble fingers were needed!



A B C D E F G After lunch we made our very own Aston Rowant dictionary where children all lined up in
H I J K L M N alphabetical order ensuring we could all see each other's words. Could I also thank you for
O P Q R S T U ensuring children came to school with a book to swap – they loved searching for a new book
V W X Y Z and listening to stories too.

In addition to the children enjoying the day, the staff did too and it wouldn't have been such a success without their excellent activities and support throughout the day.

All children came home with their World Book Day vouchers which can be exchanged directly for a specially written book in book shops or large supermarkets.



With reading still in mind, it would be lovely to see photos of your children carrying out some extreme reading! Where's the strangest place you could read: up a tree, under the bed, in the bath, in the supermarket? Send the photos to your class teacher who will forward them on to me. I can't wait to see your creativity in full flow again!

Mrs Healy
English Lead

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class:

The children have been enjoying a story rich curriculum this week. We have completed our work on “The little Red Hen”. They did a fantastic job of telling the story in groups, each taking their own lines and delivering them in character and with gusto! We discovered how fun it was to improvise and came up with lots of excuses why the characters might not help the little Red Hen! Then they did a class performance using their puppets. You can now see this for yourselves on the link on our class page. World book day was super fun and the children really got stuck into the different activities on offer. In Music they are enjoying a song called “Hey You!” which aches about the different musical elements. It’s part rap and part singing. It was such a delight to watch them throwing some funky dance moves as they found the pulse with their bodies! Please could your children bring in a printed photo of any pets they have at home to use in their writing next week. If you do not have a pet then you can print a photo of one and talk with your child about how they might look after it, in preparation. Thank you!



Squirrel Class:

Squirrel class have immersed themselves in history this week, with lots more learning about life in London in 1666 and the conditions that contributed to the devastating spread of the great fire. We have also been discovering a bit more about Samuel Pepys and the importance of his diary as a primary historical source. In maths, Y1 have been exploring subtraction and unpicking some of the different strategies we can use, such as using related facts, counting back and finding the difference. Y2 have moved onto division and understanding how to use our times tables facts to assist in division. Don’t forget to practice your times tables and related facts on your TTRS account. Finally, as part of our DT project this term, could children please bring in any books to school that have various types of mechanisms, such as levers, wheels and sliders for the class to evaluate prior to designing our own moving pictures. Thank you!



Fox Class:

This short week has still seen the class thoroughly engaged in their learning. At the beginning of the week children honed their dictionary skills understanding how to use and search for meanings. We also finished the first chapter of our book The Iron Man – children wrote in character describing what happened to them when they fell off the cliff. In Maths, children have been learning about perimeter with the Year 4 children learning how to calculate missing measurements, a little detective work needed, and Year 3 encountering perimeter for the first time. A personal highlight of the week was our Music lesson as children loved singing reggae! We learnt a little about Bob Marley and then learnt the song Three Little Birds. They said how much they enjoyed the beat and how relaxing it was. Once we had heard the whole song, children did a conga style walk around the class singing their hearts out “Don’t worry about a thing”! It was a joy to behold!



Owl Class:

Owl Class have been exploring various ways that we can adapt old English language into modern English as they retell the pivotal moment that the Lady of Shalott decides to leave her tower, and is stricken by the curse! The children have really embraced this old Victorian poem and have been using a fantastic range of language to craft evocative and exciting narratives. One opening line that I particularly enjoyed was ‘The Lady of Shalott was haunted, just like her island’. Brilliant! In Maths, we have moved onto area and perimeter: be ready to have every inch of your walls and floors measured over the next coming week as we put these skills into action! We have also begun our History topic, looking at the Second World War. In the homework that came home this week, the children have been set a fact-finding project about any aspect of the conflict that they choose to look at: possible ideas might be the Home Guard, D-Day, the Land Girls, or the Commonwealth servicemen who were drafted to fight for Great Britain. Also, the children have been asked to write a question for Mrs Manning’s grandfather Bernie, who lived through the Blitz as a child and has happily agreed to answer the children’s questions in a video call. This is a fantastic opportunity for the class to get some direct stories and real human history and promises to be an interesting lesson!

Photo Diary of the Week







Whole School Topic: Spring Term: Once Upon a Time

Values: Outreach

There are many stories in the Bible about Jesus noticing the needs of others and showing compassion. Once he went off in a boat to find a place away from the crowds where he and his disciples could rest. But when he reached the shore, on the other side of the lake there were yet more people wanting him to help them and heal those who were ill. Jesus reached out to them and showed his love through his outreach and compassion and we thought about how to do the same.

'When Jesus saw the crowd his heart was filled with compassion, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.' Mark 6:34

Climate Warriors Challenge

'How to avoid a climate disaster. It's our power to invent that makes me hopeful' - Bill Gates, Entrepreneur, Founder of Microsoft.

Harnessing solar energy can play a substantial role in reducing our global carbon emissions. Solar provides an accessible alternative to fossil fuels which can be deployed almost anywhere in the world.

This week's Young Climate Warriors challenge encourages children to 'zap the lights' at home whilst also investigating projects that harness 'our giant ball of hydrogen'. Alongside our human 'power to invent', solar energy can enable us to make great strides in tackling climate change.

Book Review



We love a good non-fiction book in Hedgehog class. Using photos and captions to find out all about things we are interested in. This book has been fantastic to help us learn all about our eggs. It has some amazing pictures of what is happening inside the eggs moment by moment and has clear diagrams to help us understand how the chicks are developing. We love the easy to read text and the children have said that.....

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	68	113
Eden	63	105
Galilee	22	60
Jerusalem	45	88



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Emails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
28 th Feb	Email	All Classes	The Office	Strike Action
28 th Feb	Email	Hedgehog	The Office	Tiggywinkles trip
1 st March	Email	Fox and Owl Class	The Office	Science Oxford trip reminder

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

March	
Mon 6 ^h – Fri 10 th	Science Enrichment Week
Thursday 9 th	Science afternoon KS2
Monday 13 th	8.15pm PTA meeting – The Inn at Emmington
Tuesday 14 th	2.50pm PTA Secondhand Uniform Sale in the hall
Wed 15 th and Thurs 16 th	Possible strike days
Friday 17 th	Fox and Owl class trip to Science Oxford - NO Celebration Assembly
Tues 20 th Wed 21 st	Parents' evenings
Friday 24 th	2:30 pm Children's work and books available for parents to look at with children.
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st	RE Enrichment Week
Friday 31 st	Friday 9am Spring Service in church School Closes 1:30pm 1:30 PTA film night
April	
20 th April	Hedgehog class trip to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital

Academic Year Calendar 2022-23

Autumn 22	
Tues 6 th Sept – Thurs 20 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th October	HALF TERM
Mon 31 st Oct – Tue 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 23	
Wed 4 th Jan – Fri 10 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Monday 13 th – Fri 17 th February	HALF TERM
Tues 21 st Feb - Fri 31 st Mar	Spring Term (2)
Summer 23	
Mon 17 th April - Thu 25 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 29 th May – Fri 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Mon 5 th June - Fri 21 st July	Summer Term (2)