



28th June 2024

Message from the Head Teacher

Go Green Day

This Wednesday we enjoyed another whole school event, this time organised by our Eco-Warrior team. Our 'Go Green Day' was an opportunity for the team to highlight the importance of looking after our world and share different initiatives to build towards creating a sustainable future for us all. We all enjoyed dressing in green attire - thank you for the multi donations towards a Hotbin composter to minimise our school food waste.

We had a great day with the whole school community coming together to think about how our daily activities can be more eco-friendly. Our initiatives included:

- Walking or biking to school
- Carsharing with another family for those who had to drive
- No plastic containers or wrapping in our lunchboxes
- No lights were used in school all day
- Limited use of electrical items to reduce energy consumption (including no cups of tea and coffee for staff!)
- Outdoor learning for all classes



Video Games



We are aware that some children, including children in KS1 and KS2, are watching Garten of Banban which is a horror game with an age restriction of 9+ years. Yet studies of children exposed to violent media have shown that they may become numb to violence, imitate the violence, and show more aggressive behaviour. Younger children and those with emotional, behavioural or learning problems may be even more influenced by violent images. While some games do have educational content, many of the most popular games promote themes and experiences that are not suitable for primary aged children.

We encourage all parents to help their children enjoy video games appropriately and avoid problems by:

- Checking ratings on PEGI or ESRB Apps to select appropriate games—both in content and level of development
- Playing videogames with your children to share the experience as well as monitoring the game's content
- Setting clear rules about game content and playing time, both in and outside the home
- Monitoring your child's online interactions
- Allowing video game playing only in public areas of the home, not in a child's bedroom

Parental Governor Election

We are currently seeking to appoint a parent governor. A separate letter has been sent out. The Governing Body, with the Headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school.

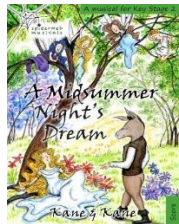
Governing bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and pupils
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Please do submit an application by the close of Monday 1st July if you wish to stand.



Midsummer Night's Dream



The week after next will be our KS2 summer production – A Midsummer Night's Dream. This is Shakespeare's classic comedy, but in a fresh, lively version that's accessible and fun for primary aged children. Set in a forest outside Athens (formally known as Hedgehog's outdoor area!), it's a twisting tale of four confused and argumentative friends, a group of temperamental fairies, and a gang of rowdy workmen who are trying to rehearse their own play. The play is open to any of our Aston Rowant family but we need to know numbers for seating. Please request tickets if you would like to attend. We will allocate 2 tickets per family per night in the first instance. It will be a wonderful evening's entertainment. Refreshments will be served.

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:7)



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

What a warm week it's been. The Hedgehog children have coped tremendously in the heat and have had a great week of learning. We thoroughly enjoyed *Go Green Day*. We decided to recycle some old rubbish into useful items. The children came up with some wonderful ideas including desk tidies, jewellery boxes, stilling jars and even a baby carrier! We then enjoyed some outdoor watercolour painting to test out different brushstrokes and a litter picking competition. In PSHE this week we've been looking at cooperation and the children worked together to balance themselves on a chair. It was great fun! The highlight of our week was our class trip to the Lookout Centre in Bracknell, where we played giant pianos, flew paper machines in a huge airstream and took shadow photographs. The children made us very proud with their behaviour and impressed us with their bravery as they scaled 83 steps to reach the top of the lookout! It was a wonderful day.



Squirrel Class

It's been a scorcher of a week but the Squirrel class have still given their all to their learning! We kicked off the week with writing our own version of our leading text 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. This has been so much fun to do and the children have created some amazingly entertaining stories! We have continued our learning on time in Maths and the children reviewed units of time and how to calculate elapsed time. On our *Go Green Day* on Wednesday the class used natural materials to create their own clock faces, and the Y2's challenged themselves to use Roman Numerals! We also planted our sunflower and cress seeds in our mini greenhouses and learnt about Botany. In DT we created an ingredients list for our pizza making lesson, which seems to be the most anticipated event of the year! In PE the children enjoyed rounders on the field and some athletics too. Well done for another fun-packed week.



Fox Class

The weather may have been hot but as usual Fox Class kept their cool! They were able to demonstrate how much they have retained and understood in our Maths assessments and I was very proud of them all. Our English has been totally focussed on our oracy skills and how to project our voices clearly and loudly! In Geography, we spent time using Google Earth and atlases to understand the region we live in. Children had to locate various cities, rivers and hills on their maps and mark them accurately. In Science, we learnt about William Smith who was a famous geologist. He was the first person to create a geological map of England which then led him to understand how the rocks would help him age fossils he had found. The class had a go of marking their own fossils on a map whilst their partner had to identify the fossil to understand which period the rock had come from. Our *Go Green Day* learning all took place outside. In Maths we had four different stations to visit with a range of activities all linked to angles and turns. In English we created 'Poetree' (!) based on the trees in our field. We all sat in different poses to get a different perspective of our chosen tree and used descriptive devices such as similes, metaphors and alliteration to enhance our poems. The class have been so sensible in the heat this week and sought out shade when it's been hot. Could I please ask that they all come to school with a named water bottle as it's important they stay hydrated at all times. Thank you!



Owl Class

It's not everyday teams of Year 5 and Year 6 children are given 5 million pounds to spend! In Maths this week in Owl that is exactly what happened. They were also given a plot of land and planning permission to build a theme park. The challenge was to work together as business partners to develop a theme for their enterprise and then plan and cost rides, amenities and attractions. In future weeks they will be developing a marketing strategy and planning a Dragons' Den style pitch to launch their parks. 'The play is the thing' in English and DT this week with prop making and rehearsals taking centre stage! For *Go Green Day* Owls created 'switch it off' posters in different languages; researched conservationists; surveyed how our children travelled to school; wrote balanced arguments for littering fines; and identified the plants, trees and animals in our school grounds. We even had our Maths lesson outside creating shapes and angles. In PE we have enjoyed rounders and athletics. In PSHE we did some basic First Aid including chocking, bleeding, resuscitation, the recovery position and how to use the defibrillator. Finally, in RE the saints came marching in! Another busy week of learning and fun and also enjoying our wonderful grounds.

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Photo Diary of the Week



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Go Green Day



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Whole School Topic - Summer Term: All Over the World.

Values: Resilience

This week we looked at how having courage means that we need to be brave and do the right thing which is not always the easy thing. We looked at the story of Jeremiah who was a prophet. We learnt how prophets are people who listen to God and let others know what God is saying even if they don't want to hear the message. Jeremiah was blessed by God and tasked with preaching God's word to his people. He is an example of perseverance by continually preaching and teaching God's word, despite all that was done to him. His faithfulness to do God's work in challenging circumstances is a great example of resilience and perseverance.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you." Jeremiah 29:11-12

Climate Warriors Challenge

What's the story of your fruit and vegetables before they land on your plate? Where do they grow? How do they grow? In which season are they at their best? In the UK we currently grow around 55% of the vegetables and 17% of the fruit we eat. Eating seasonally can have health benefits. Summer carrots, leafy greens and broccoli have high quantities of beta-carotene to protect our skins from the summer sunshine. In addition, transporting food by air emits 50 times more greenhouse gases than transporting by sea. So can you be adventurous and choose to eat more seasonal, local produce? Gooseberries, beetroot, radishes and broad beans for example?

This week's challenge relates to eating local and seasonal produce:

[Eat the seasons - website](#)

[Bar chart - carbon emissions related to food.](#)

***Book Review* - Footprint by Phil Cummings recommended by our Eco Warriors**



Embark on a lyrical, meditative journey through nature's tapestry, where every step you take leaves a legacy of wonder and protection for the environment. Explore forests and mountains, cities and fields, and animals in their natural habitats as you ponder the footprint humans have left on the Earth. Anyone who reads this book will be moved to think about the environment and the importance of conservation. With its beautiful prose and mesmerising artwork, Footprint will inspire both children and adults to appreciate the beauty of the world around them and take mindful steps to protect it.

Happiness Calendar: Joyful June

This month, we're encouraging you to look for what is good. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance - This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	80%	0%	20%
Squirrel Class	93%	0%	7%
Fox Class	83%	0%	17%
Owl Class	81%	0%	19%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	34	201
Eden	48	204
Galilee	38	123
Jerusalem	23	139



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Emails and letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
27.06.24	Email	All	Mrs France	Working party
26.06.24	Email	Fox and Owls	Mrs Healy	Play arrival timetable/make up permission
26.06.24	Email	Year 6	Mrs France	RSE
24.06.24	Email	All	Mrs King	Earth Uniform orders
24.06.24	Email	Owls	Mrs France	Garsington Opera trip
24.06.24	Email	All	Mrs France	Parent Governor Election
24.06.24	Email	All	Mrs Biggin	Eco/green day

July	
Wed 3 rd	Transition Day – all classes move up and new starters join us (Year 6 project work)
Thurs 4 th	Garsington Opera performance of Midsummer Night's Dream at Wormsley for Owl Class
Sat 6 th	Working party in school from 10am (painting inside and out, shed roof felting, general repairs)
Mon 8 th	KS2 play dress rehearsal and first performance 6:30pm (staggered character arrival time - see schedule)
Tues 9 th	KS2 play outdoor performance 6:30pm (weather depending, note reserve date Mon 15 th)
Thurs 11 th	RSE talk for Year 6
Mon 15 th	Reports out
w/c 15 th	PE Enrichment Week inc sport's day Wed 17 th
Sat 20 th	PTA camping and games night at Kingston Blount Village Hall
Mon 22 nd /Tue 23 rd	Art Enrichment Week inc Art Exhibition Wed 24 th

Academic Year Calendar 2024-25

Autumn 24	
Weds 4 th Sept – Thurs 24 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 28 th – Fri 1 st Nov	HALF TERM
Mon 4 th Nov – Fri 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 25	
Tue 7 th Jan – Fri 14 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 24 th Feb – Fri 4 th Apr	Spring Term (2)
Summer 25	
Tue 22 nd April – Thu 22 nd May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 26 th May – Fri 30 th May	HALF TERM
Mon 2 nd June – Tue 22 nd July	Summer Term (2)

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