Whitewater News: 18th March 2022

What a difference a couple of days make! On Wednesday, I was contemplating building an ark just in case the rain didn't stop. Today and yesterday, I feel like digging out my flip flops! It's taken its time, but spring has arrived and the sunshine always helps put a smile on faces. With everything going on in the world at the moment, it's great to get some weather which encourages us to get outside which is good for both physical and mental health.

As always, it's been another busy couple of weeks and there's lots to share...

In school...

Mrs Joliffe says...

During Science Week Rabbits loved growing a bean in a cup, enjoyed watering the daffodils and the snowdrops they had planted, observing the pumpkin seeds growing roots and noticing the changes in the nature in our woodland walk area. Learning about germination fascinated them! We are all becoming experts in making 10 in maths. I keep finding Post Its with number bonds to 10 written on them which is amazing! We all made maps of the area with the giant traps children built to catch the dragon. PE lessons were so much fun learning to control the ball. Rabbits are persevering and getting so much better at dribbling!



I have been very proud of the work Otters have been doing. In maths, we have learnt about 2D shapes and had fun spotting them and creating our own shape pictures and patterns. We took part in the Hampshire Book Awards, where we read 4 story books and voted on our favourite. Winning by a large majority, was 'The ABC Factor' by Katrina Charman. We have also been busy writing letters to instruct RAF Odiham on

what they need to do to catch the River Dragon – recently sighted over the River Whitewater. Don't worry, Otter class are certain we are all safe! We have had fun in music with Miss Hairsine and are busy learning about plants with Mrs Wood. It is Science Week this week and we have noticed lots of signs of Spring. We also enjoyed our visit to the Church for Worship and spotted even more flowers, blossom and even a tank of fish! What a busy time!



Another two weeks down, I don't know where the time seems to be going. Once again, I am very proud of what the children are working on achieving. In English the children have completed their persuasive writing from the perspective of Queen Boudicca imploring the Iceni to go to war with the rotten Romans. In Art and DT they have been designing and creating Roman jewellery including brooches and torques to be painted next week. We have begun looking at the Geography of Italy and in RE we have started our discussions on salvation taught through the Easter Story. To celebrate Science Week the children have planted sun flowers, pansies and peonies.





Mr Greenley says...

Fox Class have had another busy couple of weeks. Our science lessons have followed through our work on classification. The children have been finding out all about the work of Karl Linnaeus - our Latin is definitely improving as a result!

New tables have also arrived giving the children a chance to work in a very adult way of working by standing up. Some of the children have really found it has helped their concentration. In maths the children have been learning about imperial units of measure. There has been a lot of head scratching about converting pounds into kilograms, pints into litres and everything back the other way again. The worded problems requiring more than one calculation added even more challenge and some had everyone in the classroom scratching their heads - adults included!

Collective Worship...

Yesterday, we left school and set off on the long walk (all 100 metres) to Rotherwick Church for our assembly. There was a slight chill in the air and bright sunlight streaming through the trees which makes a massive change from the bucketing rain we endured the day before. As always, Marion gave us the warmest of welcomes as we filed in. We have been looking at the value of *justice* over the past few weeks. We've been learning about global justice and we've posed the question: if the world has enough food, clean water and money for everybody, why do some people and countries not have enough? Justice also seems very appropriate when considering what's going on in the world at the moment. It also links in to the Easter story so well. This is something which we'll be delving into over the next few weeks.



Science Week...

Across the school, the children have engaged in a range of Science investigations and experiences. The theme this year has been 'growth'. As a result, the children have been growing beans, looking for evidence of growth around us, planting in the allotment area and exploring the work of the Swedish scientist: Carolus Linnaeus (parnets of children in Fox Class, please feel free to ask your child). All in all, there's been plenty to think about and we look forward to seeing more 'growth' over the coming weeks.







Red Nose Day...

Thank you to everyone who gave donations to support Red Nose Day. I know we very recently asked for support for the charity Sunflower of Peace also. At a time when energy prices, National Insurance Contribution and the price of petrol are all having a squeeze on finances, the Whitewater community has come together to generate £301.10 (£101.10 for Red Nose Day and £200 for the Sunflower of Peace) for two very worthy causes. This is a wonderful example of fellowship and compassion towards others. This is something that we don't take for granted and it makes us proud to serve such a special community.

Parents' Evening...

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening last week. It was great to be able to do this in person after a couple of years of Zoom and telephone calls. The teachers were delighted with your contributions and the support you show for your children. Glen and I have racked up over 70 parents' evenings between us over the years and I'm delighted to say that the 99% attendance we had last week is the highest we've ever had. Maybe next year we can hit 100%!

New Office Staff...

You may have noticed that there is someone new in the office this week. Mrs Gail Bromley has joined Mrs Fox and will be working a couple of hours in the morning to help with the workload. I'm sure you'll all join me in extending a very warm welcome to Mrs Bromley as she joins our school and hope that she will be very happy with us.

Athletics Club...

Athletics Club is now full; we have had an amazing amount of interest. Mr Berridge will run this club until may half term and then open up the club to other classes for the second half of the summer term. If you have sent a request form in, you are in the club, so please bring your running kit on Wednesday for your first session.

Breakfast Club...

Breakfast Club will start the week beginning 28th March. If you are interesting in registering your child, please either pop into the school office or email us for the registration forms. The Breakfast Club will run from 7.40am to 8.40am from the school hall. The side gates will be open to enable you to drop off at the hall door. Please note that on Fridays Dance Club will run as normal, Breakfast club will move into the man school building. The daily cost of breakfast is £7.50. All payment information will be included in the registration pack. If you have any questions regarding the club, please do email Mrs Gail Bromley at <u>g.bromley@whitewater.hants.sch.uk</u>. If you have any games, puzzles or books that you no longer want and would like to donate to our Breakfast Club we would be very grateful.

Finally, as we reach the half way point for this half term, we hope you enjoy plenty of time outside this weekend. Spring is finally here. I hope you make the most of it...I'm never too confident that it'll last.

I hope you all have a restful weekend and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday.

Take care

Mr Steve Moore Executive Head of School

Key Dates

| Date | Event |
|--|--|
| 23 rd March | Athletics Club starts 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm |
| 25 th March | PTA Bunny Hop Disco 5.30 pm to 7 pm |
| 28 th March | Breakfast Club Starts 7.40 am to 8.40 am |
| 1 st April | PTA Break the Rules Day |
| 7 th April | PTA Teasers Spring Fashion Show 7 pm to 9 pm |
| 8 th April | Last day of Spring Term |
| 11 th April to 28 th April | EYFS outdoor area being installed |
| 25 th April | Back to School for start of summer term |

Start Dates to be confirmed

Hockey Club