



Whitewater C of E Primary School

Whitewater Newsletter - 20th May 2022

As we come to the end of the penultimate week of this half term, it certainly feels like we are doing our best to cram 7 weeks of work into the 5 weeks we have available. Over the last fortnight alone we've had school trips, SATs, the new Year R outdoor area and new pupils and we still have the Hedgehog school trip, a Year 6 writer's day at Bishopswood and Jubilee party to squeeze in! There has been lots of learning, lots of fun and lots of memories being made.

In school...

Mrs Joliffe says...

I have loved observing our lovely children with our visitors and talking to them about our achievements this week as they all made me very proud. Rabbits were so independent and confident during continuous provision; taking orders, making tea with real tea bags, selling coffee & cakes at their Beach Cafe. Catching fish using their new rods (just picture them sitting on their beach chairs with their flip-flops on), frying fish at the Fish & Chip Shop they set up. Watering their plants, making aquariums...They were so excited to discover our new playground while using the new resources in each area imaginatively. They were also so welcoming towards their new friends who joined us the last couple of weeks. We found different ways of working with shapes all week. Made up our own number track game outside. I got defeated by Mrs Baronne, which was highly amusing for them. Last but not least, they showed off their new vocabulary to Marion when she popped in to see their learning. HUGE progress since September so well done Rabbits. 'Keep calm and carry on learning'.

Mrs Rolph says...

I have been so impressed by the resilience shown by Otter Class over these last 2 weeks. We began by attempting to fold and then float paper boats. The instructions confused Mrs Rolph but we all got there in the end – after a number of 'in the pit' moments from us all! Not surprisingly, our boats quickly sank but we all took new dry boats home. A big thank you to Maggie who became our 'Master boat builder' and helped her friends which was a great help to Mrs Rolph. Next, we folded and flew paper planes which were much more successful! We have written stories about where our planes flew to, as well.

This week, we have been writing diary entries and descriptive settings about a boy who found a whale on the beach and took it home to his bath! Look out parents if you are visiting the beach soon!

In maths, we have started to learn about tally charts and bar charts, and we are loving our topic work as we explore different seaside places and their habitats. We have welcomed 10 new baby stick insects and enjoyed discussing the size of their 'poo'! We've also been busy with algorithms and using oil pastels to draw flowers in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe.

Our Year 2s have impressed me with their calm positivity in working through our SATS 'quizzes' and I am very proud of them all. One more busy and exciting week before half term! We will look forward to seeing you at the Jubilee.

Mr Ralph says...

Another successful and hardworking 2 weeks in Hedgehog class. To mark the Jubilee the children have been creating silhouette collages of the Queen which have turned out brilliantly. In English, the children have been writing their own adventure stories focusing on their word choices, fronted adverbials and similes, they spent yesterday editing and partner editing



showing a great level of insight and maturity. Our flower bed is growing beautifully with help from the children watering the plants. In maths, the children have finished their multiplication and division and I am very pleased with how well each and everyone of them applied themselves through this challenging unit of work. Roll on the last week of term and the fantastic activities that will be happening over the coming days. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication throughout this half term Hedgehogs!

Mr Greenley says...

It has been another busy two weeks in Fox Class. Last week was SATs week for our Year 6s. They have worked really hard to get to this point and all the staff involved were delighted with the effort the children put into the tests over the week. The Year 5s carried on with normal lessons albeit with different staff teaching them. They also managed to maintain their focus despite school being a bit different for them over the week. Well done everyone!

The beginning of this week, the focus was on our trip to London. (More about that elsewhere in the newsletter). We found out a bit more about the Civil War and what happened at Basing House using a variety of evidence, even encountering some original handwritten letters from those involved. To help understand what goes on in Parliament now, we set up the house of commons in our classroom and held a debate - the subject chosen was allowing children 5 flexible holiday days during term time. Children stood up to speak in the debate and then voted on the bill by using the two doors into the classroom. It was great when we visited Westminster that the children were able to see where this had all happened. Both groups on our visit were complimented by the tour guides for their knowledge and engagement. Well done all!

Foxes on the loose in London...

On Wednesday, Fox Class went on a school to London and got a guided tour around the Palace of Westminster. We got to stand in the house of Lords, meet a Lord in person and even saw the Speaker's procession. We were well educated by our guides. Westminster Hall had been the inspiration for the Great Hall in Harry Potter.

After that, we went to St James' Park and had lunch there before going to the National Gallery. An expert guide called Carlo showed my group around and taught us about the meanings of paintings and how they were created. We saw works of art by Turner, Bellini, Van Gogh and Monet. It was an amazing day out.

Children's comments...

Matthew - The National Gallery had some really interesting paintings

Louie - I was fascinated with the guide explaining about the paintings and how they were made

Ivy - My favourite picture was the ship

Ash - I was impressed with the Queen's golden throne in the House of Lords

Eddie - I liked seeing the place where Charles I was condemned and visiting places where history actually happened



Jubilee Celebrations

As we shared earlier in the week, we are very much looking forward to celebrating the Queen's Jubilee with our royal picnic. In order to prepare for this event, we do need to know expected numbers. Please could you ensure that you return your reply slip back by Monday if you're planning on joining us.

Well done to our Year 2 and Year 6

Well done to our wonderful Year 2 and Year 6 children who have been put through their paces over the last couple of weeks. Our Year 6s showed positivity, resilience and compassion as they rose to the challenge of SATs the week before last. Fuelled on a hearty breakfast, they approached every paper in exemplary fashion. This week has been our Year 2s turn. Once again, the children have been fantastic completing their 'quizzes'. We still have a couple more to go and we have no doubt that they'll continue being brilliant! Great job everyone!

New morning routine...

From Monday, we are changing our morning drop off routine. Instead of leaving your child at the main gate, please walk them round to the playground. Hedgehog children are to be taken to the classroom door, whilst everyone else are to be taken to the small wooden gate by the Year R outdoor area. The reason behind this decision is to support those children who feel anxious walking round by themselves and also to enable an additional contact time with teachers and support staff if needed.

As always, thank you all for your continued support and I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Take care

Mr Steve Moore
Head of School

Key Dates

Monday 23 rd May	Year 6 Visit to Bishopswood School for Writing Day
Thursday 26 th May	Platinum Jubilee Celebration – Afternoon Tea
Monday 30 th May to)	HALF TERM
Friday 3 rd June)	
Monday 6 th June	INSET Day
Monday 13 th June to)	Year 6 to PGL Isle of Wight
Friday 17 th June)	
Monday 13 th June	Year 5 NC Swimming
Saturday 18 th June	Summer Fair
Monday 20 th June	Years 5 and 6 NC Swimming
Monday 27 th June	Years 5 and 6 NC Swimming
Tuesday 28 th June	Hedgehog Class Visit to Ufton Court
Thursday 30 th June and)	RMS Induction Days
Friday 1 st July)	
Monday 4 th July	Years 5 and 6 NC Swimming
Thursday 7 th July	PTA Flip Flop Disco
Monday 11 th July	Years 5 and 6 NC Swimming
Monday 18 th July	Years 5 and 6 NC Swimming
Wednesday 20 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Service
Thursday 21 st July	END OF TERM