



## Whitewater Newsletter - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

As we come to the end of the fourth week of the school year, there's lots to reflect upon and lots of information to share. Throughout this week, we've spent some time in classrooms seeing learning in full swing and have been thrilled with what we've seen. The children have been engaged and working hard whilst the teaching and learning has been focussed and progressive. It's been an excellent start to the year.

I hope you enjoy reading about what has been happening in school over the last couple of weeks and what we have to look forward to. Please make sure that you take a look at the key dates and make a note of anything relevant to you and your child(ren).

### In school...

#### **Mrs Jolliffe says...**

What a wonderful start to the new school year with our new Rabbits. They have settled in really well and are already working hard to sound talk and blend CVC words in our phonics lessons! In Maths we have been 'comparing'. Children were given progressive experiences throughout the week where they compared collections of vegetables (which they harvested in our veg patch), conkers and acorns from our woodland walk. We began to talk about which group has more or fewer things. Collections also offered challenges, such as including more small things and fewer large things, to draw attention to the numerosity of the comparison. We put our pets in boxes to compare the sizes of animals and the boxes.

Children show huge levels of energy and enthusiasm, making the most of the opportunities in our indoor and outdoor classrooms. We love watching them making marks, writing their names, making models out of playdough, building with Duplo. They all made self-portraits, mixed colours, celebrated International Dot Day with dot art after listening to the story 'The Dot'. To start our new topic, we first met Coco the rabbit, read wonderful books about pets and talked about our own pets. Following the input children enjoyed making pet portraits and writing WANTED posters for the Perfect Pet during continuous provision. It's all been great fun!

#### **Mrs Norton says...**

It has been a busy start to the school year in Year 1 and 2!

The class have embraced our topic of 'What makes a family?'. This has included learning about what a Victorian home looked like and how it compares to modern homes. We have also been reading about 'The Perfect Pet' in English and doing a wide range of activities to support our learning ranging from role play in a Vet's surgery to designing homes made out of Lego for the perfect pet!

In Science, we have continued our topic focus and explored minibeasts in our school grounds. We've been discussing how we can categorise some animals into mammals, invertebrates, reptiles and birds.

In Maths, we have been looking at place value, in particular ordering numbers to 100 and exploring patterns and missing numbers on a 100 square and in sequences.

In PSHE, we have enjoyed talking about feelings and recognising the different emotions that we can have. We had fun playing a game of 'Emotions Bingo'.



### **Mr Ralph says...**

What an amazing first month, we have been so busy and fit in a lot of learning and fun. It has been brilliant to see the new children and Year 3s settle in so well to a new class and the great example the Year 4s are setting. The value we have been focusing on in Religious Education is "community" and we are most definitely seeing this within our class. The children have been learning all about the Anglo Saxons including what village life was like, where they came from and the remarkable discoveries of Sutton Hoo. The children have developed key skills and can list of all the attributes needed to be a historian. In English they have been working hard on creating a non-chronological report informing anyone who reads it about the Anglo Saxons. I am thrilled with the start the children have made and cannot wait to see what the next few weeks hold. Lastly, can you all please keep any cardboard (including boxes) ready for an upcoming piece of work for art and DT.

### **Miss Ouzanni says...**

There's been a change to how we share what's been happening in Fox Class. This year, we've asked some children to write this section of the newsletter. This week's roving reporters are Ethan and Freya...

*We are having a wonderful time in Fox Class and these are the things we have done so far:*

*In Writing, over the last couple of weeks, we have been doing a non-chronological report on dragons as well as instructions on how to fly, tame or look after our dragons. We have just started doing a biography on a famous person. In Maths, we have been doing decimals, rounding and the powers of ten. Now, we are working on our column addition and subtraction. In our Reading, we have been pretending to be crayons from the book: The Day the Crayons Quit. Then, we started writing about Pompeii. Our Topic so far, has been based on Volcanoes and Earthquakes. In RE, Foxes have been talking about belonging and what it means to them. For Heartsmart, we've watched videos on how to have a happy heart. So far in Science, we have been experimenting with materials and properties – we have tested to see which material is the most absorbent, flexible and insulating.*

*We are really looking forward to continuing tag rugby in P.E. and building, painting and exploding our volcanoes before half-term.*

### **Collective Worship...**

Throughout this half term, our focus value has been **community**. We've been exploring 'big questions' around the theme which have included: *What is a community?* and *How can we welcome others into our special community?* as always, Rev'd Marion and Rev'd Shona have been in delivering some of our collective worships and engaging the children in a range of creative ways. We're looking forward to making the short walk to Rotherwick Church on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October for our Harvest Celebration. We will be asking for donations of non-perishable foods which we will use the mini bus to deliver to a Hart Foodbank in Hook.

### **House Captains...**

All pupils are allocated to one of our four houses – Diamond, Sapphire, Emerald, and Ruby. Earlier this term, Year 6 children had the opportunity to put themselves forward to become a House Captain. They then presented to the pupils in their house sharing their vision for the house and how they demonstrate our school values. Following this, the pupils then voted for who they want to be their House Captain for the year.

This year, our House Captains are:

Diamond – Louie and Holly

Sapphire – Evan and Ethan

Emerald – Tilly and Bella

Ruby – Daniel and Lilly B

Well done to all of the children who put themselves forward and had the courage to present to so many pupils. You were an absolute credit to yourselves and our school.

### **Drone photos...**

Last week, I shared that we arranged for a drone fly over the school and capture what wonderful grounds and surrounding area we have. The video footage will be shared on our website very soon but in the meantime, here are a few photos which were captured:



It's been an actioned packed start to the Autumn term and there's lots more to come. Please make sure you have a look at the key dates and add them to your diary.

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**

3.10.22	New Entrants Open morning (9.00)
5.10.22	Parents Information Evening – Teaching the Whitewater Way 6pm
11.10.22	New Entrants Open morning (1.30) Parents Evening (3.30 – 6)
13.10.22	Harvest Worship Parents Evening (3.30 – 6)
21.10.22	Inset Day