



Whitewater Newsletter - 14th October 2022

What an action-packed couple of weeks. We have two Open Mornings for new entrants, two parents' evenings, a Teaching and Learning – The Whitewater Way information evening, the start of new extra-curricular clubs, the first outings for the school minibus (and its first nick) and much much more!

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...

We have all been working very hard to sound talk and blend new words during and after phonics lessons. I have observed some children using the resources independently to stretch their learning. They are recognising we are focusing on independence and putting themselves on the proud cloud for achieving tasks independently.

Following the introduction, children enjoyed talking through the story 'Pumpkin Soup' and using the story map we created together. Some children are enjoying performing the story using the props provided within the enhanced continuous provision. Following on from growing fruit and vegetables, we looked at different seeds, starting with pumpkin seeds and then looked at bulbs. We are now planting bulbs to observe the lifecycle of a bulb.

I have to say this week I feel so proud of every single child in Rabbit Class, they all did so well on their first visit to the church hence the pompom jar is nearly full! -ask your child if you are not sure what this is. They were confident getting up in front everyone singing the Harvest Samba and performing with musical instruments.

Thank you all for attending the parents' evenings and sharing your enthusiasm about your child's achievements this term.

Mrs Norton says...

Otters have been enjoying preparing for the Harvest Festival and creating a variety of wonderful art work – from fields with tractors to beautiful images of fruit and vegetables.

The class have been so enthusiastic about learning about Bengal Tigers as part of their non-fiction fact file writing! They have impressed us with the facts that they have researched and we all have definitely learned something we didn't know about Tigers!

Learning about money has been the focus for maths this week in our class. We've had some interesting activities alongside our main tasks including our very own shop in the classroom where the children have been able to have a go at buying fruit and vegetables with coins.



Mr Ralph says...

Another two weeks has past and a lot of learning has been taking place. The children have completed their non-chronological reports about the Anglo Saxons and have become fountains of knowledge. The walls outside our classroom are covered in numerous facts from who were the Anglo Saxons to the exciting discoveries at Sutton Hoo.

In Science, they have been condoning their study of sound. They have been Identifying high and low ends of instruments and explaining how the vibrations change the pitch and they have also created cup phones even discovering you can have a 4 way conversation. In RE they have been continuing with their work on what makes a Good Samaritan, they have designed a new school emblem to include our new values and what they mean to the children. It has been a busy week but I am so happy with how the children are working and the amount we are getting through. Keep it up hedgehogs and one week till half term!



Miss Ouazanni 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 Tilly & Isla

These past two weeks, Fox Class has been up to a lot of fun things. In maths, we have been investigating different types of numbers (prime, factors and multiples). We even got to rap about them!

For English, we recently finished writing biographies about a famous person of our choice (we had five choices: David Attenborough, Tom Holland, Queen Elizabeth II, Stan Lee and Mary Seacole), which was very exciting. We have now started to create stories based on our class novel The Nowhere Emporium.

Fox Class have also nearly finished their volcanoes for our topic! We are hoping to explode them next Wednesday after we paint them on Monday. We used plaster of paris and papier mâché to shape them and then left them to dry overnight. This week in Reading, we have been looking at the first few chapters of Beetle Boy by M.G Leonard. We have been discussing the word choices used in the text and have been learning to justify our answers.

In PSHE, we have researched P4C (Philosophy for Children); for example, we went in to the hall and each chose an item from various items. We then talked about why we chose our object and explained to the class.

In RE with Mrs Rolph, we have been learning about the Muslim religion and 'belonging'. We have talked about the Five Pillars of Islam: Shahada-belief, Salat-prayer, Zakat-charity, Sawm-fasting and Hajj-pilgrimage. Also, we discussed the meaning of belonging and how it relates into our lives.

Also, a big thank you Miss Ouazanni and all the other teachers and helpers in the school for putting on an amazing first half term for us. We really appreciate your help and thank you for always making our lessons fun and enjoyable.

Parents' Evening...

Thank you to everyone who attended their child's parents' evening. We very much value our home-school partnerships and truly believe that working together is the most effective to support the children's learning. Teachers were thrilled with the high levels of engagement and great passion you all showed throughout. I am delighted to share that there was an excellent level of engagement with 97% across the school.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact us if there is any way we can support you or your children...we're here to help!

Harvest Celebration...

Throughout the week, we had an action-packed timetable full of harvest celebration! Here's a brief recount written by Tilly & Isla from Fox Class:

Yesterday, we celebrated our annual Harvest Festival at Rotherwick Church. Our new Rabbits also attended and helped us with the Harvest Samba by playing instruments while we were singing. Marion did an amazing service, so a big Thank you to her. Well done to Otters, Hedgehogs and Foxes for their amazing art, poems and prayers read and shown by the children who were happy to share their creations. A special well done to Yehor and Erika who read out a Ukrainian prayer during the festival.

Following the service, Marion, Mrs Clayden, the House Captains and I collected the donations into the minibus delivered the food to the Hart Food Bank and Maryfield Convent, both in Hook. It was a very fitting first outing in the new school

minibus and it was an amazing way to demonstrate one of our new school values: Love. The children represented the entire school community beautifully. We have since received the following message from the Food Bank...

*On behalf of Hart Foodbank at Life Church Hook, please pass on our sincere and grateful thanks to your staff, parents and children for the generous donations for Harvest collection this year. Our volunteers have, today, weighed in **170kg** of grocery items.*



Thank you all for supporting the local community in such a generous manner.

Forest School comes to Whitewater!

We are delighted to announce that after half-term one of our parents and Governor, Robyn Jones, will be starting Forest School sessions at school. Robyn has undertaken her Forest School Leader training and will be supported by two parent volunteers. The sessions will take place on Friday afternoons with one group of children (maximum 15) attending for six weeks. Forest School will run throughout the year and we hope that each child will get at least one opportunity to participate in a group of sessions every 18 months.

Originating from Scandinavia, Forest School is a child-centred inspirational learning process, that offers opportunities for holistic growth through regular sessions. It is a long-term programme that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. The children will have the opportunity to take part in activities focussed around nature connection during their 1.5 hour session, including use of tools, craft activities, natural play, den building and more.

A letter and consent form will be sent home when the sessions for your child are due to start.

More details can be found on our website including a presentation and handbook under the Our Learning section - Whitewater CE Primary School - Forest School

It's been a productive, purposeful and enjoyable half term. Thank you to the staff who continue to work incredibly hard, the parents who continue to support us and the children who continue to make us smile. Well done Whitewater...one week to go and then you can take the week off!

Please make sure you have a look at the key dates and add them to your diary and as always, thank you all for your continued support and I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Take care

S Moore

Mr Steve Moore
Head of School

Key Dates

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|---------------------------|---|
| 21.10.22 | INSET DAY |
| Half Term | |
| 31.10.22 | Chance to Shine Cricket in |
| 7.11.22 | New Entrants Open morning (9.00) |
| 14.11.22 | Flu jabs |
| 22.11.22 | Foxes to QMC (am) |
| 1.12.22 | PTA Carol Concert (6pm) |
| 5.12.22 | Rabbits and Otters Christmas Performance (Dress Rehearsal to KS2) |
| 6.12.22 | Rabbits and Otters Christmas Performance PM |
| 7.12.22 | Rabbits and Otters Christmas Performance PM |
| 15.12.22 | Christmas service Christmas dinner |
| 16.12.22 | Christmas Jumper Day and Key Stage 2 Carols on the Playground |
| End of Autumn Term | |