



## **Whitewater Newsletter – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

As we rapidly approach the Easter break, school continues to be a hive of activity. The last fortnight has seen more fundraising fun, book share sessions, a special guest, more strikes (in 10 pin bowling this time) and a school trip and there's still more to squeeze in this term. I hope you enjoy reading what we've been up to and what's still to come.

### **In school...**

#### **Rabbits...**



In Rabbit Class we have been improving lots of skills. Children enjoyed climbing, making miniature gardens and making prints with different objects. They loved making Lego prints for their Mother's Day cards. Xylophones in music lessons have made it so much fun with the focus on weather. Wow what a lot of noise. We have been watching our bean plants grow, in the meantime we have our cress seeds growing so hopefully we will be ready to surprise our parents with our produce next week!

I have never seen a class as excited about watching the lifecycle of a frog as this cohort. The tadpoles must feel the love, they are growing really fast!

In English we have enjoyed Oliver's Vegetables and Oliver's Fruit Salad. Following the text Handa's Surprise we cut lots of exotics fruits in half and decided to make a smoothie and taste it! In maths lessons we had a lot fun playing bingo games, mastering composition of 9 and 10, shapes and patterns. Book Share mornings have been amazing, thank you parents for coming in and making it special for everyone.

#### **Otters...**

It has been a fun-packed 2 weeks for Otters! We have continued learning about 'Australia' and its landmarks, weather and amazing animals – the children particularly enjoyed learning about quokkas and writing fact files about them.

In Art, the children have created their own Australian landscape using pastels or paints and this week starts the journey of creating Faberge-inspired eggs!

This week, the children had a very exciting trip to Queen Marys College. They did a range of activities there including a 'Leaf heap' study and various activities on food chains as well as discovering some amazing facts about animals and what they need to survive.

We have enjoyed learning new skills in Computing this term by learning how to make characters fly in Scratch Junior! The children were fascinated with how they could give the character a set of instructions and then watch to see the short animation that followed.

As we get nearer to the Easter holidays, we have been exploring Holy Week in RE and discussing 'Forgiveness' and reflecting on times when we have forgiven and also been forgiven.



### Hedgehogs...

As we draw close to the end of the Spring term, I am very proud of what the children have learned, their enthusiasm towards our topic and their hard work. In reading, the children have been enjoying our book 'Secrets of a Sun King' and drawing parallels with our Egyptian topic learning. Their understanding of the mummification process, gods and the history of Tutankhamun has come in handy reading this fantastic story often not realising its break time as they want to finish the next chapter. In English, the children are publishing their stories ready for you all to see next week, be prepared for a frightening tale of brave adventurers, ancient riches, mystical curses and mystery around every corner. In Science their habitats have come alive and revealed so much. In RE, the children have been delving deep into the subject of salvation, what it means to Christians and how the impact of the Easter story is still seen today. There have been deep and challenging questions and discussion which I applaud the children for courage and respect. In Art and DT, the children's death masks have been completed and the scarab brooches have been formed, all the children can't wait to show you our Egyptian Museum and all the artefacts they have created.



We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can next week. On Monday, the children had a wonderful and inspiring experience of listening to James Ketchell tell his tales of resilience, adventure and overcoming any obstacle. A huge thankyou to him! I hope everyone has a restful weekend and roll on the last week of term!

### Foxes...

*This edition has been written by Tilly, Lilly B. and Hanna*

These last two weeks, Fox Class have been up to lots of exciting things. In Maths the Year 6 have been working on ratio while the Year 5s have been practising their place value skills. They have both been super resilient and worked hard. In English we have all been planning and writing survival guides based on our class novel 'Holes'. Fox Class have used model verbs in their writing to inform the reader that this step to survival is necessary.

Our topic in Art is Earth and Space. We have been working towards a collage of the galaxy using many different techniques like watercolour, chalk, pastels and marbling. Foxes have been looking at making a 2D circle into a 3D sphere using blending.

In RE we are looking at the Easter story and how Jesus died for our sins and the reincarnation of him. We are also looking at different interpretations of how Jesus looked. As we don't know exactly what he looked like, the only evidence that we have are paintings but as they were all different the children chose their interpretations of Jesus.

On Friday 17th of March, the school celebrated Red Nose Day, Foxes did many different activities related to Comic Relief including dressing up in red clothing to raise money for the children in need. The school has raised £373 in total. In PE we are doing dance with our topic being earth and space and we have been dancing to the theme tune to the original Star Trek.

On Monday 20th March, KS2 were privileged to meet an awesome explorer, James Ketchell. He talked to us all about some of his greatest adventures: rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, climbing mount Everest, cycling through many countries and many more. Foxes got an opportunity to talk to James and find out about what he had to do in his expeditions in a workshop. Everyone loved it and enjoyed getting some new things.

### Sponsored Reading Challenge and Red Nose Day...

Over the past few weeks, our values have shone through supporting two really worthwhile causes. Thank you to every child, parent and member of staff who have contributed both time and funds which will make a big difference to the lives of people we'll never meet. Our sponsored reading challenge raised an amazing **£1660.60** for the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) who brings together 15 UK charities including the British Red Cross, to raise funds for Turkey and Syria who have been so badly affected by the recent earthquakes. In addition to this, a further **£373** was donated for Comic Relief on Red Nose Day. For a school our size to raise over £2000 in a four-week period shows that Whitewater maybe small, but we're mighty! Thank you all for ensuring that we do more than just speak about our values, we act on them!

### **James Ketchell...**

On Monday, we were treated to a very inspirational assembly. James Ketchell came in to speak to our Key Stage 2 pupils about his adventures across the world including climbing Mount Everest, rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, cycling around the world and becoming the first person to fly around the world in a gyro-copter. As well as sharing video footage and photos of his achievements, he also shared key learning experiences which link to our values he gained on the way:

- Respect - the world is full of amazing people from different cultures and backgrounds
- Courage - pursue your dreams and never giving up no matter how tired you feel
- Love – when someone does a favour for you - pass it on by helping someone else.

After the assembly, James spent time with Fox Class leading a workshop on specific elements of his experiences.



### **Celebrating Easter...**

Throughout next week, we will be immersed in all things Easter. On Wednesday, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to take part in the 'Walk through Easter' which is delivered by Marion and her team held at Rotherwick Church.

The Easter Service on Thursday 30th March at 9.15am is for the whole school. All children will make the short walk up the hill to the church where we will be greeted by Marion. Parents and family members are invited to join us in celebration which will include some readings from the children in Fox Class and some joyful singing by everyone, all of which will be led by Marion. Parents are invited to stay behind after the Service and enjoy some hot drinks and hot cross buns.

### **Whitewater go Bowling...**

At the end of each term, one child from each year group receives the Values Award. This is a very special award for a select few children who demonstrate our school values of Love, Respect and Courage without fail. In recognition of their achievement, the children received a Values Award badge as well as a certificate. In addition to this, we took these children out for a special treat. Last week, Mr Ralph took our 7 values superstars to Hollywood Bowl in Basingstoke. The children (and Mr Ralph) had a fantastic and represented Whitewater perfectly.



### **And even more opportunities for visitors to school...**

On Tuesday afternoon next week, the children in Foxes Class will be finishing of their space topic with a visit from RAF Odiham. As part of their STEM outreach program, they will be learning the theory around satellites and signals and the coding they use to deliver information. The Year 5 and 6 children will then have the opportunity to move onto a practical coding exercise using iPads and programmable spheres. This will not only tie in nicely with their learning in class but also gives the opportunity to consider various career paths in the future.

As always, thank you all for your support and please make sure you have a look at the key dates and add them to your diary and as always.

Take care

*S Moore*

Mr Steve Moore  
Executive Head of School

**Key Dates**

27/03/23	Rock Steady Concert (2.30 pm)
28/03/23	Visitor from RAF for Foxes Class
29/03.23	Walk through Easter – Years 4, 5 and 6
29/03/23	Choir Performance to Parents (3 pm)
30/03/23	Easter Service at Rotherwick Church at 9.15 am
31/03/23	PTA Break the Rules Day
03/4/23 to 14/04/23	Easter Holidays
22/05/23 to 26/05.23	Year 6 Residential Trip too PGL Marchants Hill