



Whitewater Newsletter – 31st March 2023

And in the blink of an eye, the Spring Term is over and we are two thirds through the school year. We've had everything from snow to strikes and a tonne of exciting learning experiences for the children. This bulletin is slightly different to the regular one. We'll share with you some of our highlights. We hope your child had as much fun along the way as we have!

We'll start with this afternoon. On the final celebration assembly of each term, we ask staff to select one child in each year group for a '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 get a Values Award badge as well as a certificate. The children will also have a special treat after Easter.

The winners of the Values Awards are:

Year R – Charlie H

Year 3 – Tommy G

Year 5 – Skyla T

Year 1 – Maddie B

Year 4 – Emilia B

Year 6 – Evan P

Year 2 – Felix B

Earlier this week, we talked about all of the different visitors, initiatives and events we've had at Whitewater since Christmas and we were amazed at the list. Sometimes, after an Ofsted inspection, there can be a slight lull. However, it has been the opposite here. Teachers have been empowered to take risks and broaden the curriculum weaving exciting additions into the diet of learning the children experience.

This term, we have enjoyed:

- **Reading Week**, which included the visit of 2 authors, loads of book-based learning and a noon uniform day!
- Local adventurer, **James Ketchell**, gave an inspirational talk to our Key Stage 2 pupils about flying around the world, climbing Mount Everest and rowing across the Atlantic.



- Concert** - There wasn't a dry eye in the house when our very own Whitewater choir sang songs from the musicals including; 'Thank you for the music' from Abba and 'Any dream will do' from Joseph. We were all very proud of the children who showed off our school value of 'courage' beautifully, each getting the opportunity to sing a solo or as part of a small group - Well done choir!
- Morning **reading sessions** where parents of Rabbits and Otters enjoy sharing a book with their child on Thursday mornings.

- **Science trips** - This term both Otter and Rabbit Classes have had the opportunity to learn more about Science with trips to the Science Centre at Queen Mary's College. The children in Rabbits Class learnt all about how materials change whilst the children the Otters discovered all about animals' habitats and food chains.
- **RAF STEM challenges** - Our Year 5 and 6 children finished off their Space topics by learning about how satellites are programmed and put their own programming skills to the test, during a visit from the RAF outreach team.

- **Yesterday's Choir**

There wasn't a dry eye in



- **Safer Internet Day** The children took part in a safer internet day this term. They made windows into the internet, thinking about how we use the internet and created internet super heroes to support them in keeping safe online. The following link can help you to understand what you can do to give young children aged 6-10 the best experience of going online <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>
- Wednesday's **Open Afternoon** whereby huge numbers of parents came into school to celebrate the work their children have been doing in class.
- **Football Match** where the mighty Red Kites took on Bramley and Bishopswood.
- We had Whitewater children take part in a special VOX Fresh **music video** with other children across a small number of Basingstoke schools.
- Our **Vocal Ambassadors** - 3 members of our choir were selected earlier in the year to take part in the vocal ambassadors' program run by Hampshire Music services. The group have attended 3 afternoon sessions at a Basingstoke school where they've learnt songs and singing warm up activities to bring back and teach in school. They have also had the opportunity to perform with all other schools in an end-of-term concert. They will be singing the 3 songs introduced this term: I'm still standing, We are family and Blackbird
- We've **built a Lodge** which will provide bespoke provision for children who require additional and different support.
- We've raised an incredible **£2,033** for Comic Relief and for the DEC in support of Turkey and Syria following the earthquake.
- In addition to this, we have also had regular favourites like the **Values bowling trip, Forest School, the Rock Steady Concert, Easter Service** and **Walk-Through Easter**.

It's now time to rest and recharge ready for an equally action packed Summer Term.

We are immensely proud of how the school has continued to grow and develop this term. We are also grateful that we get to work with such delightful children and a truly wonderful team. The teachers, teaching support team, the office team, the Governors and the support across the collaboration all play a vital role in ensuring that our school continues to move forward regardless of what obstacles come our way. We'd like to thank you all for valuable contributions and continued support

I hope you all enjoy a restful Easter break and make the most of the improved weather

Take care

Glen Golding

Mr Glen Golding
Executive Headteacher

Steve Moore

Mr Steve Moore
Executive Head of School