



Whitewater Newsletter – 14th July 2023

In the blink of an eye, the school year has flown by and we find ourselves finishing the penultimate week with a drizzly day more akin to the end of the Autumn Term rather than the summer. I have asked the teachers to reflect upon the highlights of the year for this particular newsletter. They have struggled to pick specifics favourites as the year has been full of fantastic learning, great fun and lots of laughter. I'm sure you will have your own highlight reel of the year which we would love to hear if you would like to share if you have a spare moment.

In school...

Rabbits...

It has been a while since we first met at our Teddy Bear's Picnic and what a long way we have all come! I am extremely happy the way every single rabbit has progressed and showed resilience and also their strengths through their journey in Year R.

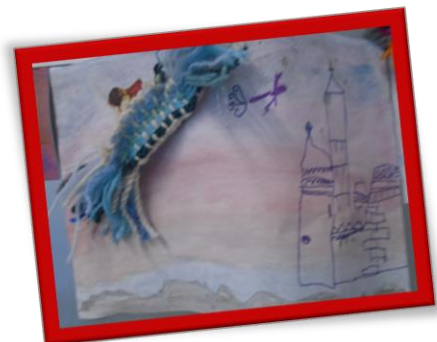
Children's reaction when they had met Coco the Rabbit in the first term was the first sign that everyone in Rabbit Class has a huge love for animals. Following this, we planned our lessons with rich texts around animals. We found lots of talented singers and performers in our class during the second half of autumn. We then enjoyed Christmas and icy, cold snow days.

Visits to the church, day out at the QMC Science Centre, weekly woodland walks and book share mornings were the highlights. Then we had visitors sharing their expertise during the whole year, aspirations day inspired lots of creativity, dressing up and acting out. We all have an idea what each rabbit aspires to be in the future. There is a rich potential this year in culinary arts by the way. We grew our own fruit and vegetables, we made cress sandwiches, smoothies, pancakes, noodles and this led to more learning and recipe writing in the mud kitchen. We had many opportunities learning about other cultures, celebrating Chinese New Year, learning about special places around the world in RE. We have had so much learning and social events packed into our year that I cannot believe the children are still happily coming to school in July. We loved having fun with Boris the Robot in PSHE, attended PTA events, loved our Summer Fair, school trip to Hillier Gardens and our walk in the village to deliver bee attracting seeds to our neighbours. We thoroughly enjoyed learning about the blue planet, got better and better in maths and especially in phonics. Boomwhackers in Summer Term added a spice to our music lessons.

I am sure you will agree I have to stop here as the newsletter will be way too long... I would like to take this opportunity to thank all you lovely parents for your support and gorgeousness this year, what a wonderful year of growth mindset. Last but not least; I have been so lucky to have an amazing team of teachers working with me, and also an amazing team in Rabbit Class; Mrs Baronne, Miss Capon, Mrs Elie, Miss Maisey, Mrs Miles and of course Mrs Fox & Mrs Bromley. Oh and Mr Moore and Mr Golding.

Otters...

What a year we have had in Otter Class! It has been so amazing seeing all of the children mature and develop in so many areas of the curriculum. It has been a fun and engaging time and I will miss those Otters moving on to Year 3 but I know they will be phenomenal in their new class. It has been an incredible learning journey – here are a few highlights of Otter Class this year:



Art - We have explored so many different artists and mediums this year from watercolours to weaving. The children loved marbling and created some fantastic masterpieces based on The Great Fire of London. Weaving was a tricky technique to master, however, the class showed enormous resilience in persevering and created some fabulous pieces of art work based on the book The Journey, by Aaron Becker.

Trips - We have been lucky to have two school trips this year, one to QMC earlier in the year and more recently, to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens. Our recent trip this week provided Otters and Rabbits with fantastic learning opportunities from pond dipping to net sweeping in meadows to find which fabulous minibeasts live there! We covered a lot of ground, took part in a scavenger hunt and both children and adults were exhausted but everyone had thoroughly enjoyed their day.

Concerts and Shows - Otter Class have shown brilliant courage and commitment this year in our performances to friends and family. Our Christmas nativity 'Donkey for Sale' proved a massive hit and the children wowed us all with their confidence and learning the words all of the songs.

Our ukulele concert was also a wonderful experience. It was many of the children's first time playing a ukulele, however, they amazed us with learning the songs and chords and showed brilliant confidence in front of so many adults.

It has been a wonderful year in Otter class and we wish you all a very happy summer holiday and thank you for all of your support you have shown us throughout the year.



Hedgehogs...

It is always important to reflect on our year, at times it feels like it has completely flown by and yet remembering back to September feels like an age ago. Here are some of our highlights from a productive, fun and eventful year!

Since September the children have studied the topics of Anglo Saxons and Vikings, Ancient Egyptians and Rivers. In the Anglo Saxons the children enjoyed making bronze age jewellery out of clay and created their own language based on Anglo Saxon Runes for myself and other children to solve their secret codes. They studied the Bayeux Tapestry and attempted some sewing skills. The highlight for myself and many children came during our Ancient Egyptian topic, the excitement, engagement and knowledge on show was amazing to see. The list for what the children did was extensive; non chronological reports on Egyptian Gods, fantastic newspaper reports on Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, creating clay scarab beetles and Tutankhamun death masks, decoding and creating their own hieroglyphs and identify spells from the book of the dead. Our link with English and reading was focusing on the beautiful book Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll. This inspired us to write our own mystery story 'The Curse of the Mummy'. All of the children composed suspenseful and beautifully written stories with front covers designed on tea-soaked paper. We had the pleasure to invite the parents into our Egyptian museum where we got to share the children's remarkable learning. Our final topic has been Rivers. To begin this topic we looked at the dramatically drawn picture book flood, this inspired us to write our own stories based on this book and the results were fantastic leading to our latest display outside our class. The children created colleagues to add an extra element to their great stories. These topics, I have absolutely enjoyed teaching and I have been impressed with the way the children have approached the lessons.

One of the amazing things about our school is the connection the children have with nature as such the science topics of animals including humans, living things and their habitats and plants have been well liked. The knowledge children had for vertebrates and invertebrates was amazing. We all enjoyed creating mini habitats and going on bug hunts (Me included). To link with these topics we visited Marwell Zoo. I was incredibly proud of every single child from Hedgehogs as they all displayed the school values of love, respect and courage with many people remarking on how well the children were behaved. We saw many animals from giraffes to meerkats, ostriches to clouded leopards



and rhinos and many children's new favourite – the Okapi. Throughout the day there were workshops and the children's knowledge of animal classification and adaptation was second to none...well done! It was a wonderful and enriching day out even coming home with Class animals.

For each year I am at Whitewater, I feel extremely blessed as it is a fantastic school. It has a great staff and support network but most of all it has these incredible children. Each day coming into work I am excited to see what the children can learn and create. For the year 3s I am really excited to see what next year brings. For the year 4s it has been an absolute pleasure teaching you for the past two years, the class won't be the same but you will all be fantastic in Fox Class...good luck! Lastly thank you parents for your support and hard work over the year. Have a wonderful summer!

Foxes...

This year Fox Class have done many exiting things. Some of these include PGL, school trips such as QMC and Legoland, the summer production of The Lion King and Winchester Cathedral. We have also studied some engaging topics including Vikings, Explorers, the book Holes, Harry Potter's Forbidden Forest, Macbeth, monkeys in space and our solar system.

In the autumn term, we had a Viking Day in which we learnt loads and immersed ourselves in history. We dressed in standard Viking wear and were taught by a Viking impersonator who shared many real artifacts.

The most recent highlight has undoubtedly been the end of year production of The Lion King. As far as performances go, this one is one of the best and worthy of The Lyceum

Theatre in the West End. The quality of the singing was spine-tingling, the acting was engrossing and the costumes and set design transported us off to Pride Rock. We wellies in order to wade through Mrs Fox's tears at the end but the whole production was fantastic. Well done to all the children and adults involved.

Our year 6 pupils are ready for secondary school and will no doubt be real assets to their respective schools. In addition, our Year 5 pupils are going to make wonderful Year 6s. They epitomise our values and will be role models for the rest of the school.



Summer Term Role of honour

On the final celebration assembly of each term, we ask staff to select one child in each class 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. In addition to this, we arrange for a special treat. On Tuesday, the 7 Values Award winners from the Spring Term, will join the 7 Values Award winners from this term on a trip to Hollywood Bowl at Basingstoke's Leisure Park. We hope you all have a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Well done children...you are all superstars!

The winners of the Summer Term Values Awards are:

Year R – Nimrod B

Year 3 – Darcy B

Year 5 – Dillon C

Year 1 - Florence B

Year 4 – Bianca K

Year 6 – Lilly B

Year 2 - Rupert H

Goodbye to our Year 6

What a year group! Year 6...I can honestly say it's been a pleasure. Throughout the year you have proven yourself to be wonderful role models, hard workers and fantastic characters. Each one of you is unique and have your own special qualities which have made you a year group to be proud of. Throughout the recent changes, you have all demonstrated adaptability and resilience. The progress that you all have made as young people and as learners has been exceptional. You have shown us that you are ready to fly at secondary school. No matter how big the challenge that lay ahead...remember you can do it! Good luck to you all. I look forward to hearing all about your new adventures in the future.

Please make sure you have a look at the key dates and add them to your diary as always

I hope you all have a fantastic long weekend.

Take care

S Moore

Mr Steve Moore
Executive Head of School

Key Dates for Summer Term 2023	
Whitewater C of E Primary	
HALF TERM – 29/05/23 – 02/06/23	
17/07	Year 6 Leaver's Service at the Church (9.30 am)
	Rocksteady Concert (2.30 pm)
	End of Year Reports go home
21/07	Leavers' Assembly (2.45 pm)
21/07	Last day of the Summer Term