



Fortnightly Newsletter



12th May 2023

Another two weeks have flown by! This last fortnight has been a strange one with two bank holiday Mondays to confuse us all!

Despite lots of revision and practice in preparation for our forthcoming SATs (which will take place over the next two weeks) we have still managed to complete lots of other topic work. I have tried to make our revision as enjoyable as possible – your children have been fantastic in their approach. They do know that something different will be happening next week but we intend to make the experience as relaxed as possible to get the best out of your children!

We were so lucky with the weather last Thursday morning which enabled the whole school to take part in the one mile run around the big field. Every child put so much effort into their running so that they could be part of the event. And here we are afterwards...



Last Friday was also an exciting day as we celebrated the coronation of King Charles III. My classroom was a sea of red, white and blue with some very creative and colourful outfits on show! Group photos can be viewed on my class page if you would like to check us out! Most

children enjoyed a lunch of fish and chips (very British) and we completed a Union Jack collage of the new King's silhouette to mark the occasion.

In science, we are continuing to enjoy our topic on plant parts. As well as planting some tomato and fast-growing flower seeds, we also conducted an experiment to see if some white carnations would change colour if we added food colouring to their vases of water. There were some very excited children who were amazed to see the carnations turn to shades of blue and green! The children have also enjoyed observing different plants and have written descriptions of what they could see.

In art, the children have enjoyed looking at different views of streets and avenues and have also drawn pictures from memory of a variety of different buildings. From this, we spent a wonderful afternoon looking at a specific 'street view' piece of artwork by our focus artist James Rizzi and used both his style and 3D layering technique to produce a street view of our own. The results are super and the children really enjoyed this.

In history, the focus has been on different aspects of life in the Victorian era – we have discussed the contrasting lives of rich and poor Victorian children, inventions, leisure and Queen Victoria so far.

In R.E. the children have produced some wonderful chalk pictures to reflect their understanding of the Pentecost and we have also started to sequenced the main events of the story.

Moonbeam the Bear!

I would like to thank you all for your wonderful support up to now when your child had their turn with Moonbeam. Every week we have enjoyed hearing about the adventures of the bear – sometimes a 'she' and sometimes a 'he' bear! Moonbeam has been very lucky over the last eight months and has even sat in a dentist's chair as well as having a plaster cast on his/her leg! As we have now come to the end of the visits, I would like to send the completed book home each night with a different child so that you can enjoy looking through all the pages. We are now moving on to DOUBLE BEARS!! Unfortunately, only a few children will be lucky enough to bring both Moonbeam and cousin Sunbeam home for the weekend as only a few weeks remain. The fairest way for me to do this will be to spin my wheel of names and this will select each lucky child.

Homework:

It sounds like lots of children already have an idea for their creative piece of homework and some have already started! As mentioned in the information that was sent out a couple of weeks ago, we would like their artwork to be returned to school on Friday 26th May and look

forward to sharing and celebrating their achievements across Key Stage 1 and also in an assembly.

Maths and English:

We have spent the last two weeks revising and completing past papers in preparation for SATs. As mentioned earlier in this letter, the children have been fantastic and to my knowledge have not complained about the repetition of it all each day. We are definitely looking forward to getting back to normal after half term.

An overview of spelling lists for the second half of the summer term can now be found on my class page under the relevant icon. I will also provide paper copies for the children to bring home as well as weekly individual lists as normal.

Reading:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner – I really appreciate your support with this. As always, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I am also happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to, but it is important that any reading is still recorded in their diary so that the children are able to earn their gold and platinum reading certificates later in the year – thank you! I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading. If books need changing in between your child's nominated book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

Additional Information/Useful Dates:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Tuesday and an outdoor kit for Friday sessions – we now have P.E. with Nick again on a Friday. (Weather permitting)
- As the weather can be very unpredictable at this time of year, I would advise warm outdoor P.E. kit for the next few weeks for our Friday sessions.
- Weeks beginning 15th and 22nd May – Key Stage 1 SATs.
- Wednesday 24th May – whole school and class photographs.
- Friday 16th June – PTFA Father's Day breakfast bags
- Wednesday 28th June – Key Stage 1 sports day (from 1.15pm)

Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Gilbey