

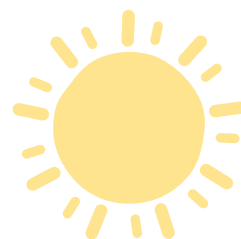


*Resilience ~ Compassion ~ Excellence*

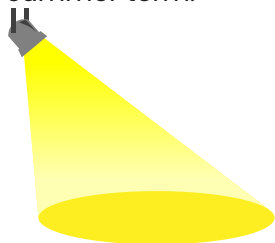
# NEWSLETTER

## A busy fortnight!

It has been lovely to continue to see the sunshine over the last two weeks and, in turn, see the children engaging in a wider range of outside activities over lunchtimes. Mrs Dibling has been getting creative with putting additional play items outside such as cardboard boxes (being used for tower building and car-making), wooden train tracks and dinosaurs to play with. The team involved in the OPAL process have their next meeting coming up before half term and this is all great inspiration!



Of course, this week, Year 6 have also taken their **SATs** tests. They have all worked so incredibly hard to prepare themselves for them and all did a fantastic job 'on the day'; demonstrating great resilience and an excellent attitude. Year 6 - you have done yourselves and everyone involved very proud and you can now focus on the multitude of enjoyable events to come in the rest of the summer term.



We were also treated last week to a wonderful **class assembly** by Yew Class. There was such a lot of talent on show as the children took us through some of their learning from across the year in a range of creative ways! I particularly enjoyed the time adverbials rap and had that going around in my head for quite some time afterwards!

All class assembly dates still to come can be found on the next page.

### Gate Times Reminder

We have seen an increase in lateness in the last couple of weeks. Just a reminder that the gates should close at 8.48am, allowing enough time for children to get into class for 8.50am when the register is taken.

If you arrive after 9.00am, this is considered to be 'late after the register closes' and does affect overall attendance.



*I hope you all enjoy a sunny weekend,*

*Mrs Housden*

## Stars of the Week

*Congratulations to our recent Stars of the Week...*

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May- Jessie, Tilly, Oscar, Grayson, Ffion and Thomas

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Connor, Harrison, Mia, Tilly, Freddie and Sophie



## Girls Football Competition – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May a squad of Year 4, 5 and 6 girls represented the school in a football tournament organised by Cambridge United at the iconic Abbey Stadium off Newmarket Road in Cambridge. We were invited due to being part of the scheme of different sports clubs that Cambridge United offer to local schools. Cambridge United currently run after school clubs at Steeple on a Tuesday (Multi-sports) and a Wednesday (Girls' Football).

The girls set off from the school at 8.25 and arrived at the Abbey Stadium in good time for a 9.30 start. The girls were really lucky to visit a professional football club and to be invited to play on the same pitch that internationals

such as Grant Hanley, Shane Lavery, Sulley Kaikai, Krystian Bielik and Park Seung-ho played on just three days earlier.

The pitch was divided into 4 areas and the girls played seven, 10-minute, 6-a-side matches against other schools in the Cambridge United family. The girls played really well and came up against some tough opponents of schools comprised of mainly Year 6 girls. They did well to finish sixth overall. Well done to all involved and to the parents who dropped off and picked up the girls braving the rush hour Cambridge traffic. We would not be able to facilitate these kinds of events without the support of our parent community. Thank you to Cambridge United for organising the competition as well.

## PTA – AGM & a “Thank you”

Last Thursday our fantastic PTA held their AGM. Thank you to those who attended but many hands make light work, so if you had been interested in coming but were unable to attend and would like to help, please do get in touch! Lots of discussions were had about upcoming events with a focus on our annual Firework event and more information will come out shortly in terms of getting volunteers together for this brilliant school and community event!

On behalf of the staff and the wider school community I would like to say a huge and heartfelt “Thank you” to Candice, who I believe has been an active PTA member throughout the 7 years her girls have been in school, for all of the time, hard work and effort that you have given to the work of the PTA.

**CLASS ASSEMBLIES**

- Weds 21<sup>st</sup> May – Hazel
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> June – Ash
- Weds 18<sup>th</sup> June – Birch
- Weds 25<sup>th</sup> June – Oak
- Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Acorn

**SPORTS DAYS**

- Hazel/Yew/Oak Class  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June
- Acorn/Ash/Birch Class  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June

# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Acorn Class

You may have heard that we have had 13 special little visitors in Acorn Class. We were lucky enough to spend the day with some chicks. The children were fantastic at being calm around the chicks and wrote notes to remind other visitors to the classroom that they must be quiet and not touch the chicks without permission. They were very responsible chick babysitters!

We have continued our learning on Kings and Queens this week by looking at King John and The Magna Carta. The children enjoyed role playing King John taxing the people of England using plastic gold coins and then counting how much money King John had to spend on his soldiers and ships.

In Phonics, we have been thinking about consonants and vowels when spelling CCCVC and CCVCC words. The children are now really good at using the spelling sequence of: say the word, stretch it out, robot arms, blend the sounds, count the sounds and then write down the sounds you hear. We have been really impressed with their work ethic!

In Maths, we have now learnt about all of the numbers up to and including 20 and are now beginning to use those numbers in our work when adding and subtracting. This week the children have been using 10 (and 20) frames to work out how many have been added or taken away.

In PE, we have been learning about sports that are in athletics. We have practised our jumping, running and throwing. You will have received a parentmail about balance ability. The children will be completing this balance bike course next half term on a Thursday afternoon in their usual PE slot.

We have completely run out of spare BOYS pants and trousers/shorts. If you have borrowed any, please kindly return these. If you have any your child has outgrown and wish to donate them we will happily accept. Thank you.

Have a great weekend.

The Acorn Class Team



## Ash Class

Ash class were very lucky this week to have a visit from our local Tesco store. We learnt about healthy eating, where our local food comes from and made fruit kebabs. It was a very exciting experience and nearly everyone tried a fruit they had never tasted before.

Thank you to Mandy Jinkerson for her visit.





# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Birch Class

In our Maths lessons, we have been focusing on calculating change when handling money and using efficient methods for addition and subtraction. With the increase in digital payments, any opportunity for your child to handle real money during visits to shops or markets will help to reinforce their learning.

In PE we have been make full use of the school grounds by taking part in a range of 'outdoor adventurous activities' with the aim of developing teamwork and resilience.

Please help your child to remember a hat to help protect them as the weather is getting hotter.

Mr Beavan and the Birch Class Team



## Hazel Class

In English, Hazel class are creating their own final chapter for 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. Each pupil is creating an alternative ending where Edward has to recount his story now he has been reunited with his owner after an emotional journey of finding love through many of the characters he meets on his travels. The class have created some inventive and exciting ideas to use.

In Science, we have been looking at sound volume by recording the decibels when dropping a variety of different types of balls onto a table.

In Art, we had a lovely afternoon on the field creating Biodiversity images of all the natural forms surrounding us such as trees, blossoms, insects and birds. There were some great pieces created with oil pastels, soft pastels and coloured pencils.



# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Yew Class

In English, we have finished our unit of work based on the book 'Coming to England.' We wrote a diary recount text of one of the key parts of the story before looking at migration and war (based on Michael Rosen's 'On the Move' poem book). Using this as inspiration we planned, wrote and edited a poem about the events of Christmas 1914 during the first year of World War One. We have now started work on our next book – Shakespeare's Macbeth.

This week, in Maths, we are zooming through some of the topics: decimals and percentages and perimeter and area and we are now drawing and interpreting line graphs as part of our topic on statistics.

A big thank you to all the parents that attended and helped with words, costumes etc. for our class assembly last Wednesday. The children were great and after I gave them a structure to what we should do, many of the ideas came from the children themselves. We tried to pick out some of the topics that we have been learning this year so far and cemented it altogether with the German that we have learnt. The topics ranged from prime numbers, time adverbials, Napoleon, Goalball, German food and Easter in Australia linked with rabbits and bilbies. We hope you enjoyed it.

The next homework will be due in on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Baker and the Year 5 Team

## Oak Class

We have been so impressed with how the children have risen to the challenges of this week. They have tackled all of the tests with determination and have shown great focus, concentration, resilience and perseverance. They all tried their very best with every question and that is all we can ask of them. We are incredibly proud of them and they are proud of themselves.

Friday in school this week has had a very different vibe in Year 6. The children have spent the day having fun together and gearing themselves up for the very long list of things we have planned for the rest of their time at Steeple.

We have lots of new learning to do still in the Year 6 curriculum and also one or two special events... Sports Day, a Class Assembly and a Year 6 production to name a few but the very long list does go on!

You will no doubt be pleased to hear that there will be no homework set this weekend and future homework will be in the form of scripts and song words. More news about all of that after all of the class (and parents) enjoy a fun packed weekend – we have been hearing all about lots of post SATs treats planned at home!

Thank you so much for all of your support at home – it has made such a difference to so many of our class.

The Year 6 Teaching Team



## Garden News

*Some children have been working hard to plant a whole variety of seeds in the garden at the front of school and you may have noticed the construction of a small greenhouse...*

*Please can we ask Acorn parents that when you queue in the garden to drop off/collect your child, you are mindful that any younger siblings stand with you or on the grass and do not run across the flower beds, trampling over the new seeds. Thank you so much for your help with this as we are looking forward to seeing our newly planted seeds grow very soon!*

*We are also hoping to make some bird scarers and so if you have any used CDs at home that we could use to do this that would be very helpful. Thank you!*



# OTHER NEWS/NOTICES



## THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

Holiday courses for those aged 7-17 who love to sing. A unique opportunity to learn and perform great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop confidence in singing and performing.

Summer 2025 - St Catharine's College, Cambridge

23-26 July 2025

Juniors Course  
for 7-12 year olds

24-26 July 2025

Seniors Course  
for 13-17 year olds

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