



7TH FEBRUARY 2025

Resilience ~ Compassion ~ Excellence

NEWSLETTER

A busy couple of weeks!

I can't believe it's February already and what a busy January it has been!

It was lovely to welcome Father Sam into school on Monday morning to lead our Collective Worship and he will continue to visit for collective worships fortnightly. Last week, we were visited by our PSHE adviser who thoroughly enjoyed meeting a number of children in school, who all spoke so positively about their learning, friendships and ways in which we can display our school values.

Last week, a group of children from Key Stage 2 represented the school in a Curling competition. They were thrilled to learn a new skill and meet children from other local schools. Today, we participated in a football tournament and I look forward to sharing the results of that with you next week.

Sadly, Mr Brown who has worked at the school over the last few years, has decided to move on to other opportunities. I am sure you will join me in thanking him for all of the support he has given the school over the last few years and wish him all the best for the future.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend,

Mrs. Housden

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our recent Stars of the Week...

Friday 31st January - Pixie, Zac, Emily, Brayden, Leif, Josh

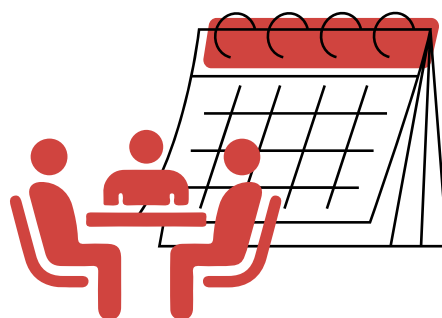
Friday 7th February - Ollie, Bow, Flora, Harrison, Robyn, Ellie



Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings are coming up next half term. More information regarding booking your appointment will be sent out after half term, but below are the dates/times for each class.

There will be an opportunity across these evenings to provide some parental feedback for us to look at and consider moving forward.



ACORN - Wednesday 12th March (3.30-6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30-7.00pm)

ASH - Wednesday 12th March (3.30-6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30-7.00pm)

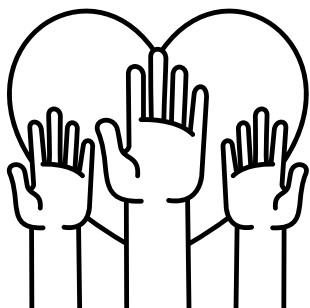
BIRCH - Wednesday 12th March (5.30-6.30pm) & Thursday 13th March (3.30-7.00pm)

HAZEL - Tuesday 11th March (3.30-5.30pm) & Wednesday 12th March (3.30-6.00pm)

YEW - Wednesday 12th March (3.30-6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30-7.00pm)

OAK - Wednesday 12th March (3.30-5.30pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30-7.00pm)

Volunteers



I am looking to reignite our interaction with parent/community volunteers. If you have either previously shared your interest in regularly volunteering or would like to offer some regular volunteering, please contact the office with your availability.

Regular volunteers are hugely supportive in hearing children read etc. and we also appreciate those who are able to volunteer for odd days/times to support with specific curriculum areas e.g. DT days.

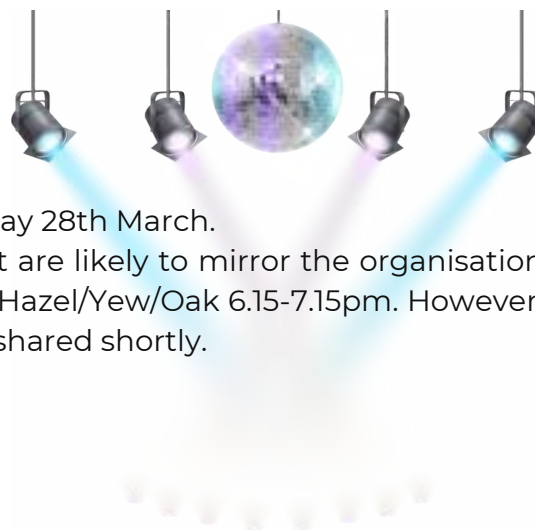
For regular volunteers we would need to undertake a DBS check which can be done through school and for general classroom support (such as hearing readers), this would usually be with a class other than the one(s) your child is in.

PTA Disco - Save the date

DJ Hayley is back!!

The PTA have organised the next disco for Friday 28th March.

Timings will be confirmed nearer the time but are likely to mirror the organisation of the last disco - Acorn/Ash/Birch 5-6pm and Hazel/Yew/Oak 6.15-7.15pm. However, timings, cost and booking information will be shared shortly.



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Acorn Class

In Acorn class we have been learning all about Space. The children have been using space vocabulary to write facts about Space.

They have been busy constructing rockets, planets, comets, asteroids and moons out of varying resources. Each child picked the resource they wanted to use. Some children then designed their creation before following their plan to create their own masterpieces. If your child chose junk modelling you have probably seen their creations already!

The children have wowed us with their space knowledge and how they can remember lots of facts about space.

Homework: ask your child to tell you a fact about space. We're sure you'll be amazed too! This week we have been assessing the children's phonics knowledge. We will send home sounds and words to practise next week.



Birch Class

In our English lessons we have been writing letters from different character's points of view. We are looking forward to reading the poetry of Pie Corbett next week.

In our Geography lessons we have been creating sketch maps of the local environment, which included a short walk to visit one of our local rivers.

The Egyptians have been the focus of both our Art and History lessons. We have been creating 'air dry' clay models of the Sphinx, and making Egyptian jewellery (with pasta!) based on some of the finds in Egypt's 'Valley of the Kings.' This has tied in with our work on the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and our study of Hieroglyphics in History.



Ash Class

Ash class have been busy geographers this week exploring the various landscapes within the United Kingdom. We all know the four countries that make up the UK, some interesting facts about each country, how the Union Jack is a combination of the individual flags and why we do not see the Welsh dragon. Ask your child about urban, rural and coastal locations in the UK.

Ash class have also been exploring their 5 senses in science and this week explored eyesight and hearing. It was great fun making Newtons Disc and seeing the colours vanish before our eyes as it spun. Using balloons to test our hearing was a new activity for the children and created a lot of discussion. Your child could show you the trick at home.

Please ensure reading wallets with reading book and reading diary are in school every day, as well as a warm coat.



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Hazel Class

Rome wasn't built in a day!

Following Class Hazel's work on life in ancient Rome, we have studied ancient roman architecture by exploring the relationship between various emperors and the monuments they built. We have looked at three monuments in detail: the Pantheon, the Colosseum and Trajan's Column. Alongside constructing our own pantheons, we explored the features of each monument, their construction and how they displayed the power of the emperor who had them built, or who they were in memory of.



Oak Class

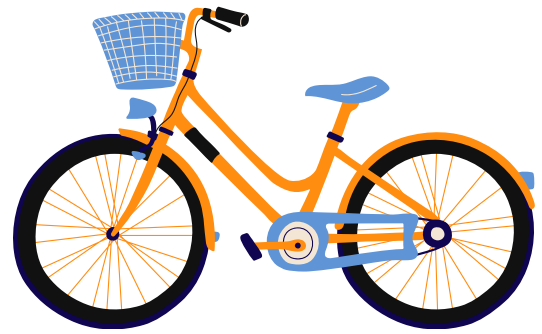
Never wanting to shy away from the BIG topics, in Year 6 this half term we have been exploring Evolution and Inheritance. It has been a topic that the children have shown real interest in, asking thoughtful and challenging questions and working together co-operatively to formulate answers to them.

We began by considering adaptation and how natural adaptations in nature can lead to evolution. We explored two examples in more detail. Firstly, animals that have adapted to taste awful are less likely to be eaten and so more likely to survive. We demonstrated this using jelly babies and liquorice and saw that, having passed both plates around the classroom and invited children to select the sweet they liked best, more liquorice 'survived'. We also undertook an experiment related to camouflage as adaptation where we hid a series of different coloured, varying sized Tiger Moth outlines around the playground, and had a set amount of time to find them. We learnt that the better you are able to camouflage yourself against your surroundings, the harder you are to find and so less likely to be eaten.



The Liberation Cycle

In March, a member of our parent community founded a proudly Steeple Morden-based charity (Charity Commission registered, No.1208449); The Liberation Cycle. This is a charity that brings the pre-loved bikes it receives back to life and donates them to support our beneficiaries.



With bikeability (and hopefully some warmer weather just around the corner), families may be starting to think about their access to bikes. The charity aims to support lower income households who may ordinarily find it difficult to purchase a new bike.

On their website, www.liberationcycle.org, you will find a CLAIM A BIKE button. It will take you to a quick online form. It takes 90 seconds to complete. We will then get to work in sourcing a suitably sized bike and servicing it for them before delivering wherever requested. On average, the lead times from form submission to delivery is 4 weeks.

Equally, if as a family your child has perhaps outgrown their bike or one seems in need of some TLC before finding a new home, please contact the charity as they may well be able to bring it back to life, ready for the next cyclist!

Friday 14th Feb

Come and join the Smarties fun and make someone you care for a sweet treat. Enjoy learning how to make chocolate lollies and more.....

Time: 3.15-4.45PM £8

Email now to avoid disappointment
georgina@smartiessteeplemorden.co.uk

Roses are red, Violets are blue,
we cant wait to have fun with you!

The poster features a pink background with heart shapes, images of chocolate lollies, and a child's face.

February Half Term Fun At Smarties Holiday Club

To book please use the following link : <https://forms.office.com/e/0x52bu00hg>

- Mon 17th Feb Chinese New Year**
Decorate a Lantern, Dragon making & Glass cookie
- Tues 18th Feb**
Outside camp fire building ,Hot Chocolate Bombs, Bird feeders & bird box making
- Weds 19th Feb**
Lets get messy
Slime making, Stress heads & bouncy ball fun
- Thurs 20th Feb**
Jewellery and Candle Making also Cd art
- Fri 21st Feb**
Milkshake fun along side the great cupcake Bake off

Session Prices
7.45-9am £6
9-1.30pm £18
9-3pm £25
9-6pm £35

10% Sibling discount

50% off for HAF
Children that have used smarties before

For more information please email Smarties on georgina@smartiessteeplemorden.co.uk or give us a call on 01763852888 Ofsted Number: Ey434661

The poster features a purple and blue background with cloud shapes, a QR code, and illustrations of children and activities.