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No. 7

School Newsletter

March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like the sun has finally arrived!

As you will see from our newsletter, we have enjoyed an exciting and busy half term which seems to have flown by. The children have learnt about a range of new topics and subjects and produced some fantastic work as a result of their effort and enthusiasm - we are so proud of them! We are also extremely grateful for your ongoing support, particularly this half term - attending parent/carer meetings, joining our family coffee mornings, supporting various musical events which have taken place in recent weeks and turning out in force for our Spring term reading cafes. We really enjoy working in partnership with you for the benefit of your children.

I hope you enjoy a lovely couple of weeks (in the sunshine) and have a chance to catch up with friends and family. I am looking forward to a few days on the Isle of Wight with my children where they are keen to test out their newly bought fishing rods and have high hopes for what they might catch... wish me luck!

Kind regards

Ryan O'Hearn

Choir

Last week, the choir performed at Wildern Primary Music Festival. They performed 'How far I will go' from Moana and 'Heart of stone' from Six the Musical. The children sang brilliantly and showed great resilience in front of a huge audience in the Berry Theatre!



On Tuesday the choir went to St.John's Church to perform for a local elderly residents group. The children enjoyed singing songs from their recent Primary Music Festival, along with their chosen Easter songs.



Year 3

Cooking with Aspens: All of last week, Year 3 had the exciting opportunity to make their initial vegetable fritter DT designs using seasonal and nutritional vegetables. Chef Liam spent a morning, across the week, working with each class, supporting them with their choosing of vegetables; mixing of chickpea flour batter and the final cooking on the hob. The children thoroughly enjoyed choosing their vegetables and learning how to carefully turn their fritters in the pan. The tasting of the fritters was also thoroughly enjoyed with children pushing themselves out of their comfort zones to try a variety of different cooked vegetables.

Art: clay: This week, the children have been creating their final clay tiles in art based around our 'Grow for it' topic. The designs have all been linked to plants and nature. The children were using a variety of tools to help design and put together their clay tiles as well as their scoring, slip and blending technique to help securely attach different pieces of clay onto their tile. Once the clay has set, the children will be painting and glazing their final creations, using the colours they planned for in their initial design – watch this space!

Planting sunflower seeds: Over the Easter holidays, the children will have the opportunity to grow their own sunflower seed. If they would like to share the progress of their seed's growth they can post photos/sunflower seed diary to Google Classroom. This week, the children have been planting their seeds and we can't wait to see and hear about the sunflower seed growing updates. Happy growing!



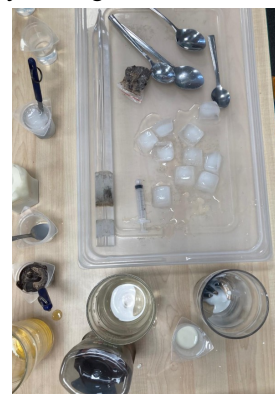
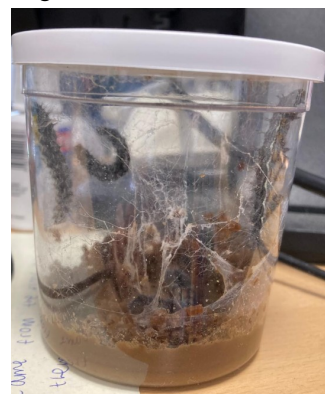
Year 4

In Year 4 this month we have been continuing our work with our 'All creatures great and small' topic. For this we have been studying the life cycle of a butterfly with our own class caterpillars. We have enjoyed watching them grow from babies into metamorphosing into their chrysalides. We are all extremely excited for them to hatch into butterflies.

Thinking of this, in English we are thinking about what we can do to help save the bees and butterflies. As classes, Beech and Pine class have been reaching what these insects need to survive and what we can do as a school to help them.

During British Science Week, our year group was lucky enough to have two different STEM visitors to help us conduct some experiments regarding mixtures. First, we were visited by Luke who taught us about states of matter and mixing and separating mixtures using ice and oobleck. Then we were visited by Amy who informed us about magic milk.

This month, Year 4 have been lucky enough to take part in Hampshire Information Book Award 2025. We had to read 5 different information books and be critical in assessing the creativity and information the authors used in their books and then vote for our favourites. We loved them all and it was so hard to choose! Pine class's favourite was 'High' and Beech class enjoyed 'Big Bad Wolf Investigates Fairy Tales'.



Year 5

Year 5 have been busy on their road trip around the USA. In Geography, the children have carried out independent research into different states, the capital Washington and some of America's National Parks. The children have become familiar with some of America's key sights and landmarks and concluded their learning by presenting their own answer to 'Where in the USA would you like to visit?' - in the style of a travel agent.

In music, the children have been on a historical journey around the USA listening to, singing and playing instruments inspired by country music, song sung during the time of the slave trade, jazz and the blues. We have also enjoyed listening to a wide variety of music by famous American musicians including Bob Dylan, Elvis and Jimi Hendrix.

In addition to our topic, we visited Portsmouth Cathedral to support our RE work on the concept of suffering. The children engaged really well with the Easter story presented around the Cathedral in the form of paintings and produced some of their own piece of art work in a similar style. We also had a tour of the Cathedral and learnt about some of it's historical features including stain glass windows, weather vanes and even a display of a piece Admiral Lord Nelson's flag!



Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic half term, working incredibly hard in preparation for their SATs. In maths, they have been deepening their understanding of angles, area, and statistics while revising key arithmetic skills, such as multiplying with decimals and adding fractions.

In English, the children have explored The Wonder Garden, using rich vocabulary to write their own direct address through a habitat. They also studied Window, analyzing how the view changed over time before crafting persuasive letters from the perspective of someone living in the house. Their creativity and thoughtful writing have been impressive!

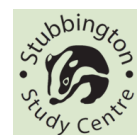
In art, the children have been developing their skills in sculpture. They began by creating detailed drawings of animals, carefully observing shape and texture. They then brought their ideas to life by constructing their own sculptures out of cardboard, using different techniques to build form and structure.

In RE, Year 6 have been learning about the concept of freedom and its connection to the Jewish holiday of Passover. This has led to meaningful discussions about history, beliefs, and traditions. It has been a busy and productive half term, and we are so proud of all their hard work!



Year 4 Residential to Stubbington Study Centre

This week some Year 4 pupils have been to Stubbington Study Centre to learn more about our Science topic this half term - Living Things. The sun shone on us, and we had a wonderful time walking along the beach fossil hunting, making mammal hotels and studying a live barn vole and a long-tailed field mouse. It was wonderful to see the children grow in confidence and develop their independence skills.



Family Support Worker

Coffee Morning: Bingo & Breakfast

I would like to thank all the parents who have attended Wednesday's coffee morning, the theme was playing board games and a reminder of all the great skills children learn from playing board games at home. This linked in to some of the 5C Needs based on our Empowerment Approach—feeling 'connected', 'capable' and that we 'count'. We all then enjoyed a game of Bingo and some breakfast together as well as the chance to play a board game with one another.



I hope you all enjoyed this event as much as I did, we had around 28 parents attend which is our highest number yet! The children love sharing these events with you and we look forward to many more.

Please see below the dates of the next event.

There is a google doc to sign up to for the cooking with Michelle <https://forms.gle/cTvvXHchGopjeFMQ6>

Wednesday 30th April - 6.30pm Cooking with Michelle - The recipe is 'Cheesecake filled Easter egg'. I listened to what you asked for next so we will making a pudding! The first 30 people that sign up will receive a chocolate egg from us.....but don't panic you can make it in a dish or save one of your own easter eggs!

Wednesday 7th May Progressive Muscle Relaxation, Managing stress (blankets and pillows to be brought in by parents)

Wednesday 21st May How to support your child's busy brain. Sensory craft

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break!

Michelle Brightwell
Family Support Worker



Easter Assembly

On Wednesday, Rev Phil from St. John's church joined us to lead our Easter Assembly. He shared the Easter story with the children and talked about the ways in which Christians today might celebrate Easter.



School Terms And Holidays 2025 – 2026

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the
academic year 2025/26

INSET DAYS – 03/09/25, 06/10/25, 01/12/25, 13/02/26, 29/06/26

SEPTEMBER 2025							OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025						
M	1	8	15	22	29		M		7	13	20	27		M		3*	10	17	24	
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		7	14	21	28		T		4	11	18	25	
W		10	17	24			W	1	8	15	22	29		W		5	12	19	26	
T	4	11	18	25			T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26			F	3	10	17	24 #	31		F		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27			S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	7	14	21	28			S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30	
DECEMBER 2025							JANUARY 2026							FEBRUARY 2026						
M		8	15	22	29		M		5*	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23*	
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24	
W	3	10	17	24	31		W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25	
T	4	11	18	25			T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26	
F	5	12	19 #	26			F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27	
S	6	13	20	27			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	
S	7	14	21	28			S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22		
MARCH 2026							APRIL 2026							MAY 2026						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13*	20	27		M			4	11	18	25
T		3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28		T			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29		W			6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		T	2	9	16	23	30		T			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27 #		F	3	10	17	24			F		1	8	15	22#	29
S		7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25			S		2	9	16	23	30
S	1	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26			S		3	10	17	24	31
JUNE 2026							JULY 2026							AUGUST 2026						
M	1*	8	15	22	29		M		6	13	20	27		M		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		7	14	21	28		T		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24			W	1	8	15	22 #	29		W		5	12	19	26	
T	4	11	18	25			T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26			F	3	10	17	24	31		F		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27			S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	7	14	21	28			S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30	