

Spring Term Newsletter No.6 (15.2.19)

It has been a very entertaining final week of the half term.

We had some very excited children at the beginning of the week and it took us a while to realise why until it dawned on us that the Valentine's Disco was fast approaching. The PTA-organised disco was a huge success on Wednesday and as well as providing a fun opportunity for the children, it helped raise over £800! Many thanks to the PTA members and the staff volunteers who gave up their time to make this happen. I know it was much appreciated by the children.

For a while now we've been discussing how to make the best use of the extensive school grounds. This week a few of us met with Nicky Scaife who is our lead Meal Time Assistant to finalise some of these ideas. Today I informed the children that when they return after half term, we will be opening up more areas to help give them a greater choice of activities at morning play and lunch play. There will be opportunities for children to take part in all the following: a variety of ball games, dance, drama, gardening, messy den building, dry den building, construction, adventure play, table tennis, team games, art and reading. We anticipate that this will help provide them with a more rewarding experience during their down-time from lessons.

We started this week with an assembly on 'balance' and how important it is to have this in our lives in different ways. For example, last week we thought about how to keep a healthy mind by doing different activities. We saw how balance plays a part in Maths and our working lives. Then the student council shared their findings on how to have a balanced packed lunch so that we stay healthy by eating a variety of food groups rather than too much of one type. See below for more information from the council.

Enjoy your half term,
Tim Hughes

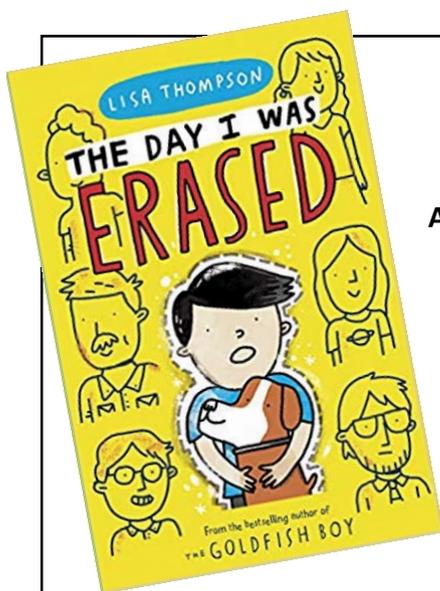
Year 6 - Amazon River Presentations



Year 6 have been working hard at preparing presentations to share with Year 4 this week!

Car Parking on St Margaret's Close and Barewell Road

We have received several reports of dangerous driving in St Margaret's Close at the start and end of the school day. Please can we ask you to take extra care. Cars driving on pavements is an obvious recipe for disaster. St Margaret's Close is a private road for residents only. Making the time to park further away and walk your child to school will help reduce the risk of a tragic accident. Please also consider local residents at the front of school who have been unable to enter and leave their homes due to blocked drives. Thank you for your consideration.



Miss Palfrey
and the
Reading
Ambassadors'
Book Picks



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to
Rowan Class *again*
for winning the School
Attendance Award with
99% attendance.
School target: 96%
The whole school achieved
94.8% this week



This Week's Star Pupils!

Ash — Lilli S - For super learning in phonics this week and applying all of our new digraphs independently. Such a responsible learner - choosing to practise both at home and at school!

Ruby - for showing such kindness and respect when helping her friends with their number learning this week. A super shareonyx!

Elm — Veronica - For showing real kindness and respect towards our friends. What a super member of our school community.

Lily Flavin - For being such a Stick-osaurus, learning to form your curly caterpillar letters beautifully. A real Handwriting Hero!

Beech — Emilia - for continually trying to improve your work and exemplary behaviour ALL the time!

Pine — Kyle - for working hard to make good choices and his enthusiasm towards magic maths!

Apple — Theo - for trying hard and facing every learning opportunity in a positive way.

Oak — Amelia K for improvement in her writing. She produced a great diary piece on the Great Fire of London

Birch — Euan - For a noticeable change in your attitude, motivation and passion for learning!

Rowan — Justin for great enthusiasm and aspiration - particularly in maths!

Cherry — Gemma - for showing aspiration in the classroom and great effort with home learning, particularly in spelling this half term.

Maple — Joe for working really hard and persevering with his fractions and learning.

Holly — Harrison - for his excellent attitude towards his learning this week: well done, you have been a super star!

Willow — Marco has shown real aspiration in Maths this week and has contributed well to a tricky fractions topic! Well done Marco

Hawthorn — Courtney - for focus, determination and an incredible attitude!

Holly & Elm Class Reading

This term, Year 5 & 6 have been learning about the Amazon Rainforest. On Thursday afternoon, Holly Class presented their research about the Amazon Rainforest to our reading buddies in Elm Class. It was very evident that both classes really enjoyed the experience, with the children in Elm class listening really carefully, asking excellent questions and making great links between habitats in the UK and in South America.



Eco-Brick - Mrs Turner and Dylan report...

I am sure many households already recycle plastic, but what do we do with the plastic which we can't recycle? Well thank you to Dylan in Year 2 we have a solution!

Far out at sea in the deep ocean an island can be found. It is not an island you would expect with green grass and soft sand covered with palm trees but an island of plastic.



There are many plastics which we are unable to put in our recycling box and these can end up at sea and many can harm the wildlife found there. To a turtle, a plastic bag moves like a jellyfish and is sometimes eaten causing them harm. Other plastics are just as harmful.



This week Dylan brought into school an Eco-brick. The bricks are made from 1 litre plastic bottles which have been washed out and then are filled with clean shredded plastic - this might be bags, wrapping from food and other soft plastic which would normally end up in your bin and then go to the landfill. The bricks are going to be used to create benches at a local academy and some Eco-bricks will go to Africa where they will be used to create insulation in buildings such as schools. As a school the staff thought this was a lovely idea and have

decided to join in with the project.

If anyone would like to join us we will be collecting all of the filled plastic bottles by the Easter holidays. We request that the bottles are plastic and that they are clean and filled with clean shredded plastic. The final criteria is that they have to weigh 333g so they are solid and will not bend easily. It is a great way to help people less fortunate than us, create wonderful sculptures and help clean the ocean and save the animals.



For any further information please see Mrs Turner (and Dylan).

School Council - Mr Tullier reports...

The school council has been busy researching healthy packed lunches. Alongside Mr Tullier, the council has been investigating exactly what a 'healthy' packed lunch consists of. They discussed the importance of fruit, healthy snacks, something savoury and something sweet. A treat should be small and only form a small part of the lunch. Diet and nutrition are key when it comes to feeling good and being alert. They presented their findings in assembly on Monday alongside photos they had taken which showed good examples of healthy packed lunches. Remember 'healthy body, healthy mind'. You are what you eat. On the agenda in the near future is for the school council to create a healthy packed lunch policy. Watch this space!



Reading for Pleasure



On Thursday some of the children in Year 6 read with some of the children in Year 2; both classes loved this opportunity and we look forward to continuing with this each week.



Nut Aware!



Please help. We have several children in school with allergies to nuts. Please help us by keeping lunch boxes and snacks nut free. For example, no Nutella or pots of nuts. Seeds, however, are ok. Thank you for your support.

Don't Forget - Bee Kind to Your Mind

Year 2 dancing and singing to 'Supermovers' this week:



School Meals - BRONZE! - Invitation to Try

You are cordially invited to taste our super school dinners. If you would like to take advantage of this offer to see what your child experiences, please contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time. We're confident you will enjoy it. Have a look at the new school menu for after half term to see what's coming up.

MORE OF THE
**GOOD
STUFF**

Free from undesirable additives, colouring and sweeteners.



Diary Date Reminders

Monday 25.2.19	First day back 3.05-3.30 KS1 'Stay and Read' (choose a book and stay and read with your little one) in the library for family and children in Y1 and Y2 (the PTA are putting on hot drinks for the adults)
Thursday 28.2.19	3.05-3.30 KS2 'Stay and Read' (choose and book and stay and read with your little one) in the library for family and children in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 (the PTA are putting on hot drinks for the adults)
Monday 4.3.19	World Book Day—advance notice—more very exciting news to follow (<i>please note that this is not the official national day because we are doing something different in school</i>)
Week beginning Monday 11.3.19	Parents Evening Week. Tuesday will be the main day. Appointments are available for booking from today. Please book via your eSchools login.
Thur 14.3.19 2.00-3.00pm	CAP (Child Assault Prevention) UK team parent workshop. A very worth-while event to attend. More details to follow.
Weeks beginning 18.3.19 and 25.3.19	CAP UK team will be in school delivering workshops to all the children. More details to follow.
Tuesday 26.3.19	PTA Film Night 3.10pm
Friday 5.4.19	Deadline for returning the 1 litre, 333g plastic bottles filled with clean shredded plastic. These will be used for home insulation in Africa and to create local benches in Torbay. See Mrs Turner for more details.