

Oak Hill Church of England Primary School



Newsletter Friday 14th May 2021

Life Education Visit

In KS2 the children were very excited for the visit from the Life Education Bus. This year we have had to adapt due to restrictions but Anita did a fantastic job delivering interactive and insightful sessions.

Year 3/4 learnt about the brain and how it controls the body. We got to see inside the lungs and digestive system (very cool). Ellie T said, "I really enjoyed learning about the human body and seeing inside the small intestine". The children explored how the brain sends messages - they learnt this through playing a game (very much enjoyed by Harris and Summer). The children then went on to explore how to keep our minds healthy. The session was thoroughly enjoyable and the children learnt lots!

Year 5/6 learnt about drugs and their effects on the human body. We discussed the different legal and illegal drugs that the group knew and reflected on the positive and negative impacts of these. Anna explained, "I learnt about different drugs and how they can have major effects on your body". The children took part in a role play exercise where they were able to develop their assertive skills. Jake I said, "I learnt how it is okay to say no and that everyone has the right to their own opinion". We had a class discussion after the session and all the children really enjoyed the visit.

Reception and KS1 learnt about how to look after their bodies. They learnt the names for their organs and bones. They learned about good breathing, exercise and healthy eating, sleep and drink water.



Covid Update

Following the Government's announcement about the easing of restrictions in society from the 17th May, we have spent the last couple of days digesting the 75 page updated advice from the Department of Education. From Monday, children are not expected to wear face masks in any school and teachers are not required to wear facemasks in the classroom. Although due to the nature of our buildings they are still required for adults in communal areas. Staff are no longer expected to wear masks outside the building. At this point, the recommendation is that bubbles remain and children still sit in rows. We will continue to monitor announcements for further changes. Thank you all for your understanding as we start to remove some of the Covid restrictions.

The Big Ask

You may have read that the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel De Souza has started the largest online survey of children to gather their views. She would like as many children in England as possible to complete the 5-10 minute survey. It is for all children between 4-17 in age, and there is also a section for parents and carers. If you would like to take part you can find further details at the following website;

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

Mental Health Week

It has been wonderful to discuss our mental health during Mental Health Awareness Week. We started off with a special worship about how we can look after our health by spending time in nature and take lessons from watching the natural world around us. We explored how nature reminds us of this term's value of perseverance, as trees and animals adapt to tough conditions so we can try to persevere when things get tough. Each class has taken the time to complete some lovely activities in nature which you can read about in each class section. Thank you to all staff for their work

with this, as well as their commitment to keeping us all talking about our mental health.

Maypole Dancing

It has been lovely to watch the children dancing this morning. A full report to follow in next week's newsletter.

RSE Meeting

Unfortunately, a power cut in the village disrupted our planned KS2 RSE evening and we had to cancel. Miss Tarling has recorded herself filming the presentation and this will be emailed out to KS2 parents instead. A feedback form will accompany this so that you have the opportunity to contribute to our formation of the curriculum and to ask questions.

Covid Local Support Grant Scheme

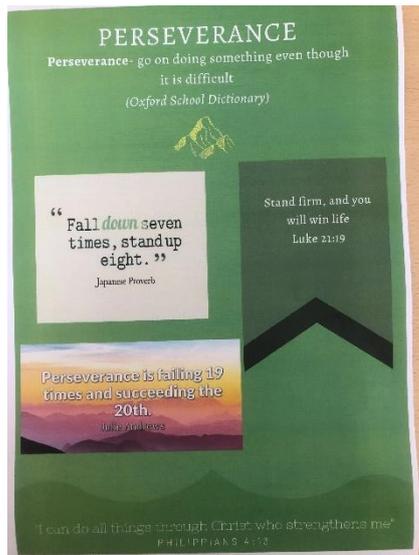
The Department for Work & Pensions has extended the COVID grant support for vulnerable families until 20 June 2021.

The Grant, now called the *COVID-19 Local Support Grant*, is available to individuals and families with children who have been financially impacted by Covid-19 and it offers support with food, utilities and other essentials. An application form and further information on eligibility criteria can be found at the following link: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/gloucestershire-welfare-support-scheme/covid-19-local-support-grant-find-out-more-and-apply/>.

Lunchtime Supervisor Appointment

We are delighted to welcome Ms Lisa Harding to the team at Alderton base. She will be starting with us very soon.

Half Termly Christian Value



Thy Kingdom Come

Rev Julia Hook has asked us to share this new app:

With Thy Kingdom Come starting (*tomorrow/today*), we are excited to share the Thy Kingdom Come app. This is a wonderful discipleship tool for all ages, with content for **adults, youth and children**, created to spiritually nourish and encourages prayer during the eleven days of Thy Kingdom Come.

All of the key resources are featured on this free app and is a wonderful and accessible way for individuals and families to journey through this time of prayer. We encourage to you to share this with friends, family, congregation members and church networks. You can download the app from the google play store [here](#) and the app store [here](#),

Church Service in Alderton

HC 9.00am Great Washbourne

HC at 10.30am Dumbleton.

You are warmly welcome to Zoom and listen into the 10.30am Communion Service being held in Dumbleton.

Please see Zoom link below.

Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: Holy Communion

Time: 10:30 AM London

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82052149954?pwd=N3NDQnJ3eVNWVGE3N2c4c3pCAlg4Zz09>

Maple Class

We had an unusual and special start to our week in Reception, as some new props in our role play area led to the children holding a pretend wedding! It was the wedding of the year, with the children making invites, an altar, flowers and even jewellery for the special service. They were amazing at organizing themselves into different roles, conducting the service and saying very thoughtful prayers. We even had some knights playing the church bells!

We continued our topic on traditional tales by moving onto The Three Little pigs, which has sparked some fantastic construction using different materials. We have been hunting for treasure in our Maths lessons, using our skills in counting on and adding to help us.

We went on a special 'colour walk' to connect with nature for Mental Health Awareness Week. This involved picking one colour and following items in nature with that colour to see where we ended up! We ended up by some buttercups in the field, where we sat to look at what shapes we could spot in the clouds.

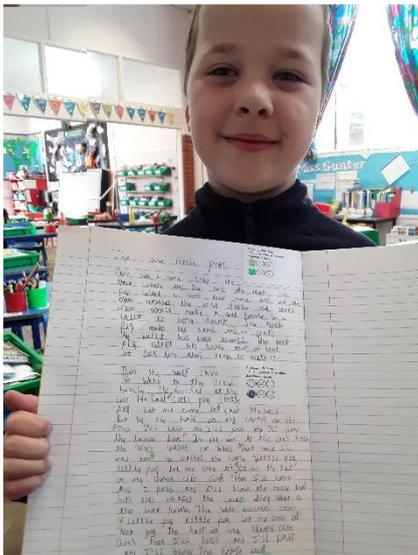
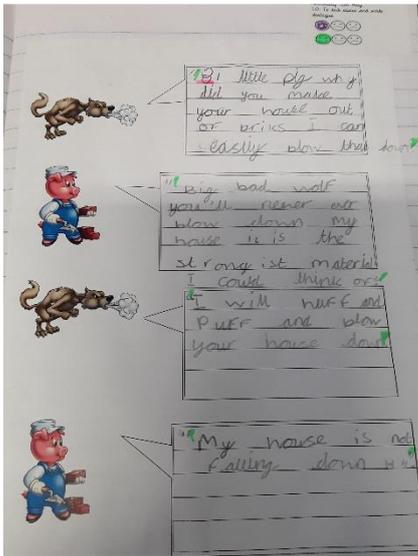
Finally, we were extremely excited to meet Harold for the first time this week, after ringing him on the telephone in our PSHE lessons every week! We even made cards for him before he visited and loved hearing him teach us about how to look after our bodies.



Willow Class

This week we have continued our unit on traditional tales in English and have enjoyed retelling the story of The Three Little Pigs. All of the children did a fantastic job at rewriting the story and making sure they used speech marks. We then learnt about dialogue and had a go at writing some conversations between the wolf and the pigs. In Maths, we have continued to look at Position and Direction and we are pretty good at knowing our left, right, clockwise and anticlockwise turns. We have also been practising quarter, half and even three quarter turns! During our topic lesson this week, we learnt all about George Stephenson who invented the railway locomotive! We then thought about what it must be like to ride on a Steam Train for the first time. Of course, we all have experience of travelling on a Steam Train, so we had a good idea of how they must have felt and what they might have seen out of the window. On Thursday, we had a visit from the Life Education Bus and we were very excited to see Harold the Giraffe again! This week we have also been taking part in Mental Health Awareness Week. We spent some time taking part in a few health and wellbeing activities and our favourite was Squirrel Cache! We hid some nuts as if we were hiding them for the Winter and tried to hide it as well as we possibly could so no one else could find it. We left it a few hours and then returned to the area

to see if we could find our nut that we had hidden so well. 11/15 of us found our nut and we realised how difficult it must be for squirrels to hide enough food. This activity taught us about empathy for others, but also how sometimes we need to think of our own needs.



Hawthorn Class

We have had one of our busiest weeks in Hawthorn this week, with something new and exciting happening almost every day!

We started the week by designing and making weather stations. The children recycled bottles, cups, and paper plates into rain gauges, and weather veins. The children have taken them

home to record how effective they are and we will evaluate the designs and remake them later in the half term.

In English this week the children have been learning about Grace Darling, researching why she is famous. They will be using these facts to write a biography on her life.

On Tuesday, the children took part in a draw-along session led by the illustrator for the Horrible Histories books and they were able to draw some fantastic portraits!

In Maths, we are still working on time, focusing more on duration and 12 and 24-hour time. In P.E this week the children have started choreographing a disco-style dance. The children were counting in 8s keeping the beat to 'Get Down On It'.

On Thursday, we had a visit from Harold and the Life Education Bus. The children learned lots of facts about the body and brain and were impeccably behaved. We also took the time to write messages to send out to the rest of school to help give someone a little boost when they might be feeling down as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

Finally, on Friday, we had a very exciting Maypole workshop. Look out for next week's newsletter for more details on this event.



Juniper Class

We have had another exciting week in Juniper class. The children had a fantastic morning on Tuesday making their own sweet and savoury bread rolls as part of our DT food technology

unit using an interesting choice of ingredients from M&Ms to cheese and chive! Whilst the children were waiting for their bread to bake, they researched the importance of food hygiene and how to keep safe in the kitchen. They also created their own packaging to take their bread home in. Lots of the children were already asking what we were baking next.

On Thursday, the children had the chance to take part in a SCARF workshop where they learnt about the impact of legal and illegal drugs. They were also taught about the importance of being assertive and took part in a number of role play activities.

As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, the children have created positive oak leaves which have been laminated and displayed in the classroom. These leaves are a chance for children to reflect and stay positive even when things get tough.

In Science, the children have learnt about the heart and the importance of blood in our bodies. The children drew a human heart and labelled the key components. The children were very intrigued to discover how different animal species can have different heart beats depending on their size. Next week we will be moving on to learning about the human circulatory system.



Stars of the Week

Maple Class:

Star of the week: Amber, for fantastic enthusiasm in our Three Little Pigs puppet show

Value of the week: Edie, for always being the first person to offer a smile and a kind word to a friend

Willow Class:

Star of the week: Louie - For remembering to use speech marks in your writing

Value of the week: Arwen - For being a compassionate friend at playtime.

Hawthorn Class:

Value: Summer-Belle: wonderful focus this week persevering with more difficult tasks.

Star of the Week: Charlie- for being really helpful.

Juniper Class:

Value of the Week: Monty - For continuing to persevere to try new foods. Monty tried chicken curry at school for the first time and really enjoyed it!

Star of the Week: Eva - for always putting 110% into her English work. She has worked hard over the past few weeks to up-level her writing.

Diary Dates

Please be aware that these may be subject to change.

May

- 14th Swimming Year 5 and 6
Maypole Dancing
- 18th KNex Challenge
- 21st Swimming Year 5 and 6
- 28th Break up for half term

Swimming Year 5 and 6

June

- 7th Return to School
- 9th Yr R Height, Weight and Vision
- 11th Swimming Year 5 and 6
- 18th Swimming Year 5 and 6
- 21st ISing POP
- 22nd Yr 5/6 Bellboating trip
- 25th Swimming Year 5 and 6

July

- 2nd Swimming Year 5 and 6
- 9th Swimming Year 5 and 6
- 1st – 2nd Year 6 visit to Winchcombe
- 15th Gloucestershire Kwik cricket competition (Year 5/6 open)
- 16th Gloucestershire Kwik cricket competition (Year 5/6 girls only)