

# Oak Hill Church of England Primary School



Newsletter Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## All Things Wild

On Tuesday, we went to All Things Wild. First, we went to the toilet. My favourite part was the play park. It even had a tunnel slide! We got to see a lot of animals. I even saw a tarantula!! My least favourite part was the turkey. It had a purple and blue head which looked like a brain. Our trip was great! A kookaburra tried to make us laugh; it succeeded!!

-Mark, Year 1

On Tuesday, we went to All Things Wild. We saw furry rabbits and a noisy turkey. Then, we had a snack and after that we saw some guinea pigs and they were all running around. After that, we got to hold a bearded dragon, an armadillo and a cockroach. We had a little play and then went to see some kookaburras which were jumping at the window. We had a ride on the Dino tTain and saw some big dinosaurs. Then it was time to come home on the bus. We had a great day!

-William, Year 1





loved the bright blue one! We also saw lots of huge fish in the ponds and a robot lawnmower! There is also a chapel on the castle grounds which is the resting place of Katherine Parr, Henry VIII's 6<sup>th</sup> wife. Sudeley is the only privately own property with a King or Queen of England resting there.

Sudeley Castle has rooms that people use as they live there. In one of the rooms, there was a huge tapestry that was over 400 years old and had gold and silver thread!

After a lovely picnic lunch we all got to play on the adventure playground. We played extreme tag and had lots and lots of fun! Before we came back to school we explored the maze; luckily we made it to the middle and out again!

We had a great day out. Thank you to the helpers who came on our trip!

Written by Lola, Phoebe and Toby.



### **Sudeley Castle Visit**

On Friday Hawthorn class went to Sudeley Castle. When we got there we split into small groups so we were able to go into the castle. In our groups we had four tasks to complete:

- Name the gardens
- Sketch a map of the castle and grounds
- Write as many facts as you could
- Sketch something in or outside of the castle.

We took lots of pictures with our groups as we explored the castle grounds. Inside the castle, there were mannequins of Henry VIII's 6 wives and him. These were dressed in replica outfits. As we looked outside, we saw the pheasantry with lots of colourful birds. We





### **New Curriculum**

Some exciting news is that we will have a new curriculum in place for September. The curriculum will work around topics and teach many of the subjects within that overall topic.

Each topic will start with a memorable experience to create interest and buzz around the topic. The children will then progress through four learning stages; Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express. We hope that we will be in a position so that we can share their work with you during the Express stage of learning.

The teachers and I are very excited about these changes and will be working on them over the Summer holidays so that we are set to start in September.

### **Covid**

Thank you to everyone for being absolute stars in supporting school in keeping Covid from our doors so far; two days to go!! We are one of only a handful of schools in the County that hasn't yet shut a bubble. Those holidays are almost in sight.

We are busy trying to understand the current changes and what their implications for September are. We received the guidance documents from County yesterday which will support this process. At the moment, I can't say for definite what September will look like regarding bubbles, assemblies etc. Please bear with us as we work through this documentation. This and the current rising rates of infection mean that we will take our time, producing probably a couple of different plans for September. I will share them with you nearer the time.

### **Amazing Donation**

The Governors and I were delighted to receive a donation from the Parish Church and the Taynton Trust. They have donated £4000 to support the school. It is an amazing gift to support all the children. Thank you so much.

### **TA Post**

Yesterday, Mrs Leather and I spent the day interviewing five candidates for the post of Teaching Assistant. It was an incredible day, with a very high class field of candidates. We will share with you the name of the successful candidate as soon as we can.

### **Ipads**

The iPads are being configured on the INSET day after the end of term. We would have liked to do this earlier but with Covid restrictions this is the earliest we could arrange.

## Success for Oak Hill Pupils

We are really proud of Emily who took part in a duathlon at the weekend. She began by running 500 metres, then cycled 2K and finally ran 1,000 metres!



## NSPCC Response to Ofsted Report

You may have read recently about the Ofsted report into sexual harassment within schools and its effect on our young people. In response, the NSPCC have launched a helpline to support our young people who may be facing that sort of pressure and behaviour.



## GCC Summer Offers

### Offer 1: Holiday Free School Meal vouchers

For the first and last week of the summer holiday only (26th – 30th July, and 30th August – 3rd September), parents who have

signed up for holiday free school meal vouchers from the County Council will receive their voucher worth £15 per child per week to spend in a chosen supermarket.

A voucher for both weeks will be sent to you between the 14th to 16th July. You do not need to sign up to receive this voucher if you have received them in previous school holidays. This scheme is funded by grant monies.

For more information and to sign up if you haven't already please visit our website:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/>

### Offer 2: Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)

Between the 2nd August and 27th August, we are co-ordinating the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in partnership with district councils, the voluntary sector and other organisations. This programme is funded by the Department for Education (DfE).

This is a four-week programme face-to-face activities in your local area, plus more virtual activities online, with daily meals or food kits being offered dependant on what is available in your district. Each district area (Cheltenham, Cotswolds, Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Stroud and Tewkesbury) will have its own separate section on our website for you to find what is happening in your area.

This July, there will be a leaflet with further information on the HAF scheme that will be distributed to all schools in the Gloucestershire area for children to take home. You must sign up to this programme in order to take part, and we will inform you and schools when applications open. For now, please take a look at our HAF website which contains further information about the programme.

**If you do not sign up to the HAF programme, you will not receive vouchers instead.**

To make sure you know when and how to make the most of the HAF Programme, [sign up to the newsletter](#).

### 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/>.

### Half Termly Christian Value

**COURAGE**  
Courage- the ability to face danger or difficulty or pain even when you are afraid  
(Oxford School Dictionary)

COURAGE DOES NOT ALWAYS ROAR. SOMETIMES COURAGE IS THE QUIET VOICE AT THE END OF THE DAY SAYING, I WILL TRY AGAIN TOMORROW.

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear, I will help you  
Isaiah 41:13

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"  
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

### Church Service in Alderton

Services this week are as follows:

**HC at 9.00am Great Washbourne**

**HC at 10.30am Dumbleton**

### Dogs Trust

**Event Dates:**  
Choose from:  
July 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11am,  
August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1pm, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am,  
August 24<sup>th</sup>, 11am, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1pm

**Event address:**  
Dogs Trust Evesham, Wickhamford, Evesham, WR11 7RT

**Family Fun this Summer  
at Dogs Trust Evesham**

**FREE 90-minute workshop for  
children aged 7-11 years old**

Places are limited to 10 people per workshop due to COVID restrictions. Where possible, just one adult per family would be preferable so we can accommodate as many children as possible! Bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Children are the responsibility of the accompanying adult and must be supervised.

Please email Evesham's Education Officer Charlotte to reserve your space at one of the sessions: [charlotte.paddock@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.paddock@dogstrust.org.uk)

No real dogs will be in attendance at this event.

[learnwithdogstrust.org.uk](https://www.dogstrust.org.uk) [dogstrusteducationteam](https://www.facebook.com/dogstrusteducationteam) [DT\\_Educ](https://twitter.com/DT_Educ)

Registered Charity Number: 27722 & 1187543

### Summer Reading Challenge

**WILD WORLD HEROES**  
Summer Reading Challenge 2021  
Presented by the Reading Agency  
Supported by the Reading Agency

Join the Wild World Heroes for the Summer Reading Challenge and discover how you can make a difference to the environment too!

We're teaming up with WWF for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet!

Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment. Get your hands on stickers, certificates, and golden medals – just for reading! You can read anything you like – fact books, funny books, books about ponies, books about aliens, poetry, graphic novels and comic... – anything at all! Whatever your interests, whatever your ability – the challenge is for YOU!

Are you excited to join the #WildWorldHeroes this summer?

Pop into your local library from Sat 10<sup>th</sup> July to sign up for the Challenge.

It's FREE to join the library, and FREE to join the challenge!

**The Library**

## **Summer Opportunities**

Young Gloucestershire is overseeing the Holiday Activities and Food Programme across the Tewkesbury District for August 2021.

School holidays can be difficult for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap, with children from disadvantaged families:

- less likely to access organised out-of-school activities
- more likely to experience ‘unhealthy holidays’ in terms of nutrition and physical health
- more likely to experience social isolation

### **What’s on offer?**

Free holiday activity spaces for young people, what’s included:

- Up to four days of holiday club provision
- A fun and exciting programme of sport and activities
- A meal at lunchtime
- Opportunity to learn more about food preparation with access to a range of FREE cooking recipes
- Or alternatively to the above access to a FREE food box for the family

### **Who is the programme is for?**

This holiday provision is for children who receive benefits-related free school meals.

We’ll consider requests to use up to 10% of funding to provide places for children who are considered by the local authority as vulnerable or in need of this provision. This may include, for example:

- children assessed as being in need
- looked-after children

- children with an EHC plan (education, health and care)
- children assessed as otherwise vulnerable
- children living in areas of high deprivation

### **How to get involved?**

Take a look at our bookings page to view all of the opportunities we have available across the Tewkesbury District during August 2021- <https://tewkesburydistrict.coordinate.cloud/>.

For instructions on how to register and apply, please [download the instructions document](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Young Gloucestershire team at: [haf@youngglos.org.uk](mailto:haf@youngglos.org.uk) or Phone: 01452 501008 Ext 300

### **Maple Class**

We have had a very exciting week, with the highlight being our trip to All Things Wild to learn more about animals. We went around all of the animal enclosures, and got to see animals such as kangaroos, lemurs and beavers. We then had an educational session where we got to touch the different animals. All of the class were very brave and touched all the animals, including a bearded dragon, armadillo and even a cockroach! We learnt so many interesting facts on our trip and had a great day out.

Back at school, we have been busy revising everything we have learnt this year in Maths, all of our sounds and phonics and have been continuing to write beautifully in English, by writing about our trip and all of our favourite animals.

We have also made some very special pieces of artwork, with accompanying prayers and poems in reflection of our first year of school, which led to some wonderful recollections of different experiences throughout the year.

We have continued to explore places which are sacred to religions, exploring the features of a synagogue this week. The children have tried really hard to remember the names of all of the features, and the special meanings behind them. They always show great curiosity in RE and I continue to be impressed with their thoughtfulness.



### Willow Class

We have had an exciting week in Willow Class as we joined Maple Class on a trip to All Things Wild. It was a fantastic day and we saw lots of animals! We even got to hold a few creepy crawlies and a very friendly armadillo.

In English this week, Year 1 have been looking at the prefix 'un' and which words it can be added to. Year 2 have also been working hard on a SPAG focus this week and have been learning about homophones. They have been learning that even though words can sound the same, they have different meanings and need to be spelt differently. On Wednesday, the children did an excellent job

of writing up a recount of their visit to All Things Wild.

In Maths this week, we have been looking at shape! We have recapped 2D and 3D shapes. Year 1 have been sorting 2D and 3D shapes and Year 2 have been counting sides and vertices. Shape can be really tricky, but the children have done so well to remember the names of the shapes.

Thank you to everyone in Willow Class for working so hard this year. It has been a pleasure to be your teacher!





Then in the afternoon the children were able to share their favourite games with their friends.

On Friday, we baked stained glass biscuits inspired by the beautiful windows we saw at Sudeley Castle. They looked as delicious as they tasted. Then in the afternoon we are going to play lots of fun games and use some of the P.E equipment we love.



### Hawthorn Class

This week in Hawthorn, we have been finishing off our learning for Year 3 and 4. The children have been plotting and translating coordinates in Maths, and making pictures by writing the coordinates then asking a friend to plot them.

In English, the children have written new brochures for Sudeley Castle using the experiences from our trip to convince others to visit. On Tuesday, the children created characters and a storyline for their very own comics. Then in our final English lesson of the year, the children wrote non-chronological reports on a subject of their choosing. We had Egyptian reports, Minecraft, dinosaurs, Pokémon and various animals.

The children finished their sewing on Tuesday. This took lots of perseverance and resilience and they look wonderful. They also revised the weather vocabulary in French.

In History this week the children compared two very important Queens of England. Victoria and Elizabeth II. The children used Venn diagrams to organize the information about the two queens.

On Thursday we carried out various science investigations exploring forces. We created gravity-defying pictures and designed rockets.





On Friday the children enjoyed their first game of rounders on the field. We also learnt about circles including circumference, diameter and radius. In Maths we have also been filling gaps from recent end of year tests ready for their transition into the next year group.



### Juniper Class

We have had a busy week in Year 5 and 6 practicing for our production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children have done such a fantastic job learning their lines and getting into character. The play has now been filmed and edited and will be sent to parents via email so that you can see the wonderful work that has gone into the play. All of the children have been working hard over the past six weeks to perfect the play. They can't wait for their parents to see it!



We have been learning about how our bodies work and develop as we get older. This is fundamental knowledge that children will need to know in order to understand how development can happen during different stages of your life.



## **Stars of the Week**

### **Maple Class:**

Star of the Week: Sophia, for super teamwork and hard work in M,aths

Value of the Week: Ava, for demonstrating friendship and compassion

### **Willow Class:**

Star of the Week - Jake, for starting to have a positive attitude towards your work and for working hard this term

Value of the Week - Paige, for being kind and compassionate to the Reception children in your group on the trip

### **Hawthorn Class:**

Value of the Week: - Summer-Belle: Fantastic attitude when working independently, especially in Maths.

Star of the Week: - Charlie: great perseverance during our gravity-defying art project.

### **Juniper Class:**

Value of the Week: Courage - all of the children that played oompa loompas (Dakota, Abbie, Archie, Kelsey and Jude). They choreographed and performed three dances in front of an audience and camera!

Star of the week - Abbie for being a brilliant co-director in the play.

## **Diary Dates**

Please be aware that these may be subject to change.

### **July**

20<sup>th</sup> Term Ends

21<sup>st</sup> INSET Day

### **September**

2<sup>nd</sup> INSET Day

3<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day

6<sup>th</sup> Term Starts

20<sup>th</sup> Year 5/6 meeting with Winchcombe teachers (parents) 5:00pm