



Monthly Newsletter

March
2018

March in School

Puffins We had a fantastic World Book day and all looked great! Thank you for your amazing costumes. We had fun hunting for 'Where's Wally' and designing posters. We have also been excited to introduce some ducklings to our class. The children have been very excited by asking questions, learning about the life cycle, watching them swim and holding them. The children listened to instructions well and were very gentle with the ducklings.

Owls It has been an exciting last month in Owls Class. We have loved discovering mini-beasts around the school, developing our skills in football, and exploring the mud kitchen and outdoor learning areas. In Maths we have worked hard with concrete resources and pictures to find the total of equal groups, and start sharing a total into equal groups (venturing into multiplication and division without being too explicit just yet). Following great success of our non-fiction writing - a report about our trip to the Sea Life Centre, we have dived into poetry by learning The Sound Collector, and using it through our T4W format to innovate and invent a poem about minibeast sounds. Mrs Richardson is very sad to be leaving Owls but excited for them for the new exciting adventures that await in summer term. I hope that you will venture out into the spring air and make your way to the library to discover the troves of knowledge and wonder available to you in your communities!

Flamingos Fabulous Flamingos have been busy as usual. It is very difficult to even think of where to start... but here goes! Maths has seen us immersed in 'time' and parents and children have been busy counting the minutes around the clock. I can now officially report all of the hard work is paying off (even if some of us have a few more grey hairs after the experience). We are now embarking on our next unit of shape both 2d and 3d. Happy days for all of us, as this is an area that the children love. Literacy has been based on independent free writing and as many of you saw in your children's books at parents evening the success is phenomenal. Mrs Holgate arranged an amazing morning based on the Easter Story and both Owls and Flamingos thoroughly enjoyed the experience of making and creating an Easter garden. The annual event of our Egg Raffle provided a nice contrast, and of course chocolate, which is obviously one of the five main food groups and essential to our overall happiness. Our topic work has been cross curricular and based on 'Punch and Judy' puppets. The children have taken to this topic with enthusiasm and have acted out the 'story' (a very politically correct version, of course) in class. They have investigated different types of puppets and mechanisms to make them move. They have explored how characters feel at different parts of the Punch and Judy story and created expression face plates (which was probably my favourite part as the children practised their expressions on each other!) We will in due course make our own finger or hand puppets. Thank you for your

continued support and have a very happy, safe and restful Easter!

Eagles This month has seen Eagles showing excellent tenacity and behaviours for learning during their end of term tests. I have been really impressed with the general attitude and confidence of the pupils. Mathematically pupils have demonstrated these same traits in our work on fractions and multiplication, and are enjoying their investigations. In Literacy we have been focusing on our ability to infer. Both as readers, understanding what meaning or mood an author intends, and also as writers, trying to 'show not tell'. In netball the children are showing increasing strides forward in terms of their movement off the ball and accuracy. Our investigations into the areas of Electricity and key geographic features of planet continue to fascinate us.

Toucans have had yet another busy month. In literacy we have continued to explore the writing of Walter de la Mare and how his word choice and ability to provoke questions from the reader really establishes a spooky atmosphere.

In maths we have been exploring algebra and how this can help with patterns and sequences in maths.

In science we have been busy exploring how nutrients and fluids are absorbed (via diffusion and osmosis) and dispersed around the body by using skittles, jelly snakes, water, milk and oil. The investigation produced surprising results and the experiments are ongoing. How long will it take for the jelly snake to react to the oil?

Have a wonderful Easter and we look forward to seeing you back in April.

Manor Lake Residential Please note that payments can be made at anytime for the residential trip. However, full and final payment will need to be made by 30th April. Please ensure that any monies are placed in a named envelope. Thank you.

World Book Day After the snowy weather, we were a little late celebrating World Book Day but when it came we hope that the children enjoyed their books.

Dates for your diary

16th April - Darwin Day and Parent Cafes at 9 a.m.

17th April - start of swimming for Years 1 & 2

7th May - Bank Holiday - School closed