

Friday 7th February 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Friends

This week has been another very busy week for all of our children and their learning. On Monday we had visitors from the NSPCC who hosted workshops in Year 5 and 6.

On Tuesday the children completed the 'Buddy's Big Workout Obstacle course', which our Rights Respecting team designed. The children really enjoyed taking part in this and many have been raising money for the NSPCC. Please make sure that if your child has raised money, it is brought into school by Monday 10th February and put into the boxes in class. Thank you for your support.

On Thursday, Opal class visited St Matthew Academy to take part in a dance workshop. The children really loved using the purpose-built dance studio with sprung floor and mirrors, to help them perfect their techniques.

Teacher Meetings for parents and carers

Monday 10th to Friday 15th February parents and carers of children in Years 1 to 6 can meet with their child's class teacher. If you still have not managed to make an appointment, please pop in to the office or give them a call to book one.



Attendance of the week...

Key Stage 1 – Ruby 99%
Key Stage 2 - Topaz 99%



Dates for your diary

Friday 14th February – Cake Sale

Week Beg 10th February – Meet the teacher week

Week Beg 17th February – Half term

Monday 24th February – Return to School

Please be reminded that the Government announced last year that the early **May bank holiday** would this year be moved from **Monday May 4th** to **Friday May 8th**, to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

The 2020-2021 term dates are available on our website.

We are a Rights Respecting School

In the newsletter, we will share one or two of the 54 articles that link with our learning in school or a particular theme for the week. This week we are focused on freedom of expression (Article 13) and non-discrimination (Article 2). Some children around the school have been re-using plastics and materials to make items of clothing, whilst others have been looking at the impact of climate change in Australia. We have talked to our children about the importance of looking after the environment by reducing, reusing and recycling clothes and other materials.





Educate and Celebrate News... If you are looking for something fun to do during the half term, why not have a look at the events happening at Greenwich Maritime Museum as they are running a range of workshops and events as part of their Rainbow Week celebrating LGBT+ History Month <https://www.rmq.co.uk/see-do/exhibitions-events/february-half-term-rainbow-week>

Playtimes and Lunchtimes... We are looking for donations to regenerate some of the games and puzzles available to the children at our indoor 'games club' at lunch time. If you have any suitable educational board games (eg chess, drafts, Mastermind etc) and puzzles that are in good condition and complete, ie with no pieces missing, please bring them to the school office between Monday and Friday next week (3rd- 7th February). We will make good use of them. Many thanks!


Best Wishes for the weekend

Kate Porter
Headteacher

Reception - Thank you too all the parents and carers who were able to attend our Early Reading and Writing workshop on Wednesday. We hope you found it useful and feel more confident about supporting your child with reading and writing. If you were unable to attend the workshop please ask in class for a copy of our handouts. We are sending home your child's login details which can be used to access a range of online resources to support learning. Follow these instructions:

Click on: www.lgfl.net

Click on:

Go to: 
SUBJECT OR
KEYSTAGE

Click on:

Select:

There are lots of great resources to use. Some of our favourites are:

- Espresso
- Purple Mash
- Busy Things
- TES Phonics
- i-board player

Year 1 - Onyx class had had a wonderful week wrapping up their 15 days of Chinese New Year celebrations. We made tasty spring rolls, performed a dragon dance, made lanterns and enjoyed a dramatic performance of The Rat Wedding with puppets we made in class. In maths we are learning about repeated addition to prepare the children for learning about multiplication. This week in phonics we focussed on the -igh sounds and are beginning to explore the 'ou/ow' sound.

In Jasper class we finished writing our letters to the transport police! We spent a long time making sure they were as detailed as possible and we got a reply back from Paul Crowther. We have decided to keep the naughty red bus as it has promised not to be naughty again, and to watch out for any other silliness in the classroom, phew! We have also been using maps to find out where in the world different toys are made, see if you can find out where your favourite toy at home is made and find it on a map.

Across year 1 maths, we have continued using arrays to show our understanding in solving multiplication/ repeated addition number sentences. In science, we have been testing materials to keep the naughty bus afloat, and were discussing what causes some things to float and others to sink.

We are still collecting bits of old toys to reuse at school, we have been discussing how we can reduce toy waste and the children will be using them to make something new. If you have any parts of old broken toys then please drop them off in the box that is in the Year 1 area.

Year 2 - This week Year 2 have all worked so hard in their stories based on the Tinga Tinga Tales.

They made sure that they were able to describe the problem and explain how this was resolved in their stories. They used conjunctions (and, but, because, etc.) to extend and add details in their sentences.

In art we looked at the Kenyan artist Martin Bulinya's beautiful paintings.

The children studied the way he painted human figures by looking at the way he expressed movements.

We used a variety of tools and media in trying to recreate his style.

Next week we will be designing and making out *Galimotos*.

Year 3 - We are very proud of every one in year 3 this week for the effort and resilience they have shown in maths. We have been learning a formal written method of division and everyone has persevered until they have understood the method!

We have been learning the grammatical features of an instruction text such as imperative verbs, time connectives and fronted adverbials. Can you remember the job of each of these features?

Pearl class have started to write their instruction texts and we are very impressed with the progress the children have made with both their handwriting and their presentation, we look forward to sharing this with you at the 'meet the teacher' meetings next week.

Mirror, mirror on the wall.... In science we have been learning about reflection and how a mirror works. Pearl class made their own kaleidoscopes to deepen their understanding of how light and reflection allow us to see things.

At the weekend can you identify how many reflective surfaces there are in your home? Maybe you could make a poster to share in class next week.

Year 4 - This week in Topaz, we have begun writing persuasive letters to our local MP about climate change.

Amber class are drawing on their knowledge about Greta's Thunberg's speeches and writing their persuasive speeches to our local MP, Janet Daby.

We have discussed our concerns about the environment and, in particular, air pollution in our local area and highlighted ways in which we feel Lewisham could be improved to make it a greener and healthier place for us all to live in for the future. We came up with fantastic ideas to help prevent climate change such as making our local area an urban forest, zero plastic supermarkets and free bikes and scooters for all.

In Art, Topaz have also been studying coral reefs and sketching these from secondary sources, provided by the Horniman museum. We have experimented with different drawing techniques including hatching, cross-hatching, stippling and others. Amber class have been looking at coral reefs and been inspired by abstract art when drawing and painting their own images. Amber class and Topaz class will both be using recycled paper and resources to make their own installation art of a ghost coral reef which has been impacted by climate change.

Year 5 - This week in English, we have created our own mythical creatures, which we'll then be making out own information texts about next week. The children have looked at the features and structure of information leaflets, researched familiar ancient Greek gods, and have used interesting and technical vocabulary to describe the features of their own.

In maths, we have recapped on the properties of different types of triangles and how to find their missing angles and we have now moved onto doing the same with parallelograms. This week, the children were also informed about the competition on Sumdog and we'd like to encourage children to use this regularly at home to help improve their maths skills.

Next week is also parents' meetings - if you have not yet arranged a meeting, please speak to your child's teacher or the school office.

Year 6 - Breaking News: Year 6 have begun writing newspaper reports!

We are reporting on the Australian bushfires and our writing delivers serious messages about how rising global temperatures can affect our planet in devastating ways. We have also been developing our understanding of global geography; using atlases and google maps to interpret and explore the world.

Opal Class went on their visit to St Matthew Academy this week for a contemporary dance workshop; it was exciting being in a secondary school learning space and we really enjoyed developing our dancing skills! Diamond Class have been choreographing floor sequences in gymnastics.

Collection for Year 1

Year 1 would like to collect old bits from broken toys or old games that have lost all their bits. We will be using the found items to create a large scale collaborative piece for our whole school exhibition in March.

We will need lots and lots of parts to build our work so need everybody's help. Please look in cupboards and through games you no longer want or need! We have a collection box outside their classroom that anyone can add too.

Some examples are...

