

School News

Dear Parents,

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The weeks are whizzing by and we now only have seven school weeks left until the summer holidays. SATs are over for Y2 and Y6 but there is still much learning to do! Alongside performances, cycling proficiency, Sports Day, transition days, the list goes on...

Despite the tests and all the revision for some of our pupils, we have had a fantastic term, with two separate trips just this week. Our teachers and children have made full use of all sorts of opportunities to extend and enrich learning, continue to build links with other schools and to show their sporting brilliance and character.

Read on

Kind regards,

Jane O'Sullivan

Best Class attendance this

term: Beech with 97.4%



Paralympic Athlete Visit

This Tuesday we were visited by top paralympic athlete, footballer Alistair Patrick-Heselton. We had a fantastic, and very energetic afternoon, working with a truly inspirational young athlete who has overcome serious obstacles to rise again to the top of his game, alongside an equally athletic member of Sports for School, Ryan.



All the children from Acorn to maple took part in the fitness sessions and then listened, totally absorbed, as Patrick shared his remarkable story.



Polly George in Maple Class beat off strong competition from pupils in other partnership schools to win a flight on a glider!



Many thanks to Julie Datridge of Bloxham School for organising this.

Five of the children in Oak Class have been shortlisted for the Deddington Poetry Prize. They are Gemma Craig, Harry Gaal, Elliot Sabin, Alicia Bishop and Poppy Jones.

You can find their poems on page 4.



Guy and his troupe of musicians will be performing in a special assembly on June 22nd at 10am. Guy will share more information with parents closer to the date.



OAK CLASS NEWS



As part of our Victorian unit we are creating moving toys. We are making a horse and cart. We had to draw out the pieces, cut them using saws then sand and assemble with glue.



To celebrate the end of SATs Y6 made chocolate chip cookies!



In art Oak have been looking at William Morris. We have created our own William Morris wallpaper designs and painted them using watercolours.



Oak Class went to Sibford School to use their pottery facilities. With the help of John James, they made lovely ceramic poppies as part of the Sibford commemoration project for fallen Sibford soldiers from WW1. The children had a talk with Judith Weeks who collected the poppies to transport them to France where they will be left on each of the fallen Sibford soldier's graves. A very poignant tribute from our children.



Maple Class

Finally the weather is on the turn and this has meant that this term we have been able to utilize the lovely grounds of Sibford Gower, including the orchard, even more! We have also managed to perform some of our topic and art tasks outside, to further our enjoyment of some delightful sunshine.

Maple class has continued to work very hard in their numeracy and their literacy this term and the year five pupils have enjoyed working alongside the other year five pupils of Oak class. I am very pleased with Maple class's attitude to what is a very intense term, full of learning and assessments.

In addition to their learning in the core subjects, Maple class have really worked hard on their topic, which is on "Our European Neighbours", and they have produced some very colourful and detailed maps.

The children have benefited from some expert help in their gymnastics in the form of the brilliant Carl (an external coach), who has worked really hard with the children and they have developed their skills well.

As we go into the final term the children can be very proud of what they have achieved and look forward to even more exciting learning knowing that summer is just around the corner!

Oak class went to the Black Country Museum as part of their topic work with the Victorians. We studied two Victorian children at the museum and look at what their lives might have been like. One was a middle class girl called Rose Bradley and the other a poor working boy named Samuel Webb. Rose lived in a tilted house because they mined coal underneath it so it unsettled the foundations. Samuel lived in the back to backs and was one of 11 children. We also endured a Victorian school lesson; unfortunately Mrs Rowley didn't know her multiplications and had to stand in the corner!



Alicia S – I had a lovely day at the Black Country Museum. The best bit was watching how they made nails. They had to heat up the metal and then bang it to make it thinner and put it back in the fire and bring it out and bang the top to make it a nail. I would have liked to do this job in the Victorian times because it seemed quite easy!

Fraser – I thought the Black Country Museum was very good. It had very good demonstrations of how things were done in the Victorian era. The fish and chips were very nice.

Oliver – I think it was a very interesting day out. It was really good because there were people in costumes talking about Victorian things.

Todd – The Black Country was very exciting because there were actual Victorian buildings which had been taken down, transported to the museum, and then rebuilt. It was like a working town because there were people dressed in Victorian costumes and they were quite realistic. It was a good day out. I enjoyed the fish and chips.

Jade – I thought it was a really fantastic opportunity to be able to go to the Black Country Museum. My best part was when we went for a school lesson in the school because Barney was really naughty and had to stand in the corner. He even got the cane!

Barney – My favourite shop was the clothes shop because it was really interesting to see what they wore. The fish and chips were really nice!

Poppy – The car shop was the best part because of all the really big engines and the weird cars. There was a three wheeled blue car which looked strange and different.

Harry – I thought it was good because I saw some steam engines but sadly they were not working when we visited.

Jack – I liked the street games because they were fun. One game was where you had a hoop with a handle on it and you had to try and roll it along. There were skipping ropes, hobby horses and a cup and ball game.

Rebekah – I enjoyed the sweet shop at the Black Country Museum because I was interested in how they made the sweets and how they coloured them because it sounded really disgusting. Orange was rust and green was arsenic!



Breaking free

The gleaming light
The darkening cloud
In a war it seems
No 'one knows why this is.

Gloom covers the town
Like a blanket
The mist rattles against shutters.

The bangs of thunder
The war was over.

The dark gloomy clouds separated
Making room for the sun to break
free.

Crystalline

The snow underneath my boots shimmered like diamonds.

The moonlit trees radiant under the stars,
silhouetted by the moon,

the spectral light shone down on my face,
giving a crystalline appearance to my skin,
and to all crepuscular animals around me.

Shining, shimmering,

POETRY

The Light

The glowing light shining in my face,

It feels like it is burning me.

It is frightening light

It flashes quick and bright

In the terrifying storm

The lightning is jagged and spooky like an
electric filament bulb

Nature's largest, explosive firework display.

Illuminating moonlight

The lustrous ripple,
In the moonlit sky,
Radiant colours,
In a spangling lie,
Beaming and lucent,
In a twilight sly,
Crepuscular illuminating,
Dancing through the sky,
Incandescent shine,
Peeping through an eye,
Of a burst resplendent,
As fireflies flutter by,
Then disappearing,
In a blistering flare,
Burning away,
In a saddening way.

By Poppy Jones

Rainbow

Gloomy, grumpy, grizzly clouds floating all around.

Colourful, curvy, cautious rainbow reaching up to the
sky.

The rainbow light glowing and glimmering landing
lightly on the fields.

Ruby red,

Lemon yellow,

Pale pink,

Glossy green,

Rusty orange,

Pulsing purple,

And bright blue.

All the children in Oak class entered the Deddington writing festival which this year had 'light' as a theme. 5 children have been selected to go through to the second round – congratulations to Gemma, Alicia B, Harry, Poppy and Elliott.



Willow Class News

This term we have been studying the Romans. The class now has a roman temple in the book corner, which is adorned with mosaic Roman soldiers. We have learnt about the Roman baths, how to become a Roman soldier, and what it was like to live in Rome during this time.



Every Monday morning we have been swimming at Sibford School. Everyone is progressing well with their swimming and getting changed is getting a bit quicker, and so far we haven't lost any socks! Some of us took part in a swimming gala and we didn't do too badly. The girls came third and the boys fourth.



One Friday in May we went to the Warriner School to get involved in a D&T project. We made a weaving loom and then in the afternoon we strung the loom with string and then wove with coloured wool. It was great fun using the pillar drill and the



First, we stuck the ready cut pieces of wood together, clamped them, then used nails and a hammer to connect the pieces securely. The time seemed to disappear. We didn't have time for a playtime and lunch was only for ten minutes! It was a really fantastic day. The weaving part was a bit fiddly, but we persevered.



Many thanks to Mrs Coventry for her fantastic assistance and to the Warriner teachers who made this day so great.



We have also been learning about times tables, number line division, vertical addition with carrying just to mention a few, plus loads of writing about the Romans, spelling tests, reading, singing, speaking French and having lots of fun.

ACORN & BEECH NEWS

In Acorn class this term we have been learning about animals and Minibeasts in our topic 'Into the Woods'. We have learnt about Nocturnal animals, animals which fly and also those which live underground.

We have enjoyed listening to and reading many books by Eric Carle including the mixed up Chameleon, The very busy spider and The bad tempered lady bird.

The children have been learning about doubles, symmetry, fractions and pattern by painting onto butterfly shaped paper and folding it in half.

All the children in the class have really enjoyed being outside in the sunny weather planting sunflower seeds, tomato plants and beans. We are going to continue with this next term by planting seeds for wild flowers, carrots and lettuce! They have also been finding Minibeasts on our big field.



The Ark children who will be joining us in September have been to visit and spend time getting to know the children and staff. Who recognises the child giving us a 'thumbs up'?



Acorn and Beech class had a fantastic trip to The Cotswold Farm park on Wednesday and enjoyed pond dipping, holding rabbits and guinea pigs, feeding goats and much more!



Thank you to all those parents who were able to help us on this trip.





What did Ms O'Sullivan find in her outhouse this morning? Right in the far corner, behind the gardening tools and next to the boiler?



To work together across the school to explore a theme, sharing ideas and working collaboratively.

ART DAYS



The children worked in mixed age groups to design and create imaginary creatures. These creatures were made of 3 or more creatures that come out of eggs.



It was great fun.



Out of the curious egg came all manner of extraordinary creatures.