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AND RESOURCED PROVISION FOR
HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN
Headteacher: Mrs C Findlay

7th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been such a joy to see the sunshine a bit more over the last two weeks and the children have been enjoying this during lunch and outdoor sessions. Although it is still quite chilly in the mornings some of the children are getting quite warm at lunchtimes and therefore are taking off their coats and jumpers when running around. Please could you make sure these are named so that we can get them back to the right children if they leave them on the playground!

World Book Day

We had such a lovely day in school yesterday as we celebrated World Book Day. Thank you for your support with this event. It was so lovely to see all of the decorated potatoes coming into school – they were amazing! It was so hard to choose winners from all of the excellent entries, but Mrs James and Mrs Lewis chose the following two winners from each year group –
Year 3: Lucy 3M Hailee 3K
Year 4: Owen 4B Frankie 4B
Year 5: Shaylee 5G Avani 5D
Year 6: Helena 6L Darcey 6L



In the afternoon, children from Years 3, 4 and 5 had the opportunity to read with younger children from the infant school. This was a lovely opportunity for us to collaborate with the infants school and for the children to support the younger pupils with reading. We hope you also enjoyed our shared story time on Teams in the evening if you were able to join us.

Snacks – thank you!

A huge thank you to everyone with their support in providing pupils with healthy snacks for school. Since we have returned from half term the children have been united in keeping to our rule of a plain biscuit or piece of fruit and we have had hardly any moans! Not only does this rule mean that children are getting into healthy habits but it also cuts down the amount of packaging brought into school from items such as crisps and chocolate bars – thank you!

I hope you have a lovely weekend and that you get to enjoy some sun!

Kind regards,

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher

News from the Year Teams

Year 3

In Year 3 we have started our sensational structures and sequences topic by building different structures and thinking carefully about the steps needed for a partner to replicate these. This has helped us with our learning in computing where we have learnt about algorithms and started to use the computer program Scratch.

This week we have written fabulous emotion poems inspired by the wonderful book 'An Emotional Menagerie' by The School of Life. We thought carefully about which animals could represent different emotions and how we can show these emotions in a variety of ways. We have worked very hard to include exciting and descriptive vocabulary in our poems. As we have been exploring feelings and emotions in our PSHE and dance lessons too we have been able to make links and connections between these subjects. We have also explored how we can regulate and manage our emotions.

In maths we have been practising telling the time to the nearest minute on an analogue clock which has involved being able to recognise how many minutes past or to the hour. Children can practise here: <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/116/telling-the-time>. Next week we will revisit multiplication and division and start to explore the 8x table. Being able to recall multiplication facts quickly and accurately is crucial to many areas of maths for every year group. Children can earn stickers for each times table that they can recall so please do keep practising these at home too.

Our DT topic this term will involve us designing and making our own bread roll so in preparation for this will be evaluating different types of bread from around the world.

Year 4

It has been a busy but enjoyable few weeks in Year 4 following the half term holiday. Both classes have started their swimming lessons and we have been incredibly proud of them all for the effort that they have put into these. These swimming lessons are currently replacing our usual Wednesday PE, so it is fine for children to wear their PE kit or their school uniform on Wednesdays at the moment – whichever is easier. Children can also wear their PE kit on their swimming day and should still wear it on Fridays for PE. Many thanks for this.

We have been learning about the Easter story in RE and considering how the theme of suffering is important in this story. This week, they have also been learning about mixtures in science. This has involved various experiments, including dissolving sugar in water and separating solids from liquids. There was also great excitement when we looked at what happened when we added Skittles sweets to water!

In English, Year 4 have been writing persuasive texts to advertise a magical broomstick which they designed. They have been learning how to use rhetorical questions, alliteration, exaggeration and other persuasive techniques to make their adverts sound really enticing. In maths, we have continued to learn about multiplication and division. Please continue to work on learning times tables at home as this is such an important skill for Year 4 to master in order to keep up with the KS2 Maths curriculum. Your child will know which times table they have been working on in their early morning work, but please do ask if you are unsure where to start or how to practise.

We loved seeing all the children enjoying stories and sharing books on World Book Day. There were some incredible entries to the potato decorating competition – well done to everyone who had a go!

Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the second part of the Spring term. They have thrown themselves into our new Viking topic where we have been asking the question, 'Are the Vikings invaders or raiders?' At the moment we are gathering evidence using a range of different sources to answer this question. We are looking forward to our Viking day on Monday where Treehouse theatre will be joining us so we can perform a play in a day. Please remember that children can come dressed up as a Viking for the day, we can't get wait to see their costumes and have a day full of Viking fun!

In English, we have been studying the book 'Ice Trap' which is a narrative about the adventures of Shackleton. We will be writing up two contrasting diary entries from different parts of the expeditions. We have been focusing on improving our sentence structure including adding parenthesis in. On World Book Day, we had the pleasure of reading with the Year 2's from Manor Infant school (who will be the Year 6 buddies for the new Year 3's transferring to us next year). It was lovely to see how respectful all of the children were and how much they enjoyed listening/reading stories.

In maths, we have been learning how to find the volume of a cuboid, Year 5 really impressed us with how quickly they picked up this new concept and could apply this to a range of problems. We have continued to work on converting between percentages, decimals and fractions. They have shown a positive mindset towards solving these problems even when they got a bit trickier.

A MASSIVE thank you for all of your support with Year 5's new homework books. I know that some children have found this a little challenging so thank you for supporting them when they have found it hard. Please let your child's class teacher know if you need any support at all. Just a reminder that we mark the homework every Friday so we can mark this together.

Year 6

It has been a great start to the half term in Year 6. Our topic work on Crime and Punishment has begun! A Cluedo style 'Whodunnit?' was a great launch and the children have handled some miniature stocks, a pillory, ball and chain and finger restraints. The latter were used in Victorian schools to stop children fidgeting, very different to the much-loved fidget toys of now! We are looking forward to further developing our 'Topic' with our upcoming trip to Oxford Castle & Prison.

In maths we have continued to ramp up our preparations for SATs. We have been taught how to estimate, measure and calculate volumes using a variety of cubes and cuboids to actually measure. The children were pleased to be allowed to actually use a calculator for once!

In English we have been planning and beginning to write reports on a new (imaginary) species of animals that live in the Amazon rainforest. Our grammar work has reflected the mix of sentences and punctuation required to write in this style - bullet points, colons and semi-colons and the use of commas, brackets and dashes to add in additional details about the creatures. The children also have to show their previous learning by applying sentence types such as expanded noun clauses and the use of adverbials with the associated commas.

We have also started our work on our science 'Sound' topic, and in PSHE we have been exploring worries and offering advice to others whom have the same worries as ourselves.

Well done to the thirty-eight children who have attended an extra revision session after school so far! And thank you also to any parents that attended too. Boosting and Rapid Revision sessions are there to support learning, but also to build your child's confidence with the subject areas that they will soon be tested on. We are really pleased with the commitment and resilience the children are displaying, please continue to support this at home with the last stretch of planned homework tasks - the end is in sight!