

Headteacher's Update 9.2.24

Dear Parents,

Here we are at the end of half term and there is lots of news to share with you this week including an opportunity to work with us as a midday supervisor.

Glow in the dark dodgeball & Archery

This week the children have either been taking part in archery or glow in the dark dodgeball workshops. Years 1, 3 and 5 took part in an archery workshop where they developed their skills of holding and firing a bow accurately and they competed against each other to see who could get closest to the bullseye. Years 2, 4 and 6 were able to demonstrate their dodgeball skills that they had practiced in PE, with a slight twist. It was completely dark! The children seemed to have lots of fun during both workshops and Darren will be back after Easter with golf and quidditch workshops for all the children.



Reception Drumming Workshop

It has been a very exciting week in Reception, as we had Justine and Malcolm join us to deliver an African Drumming workshop. This gave the children the opportunity to learn how to play simple beats on the African drums. We were very impressed with how well they listened and followed instructions, and how good the rhythms they played were. We all had lots of fun!



Safer Internet Day, Children's Mental Health week and Class Charters

We have raised awareness of Internet Safety on Tuesday through a range of age-appropriate activities across the school. You will also have received the weekly 'Wake Up

Wednesday' information which helps you as parents be aware of what children can access on line and steps you can take to keep your children safe.

Our Mind Mentors also took part in the Key Stage assemblies, explaining their roles and what they can do for their peers who may be feeling sad or be experiencing friendship issues and who would like someone their own age to talk to. This was linked with the NHS 5 Steps to Wellbeing guidance, which you can access by clicking on this link or paste it in to your web browser:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

Finally, the children have all signed the class charters where they recognise everyone's right to be safe and to learn in school, whether in the classroom, on the playground or on-line. They are also aware of the rewards and consequences linked to this charter, which is a simplified version of our behaviour policy. This helps children to take responsibility for their behaviour and actions and work together to make our school a kind, caring and safe place. The charter is also attached for you to see.

Opportunity to become a midday supervisor

We have a vacancy for a midday supervisor (M-F 11.15am-1.30pm). If you or someone you know would like a job that fits around school hours and think you would enjoy looking after our pupils at lunchtime, then we would love to hear from you. Please see the vacancy page on our website for more details and how to apply.

Congratulations

Well done to Harry in Y4 who took part in a junior Premier League football tournament. I hear he played really well, only just missing out on progressing to the next stage. Keep it up Harry.



Message from the Bishop – Start of Lent

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. Lent is an invitation for us all to reflect upon the great mysteries of faith we commemorate, particularly during Holy Week.

Next year is a Jubilee year, with the theme, *Pilgrims of Hope*. But what is this Jubilee about? This is how Pope Francis explains things:

‘We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength

and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, *Pilgrims of Hope.*'

I wish you a prayerful start to Lent and a restful half term break.

Mrs Machin



Reception

We have been learning: about Lunar New Year. We have learnt how people celebrate this and that this year is the year of the dragon.

You can help at home by: asking your child to tell you what they can remember about Lunar New Year.

Year 1

We have been learning: about our feelings and what actions we can take.

You can help at home by: talking to your child about how they are feeling and help them to identify their actions and the consequences.

Year 2

We have been learning: about life in urban Kenya.

You can help at home by: asking your child how life in urban Kenya is the same and different to people living in Aylesbury.

Year 3

We have been learning: about Mary arriving.

You can help at home by: asking your child to recall as many facts as they can about Mary.

Year 4

We have been learning: how to make a string telephone in science.

You can help at home by: asking how we made it and if it worked.

Year 5

We have been learning: about earthquakes in geography.

You can help at home by: asking your child what causes earthquakes and to explain the Richter Scale.

Year 6

We have been learning: about technology and what it might be like in the future linked to online safety.

You can help at home by: asking your child what they should remember in order to stay safe online.