



# NEWSLETTER



## What have we been up to?

It has been an exciting half term in **Owlets** welcoming 2 new staff members, Mr Longman and Mrs Kaye to our Owlets team, alongside Mrs Crossman's successful appointment as Deputy Manager. The children have really enjoyed getting to know some of our new Owlet friends too! We have focused our learning and play opportunities around our senses this half term. We have cooked and tasted a Chinese meal, cooked spaghetti to touch and cut whilst comparing the textures between dried and cooked pasta. Owlets have decorated cakes, and used their noses to smell different herbs and spices, as well as exploring in our Mud Kitchen! After half term we are looking forward to investigating the magic of Spring!

In the **Foundation Stage** this term we have been focussing on 'Community' as our topic theme, but more specifically 'People Who Help Us' within our community. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the roles of others and how they help us. We all enjoyed a lovely welly walk around Somerton, looking closely at the environment around us. We were also lucky enough to have some special visits from Nurse Meg, Dental Nurse Laura and Doctor Bobbett. We have also been able to make some wonderful links to our Christian school value, 'Community'. In RE we were introduced to the religion Judaism and the role of the synagogue in Jewish life and worship. In Maths we have been looking at; one more and one less, the composition of numbers to 5 and have been practising developing our counting skills. In phonics we have been consolidating our phase 3 sounds and tricky words. Finally, in literacy we have enjoyed focussing our learning on some fabulous stories; our favourite being 'Supertato', where we all became detectives to solve the crime and put the evil pea back in the freezer where he belongs!

In **Key Stage 1** we have been very busy learning about our topic 'What's on the Menu'. We started by looking at Mexico and comparing it to England. We learnt about the features of the landscape and painted a Mexican landscape of our own. Also, we looked at food that is typically eaten in Mexico and had fun tasting these. We chose our favourites and put them into our own design for making a Mexican taco. We used some of our English lessons to learn about instructions and write the recipe for making a taco. Each class then made the tacos following their design. It was great fun eating them. Science for Year 2 has been all about living things and their habitats. We explored our school habitat and looked for mini-beasts. A challenge was to design an animal to live in a world habitat. Year 1 have also been busy in science learning about the seasons.

In maths Year 1 have been looking at numbers to 20. While in Year 2 we have been learning about multiplication and division.

What a busy half term we have had!

This half term **Years 3 and 4** have been studying rocks in science, making observations and sorting and carrying out practical experiments. Both year groups have been studying myths from different cultures - Year 3 Ancient Greece and Year 4 The Mayans - which culminated in each child then writing their own myth. Year 3 children have been exploring their All Around the World theme looking at the geography of our world, continents and climate zones and are now heading into the ancient historical world of The Mayans. Year 4 have already been focusing on The Mayans as an ancient history theme and are now moving on to the geographical themes of our world. Both year groups have begun to study French beginning with lots of oral work about greetings and feelings.

Since January, the **Year 5 and 6** children have been skilled at writing discussion texts about debatable topics and enjoying the beginning of the novel 'Explorer' by author Katherine Rundell, which is set in the Amazon Rainforest. This ties in with our geography exploration of South America, particularly Brazil, about which the children have begun creating and publishing awesome information leaflets. Lots of atlas work has enabled the pupils to discover many geography facts about Europe and the Americas; more to follow after the half-term holiday! Beautiful abstract pictures of flowers in art and genius computer-aided design has continued as part of our DT studies.

## Information Session for Parents, Carers and School Staff

### Online Safety & Social Media

with Amy Brittan, SCC Education Technology Advisor

**Date:** Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Time:** Starting at 6:30pm with an estimated end time of 8pm

**Venue:** Online session

We are pleased to be able to offer this session again this year. Parents, carers, governors and school staff will all find it useful. Please book your place online.

New technologies inspire children to be creative, communicate and learn. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe? This session will provide parents/guardians/carers with information to support their children to enjoy technology safely and responsibly. You will have the opportunity to think about what you want to do to protect your family and to equip them for their future.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/m67HLzdtMsgqMa1r5>



Safer Internet Day 2023 took place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February, with celebrations and learning based around the theme **'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'**.

KS2 took part in a BBC live lesson and

KS1 had special assemblies and activities during the week.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>



Please remember to order school dinners via ParentPay the Wednesday prior to the week you are ordering for, as school are no longer able to order lunches for your child in case of allergies.



### Diary Date Reminders:

INSET day

PTFA mufti day—children bring an Easter egg

Comic Relief wear something red mufti

Foundation Stage and KS1 Parents' Evening

KS2 Parents' Evening

Last day of term

Friday 10th February

Tuesday 7th March

Friday 17th March

Tues 21st March

Wed 22nd March

Friday 31st March

## World Book Day and Book Fair

This is a reminder that we are asking the children to dress as a book character or to bring a clue for a book character on Thursday 2nd March to celebrate World Book Day.

The Travelling Book Fair will be visiting school on Thursday 16th and Monday 20th March in the school hall between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. The book fair will be open to all children.

Nearer to the time, the children will bring home a World Book Day voucher that they can use at our book fair or at a book shop. The children will need to bring the voucher with them if they choose to use it at the fair.

