



Our Learning Highlights

In the **Foundation Stage** this term we have had a wonderful term, jam-packed with lots of fun and engaging activities. In RE, the children have learnt all about special times and special places. The children have loved learning all about our local church and have very much enjoyed their special visit. We have had some fabulous superheroes from our community come into school to talk to the children about their job roles. This has really been wonderful for the children to experience. In Phonics, the children are working on consolidating their phase 3 sounds and tricky words. In maths, they have been learning all about mass and capacity, 6,7,8 and consolidating their knowledge of the basic 2D shapes..



Year 1 and 2 classes. In KS1 this half term we have been learning all about Castles, Knights and Dragons, exploring how castles have changed over time, the role of knights and how we can use historical sources to determine facts from myths. We have explored the stories of King Arthur and St George and the Dragon in English, and inspired by ferocious dragons, made our very own moving monsters as part of our DT topic.

Year 3 and 4 children have been studying Ancient Greece life, exploring the differences between the two city states of Athens and Sparta. They researched Alexander the Great, the Ancient Olympic Games and also looked at the legacies the Ancient Greeks left for the world. In English the children have been listening to Ancient Greek myths and then using this knowledge to plan and write their own myths. In Year Three music the children have learnt songs about Ancient Greece, explored pulse and rhythm and have been singing in two parts. In design technology the children have made pneumatic toys based on Ancient Greek beasts. In year 4 the children have explored and designed Ancient Greek pottery.



Year 5 and 6 classes have been thoroughly enjoying reading 'Who Let the Gods Out' as a class and using the book to inspire some of our writing. We have learnt about formal and informal styles in letter and email form. Greek studies have been very enjoyable; learning about Alexander the Great, the empire, the Olympics as well as debating whether Athens or Sparta was the better city state.

Furthermore, we have been discovering lots of facts about Judaism in R.E. such as what happens during bar and bat mitzvahs, Rosh Hashanah and the meaning of kosher.

Safer Internet Day

6th February was Safer Internet Day. The children took part in special activities throughout this week including assemblies and BBC live lessons. Please see our



website for guidance for parents on how to keep children safe online.

Extreme Reading Challenge

We hope that many children are taking part in our extreme reading challenge. Details of the challenge can be found on our website, within the Reading at King Ina tab.

Competition closes on Monday 19th February.



Staffing Update

We welcomed Mrs Worby to our team this half term. Mrs Worby is an HLTA, who will be working with children in upper KS2.

Sadly we said goodbye to teaching assistants Miss Bassham and Mrs Mackenzie, who have moved on to new jobs. We wish them both the best of luck for the future.

Attendance

We wish to remind parents that holidays should be taken during the school holidays and not during term time. Please note that holidays taken during term time could result in a Penalty Notice which equates to £60 per parent, per child.

Spring term key date reminders and ***NEW*** dates:

- **Monday 19th February:** Children back to school
- **Wednesday 28th February to Friday 1st March:** Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Kilve
- **Monday 4th March:** House tag rugby tournament
- **Thursday 7th March:** World Book Day— dress as a book character
- **Wednesday and Thursday 13th & 14th March:** Book Fayre in hall after school
- **Friday 15th March:** Comic Relief— children wear red and bring £1 per family
- **Monday 18th March:** House tag rugby tournament
- **Tuesday 19th March:** Reception and KS1 Parents' Evening
- **Wednesday 20th March:** KS2 Parents' Evening
- ***NEW* Friday 22nd March: Mufti day—children to bring a chocolate egg**
- ***NEW* Monday 25th March at 2.30pm: Easter hat parade and miniature Easter garden competition.**
Children from Owlets through to Year 6 are invited to make an Easter hat at home and bring it to school for a parade at 2.30pm, where hats will be judged and prizes awarded. Hats can be completely home-made or children can decorate existing hats. Those children who do not want to make a hat are welcome to make a miniature Easter garden at home instead and bring it to school on the 25th for judging. Parents are very welcome to attend the parade.
- ***NEW* Tuesday 26th March: whole school Easter Service at church at 2.30pm.** Parents are welcome and children are all to be taken home from church at 3.15pm. Treehouse children will be walked back to school.
- Wednesday 27th March:** Farleigh Hungerford Castle Trip Puffins & Goldfinches
- **Thursday 28th March:** Last day of term, Reception welly walk and ***NEW* Easter egg tombola after school.** Farleigh Hungerford Castle Trip Robins & Kingfishers
- Friday 29th March—Sunday 14th April:** Easter holiday
- Monday 15th April:** Start of the summer term