



Newsletter February 2020

Dear Parents,

This term has been very positive, with Year 1 enjoying a trip to the local nature reserve and an exciting adventure to the Living Rainforest, where they encountered sloths, blue frogs, snakes and other exotic creatures. They have also been visited in their classroom by Gary, Bob and Sheila, the Giant African Land snails.

Early Years had a lovely morning at the local library; reading stories, exploring the library and learning about different types of book.

All the children have been working hard to develop their phonic knowledge, reading, writing and blending their sounds. Staff participated in Read, Write Inc. training on Wednesday 12th February – the best training any of them have ever attended.

Year 1 have been mastering adding and subtracting to 20 and beyond. Reception have been learning to recognise and count numbers to 20.

Have a peaceful half term, we'll see you all on Monday 24th February.

Regards
Gill Gooch

Class Attendance Winner

Congratulations to Gosling Class for winning this terms Attendance Award with 95.35%

Term 4 -Big Question

What's between the pages?

Thank you to everyone who wore red to raise awareness for congenital defects. As a school we've raised £42 for Tiny Tickers!

Our wonderful PTA collected an incredible £90 for the school from the sale of Roses for Valentines Day!

The Travelling Book Fair made £151.21, which allowed the school to buy 5 brand new books



What have our Swans been up to?

What a busy term we've had after Christmas! It's hard to believe we are already into February and it will nearly be March when we come back.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our topics this term all about different habitats. They loved reading about Sunny the meerkat and produced some excellent written postcards to send to him. We compared the climate in the UK with South Africa and talked about other habitats around the world, and all the animals we would expect to see there.

Swan Class also got to go on our first trip outside school to Bure Park Nature Reserve, to compare the habitats there with school, quickly followed by a trip to the Living Rainforest to see the animals. The children were amazed to see that chocolate grows on trees! Can you spot the chocolate tree in the photos?

Finally, they put together all they had learned about minibeasts into a simple report, had a go at making some bug hotels, and were shocked to meet some Giant African Land Snails in the classroom.



What are the Swans up to next term??

Next term we are looking forward to learning all about knights and castles, with lots of opportunities for building things in DT and dressing up for roleplay. If you have any appropriate costumes or books at home it would be great to see them, but please make sure they have names in.



What have our early years been up to?

Our early years have been busy this term. The children have been doing lots of crafts in school, particularly around the theme of Chinese New Year. They've made some beautiful paper lanterns and Chinese Dragons which are on display in the classroom.

The children enjoyed a trip on Bertie the bus to Bicester Library. Where they learnt about how the library works, about the different kinds of books available and partook in a re-enactment of The Gruffalo! The children really enjoyed their visit, and have continued their learning in the classroom, reading The Hungry Caterpillar.

The children also had the chance meet Gary, Bob and Sheila, the Giant African Land snails. Taking turns to hold them.



Other school news..

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering three taster sessions after the half term for possible extra-curricular activities.

Tuesday 3rd March: Rugby Tots. The children in Reception and Year 1 will be partaking in a Rugby Tots Taster session during PE on the 3rd March. If there is enough interest we will be rolling out weekly after school sessions from Tuesday 10th March.



Wednesday 4th March: Kind Hands Story Massage. Kind Hands Story Massage uses simple touch strokes over clothing alongside stories and nursery rhymes. Children learn to develop their co-ordination, control and movement. It improves social relationships between children & also supports the bond between parents & children.

We will also be offering a trail session for Mini Professionals Dance Academy – who offer Gymnastics lessons for children age 4+. A date will be confirmed for early March.

Dates for the Diary

17-21 February Half Term Holiday

TERM 4

- Monday 24th February Children return to school
- Thursday 5th March Library Visit for World Book Day
- Friday 6th March World Book Day - Come dressed as a character from your favourite Book
- Friday 20th March - 12.00 Mother's Day lunch - Pre- order your Mother's Day Fish & Chip lunch. Order now through Parent Pay - any grown up representative welcome, one per family, small children welcome (please bring lunch for small children)
- Friday 3rd April End of Term

6 April – 20 April Easter Holiday

TERM 5

- Friday 24th April - Spring Festival - 1pm - 4pm
Easter Egg Hunt
May Pole Dancing
Splat the Teacher
Hook a Duck
Any many more

Final Note...

We're excited to be rolling out our very own school library! If you have any books you'd like to donate – please bring them into the school office.