



Friday 1st March 2019

Dear Parents

In Meeting for Worship on Monday this week, I showed the children a video of a very different journey to school from theirs. The school pupils on Westray in the Orkneys have to travel to the nearby island of Papa Westray just over 800 metres away. There is a ferry that does travels between the islands, however this take 56 minutes due to the limitations of navigable routes. Instead, the children have a plane ride commute which last precisely two minutes - that's almost as quick as Emma, Wilfred and Florin's journey! As a contrast to this short journey we cast our minds back to our Around the World in 80 days topic - Phileas Fogg and Passepartout certainly went a long way simply to end up where they started!

All of this was to introduce the concept of "going the extra mile" which we further explored through the story of the Good Samaritan. In the parable, the Samaritan looks after a Jewish traveller - a surprise as they were two peoples who wouldn't normally get along. In our discussion, I challenged the children to think about how they might go a step further to help others; including those they would not normally choose to.

Aside from sports fixtures and farm visits - more on these later - we finish this week with Year 3's Celebration Meeting. An impressive effort given that they've only had four days to prepare it. Elsewhere this week we have hosted our book fair. It has been running since Tuesday, but don't worry if you've missed out so far - it will be open again after school today! For every book purchased the school receives funds to purchase new books for the library so it's very worthwhile!

This is all in preparation for the fun of Book Week that is taking place from Monday when we have bookshop visits, displays, reading workshops, a vertical learning morning and, of course, our fancy-dress day on Wednesday. Many thanks in advance to all the work on the costumes.

Congratulations to the following pupils who received Celebration Certificates:

Y1/2 - Dori
Y3 - Emma L
Y4MA - Rhett
Y4KS - Alex D
Y5 - Lily and Alice
Y6AP - Elena
Y6NH - Emma F

Head Teacher Awards were also given to: Lieu Yen, Lucy, Harriet, Orlando and Harry K

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

In friendship

Ps. Did you know that it's estimated that the total weight of ants on earth is equal to the total weight of people?

Foundation and Reception

What a wonderful week it has been in Early Years. We have been making the most of the sunshine and getting outside. In true Early Years style, we started to collect sticks to make houses for some toy pigs, the sticks turned into a (pretend) bonfire, with a nice pile of mud for them to roll in next to it. The pigs got a little dirty and Sofia suggested we wash them. Once that water tap was on... well that was it. We have been having so much fun exploring water in the glorious sunshine. Did you know it takes 17 puddles of water, approximately 4-6 footsteps apart, to get the tyre tracks of a bike all the way across the playground!

The pigs and sticks may have given you a clue to our class text? We have been using stick puppets and masks to act out the story of The Three Little Pigs. Watch out if you come near Early Years, we have some terrifying wolves around. The children have been making their own animal masks and we have been using the forest school, willow tunnel and mud hut to make up our very own 'unique' version of the story about a group of elephants/hippos trying to escape from some scary tigers and cheetahs who want to 'scratch their house down'.



Year 1 and 2

The start of this term saw Year 1 and 2 being banned entry to their classroom on Monday morning, all with good reason though! Becca Edwards had a surprise hidden inside waiting for them. They discovered a strange looking machine and some speckled little objects, finding out that they were in fact quail eggs and an incubator. So along with the children in Year 1 and 2, within a few weeks, we hope that there will also be a few little cheeps in the back of the classroom too!

With their new topic, 'Food to Fork' they started the week thinking about where food comes from and began to understand the concept of food miles. With this in mind, they planted their vegetables in their own locality/zero food miles!

Using the story 'Grandad's Farm' they looked at how to develop their writing by using adjectives for settings, sequencing the story and retelling the story using story maps; one of these can be seen in their cloakroom. If you're lucky you could get them to retell you part of it in their own words. Linking to planting their own vegetables, they learnt that in the past, you couldn't just go to the supermarket to buy everything you needed and that also some ingredients were hard to come by. So having investigated how to weigh objects and compare their mass, they made some war time recipes; Roly Poly pudding and vegetable pasties, thinking about how butter, eggs and sugar might not have been an ingredient they'd readily have to hand. In their art, they looked at how to make repeating patterns, discovering how to create natural textures from the vegetables and fruit.

To end the first very busy week back, they ventured off to the Warriner School Farm. They got to see first-hand different animals, how farms work, what is needed to look after the animals and started to develop an understanding that everything doesn't magically arrive at the supermarket in packet!



Year 3

Year 3 began the term by diving straight into play rehearsals, as they have been tackling the mammoth task of creating a roaring Stone Age celebration meeting in just 1 week! They have also found time to make the most of the unseasonal February sunshine by taking their learning outside. They started by carrying out their long addition sums on the playground instead of in

their maths books, which the pupils enjoyed enormously! Who knew that long addition could be so fun! They also planted courgettes and marrows, which hopefully there should be an abundance of come the summer.

They have also been learning about what the world would have been like when dinosaurs roamed the earth: not only in terms of its inheritance and the landscape, but also the distribution of land on the earth. Pupils watched in awe, as they saw how the continents had drifted apart and then together, and then apart again over the period of billions of years. Finally, they have continued to learn about the Neolithic settlement found at Skara Brae, and about how then discovery taught us lots about what life would have been like for Skara Brae's ancient former inhabitants.



Year 4

4MA made the most of the lovely weather this week by tackling (what looked like) a very neglected Roman Raised Bed. On closer inspection we discovered new growth at the base of our Oregano, Fennel and Mint plants. With some careful excavation children dug up these plants and started the painstaking process of carefully repotting and replanting to replenish our much-loved Roman Herb Garden.



In History 4MA discovered that when the Romans eventually packed up and left Britain in 410 AD, the Picts and the Scots were a constant threat to the Britons and the Anglo Saxons had their sights set on colonising Britain. With all this in mind children worked on a timeline showing major events during the Anglo-Saxon period. We took our timeline out to Forest school and considered whether Forest school would make a good settlement area for an Anglo-Saxon village.



We have been looking at where our energy comes from in Geography, and 4KS put on their engineering heads to make wind turbines. Faced with the same materials, they were challenged to see which group could make the most efficient turbine. Using our very own wind source (my hairdryer!), we timed how long each turbine took to wind in the string, all of them worked well but the group who had given most thought to the shape and design of their blades came out on top.



4KS also made the most of the sunshine to play a 'beetle drive' inspired game to recap the different parts of a plant, with the class tasked to roll the dice to sketch the individual parts. We had three fantastic plants (with roots, stem, leaves, petals, stamens, a style and a stigma) in super speedy time.



We have also included photos which show our two winners at the end of last half term. Well done to Harriet and Lucy who designed the two toy cars which travelled the fastest and furthest.

The latest half term project has also been given out this week - due date April Fool's day!



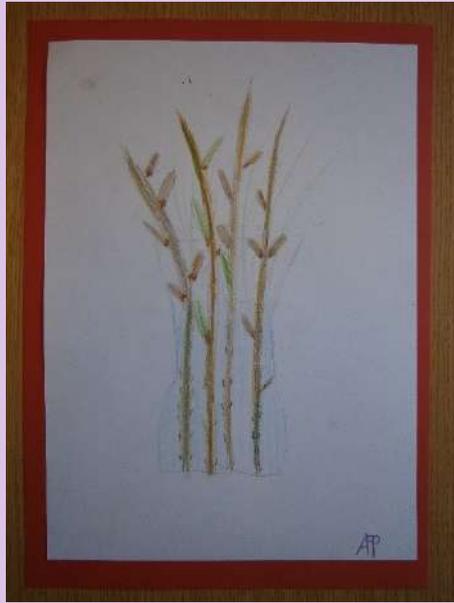
Year 4's music lesson this week was dedicated to exploring the world of brass instruments through an inspiring and entertaining demonstration by Sibford's visiting brass teacher, James Topp. James demonstrated a range of instruments from the hosepipe, trumpet, trombone to French horn and pupils enjoyed trying out their instrumental skills.

The music department is fortunate to have a good selection of brass instruments that are waiting to be played. If your child is interested in having a go please contact. nhomewood@sibfordschool.co.uk



Year 5

Year 5 have certainly been enjoying the sunshine and warm weather this week - nearly as much as the bees seen early this year. On Monday lunchtime, we watched dozens of the busy creatures as they gathered pollen from willow catkins, fascinated by their activities. We decided to gather a bunch and bring it indoors to sketch using aquarelle water colour pencils and were delighted with the results. The class all know that Hazel Sykes loves sketching and drawing but I think surprised themselves at what a calming activity it can be, requiring close observation of both form, colour and texture. It was interesting to see the children's different interpretations of what they could see in front of them; each had quite a different focus.



Year 6

Year 6 have boomed and cheered their way into the first week of term by acting out the parts of Groundlings (or Stinkards) as part of our work about Shakespeare and the Globe theatre. They re-enacted the journey across the Thames, clutching their 1 penny entrance fee, and then enjoyed a premier of Romeo and Juliet, starring Nicholas Hadley in his debut as the lovely Juliet!

In Geography, they have been looking at Mbarara, and making observations about how the environment and the climate effect the lives of the people who live and work there.

In History, we have been much closer to home, and have started to look at Sibford village, and how it has changed over the years, by comparing old and new photographs. Some of the children also investigated an interesting character called Theodore Lamb. They have also been studying a selection of maps and identifying how the landscape has changed over time.

In RE, 6AP have learnt about the Jewish celebration of Passover, and have experienced a Seder meal, while the 6NH maths group have been busy measuring out our Dig for Victory bed and converting feet and inches into centimetres, using the conversion graphs they have made.



Sport Reports

U11 High Five NOSPP Family Tournament - Home

On Tuesday afternoon we hosted the Under 11 Small Schools North Oxfordshire High 5 Netball Finals. After the success of House High 5 Netball before half term two teams were selected to represent us at these finals. The teams were competing against three other small schools in the North Oxfordshire area. The B team competed well in all their matches drawing the first game but when the team's confidence increased, so did their performances. They went on to win 2 of their final matches, only losing one against our own A team.

The A team produced many fantastic displays throughout the tournament with all players contributing to the team's success. They won all four of their matches in convincing fashion, scoring over 40 goals in their 4 games. Overall, Sibford A finished 1st and Sibford B finished 2nd, meaning both teams go on to represent North Oxfordshire at the school games finals in April. Well done to all pupils who played in the tournament. Special mention to Lara and Max who were awarded the Respect award for their teams.



Junior School Book Fair - Tuesday, 26th February to Monday, 4th March 2019

Our Book Fair starts Tuesday, 26th February and books will be on sale in the 'Early Birds'/3HA classroom from 26th Feb to 4th Mar - 4 - 5.20pm in readiness for World Book Day on Thursday, 7th March 2019. We are looking for parent volunteers to help run the Book fair, if anyone can help please let Lynne Singer know.

World Book Week 4th March to 8th March 2019

Monday 4th March Last day of Book Fayre
Children given reading challenge

Tuesday 5th March Teachers to read to another class

Wednesday 6th March Dressing up day: 'Myths and Legends'
Vertical Learning Morning

Thursday 7th March Normal school uniform.
KS2 visit to Jaffe and Neil book shop

Friday 8th March 2nd hand book sale. Books for 20p
Please do not send in more than £1.00.

Cystic Fibrosis Fund Raising

Henry and Dominic, two Sibford Senior School pupils will be walking the Cotswold way (102 miles) from Bath to Chipping Campden without stopping, to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. They aim to complete the walk within 30-32 hours. If you would like to support them and donate, please see the attached poster for full details.

Stratford Food Bank

Urgent appeal for UHT milk, UHT Juice and Rice. If you can help items can be dropped off at Tesco in Stratford or here at school in the trunk in the Hill Building Foyer. Thank you for your continued support.

Dates for the Diary

Monday, 4 th March	Junior School Parents Evening from 3pm onwards Junior School Book Fair, 3HA Classroom from 4.00 to 5.20pm
Tuesday, 5 th March	U11 Football/Netball Tournament at Home
Wednesday, 6 th March	Myths and Legends – Dress up Day
Thursday, 7 th March	World Book Day Visit to Jaffe & Neale Bookshop for Years 3-6
Friday, 8 th March	EYFS Stay and Play Session 10.30 – 11.45am Celebration Meeting (Year 5), Oliver Studio at 3.40pm
Friday, 15 th March	Whole School Open Morning U9 & U11 Football v Sibford Gower – H Music Meeting, Main Hall at 3.40pm