

Friday 25th February 2022

THERE WAS NEVER A GOOD WAR OR A BAD PEACE - BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

As a community, I know you will join me with your thoughts and well wishes for our peaceful friends in Ukraine. This must be a terribly anxious and scary time for all people who live in Eastern Europe. We have some Ukrainian families at our school - please, if you need any support or you feel your child needs to join some of our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) sessions, to try be unaware of the global sadness we are facing. If your child does ask, don't ignore it. Explain that some countries have disagreements and they make decisions that we do not agree with. Comfort them by showing them a global map so that they start to realise just how far away these countries are from us. Remind them that our country is not 'at war' or fighting with anyone else. You might also want to let them know that our country has lots of ways of keeping us safe, including working with 29 other countries if we ever found ourselves in trouble. It is also very important to note that many Russians strongly condemn this conflict. We too, wish them nothing but peace and resolve during this difficult time .

In happier news, we have got off to a great start this term. On Monday we had The Breck Foundation in school to run safer internet day assemblies and workshops with all KS1 children. You have been sent some more information via ParentMail. You are also invited to a parents virtual workshop on Tuesday 15th March @ 7pm, more information will be sent nearer the time. Next week we have the local police in to work with all children, talking to them about their jobs, when to use their service and showing off their gadgets and gizmos in their cars. Excitingly we have World Book Day next Thursday. Feel free to dress up, but of course this is not essential. Our letter sent this week will guide parents to alternative activities that your child can take part in. In assemblies this week I shared these newsletters with the children so we could talk about how much they have learnt at school over the last 20 weeks. They loved looking and remembering. Please continue to have these conversations at home. We continue to learn British Sign Language. This week we learnt number 1 - 10. It's not as simple and straight forward as you would think - ask your child to show you (··) this weekend. Have a truly peaceful and reflective weekend with your families. We are very lucky. Mr O'Shea



Sadly, we say goodbye to Miss Bateman at the end of next week as she relocates out of the area. Miss Bateman has worked tirelessly with children across the school and taught many of the classes. She will be so very sorely missed, but we are so excited for her next adventures in her new home and location. Goodbye and good luck from all of us!

A message from Miss Bateman

Over the last two years I have become so attached to this school and very close with all of the amazing staff who have made my time here so enjoyable. I have been lucky enough to support and teach such lovely children and I am extremely sad to be leaving them behind. Good luck to the Sapphire and Emerald children moving up to Year 3 this year - I will miss you all a lot! Thank you to all of the parents for your thoughtful (and very generous) past gifts and cards. Stay safe and have fun! Miss Bateman

COVID case updates will now be via newsletters on the final page

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Book fair 28/02 & 1/03 & 2/03

Police visit 2/03

World Book Day 3/03

PTA Hot Chocolate 4/03

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'What did you do today?' 'Nothing'

That's not true, take a look at this!

PICTURES FROM THE WEEK



Reception: How To Look After Your Dinosaur.' Dinosaur eggs arrived in Ruby and Diamond Class this week. They soon hatched and the children were given the responsibility of looking after the baby dinosaurs. They knew what they needed to be safe and healthy. The children enjoyed making shelters, bathing and even brushing their teeth. They have made dinosaur masks, learnt new dinosaur songs, dug for bones and made their own dinosaur fossils.

Phonics- we learnt the new sounds 'sh and 'th'

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Maths- we explored numbers that make 6,7 and 8.

Year 1 have been acting out and retelling the story of Little Red Riding Hood using stick puppets to support their writing this week. They wrote some lovely stories and the children loved using their puppets to help them. They started a new History topic of 'Homes in the Past'. The children learnt about Victorian homes particularly focusing on kitchens and compared the objects they might find in Victorian kitchens to items in their kitchens now. The children were surprised to hear that 150 years ago they wouldn't have had electricity! The children were also delighted to be able to use the iPads and Cubetto programmable toy during Computing as they started their programming topic.

Year 2: Inspired by the book "Tell Me a Dragon", we are planning a series of writing tasks in Year 2, relating to dragons over the next few weeks. On Wednesday the children conjured up their own imaginary dragons and wrote descriptions of their creature. We were impressed by their use of adjectives, similes and possessive apostrophes! We have continued our investigation of shapes this week, focusing on the properties of 3D shapes. In Science, they have been investigating which materials can be recycled, and looking at some of the processes involved in turning old materials into something new. Don't be surprised if the children are talking rubbish this weekend! Our studies in Geography have taken us to Brazil. The children have located Brazil on a world map, they have identified some of the big cities and discovered that the Amazon rainforest runs through Brazil. We have begun an exciting new design project in DT to create carnival masks! We are looking forward to World Book Day next week, and encourage you to celebrate reading and books. This week's homework is designed to encourage the children to see that reading is all around them, and opens up new worlds and possibilities!

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REDUCED TO CLEAR!

Grawley Ridge Infant Summer Dresses Were £16.95 Now £8.50

Brenda's

This clearance is for the striped style dresses. Please note that our school uniform policy is being updated. This year, children can wear striped and checked/gingham yellow summer dresses. More information to follow.

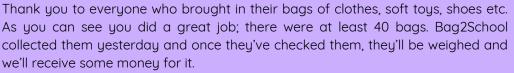
<u>Attendance</u>

Attendance at school is falling. All children must attend school unless unwell. We are monitoring all children and will call parents in for meetings if their child's attendance is below our expectations. Please report all absences to the school office.



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Twosday Tuesday went down well this week, and we have lots of coins to count! We'll let you know how much we raised next week.

Thank you too for all the books you've donated. We have sorted through them and they are ready for our after school book sales on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the nursery.

There are picture books, activity books, baby books, Christmas books, Disney books, phonics books, and fact books. Books for older children, and books for adults too.

There is also a table of free books, which aren't in perfect condition but still have life in them.

Prices: Children's books 20p each / Baby books 20p each / Adult books 50p each / Book sets £1-2

It's cash only at the book fair. We'll see you in the nursery after school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

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notices and reminders.





Parking is becoming a major issue. Erratic and dangerous driving will one day end up with one of our children seriously injured or killed. This is not an exaggeration. This is inevitable if a handful of parents continue to put themselves first and completely ignore the safety of our community. Parents found to be driving dangerously will be reported to the police.

Cases 21st - 25th $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{0}$ Yr 1 = 2Yr 2 = 1LOSS OF TASTE Total = 3

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