



The Infant Informative



Friday 13th January 2023

Issue 16

What a week. We have a fully functioning nursery! It is so lovely to see the little ones exploring their new classrooms and outside area. They have all settled in so incredibly well, parents should be really proud.

In the last newsletter I mentioned information about our donations that were collected during our performances. I am pleased to say that the figure is actually much more and we raised £301 (not £201) which will be split equally between our two chosen charities.

Sadly, parking and driving by parents in the morning and afternoon is still very dangerous, inconsiderate and unfair on those who drive responsibly. If you find yourself rushing in the mornings to get your children to school, then you should be leaving earlier, not driving faster. We are lucky that a child or adult has not been hit by a car - I fear it is only a matter of time. Please, do the right thing and plan your pick up and drop off with more care. The majority of our parents do this, I thank you all.

It is great to see so many children joining our after school clubs. Here is a photo of our yoga club. The children are really learning their new poses and increasing their core strength and stability.

I have mentioned Trick Box which is our scheme or work to teach children 'tricks' to regulate their feelings and behaviour. Next week the children will learn their first trick called 'mirror mirror'. This is all about children not only being able to talk about the poor choices they have made, but also to speak about the positive things they can say or do. It's really important for our mental health to be able to spot the good things we do, not focus on the negative.

I love children having their own watches, but some of them do everything but tell the time. Please make sure watches are sensible and not just toys. Have a great weekend with your families. Mr O'Shea :)



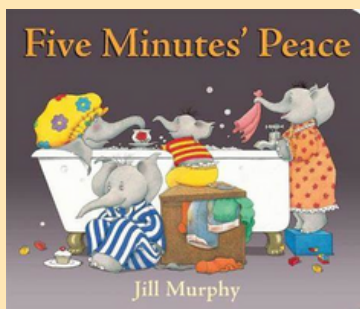
OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our school council met with Miss Saunders this week for their first meeting. There were lots of things to discuss but the main item on the agenda was how to make the school more ready, respectful and safe for the children in it. The council have expressed interest in wanting more structured activities during lunch time - we agree and think that's a great idea. We will start working on this.

They also wanted a karate club for lunchtime and swings in the playground... a little less likely - but if you don't ask, you don't get!

*A message from our Assistant Headteacher
Miss Saunders*

This week's recommended read is *Five minutes Peace* by Jill Murphy. After the business of Christmas, I am sure there are lots of parents and carers who are searching for five minutes peace - this is the heartwarming story of a mummy elephant who is trying to do just that.



DIARY DATES

- PTA Hot Chocolate Sale 3rd February 2023 15:00
- Parent Consultations W/B 6th February 2023
- The King's Coronation event 5th May 2023 from 13:30

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This week in early years, we have...

NUR

Our first week in Little Treasures has been a great one! We have enjoyed getting to know each other and exploring our environment. We have read stories, played games, shared with our new friends and played with a huge parachute! We even had a little ladybird visitor arrive in our outdoor area, which was the talk of the afternoon. The children have settled in well and have been having lots of fun.

Can you help? If you have any spare clothes (boys' and girls' pants and any joggers/leggings age 2-4) we would love them for the nursery. Please drop them off directly to the nursery or to the school office.

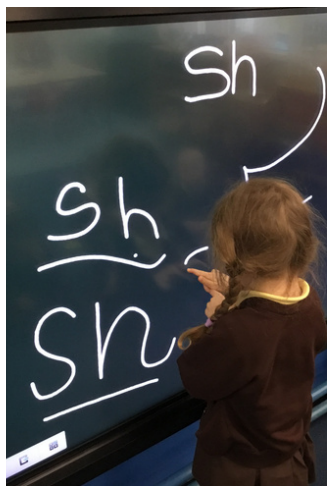


REC

This week we have been reading *Robin's Winter Song* which is all about the seasonal changes into and out of winter. We discussed the different seasons and how animals deal with them in their own ways. We went for a winter walk into the forest to see if we could spot any birds and then made our own bird feeders to encourage more birds into our playground. We listened to the different sounds birds make and tried to identify which bird they belonged to.

This week in maths we have been looking at sharing fairly so that amounts are equal, discussing when it is not equal that someone has more and the other person has less. We used sweets to share equally and even got our own fair share afterwards! The word altogether was also introduced, counting up the total between our two groups.

Our new sounds this week have been sh and th. We have collaged sheep, played with sharks, had a think, coloured sloths and compared thick and thin items as well as many more things!



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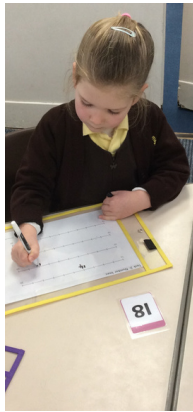




This week in KS1 we have...

YEAR 1

Although the weather has been miserable, Year One have been having so much fun this week. We went for a wet walk in the playground, looking at the materials that our play equipment is made from. We discussed why certain materials were used which involved lots of new vocabulary. This wet and windy weather has been really useful to support our new Geography topic - the weather. Other than snow, we have seen every type of weather in just one week! In computing we were looking at and making our own algorithms, using purple mash. We have continued learning about place value to 20 in maths. We are really getting the hang of tens and ones now. Our story of the week is *The Emperor's Egg* and we have made a start on writing our own fact books about penguins. The children thoroughly enjoyed dancing in our PE lesson this week.



YEAR 2

Year 2 have enthusiastically been learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables at every opportunity using knowledge of times tables, hundreds squares and arrays. We have also looked at how the 2 times table links to odd and even numbers. In science we have been learning about how habitats provide for the animals and plants that live there. We used this learning to support us in our English this week when writing a postcard to Sunny the meerkat from 'Meercat Mail' by Emily Gravett. We used popping punctuation to help remind us of the punctuation we needed to include in our writing.



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PTA news, events & clubs

Our January fundraiser '**Jump into 2023**' is well underway - Thank you to all the children and families for getting involved. Even in the wet weather there's plenty of ways to keep active!

Our goal: Raise sponsorship for getting active 23 ways in January 2023! Please return your sponsorship forms + money to the school office / PTA postbox by Friday 3rd February.

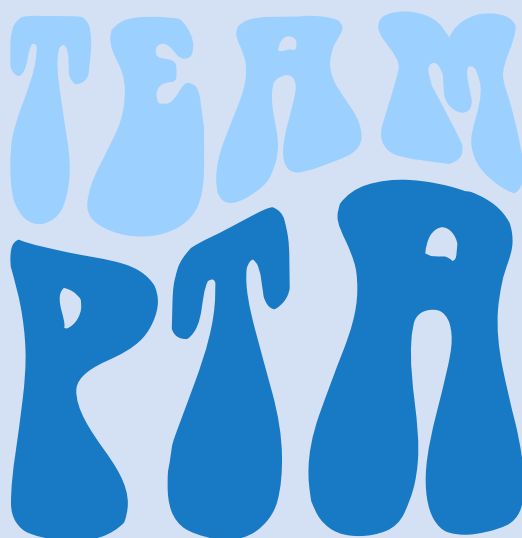
Nearly New Uniform

Stacey Muirhead has taken over the running of this. Please contact her via WhatsApp 07588 626777 (no mobile signal at home) if you need any uniform.

We are accepting uniform donations - items can be dropped into the school office but must be in clean, washed, nearly new condition please (no underwear / tights).

PTA committee

Part of the current committee (chair + treasurer) will be leaving the school in July and replacements are needed for the PTA to continue. If you're interested in finding out what is needed, have a chat with us. Now is a great time to shadow us!



CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Playball Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Playball Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Hotsteppers Dance Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Ultimate Coaching Year 1 & 2 Dodgeball 3pm - 4.15pm	Ultimate Coaching Year 1 & 2 Football 3pm - 4.15pm
Jam Coding Year 1 & 2 3.05pm – 4.00pm	Yoga Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm – 4pm	Playball Reception 3pm-3.45pm	Boogie Pumps Drama Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm – 4pm	

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Jump into 2023 - PTA



23 star jumps



23 arm circles



Jump up then
touch your
toes 23 times



23 bunny hops



Heel/toe
walk 23 times



Crouch down
and move for
23 seconds

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Reading stars & PANTS

NSPCC Pantosaurus

Along with many schools across the country, at Crawley Ridge Infant School we use the NSPCC Pantosaurus rule to help to teach children about keeping themselves safe. With the help of the friendly Pantosaurus dinosaur, adults, both at school and at home, can teach children about how to stay safe from abuse.

At a level appropriate for their own age, all children learn about how the parts of their bodies which are covered by their underwear are private parts and are not for other people to see or touch and how important it is to talk to someone about anything which upsets or worries them.

Pantosaurus Song

Meet Pantosaurus - our pant-wearing Dino! He wants every child to stay safe and strong, just like him, and he's on a mission to share an important message.

<https://youtu.be/-IL07JOGU5o>

Please visit the following link for advice on how to answer questions from children on this subject.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-how-to-answer-questions/>



READING STARS



New this term! When a child has read at home at least three times in the week and this is documented by an adult at home (reading record book signed three times) they will receive a golden star sticker. These will be stuck to the back of reading records. There is a competition to see which children at school will collect the most!! This will hopefully encourage children to ask and plead to read at home, which is the key to reading for pleasure.

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Reading - Oxford owl

Reading is the most important aspect of any school's curriculum. Reading inspires children, improves vocabulary and speaking, helps with writing and is a genuine life skill that opens the doors for your child's future.

All children will have a book issued to them. This will be in their bookbag. These books will be at your child's reading level. Books should be readable and not too challenging – children should be able to read them successfully. This improves the chances of children developing a love and passion for books. If they are too challenging, research shows reading then becomes a chore and is not as enjoyable for young readers. Children must also be able to comprehend/understand the book they have read.

Children in Reception will start their phonics lessons next week. For now, they will be issued with a wordless book. Children learn how to hold and use a book; turning the pages and talking about the images they see. Parents can ask questions such as:

- What can you see in the picture?
- What number is on the page?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What is your favourite picture - why?
- What part of the story would you change - why?

In addition to children's books in book bags, our school also has an online eLibrary. This allows teachers to allocate groups of books to children. These can be read at home on a laptop, iPad, tablet or mobile device. At school, we will monitor which children are using the eLibrary and prizes will be awarded to those participating consistently.

I cannot encourage and emphasise enough how important it is to read at home with and to your child. We will be running phonics workshops for parents this term to help empower you all to continue supporting your children at home.

Your child's login details are attached inside their reading record book/reading diary.

A full guide has been sent to all parents - please check your ParentMail



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