



The Infant Informative



Friday 24th February 2023

Issue 21

I hope you had an enjoyable half-term break. The children have said how much fun they had. Legoland and the zoo seemed like really popular choices!

Today marks 1 year since the invasion of Ukraine. Over the last 12 months we have seen countries pull together in solidarity to support the people of Ukraine as they fight for their democracy. Although today's assembly didn't speak directly about this milestone, we spoke a lot about respect for all people.

Next Friday is World Book Day, we have sent you information regarding the plan for the day. Get your wooden spoons ready. This is for all children that would like to take part, including nursery. Please make sure any costumes are not expensive and that all footwear is sensible to be worn at school. To celebrate and make the day even more special, we have an author coming to visit on Friday afternoon. The author's books will be on sale on the KS1 playground after school if you would like to purchase a copy - cash only.

Information regarding possible strike action has been sent to parents, please check your ParentMail.

This week we celebrated Pancake Day/Shrove Tuesday - the children loved their pancakes at lunchtime. We also spoke about the meaning of Ash Wednesday and how this is celebrated around the world.

Later in this newsletter you will see a lovely email sent from a charity we collected donations for during the Christmas period. Your generosity goes a long way!

Have a great weekend. Mr O'Shea :)



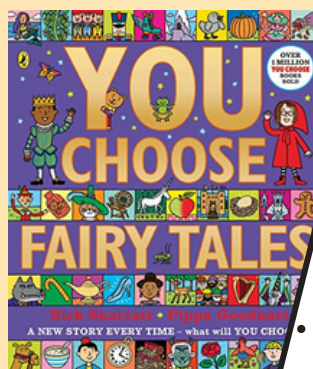
TRICK BOX

This week's new trick is called 'Stand Tall'

This trick teaches the children to recognise the power of body language in themselves and in others. We are learning that sometimes we get a funny feeling in our tummies when we feel worried, nervous or scared. This is called 'butterflies'. When this happens we can Stand Tall and say 'I can do it'. This will help us to do things we find difficult.

A message from our Assistant Headteacher
Miss Saunders

Inspired by World Book Day next week, as well as by Reception's look at fairy tales, I chosen another in the 'You Choose' series by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt. These World Book Day authors have created a book called *You Choose Fairy Tales* which really gets children talking about their favourite, familiar fairy tale characters - have a go at home! It's great fun!



DIARY DATES

- **Possible Strike Action**
Thursday 2nd March
- **World Book Day** (see letter sent before half-term) Friday 3rd March
- **Year 2 Samba workshop**
Wednesday 8th March
- **Year 1 school trip** Friday 24th March

Join us

<http://>

Ha





This week in early years, we have...

NUR

This week we have been enjoying the book ***The Big Pancake***. We have loved acting out the story, pretending to be the different animals trying to catch the runaway pancake! We have been making playdough pancakes, using our new skills of rolling, cutting and shaping the playdough. We have also been practising saying animal sounds in the mirror, looking at the shape our mouths make for each sound.

Outside, the children have been loving exploring ball runs, making them in different ways and investigating which objects will roll and which won't.



REC

We have been reading and enjoying the story ***Mr Wolf's Pancakes*** this week. On Tuesday we enjoyed making our own pancakes and choosing a topping. Later on in the week we then took part in pancake races. The story includes many characters from traditional tales that we have previously read. We discussed their characteristics and how they responded to the Wolf in the story.

In maths this week we have covered pairs (two together), days of the week, length and height (using the words shortest, shorter, longest, longer, tallest, taller). We also spoke about 'time' using language such as; yesterday, today, tomorrow, later, after.

Our phonics has been **recapping all of our sounds** so far and we have learnt the new harder to read and spell words **you** and **my**.



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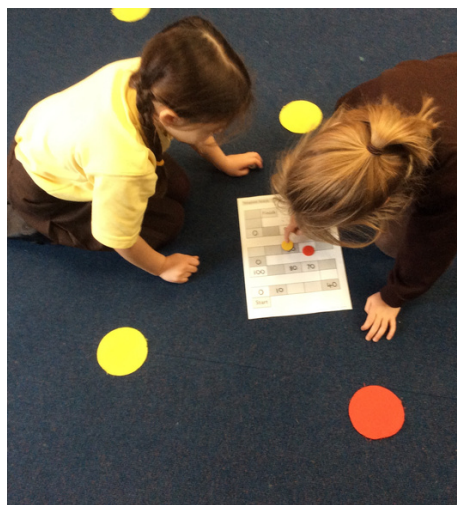


This week in KS1 we have...

YEAR 1

The children have come back after the half term break refreshed and raring to go. Those who wrote a diary in the holidays were very proud to share their adventures with the class. We started the week by reading the story of **Little Red Riding Hood**. The children thoroughly enjoyed making wanted posters for the wolf and retelling the story in their own words.

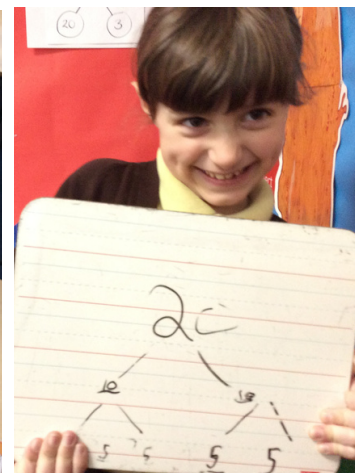
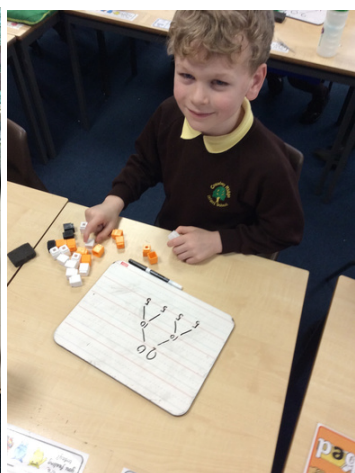
We have introduced a new topic of Victorian homes in History. We compared a Victorian Kitchen to our modern kitchens. The children were fascinated by some of the equipment that they had never seen before. We have been recapping and building on our maths skills this week by counting in 10s, making fact families and using our number bonds up to 20. We finished the week by painting in the style of Van Gogh and creating our versions of the very famous 'Sunflowers' paintings.



YEAR 2

The children were ecstatic to invite their families into school to see their dioramas. It was a special event and we hoped you enjoyed it as much as we did.

This week we have started our learning of fractions. The children have identified fractions of a shape and are beginning to find $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a number. In science we have recapped our knowledge of properties of materials and begun to link this to recycling. The children identified materials that can be recycled and looked at the recycling process of a plastic bottle. During English we have discovered we can also use an apostrophe for possession as well as for contraction. We have applied this to designing wonderful dragons. Look out though as our dragons have escaped! We have written excellent wanted posters describing their appearance and even offering a reward!



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PTA news, events & clubs

Thanks to everyone who supported our Hot Chocolate and Cookie sale on 3rd Feb - we raised £107!

Mother's Day Gifts

Will be ready to collect on Tuesday 14th March.

Bags2School (23rd March)

We all have clothing in our wardrobe we haven't worn in ages, so we have organised a clothes recycling collection on 23rd March. Donations can be left in the reception playground at pick up on 22nd March or drop off on 23rd March. Please do not bring them before this date as they cannot be stored and kept dry.

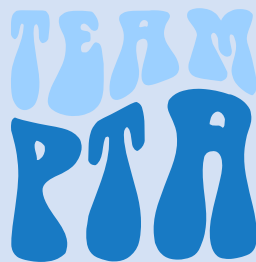
- They accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE * Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing * Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around) * Handbags * Hats * Bags * Scarves and ties * Jewellery * Lingerie * Socks * Belts * Soft toys * Household linen * Household curtains * Household towels * Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)
- *They DO NOT* accept * Duvets and blankets * Pillows and cushions * Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats) * Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing * School uniforms with and without logo * Corporate clothing and workwear * Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Nearly New Uniform

Please contact Stacey Muirhead via WhatsApp 07588 626777 if you'd like any uniform.

PTA committee

The Chair, Treasurer and Portal roles will be vacant from September - would you like to help out so we can keep the PTA going next school year? Perhaps you would like to shadow us this term to see what's involved? We are a small, friendly team that welcome all ideas to fundraise so that we can enhance the lives of all our children while at school.



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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Thank you & PANTS

We would like to thank everyone at Crawley Ridge Infant School and especially the School Council for the very generous donation of £150.65.

The money will be used to fund our next project which will be the development of a new blood test for children with brain tumours. The test will give doctors much more information about the child's tumour than is currently available from any test that does not involve surgery.

Testing brain tumours has always been a huge problem and there is now a new technology which can test brain cells that are in the blood. This is a very advanced technology and it has been developed in Britain.

Funding from Crawley Ridge Infant School will allow us to embark on this project which will be a world first. Only when we are sure that we can develop and approve a diagnostic test which will be available to all children in England as part of NHS Standard Care will we proceed.

Developments in Genomic technologies are moving forward at a pace unthought-of even ten years ago. It is our aim to exploit these technologies to help children with an unmet need. We will ensure that any test we fund is taken through to approval by the NHS. By developing these tests, doctors will, for the first time be able to understand the genetic abnormalities in a child's tumour during treatment and the same test can be used for early detection of relapse.

With many thanks again for your much needed support and very best wishes.

Karen Capel

Kevin Capel

Christopher's
Smile



coz kids get cancer too

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/>

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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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