







FRIDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

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## **Parent Consultations**

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you who attended the recent parent consultation meetings. Your engagement and feedback have been incredibly insightful, showcasing the remarkable journey our pupils are on in their educational pursuits. Many of you shared positive observations on how much your children have learned, noting the impressive presentation and the high standard of work displayed in their books. It is truly rewarding to hear about the excitement and enthusiasm our pupils express at home when discussing their learning adventures.

Your feedback also highlighted the significant progress made by our pupils, a testament to their hard work and our dedicated teaching staff's support. It reinforces our commitment to fostering an educational environment that is not only academically stimulating but also encourages curiosity, inclusivity, diversity, and challenge. We believe that these pillars are essential for providing all our children with a strong and positive start to their lifelong learning journey.

If you were unable to attend your consultation, please arrange a meeting with your child's teacher at your earliest convenience.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to building on these successes and further enriching our pupils' learning experiences.

Mrs. Jones

#### Some recent feedback from our parent body.

"Lots of fun practical work. Good transition support in the mornings. Opportunities for going deeper/challenges."

"I love that the entire early years experience is set up to be a nurturing environment to develop all areas of learning in a safe space full of evident very genuine care and love from all the early years staff. They are all a fantastic credit to the school."

#### **Careers Week**

In celebration of Careers Week, we have had the pleasure of welcoming several parents who generously took the time to share insights into their professions and the paths to pursue similar careers. The children have been thrilled to explore a variety of job sectors, sparking inspiration and curiosity among many.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all parents who shared their experiences and knowledge. Your contributions have enriched our Careers Week, providing valuable learning experiences and opening new horizons for our children. Thank you for your invaluable support and for inspiring the next generation.

More highlights of the week will also be in our next newsletter.











## **Head of School Advert**

We are pleased to announce that we will soon be advertising for the permanent position of Head of School for our Infant School. Mrs. Hussey has graciously served in an interim capacity, providing steady leadership and invaluable contributions during her tenure. We extend our deepest thanks to Mrs. Hussey for her dedication and service. The upcoming advertisement marks a significant step towards securing a permanent leader who will continue to build on the solid foundation established. We will continue to update you on the progress for this pivotal role in our school community.

# Celebrating Excellence in Science: Quality Mark Achievement

We are thrilled to share that both our schools have been awarded the prestigious Quality Mark for Science, a testament to our exceptional Science curriculum and the principles of teaching and learning. This accolade recognises our commitment to fostering a rich learning environment where scientific inquiry and exploration are at the heart of our curriculum. Our dedicated teachers and curious children have worked hand in hand to achieve excellence in science, making this achievement possible. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to our entire school community for this remarkable accomplishment and thank Mrs. Degg for all her hard work in putting the evidence together and leading Science in our schools. Together, we look forward to continuing to inspire and nurture the next generation of scientists and innovators.

# **Number Day**

We are thrilled to share the highlights from our recent Number Day celebration! Our school was buzzing with excitement as children arrived dressed in an array of numbers, showcasing their creativity and enthusiasm for mathematics. The day was packed with fun activities designed to deepen their understanding and love for numbers. From engaging math games to interactive lessons, our children demonstrated impressive numeracy skills and a keen interest in exploring mathematical concepts. This special day not only celebrated their knowledge but also highlighted the joy of learning math in a dynamic and supportive environment.













#### **Chinese New Year**

Recently, children in Reception delved into 'The Great Race,' a story celebrating Chinese New Year, captivating our children with the adventurous journey of the zodiac animals across the river. Through reenactments and explorations, the children connected with the rich traditions of the Chinese Zodiac, discovering the years our Reception children were born under, such as the Dog and the Pig. As the children embraced the festivities of the Chinese New Year, we invite you to find out which zodiac animal represents your birth year. In 2024, we celebrate the year of the dragon, symbolising strength and fortune. Join us in this cultural exploration and share your zodiac animal with us!





#### Δrt

Last term in Art, our Year 2 children embarked on a creative journey exploring textures to craft artwork inspired by the 'Great Fire of London'. They skilfully applied their newfound techniques to their final creations, drawing on historical knowledge to construct Tudor houses using materials like lollipop sticks, straws, and paper. The final touches included the addition of flames to their pieces, employing textured paint or collage methods to bring their fiery visions to life.











# **Science Trip**

During science lessons last term, Year 2 ventured to the park to extend their studies on habitats. Engaging directly with the environment, the children applied their understanding of how habitats support survival, specifically observing caterpillar camouflage using wool as stand-ins. This hands-on experience enabled them to pinpoint micro-habitats, leveraging their knowledge of life processes to distinguish between living and non-living elements. A highlight for Lily was mapping the diverse micro-habitats discovered, encapsulating the joy, and learning of the day.



## **Hot Seating**

Our EYFS children are delighting in the art of storytelling through a lively activity known as "character hot seating." This engaging strategy allows the children to dive into the world of their favourite tales by assuming the roles of characters and exploring stories in depth through interactive questioning. It is a joy to see them not only embodying story characters but also having the opportunity to interact with these characters, bringing the magic of storytelling to life!



#### Some benefits of hot seating:

**Enhances Comprehension Skills:** By actively participating in storytelling, children deepen their understanding of the narrative, characters, and underlying themes. This interactive approach helps them grasp complex concepts and story structures more effectively than passive listening or reading.

#### **Promotes Empathy and Emotional**

**Intelligence:** Taking on the role of a character allows children to see the world from different perspectives. This fosters empathy and emotional intelligence as they experience a range of emotions and viewpoints, which is crucial for their social and emotional development.

**Boosts Communication Skills:** Engaging in questioning and dialogue as part of character exploration improves verbal communication skills. Children learn to articulate thoughts, ask insightful questions, and listen actively, which are essential skills for successful interactions.









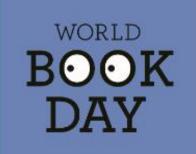












# Create a Story Spoon Character

Using a wooden spoon, create one of your favourite book characters as part of our World Book Day celebrations!

There will be a winner per year group. Entries will be donated to our school to help develop our story areas.

Bring your entries to Elm Class. The deadline is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.











Nominations for being an Inclusive Learner		
Cedar	Conor	
Ash	Luca	
Oak	Frank	
Beech	Sienna	
Poplar	Florence	
Willow	Lena	
Holly	Alice C	
Elm	Arthur	
Sycamore	Jad	
Keller	Daniel	
Seacole	Isaac	
Barnardo	Emilia	
Attenborough	Jessica	
Curie	Cotehele	
Hawking	Romilly	
Gandhi	Sophie	
King	Beatrix	
Mandela	Amelie	
Pankhurst	Isra	
Douglass	All of Douglass class	
Dickens	Stanley	











Enterprising Learner	
Cedar	Ruby
Ash	Teddy N
Oak	Jacob
Beech	Raiyan
Poplar	Jayden
Willow	Light of Jesus
Holly	Seth
Elm	Lucy
Sycamore	Theo
Keller	Annabelle
Seacole	Ве
Barnardo	William
Attenborough	Lila
Curie	Eleanor and Evie
Hawking	Nikita
Gandhi	Sonny N
King	Cowin
Mandela	Lacey
Pankhurst	Eva
Douglass	Lauren
Dickens	Lily-Rose

Nominations for being an



# March 2024

Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day	
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	International Women's Day Mother's Day (10 <sup>th</sup> )	
	PTFA Adults Social	
11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> British Science Week		
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Day (17 <sup>th</sup> )	
18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> Last Week of Internal Afterschool Clubs		







