

THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

27th March 2015 – Issue 26



Dear Parents and Carers

Well, as far as weeks go I don't think it could have been more exciting! We started the week with the delivery of our Living Eggs which were 19 days old. By next morning there were cracks in two of the 10 eggs and when I arrived in school on Wednesday morning there were nine chicks with the last one working hard to break free. Children at the Breakfast Club watched in awe and amazement as it hatched.



The brood have developed and grown and are all thriving in their 'house' in my office. Year 1 are now tracking their progress by very carefully weighing and measuring them. It has been an incredible journey and experience, not just for them but for all the staff and pupils too who have photographed and held them. I hope you have enjoyed the pictures I have been tweeting of them.

On Monday afternoon 17 of our pupils had a taster football session with Tekkers, and another group will be able to 'have a go' on Monday. We will be sending home information of all the after-school clubs for the summer terms next week. Tuesday brought the mobile Planetarium which nudged up the roof tiles in our assembly hall when inflated! Though the content and language was quite advanced for them, the children really enjoyed the experience.

My whole school assembly focus this week has been about 'care': care for others and care for the environment we live in. I do hope the children have come home and asked to look at tins, boxes and packets to see if they can be recycled as this is a real focus for the school at the moment.

What else have we been up to?

Reception

In addition to the excitement of the Living Eggs and mobile Planetarium, the Reception classes have been writing acrostic poems about Spring and planting wild flower, pea and sunflower seeds in pots and borders as well as strawberry and raspberry plants in wellington boots and a raised bed. They have also made some wonderful Easter cards. The classes have continued to focus on healthy living and why sleep is so important. In Maths they have been ordering random numbers.



Year 1

Year 1 began the week with a walk around Westfield Road Park (see photo below), looking for signs of spring. We found 'soft, furry buds', 'sunny daffodils', 'pale pink blossom' and 'baby green leaves' and started thinking about life cycles of plants and animals. We thought about Spring weather and April showers, and investigated rain poems; generating our own movements and music in response to different rhymes. We also worked in pairs to create our own (non-rhyming) rain poems, which we are very proud of.

We started to learn about Easter and the Christian Easter story, and the symbolic relevance to Christians of Hot Cross Buns, eggs and chicks.

In Maths we have been looking at money and trying to calculate the correct change from 10p and 20p using our number bond knowledge. We have been working on relating number bonds to 10 to number bonds to 20, ie if we know that $7+3=10$, then $17+3=20$. We have also been looking again at algorithms, and creating an algorithm for a friend to follow - more on this next week...

SUMMER UNIFORM

After the Easter holidays we are looking forward to the children returning in their summer uniform.

NEW MENUS FOR SUMMER TERMS

The new summer menus have been agreed and are being sent with this edition of Highlights. Please check through and let us know by next Thursday 2nd April if you wish to make any changes to the meal plan your child is registered for. We must have this information by Thursday morning to ensure our order is correct and ready for first day back.

CLASS PHOTOS

Your classroom has an example of the Class Photo for you to see. Please remember the deadline for orders is Thursday 2nd April.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PERMANENT SITE

It was great to see so many of you at the Public Meeting on Wednesday evening. Thank you for your interest and support. It was a really positive and constructive meeting and we are looking forward to a final decision about our permanent site. I do hope you will all participate in the Consultation which starts on Monday 30th March.

EXPANSION OF THE TEMPORARY SITE

We were delighted to learn that the EFA have agreed to fund an expansion of the accommodation on our temporary site next year. We are really grateful to Rob Wilson MP for lobbying hard on our behalf and we are all working hard to agree what can be built and by when. We will keep you informed of all progress.

AWNING CONSTRUCTION

Thank you to Craig Dolby, Jerry and all the parents who gave up their time to help with the awnings last Saturday. It looks fantastic. We are hoping we can complete the majority of top panels on Saturday 25th April: do let us know if you will be able to help.

CCTV CAMERAS

We have installed CCTV cameras around the outside of the school which are recording 24/7 to assist in the security of the site. Many thanks to our IT Technician, Matt Eustace, for setting this up.

READING HALF MARATHON

Congratulations to Mr Crispin, Jeni Carter, Vanessa Mann, Mr Lowe, Rachel Crisford, Lisa Bramley and Kerry Parr who all ran the Reading Half Marathon last Sunday.

DATES TO NOTE

Thursday 2 nd April	Term 4 - school closes at 1.30pm
Monday 20 th April	Term 5 - school opens 8.45am

SPOTLIGHT

Our spotlight falls on Ruby Miller, Rose Wood, Emma Wood and Sophie Spall for **swimming and water skills**. Well done everyone.

PUPILS OF THE WEEK: Awards were handed to the following this afternoon: Alex Callaghan and Joshua Packer (Mrs Rizvi's Class); Emma Wood and Umar Qadeer (Mr Crispin's Class); Daniel Muhammad Nizar and Jack Winder (Y1). Congratulations to all of them.



Mrs Edwards
Headteacher

