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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Chinese New Year and Year of the Tiger! Thank you so much to Chloe and Jacob's, Florence and Ethan's, Karen and Lewis' and Yingnan's mums for coming into school and leading some sessions about how Chinese New Year is celebrated with our Reception and KS1 children. They learnt so much!



We welcomed Miss Zbroch to our staff team this week. She is working as TA across different classes and we are delighted that she's joined our school community.



Reception

In Reception this week, we've been unpicking clues to help us identify different dinosaurs. We've made paper plate dinosaurs in school and some of us have created fossils from Lego, Duplo and other materials at home. We've been learning two new digraphs, igh and oa in Phonics and practising writing the letters d and g. Mr Ellison has said how impressed he is with us in our PE lessons on a Wednesday and we're really enjoying the peer massage sessions we have. We also loved the assembly we had about Chinese New Year.

Year 1

We also enjoyed learning about the traditions and celebrations that take place over Chinese New Year and had fun acting out the story.

In our Space topic, we've continued to learn about our solar system and used our knowledge of the key features of instructional texts, to write our own set of instructions for building a space rocket.

It's been really interesting learning about Neil Armstrong and Helen Sharman and their significant contributions to space history and we can't wait to build the rockets we've designed. In Maths we've been working on multiplication and division and in IT we've begun Dance Mat Typing.

Year 2

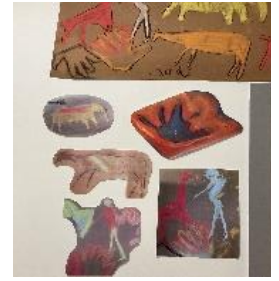
The Chinese New Year dumpling workshops were amazing! Thank you so much to Yingnan, Lewis, Jacob and Florence's mums for coming in and leading them. As well as the workshops at the beginning of the week, we've been learning how to proofread and improve a piece of writing, using our descriptions of the chocolate factory. Our IT/Computing lesson also linked to our topic, as we're learning to create stop motion videos, involving a scene from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. In Maths we've been using arrays to investigate the relationship between multiplication and division and in Science, we

completed an experiment to investigate the importance of washing our hands.



Year 3

At the start of the week, we learnt about different Stone Age animals, in preparation for us writing some poems. We created a wanted poster for a Stone Age animal, using expanded noun phrases and other descriptive language to describe it. We then looked at a secrets poem, before planning and publishing our own 'How to make a (Stone Age animal)' poems. We've also been Stone Age artists and created our own cave paintings, using our handprint and animal silhouettes with charcoal. In Guided Reading, we've been looking at another poem called 'The Book' and using our inference skills to find clues in the text and work out who the speaking character is in it and in IT, we created a Stone Age mash cam, where we described a typical day from a Stone Age person's perspective. In Science we've begun a new unit of work on 'light' and have been learning about different sources of light, how we need light to see and how darkness is an absence of light.



Year 4

This week, we started planning our diaries based on a character from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. We focused on time adverbials (with commas), personal emotions and opinions, as well as first person and past tense. In Art, we've been busy planning our Narnia wardrobe scenes in our sketchbooks and loved adding drama to our scenes with actual twigs and leaves. In our History lessons, we looked at the successful invasion of Britain in 43AD by Claudius and learnt how he was interested in Britain's valuable metals, such as gold and silver, as well as its good farmland. In Science we carried out an investigation, observing how water evaporates throughout the day and tried to ensure that our tests were fair.

Year 5

This week in English, we've been considering the reliability of a source and analysing and evaluating evidence. We used evidence to debate whether the moon landings of 1969 actually happened and worked in teams, researching information to support our points and listening to others. After our debate, we wrote a balanced argument, putting forward points for and against, using evidence to strengthen our points. In Geography we've been using four or six figure grid references to locate places on a map and in Maths we've begun a unit on fractions. Music was great fun, as we used glockenspiels, alongside percussion instruments, to compose our own science fiction theme tune.



Year 6

In our topic lessons this week, we've been exploring the spiritual and social beliefs and traditions of some of the more widespread Native American tribes. We learnt how the native people held strong beliefs about the importance of nature and the traditional rituals that still persist in their culture to this day. In Art, we've been looking into the aspects of Native American art related to nature and animals and discovered that the tribes of Native America were inspired by the nature around them, and paid special homage to them in their depictions. In English we published our final versions of our fables and then started a new topic of myths and legends. In Maths, we've started to explore the concept of co-ordinates, examining some basic transformations of points and shapes on the 2D plane and learning how to read Cartesian co-ordinates across 4 quadrants.

Good luck and congratulations to the following Year 4 boys and their Caversham AFC teammates, who have made it to and will be playing in the Berkshire Youth Development League Cup semi-final tomorrow: Dom, Max, Ben, Lucas, Noah, Harry & Oscar. What a fantastic achievement!

Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Longridge Meeting for Parents (Current Year 3)	Wednesday 9 th February - 4.45-5.45pm
Year 6 Parent Invitation - Books	Thursday 10 th February 8.45-9.15am
Half Term	Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February
Virtual Reality Experience - Years 1 & 2	Tuesday 1 st March
Winchester Science Centre - Year 5	Monday 7 th March
Winchester Science Centre - Year 1 (Details to follow)	Tuesday 8 th March
Earth Trust Visit - Year 3	Tuesday 22 nd March
Parent Consultations All classes EXCEPT Elm, Hawthorn, Rowan & Maple	Tuesday 22 nd March 4.40-7.30pm
Parent Consultations ONLY Elm, Hawthorn, Rowan and Maple	Thursday 24 th March 4.40-7.30pm
Parent Consultations ALL Classes	Tuesday 29 th March 3.40-6.00pm
Additional INSET Day (Queen's Platinum Jubilee)	Monday 6 th June

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards