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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,

We have had another super week at school and are so impressed with how the children are adapting to all the change they are experiencing, particularly at the start of a new year. When you walk around the school, there is a lovely sense of calm and purpose, with the children very happy to talk about what they are doing and learning. The School Councillors all met with Mrs Cook for the first time yesterday afternoon and the Eco Councillors met with Mrs Fallon and myself. The reps from both councils then introduced themselves in the whole school assembly and talked about their plans and aims for the year.

We have our first X country event of this new academic year tomorrow at Greys Court in Henley. The first race, which is for the Year 1s, is at 9am. I'm really looking forward to seeing some of you there.

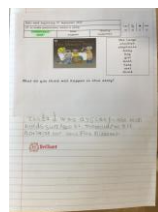
Reception

We have had so much fun this week and are so pleased with ourselves. On Tuesday, we stayed at school for our first lunchtime and ate Spaghetti Bolognese in the lunch hall. It was really tasty, if not a little tricky to eat - but we impressed all the staff with how we used our cutlery, ate our food and just took it all in our stride. We have enjoyed learning about how we can use our different indoor and outdoor areas and how we can make our classroom a good classroom.

We have also drawn a picture of our choice and tried to write our names. Mrs Bentley and Mrs Farina have said that we will be amazed at how much our mark making and writing will change over the year.

Year 1

This week in English, we began our work on *Five Minutes Peace*, by the author Jill Murphy. We predicted what will happen in the story, described our own family and wrote questions for the 'Large' family, expressing our opinion on the story. We have continued to practise our mental maths, including counting forwards and backwards and number bonds to 10 and in Science we have been learning the months of the year and how they 'fit' within the seasons. The change in seasonal weather recently, is posing challenging questions regarding typical weather for the time of year. We loved our first lesson of Tag Rugby with Performance Sport and making a map of the KS1 area at school in our geography lesson.



Year 2

On Monday we took part in a Big Write and wrote a story based on the book 'The Egg' by MP Robertson. In Maths we built on our place value work from last week and have learnt how to partition 2 and 3 digit numbers into tens and ones. In ICT we have been learning about being safe online and in our topic work, we have been looking at sketching techniques and designing and then creating our own close up picture of a dragon's eye.



Year 3

This week in English, we started to read 'There's a Pharaoh in our Bath!', by Jeremy Strong. We designed our own eye-catching book cover using only the blurb to inspire us and then wrote a descriptive paragraph about the main character, Sennapod. In Science we have been experimenting with different resources to see how objects can move in different ways and identified the force making this happen. In our topic work, we have been exploring what an ancient civilization means and looked at an overview of different worldwide civilizations, such as the Shang Dynasty, Indus Valley, Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece. We then discussed where Ancient Egypt lies within the context of other civilizations.

Year 4

In English this week, we have continued our learning about fables. We explored what the moral of a story means and then had a go at creating our own, before planning our own 'Just so story', explaining how an animal got a certain feature. We had fun creating a 3D map out of modelling clay to represent the topography of South America and its physical geography and then painting them. What do you think of the photos of some of them? In IT we've been researching an animal from the rainforest and in Science we've been creating a classification key to categorise different vertebrates.



Year 5

This week we've been drawing on what we have read of Beowulf so far, to write a detailed description of the titular character. In our topic work we looked at the timeline from the end of the Roman era up to the Norman Conquest and then some of us wrote a diary entry whilst others created a story board. We're using Scratch to help us develop our coding skills this term and have really enjoyed learning and singing 'Livin' on a prayer by Bon Jovi in our music lesson.

Year 6

We have been given pupil planners to help us record and organise different things that we need to do both in school and at home. This will help with our transition to Secondary school next year. In English we've been working on how we can use punctuation for effect and clarity and in IT we've been creating e-safety posters aimed at children lower down the school. We're really enjoying our topic of evolution and inheritance and have started to look at how natural selection affects the adaptations passed down through the genes. Below are some 'observing like a scientist' drawings of insects that we have done this week.



Late Drop off Items

Please can we urge parents to help their child pack all the things they need for their school day, including snacks for afterschool club. The number of forgotten items being dropped off takes staff away from important teaching time. If snacks are dropped off for an after school club please inform the club provider as well as the school office.

Parent Class Rep Meeting

Mrs Fallon and I are looking forward to our first meeting with the parent class reps on Monday morning.

Lost Property

Are any of these items yours? If so feel free to come to the school office to collect.



Twitter

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Dates for the Diary

X Country - Greys Court	16 th September
Flu Immunisations R - Y6	19 th September
SEND Coffee Morning	20 th September
Secondary School Information Fayre Y5 & 6	20 th September
Jeans for Genes day	22 nd September
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	26 th September
Year 2 Warwick Castle Trip	27 th September
Year 4 Longridge trip	27 th - 29 th September
The Heights Annual Golf Day	28 th September
X Country - MECE	7 th October
Year 6 Skernlodge trip	9 th - 13 th October
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	17 th October
Half Term	23 rd - 27 th October

I hope you have a great weekend.

Mrs Edwards