



STEBBING SPOTLIGHT

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 27th November
Kestrels' Forest School Day

Wednesday 28th November
Open Afternoon for September 2019

Thursday 29th November
3-3.30pm
Parents invited in for a Book Look

AFSS Quiz Night
Friday 30th November

Wednesday 5th December
Wrens' Dinosaur Day

Friday 7th December
Children's Christmas Market
Christmas Jumper Day
Bring a Bottle

Friday 7th December 3.00-5.00pm
Christmas Fayre

See also the Christmas dates
on the Diary Page at the back
of this Spotlight

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ISSUE 78

HEADTEACHER

The next few weeks will be incredibly busy! There are many exciting events - please see the Christmas calendar sent out a couple of weeks ago or take a look at the calendar on the school website.

We will be sending out a letter over the next few days detailing the Christmas productions and how to obtain tickets for these.

We are looking to have our hall floor refurbished over the next few months and wondered if any families knew of a company who could either sponsor part of this work or point us in the right direction for sponsorship/companies to quote for the work. We know this is a costly venture so any help we can get will be fantastic! Please speak to me if you do.

Thank you.

COMMUNITY COHESION

We were really lucky to have Darren from Dance Days, visit us on Thursday to do some South African dancing. The children (as always) enjoyed every minute and we look forward to next time!

A huge thank you to the AFSS for organising such a fantastic event for the Remembrance day run held at the school. Once again this was such a success and raised lots of money for the school.

This money will go towards funding new sound equipment for the school hall. We hope to have this in time for our Christmas productions.

NOTES

As the weather gets colder please ensure your children have a warm coat and layers to keep them warm at break and lunch. Please ensure children wear sensible school shoes or boots. Also please ensure ALL items of clothing have brought to school are named.

Congratulations for the best Attendance

Friday 16th November - Owls

Friday 23rd November - Owls

SPORTING EVENTS

The sporting events are coming thick and fast before the Christmas break. Last week, we took nine children to compete in the Uttlesford finals for the Cross Country. All of the children performed superbly and put in 100% effort with a smile on their face as they competed against all of the schools from the Uttlesford area. Congratulations to Rufus, Violet, Rafae and Rebe who will be representing the school at the Essex finals after Christmas having finished in the top 5 children in their races.

On Friday, the year 5/6 tag rugby squads were in action as they attended the family tag rugby tournament at Dunmow St Mary's Primary School where they competed against 14 schools from the local area. The children applied their skills superbly and developed their game play tactics throughout the tournament to come in 6th and 11th place overall.

This week, the year 5/6 Sports Hall Athletics took place at Felsted Independent School on Friday afternoon where 21 children took part in a range of indoor athletics events. All of the children competed in their own individual events superbly. Keep an eye on Class Dojo to see how we got on.

Following the Sports Hall Athletics, a selected group of year 6 children were chosen to attend the talent camp trials at Great Dunmow Leisure Centre where they were put through their paces in a range of sports aptitude style tests to determine who will be selected to attend the talent camp in the new year.

Mr Le Masurier

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARDS

Friday 16th November

Friday 23rd November

Wrens: Ethan Thorp & Emilee Atkins

Kingfishers: William Ririe & Florrie Hale

Woodpeckers: Ellode Lyons & Edward Carey

Kestrels: Isla Purkiss & Madeline Warren

Owls: Jess Clark & Sophie Wallbank

No sharing assembly due to Wrens, Kingfishers & Woodpeckers being on their school trip.

AFSS

Thank you to everyone that supported last Friday's disco. Special thanks go to the Anna & Lawrence Fage - without them the discos may not even happen!

Two events coming up! Both big!

-Friday 30th November - AFSS Quiz Night - 2 tables remaining! Plus Non-Uniform Day - Chocolate donations please!

-Friday 7th December - Children's Christmas Market in the morning & the Christmas Fayre in the afternoon (3-5pm).
Christmas Jumper Day - Bottle donations please!

For the Christmas Fayre we are hoping to run two tombolas - the traditional bottle tombola and a chocolate tombola, which we hope will be a hit with children and adults alike!

Next Friday, the 30th November, is a non-uniform day - could we please ask you for donations of anything chocolate related - it does not have to be Christmas related and can be absolutely anything chocolatey!

Then on the actual Fayre day, the 7th December, the children (and adults!) will be invited to wear Christmas jumpers for the day! Could we please ask for bottle donations - bottles of absolutely anything!

We hope to see lots of you at these events! Thank you - the AFSS Team.

WRENS

Wrens have had a lovely couple of weeks continuing our dinosaur topic and having a week focused on penguins. We have really enjoyed using non-fiction texts to retrieve information. The year 1 children enjoyed writing facts to create fact files about different dinosaurs. This week in English we wrote penguin poems to describe what they look and feel like. It was lovely to hear lots of the adjectives the children chose to use. We also read the story of lost and found - the children created story maps and used the small world toys to act it out. The year one children focused on identifying the characters, settings and main events in the story too. In Maths we have continued to focus on addition and subtraction. There have been lots of activities such as subtraction squish and subtraction towers for the children to complete as challenges. The year 1 children really focused on what the addition, subtraction and equals symbols looked like and how we use these within number sentences. We have continued to consolidate our number knowledge to 10. The children and adults had the most amazing Christmassy day at the zoo today. Their behaviour was fantastic and they learnt a lot about the animals we saw - especially the penguins! I am looking forward to more dinosaur fun next week!

KINGFISHERS

Christmas production rehearsals are underway! If we say so ourselves it is looking fabulous. We have been working hard on our facial expressions, intonation of delivering lines, body language, and, of course, remembering lines or song words. Kingfishers have continued to work really hard on their reading - making massive progress, impressing us each week with the new words they are decoding, their recognition of suffixes and contractions, and their understanding of stories. We have been practising a blending technique called 'Snowballing' and already this is helping us read long and tricky words. We were very proud to demonstrate this skill to our parents this week when they came in to watch us learn. This week in Maths we consolidated our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes, and began to work with money. In English we have learned about verbs, past tense, and have been adding verbs to our sentences and dinosaur stories. We also enjoyed another Darren Dance day and did some creativity about South Africa. Finally, to top off our fabulous week; we were incredibly fortunate to go to Colchester Zoo with Wrens and Woodpeckers! We got to have a special visit with Father Christmas, to meet and learn about the zoo's penguins. While walking around the zoo the Kingfishers were looking out for Science information we have learned; about whether the animals were carnivores, herbivores or omnivores, and which animal family they belonged to, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects.

WOODPECKERS

We've really been working hard in Maths as we move through our addition and subtraction unit working on the column methods and into our multiplication and division focus. This unit is requiring lots of focus on our times tables and reminding ourselves of our array, repeated addition and cookie methods.

In Geography we have been looking at the ways the UK is split up and learning more about our county. We also looked at the human and physical geographical features of the UK, such as the River Severn, Ben Nevis, the Bristol Suspension Bridge and the Angel of the North. We discussed how physical features occur naturally and have been there for a long time, whilst human features have been man made.

In Science we have loved playing with circuits. The children have been investigating how to create their own working circuits, problem solving whether a circuit will work, thinking about how to add a switch and thinking about the theory of creating their own switches. We will be moving on to think about conductors and insulators in next week's lesson.

We had a wonderful day learning about South Africa. Our dance that we created has been posted on dojo.

Thank you to those parents who popped in for our spelling morning, we had lots of fun and hope you did too.

KESTRELS

What another couple of fantastic weeks we have had in Kestrels. The children have been working so hard- I really hope that you enjoyed watching their videos on class dojo. We had a lovely session watching them together whilst having a sneaky bowl of popcorn!

We have also been continuing our work on multiplication- we had a good week practising long methods of multiplication and some children moved onto solving word problems. This week we have looked at multiples and started to learn more about factors and factor pair rainbows. Next week, we will be moving onto all of the different types of numbers involving multiplication such as square, cube and prime numbers.

The children have really enjoyed their forces lessons that they have had with Miss Woolaston. They have been learning all about air and water resistance which, of course, involved lots of investigations which the children loved doing. Next week they are going to be learning about friction.

Christmas rehearsals have got into full swing this week also! The children have been learning all of the songs and I am sure that you will start to hear some snippets of them at home. Thank you for your support and encouragement in practising their lines. You are in for a real treat and it is so lovely when we start seeing it all come together.

Just a reminder that, on Tuesday, Kestrels will be having their whole class Forest School day, so please make sure they have appropriate clothing as they plan to be outside whatever the weather! Thank you.

OWLS

It has been a busy couple of weeks in Owls class as always with the children working their socks off and behaving impeccably, setting a superb example to the children throughout the school.

In English, we have really delved into our Journalistic writing unit of work where the children have taken a traditional tale that they know well and converted it into a newspaper article. The hot writes were completed by the children on Tuesday which was followed by an editing session. During the editing session, the class took their time to edit and improve their work based on their own individual targets that they have set themselves on their toolkit. The pieces of writing that were produced were to an extremely high standard and are a testament to how well the children have been working throughout the year so far.

In Maths, we have continued with our focus on fractions and are making our easy through the huge amount of work that needs to be covered on fractions. The past two weeks have seen the children get their heads around all of the processes and techniques to help them add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions by fractions, integers and mixed number fractions. We even used a nice rap to help us remember the key steps when dividing fractions (KEEP, CHANGE, FLIP).

Due to the Christmas production rehearsals now taking place, we have had to take a step back from our Science and Geography units of work currently but we will be catching up on what we have missed after Christmas. We have completed our first rehearsal and it is clear to see from this early stage that we are going to be in for a treat this year as the children are really getting into their characters and making them their own.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Tuesday 27th November | Kestrels' Forest School day |
| Wednesday 28th November | Open Afternoon for Reception 2019 |
| Thursday 29th November | Book Look for parents 3-3.30pm |
| Friday 30th November | AFSS Quiz night |
| Wednesday 5th December | Wrens' Dinosaur Day |
| Friday 7th December | AFSS Children's Christmas market 10am Non-uniform wear a Christmas jumper bring a bottle |
| Friday 7th December | AFSS Christmas Fayre 3-5.00pm |
| Monday 10th December | KS1 & KS2 Christmas production for children and nursery children |
| Tuesday 11th December | Dance Club Assembly |
| Tuesday 11th December | Woodpecker's Forest School day |
| Tuesday 11th December | KS1 evening performance 6pm |
| Wednesday 12th December | Christmas lunch |
| Wednesday 12th December | KS2 evening performance 6pm |
| Thursday 13th December | Big Foot panto- Pinocchio |
| Thursday 13th December | KS1 & KS2 evening performance 6pm |
| Friday 14th December | Class Christmas craft stalls 9.30-10.30 |
| Friday 14th December | KS1 & KS2 Christmas production 1.15pm |
| Tuesday 18th December | Owls' Forest School day |
| Wednesday 19th December | Christmas Carol Concert at the church 1.30pm |
| Wednesday 19th December | Break up for Christmas Holidays |