

BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

HEADTEACHER

Thank you for all your efforts to help make our World Book Day a wonderful success.

We have loved the special Community Month events that have taken place already and the children enjoyed delivering leaflets to the local community inviting them in to read with us.

We are pleased to announce that we are using a new communication system within school. Arbor is now being used for email communications, family consultation bookings and after. Easter will be used for all payments too.

If you have any trouble logging in or receiving emails please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Just a reminder...we have our No Outsiders/PSHE workshop for families next Wednesday 13th March at 6pm. All welcome.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

I have been asked by Essex County Council to send out the following information regarding wraparound care.

Dear Parent/Carer, Essex County Council is committed to supporting the national wraparound program as part of the childcare reforms announced in the 2023 spring budget. It is the Government's ambition that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary school-aged children who need it, will be able to access term time childcare, in their local area, from 8am-6pm to enable parents to access employment.

As a parent or carer of a child who attends primary school or who will be attending in the next two years, we want to know what are/will be requirements for wraparound care and we are asking you to complete this short survey –

[WRAPAROUND CHILDCARE SURVEY](#)

SPORT @ STEBBING

Unfortunately, our busy sporting schedule has been decimated as a result of the recent weather but a few events were able to go ahead as planned. Last week, a 26 children from KS2 represented the Dunmow family in the USSP cross country finals at Carver Barracks. All of our teams and individuals who took part gave their all and competed incredibly with a few standout performances with Remi, Summer and Isaac all making the top 10 with our year 4 girls team coming in 3rd place overall.

This week, our year 4 tag rugby squad consisting of 13 children from Kestrels - some taking part in their first ever tag rugby tournament, took part in the USSP finals at Carver Barracks. The team had a fantastic morning, playing 9 matches throughout the afternoon supported by Miss Rodgers and our tag rugby coach for the morning - Mr Philip. A huge thank you for your support, Today, our KS2 netball took part in the long awaited netball event taking place at Felsted School competed against schools from the local area. Keep an eye on Class Dojo to see how they got on.

Upcoming events:

- Wednesday 13th March - Year 5/6 Hockey Finals
- Thursday 14th March - Year 5/6 Netball Finals
- Friday 15th March - KS1 Dance Festival
- Friday 22nd March - KS2 Archery Tournament

AFSS

Firstly, happy Mother's Day to everyone from important aunties, super grannies, amazing mums to brilliant carers! As the AFSS's core team consists of Stebbing mums, we want to say well done everyone. It's not easy to navigate parenting in this day and time but we feel everyone is doing the best they can. Maybe as a treat to yourself, we could tempt you to order your tickets to secure your place at Stebbing Summer Party?! There's only limited amount tickets left with reduced price of £20. It's going to be a great night of celebration on June 15th! But before we put on our dancing shoes, we must focus on the upcoming Easter activities. The AFSS will be holding another Easter Bonnet competition so it might be time to start planning those already. Have fun!



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 1st March	Friday 8th March
Wrens	Ellie & Saffron	Toby & Luna
Robins	Rhys & Stanley	Harry & Charlie.K
Kingfishers	Fletcher and Freddie E	Alasdair & Harvey
Woodpeckers	Indie & Mia	Sienna & Isabella
Kestrels	Julia & Mia	Archie & Amelie
Ospreys	Emilee & Mia	Kody & Henry
Owls	Lily, Emily & Florrie	Liana & Reggie



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 1st March	Friday 8th March
Wrens	Charlie	Rhys
Robins	Charlie S	Cooper
Kingfishers	Jenna	Nicole
Woodpeckers	Rafael	Genevieve
Kestrels	Nellie	Louis
Ospreys	Elliot	Kayden
Owls	Brody	Amelie

PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 1st March	Friday 8th March
Wrens	Luna	
Robins	Michael	
Kingfishers	Monty	
Woodpeckers		James
Kestrels		Violet
Ospreys		Hadley
Owls		Betsy

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
01.03.24	Cross country runners	Robins	Mrs Rodgers	—
08.03.24		Kestrels		—

						
Date						
01.03.24	Owls	Robins	Kingfishers	Kestrels	Kingfishers	Owls
08.03.24	Owls	Robins	Kingfishers	Owls	Ospreys	Kingfishers



WRENS



ROBINS



We are explorers! Our first destination was the continent Africa. Wrens booked holidays in our travel agent and planned their packing by making lists of items they will need for Safari. We made beautiful African sunset art pieces. And Wrens went on a safari before attempting to write their own sentences with the modelled opener: "I can see....." In Maths we have been measuring and this came in very handy in our Boccia game on Thursday. Our new PE sequence of lessons will be Dancing. Wrens enjoyed expressing themselves by moving to different genres of music. We read Handa's Surprise this week and the Wrens did fantastic writing, describing the scenes in the story. We practiced our Tricky words (harder to read and spell words) by changing our names to Tricky words. We had to recognise and call each other the word on our name badges. Ending the week with a fruit celebration, trying all the different fruits in Handa's basket. What continent do you think we will we explore next Wrens?

Robins have been lovely working with large numbers, understanding tens and ones within 50. There has been a lot of practise using the concrete resources in class and the children have now moved onto interpreting pictorial representations. In English, we have begun our first storybook based teaching sequence! Our year began by writing small text types like labels and lists. Lots of emphasis has been on spelling words phonetically using the taught graphemes. We did captions just before Christmas then spent lots of time really nailing those 'non-negotiables'. Looking last week through their writing books, looking for my pink pen and Mrs Pickering's purple pen, the class all chose writing targets for themselves (which you'll have seen on their Dojo Portfolios). So, to develop fluency and mastery we will now be really 'playing' with our skills and applying them in more creative ways and this story book (the title of which cannot yet be revealed due to teaching magic) has already really pulled in the children's curiosity and fascination! They are becoming invested in the characters, via art, role play and lots of inferencing, which we call 'Book Talk'. In Forest School Robins have been learning about Birds, how their bones are hollow and how they behave differently in the Spring, and why. Miss Honeybee's knowledge has us hanging on her every word - she really inspires us and we love Wednesdays with her.



KINGFISHERS



WOODPECKERS

Kingfishers have had a wonderful first 2 weeks of the second Spring term. On the first Tuesday we had some special visitors who spent the day with Kingfishers re-enacting the Great Fire of London. They participated in many hands-on activities which helped to deepen their understanding whilst being able to share and apply their current knowledge effectively and with confidence. It was a lovely day and a great way to end the topic before moving onto our Geography topic 'Comparing the UK to a non-european country'. Kingfishers have kick-started this topic by consolidating their understanding of continents and we have been virtually exploring the Lake district, which we will soon be comparing to a contrasting place in Africa. In Maths we have been exploring money. We have been focusing on understanding value, recognising coins and notes and being able to make an amount in different ways. Kingfishers have really enjoyed the hands-on aspect of handling money. In English we have just completed our book review of the book 'Patrick' by Quentin Blake. Kingfishers have enjoyed exploring Quentin Blake's various books and have engrossed themselves in his stories. We will soon be writing our own ending to the story 'Patrick', which I am very excited to start. In Science, Kingfishers have been learning about an influential scientist called Charles Darwin. We have explored his key ideas around evolution and what this entails.

Another two weeks have passed, and what a productive two weeks they have been. In maths, the children continued with their multiplication and division unit. They had been dividing a 2-digit number by a -digit number, specifically looking at calculations that had a remainder. The used place value counters alongside to help support their understanding. This week, they have moved on to Length and Perimeter, where they began their lesson looking at centimetres and metres, as well as how to measure correctly when using a ruler. The children were then set the task to measure a number of different items around the classroom, including each other's height. In Geography, the children have moved on to a new topic, 'Settlements'. They began with a discussion about what a settlement is. They then carried out their own research into what a Hamlet, village, town and city is, along with the key features for each. As this month is community month, the children have spent some time designing some wonderful posters, inviting the local community to come along to our school to celebrate World Book Day. Once their posters were finalised, they then worked exceptionally well as a team, navigating through Stebbing Village to post their creative and inviting posters.



We have had a wonderful first couple of weeks back in Kestrels and I have loved getting to know everyone a lot more. We have continued our work on length and perimeter within maths and started our new topic of fractions, using lots of practical resources to help us. In English, we have started to look at explanation texts. We have enjoyed watching Wallace and Gromit's contraptions and writing some explanations for how they work. In Science, we have started to look at electricity and really enjoyed trying to create our own circuits. We have been really inspired by the SEN awareness week and thought carefully about people within our lives that are different. It was lovely to watch the children join in so beautifully with the boccia and be really respectful of each other. Swimming is also a highlight of the week and we are working really hard on our technique. We have also started our community month volunteering in Stebbing shop. We are really excited to continue this over the next few weeks. Finally, we have ended the week with World Book Day, where I think everyone looked incredible in their costumes.

What a complete joy it is to be learning everyday with this wonderful bunch of children. It has been so amazing to see the progress that they continue to make and how inspiring they are to each other. We have been enjoying all of the community month activities that we have taken part in so far: delivering leaflets around the village, having a super SEN awareness week this week and the most exciting thing is yet to come...pizza making next week at the White Hart. If you have not yet made payment and completed permission, please make sure you do so over the weekend. Part of next week will be completing our pizza company planning which forms part of our D&T curriculum. We can't wait to make and taste our creations! This week in science, we have enjoyed learning more about gravity and we have investigated the links between mass and weight. We completed our biography unit in English and have another week left on our current maths topic looking at the links decimals, fractions and percentages.



Owls have been working incredibly hard over the past two weeks as we continue to have high expectations of all of our children.

Art - Our inspirations & ethos
by Mrs Lonnen-Smith

In maths, we have started, mastered and finished a two week unit of work on fractions decimals and percentages. We have learnt a range of approaches and strategies to help us solve problems and calculations involving each of the three areas.

In 2007 Sir Ken Robinson presented a TED talk describing how the education system (prior to the 2014 National Curriculum) was geared up to suit a Britain of the past - people gaining qualifications to get into university, when in fact the times we have lived in for the last few decades no longer match that model. He explained how so many graduates nowadays find themselves unable to find a job, are overqualified or end up in a career completely unrelated to their degree course. Sir Ken was highlighting his belief that CREATIVITY is the skill most needed for successful employment, and often at school Art is the perfect opportunity to explore this. As a school we value creativity and in many subjects are guided by Bloom's Taxonomy. The 'Greater Depth' end of 'Bloom's' lists creativity itself as a learning characteristic; the ability to understand a concept so well that learners no longer 'apply, analyse and evaluate' skills but are also able to 'invent'. How different Art History would be if Picasso had been discouraged from pursuing his vision; told it was messy, not realistic or bonkers; he'd *not* have created the whole new movement/style of Cubism. What if Monet had not problem-solved by using ceiling-high and room-wide boards, when cataracts threatened his love for painting. Jackson Pollock, Chris Ofili - there are many artists who were faced initially with controversy, but really, are they not just showing us something new?

Within English, we spent a few lessons unpicking the 'Blackfish' film which initiated great conversations and got the children thinking deeply about their own views on animals being held in captivity. Since then, we have working independently and within pairs and as a class to piece together our own balanced argument presenting both sides of the debate using a range of writing devices and strategies.

Art is a subject where **no one can fail*** - art is the artist's ideas and their execution of those ideas; it's their own personal and unique interpretation, mark-making, communication. Then when we look at it, it is *our* interpretation, and how it can make us feel, what it evokes. There is a 2-way process with art and it is personal; also, as with artists, it is different and unique to each viewer.

Across the rest of the curriculum, we continue to help the children prepare for SATs with focused guided reading and grammar sessions. We also loved welcoming Sheetal back to Stebbing for our first of many tennis lessons and really enjoyed getting stuck in with the SEND awareness week - most noticeably with Boccia yesterday.

At Stebbing we value diversity and uniqueness, and through Art, we are gifted with yet another great opportunity for exploration.
***more on this next time.**

Within science, we have started our work on circuits with a recap of our scientific circuit symbols and applying our new skills to draw and create working circuits.

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
March	Community month
04.03.24	SEN awareness week
06.03.24	Robins to Pizza Express
08.03.24	World Book Day
13.03.24	'No Outsiders' workshop for parents
14.03.24	Ospreys making pizza at the White Hart 10.30am
15.03.24	World Sleep Day (wear pjs/onesies to school)
19.03.24	Family consultations
20.03.24	Family consultations
21.03.24	Owls to Chelmsford Museum- Electrical engineer workshop
22.03.24	'Stebbing's Got Talent'
28.03.24	Break up for Easter holidays