

## BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

### HEADTEACHER

We have come to the end of a great first half term of the new year.

Our classes have had a number of wonderful experiences this half-term and I would like to thank the teachers and staff for providing these.

#### PSHE/No Outsiders work

Our feedback survey has now closed. We are running the workshop for parents on Wednesday 13th March from 6pm in the school hall. This will be an opportunity to hear from myself and then see the books we have planned to use. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

### IMPORTANT NOTICES

**Back to school on Monday 26th February 2024**

**REMINDER!  
WE ARE IN  
GREAT  
DUNMOW  
TESCO!**



The criteria for seeking donations is very limited so we have had to bid for money to create further developments to our wellbeing garden. Nevertheless, please do help us by spreading the message and making sure everyone you know puts tokens in the Stebbing slot! Spread as far and wide as possible,

### SPORT @ STEBBING

The past two weeks has seen children from a wide range of year groups represent their school at four sporting events.

Year 5 & 6 Sports Hall Athletics took place on Wednesday 7th February with our squad consisting of children from Owls and Ospreys competing superbly against three schools from the Uttlesford Partnership earning themselves a silver medal!

Unfortunately, due to the weather, the year 3 & 4 tag rugby tournament had to be cancelled but we enjoyed a lovely afternoon over at Great Easton playing a few friendly matches, honing our skills and enjoying a delicious hot chocolate - with squirty cream and marshmallows!

This week, our KS2 Kurling team took part in the Essex finals representing Uttlesford coming up against the best of the best from the Essex at Basildon Sporting Village earning themselves a fantastic 10th place finish.

Finally, our year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby squad took part in the USSP Tag Rugby Finals at Carver Barracks, lead superbly by their captain Archie, the team worked incredibly well as a team to finish in a superb 6th place.

A huge congratulations to all of our pupils who have attended a club, fixture or tournament this half term and we look forward to all of the competitions that are lined up for after half term including but not limited to KS2 girls' and boys' football, KS1 dance, KS2 hockey, KS2 netball, Cross-country, year 3 & 4 tag rugby and archery!

### AFSS

Hello to you all from the AFSS! We are excited to be hosting our Valentine's Day Disco today! As I'm writing this, the party is yet to take place but we have had plenty of children signed up and we can't wait to see their dance moves. Thank you again for all the volunteers from teachers to parents that make hosting such events possible. We got exciting news regarding more fun too! The amazing team that we're behind the Winter Ball are hosting yet another ADULTS ONLY Summer Party on 15th June at Priors Hall, Stebbing. Early bird tickets are for sale for the price of £20 per head. It's going to be a fabulous night of fun so secure your tickets by contacting Harriet on 07809 331056. Finally we hope everyone have a fun half term!



## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 9th February	Thursday 15th February
Wrens	Alexander & Brodie	Jasper & Evie
Robins	Ira & Ivy	Amelie & Jack
Kingfishers	Harry & Jasmina	Christopher & Louie. G
Woodpeckers	Albert & Elsie	Evie & Poppy
Kestrels	Wren & Summer	Nathaniel & Oliver
Ospreys	Elly & Mila	Florence & Sophia
Owls	Rocco & Lily	Olivia, Finley & Archie



## HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 9th February	Thursday 15th February
Wrens	Larosa	Willow C & Willow H
Robins	Charlie. K	Harry
Kingfishers	Jake	Alfie
Woodpeckers	Sophia	Bella
Kestrels	Neve	Lottie
Ospreys	Emilee	Savannah
Owls	Frankie	Emily

## PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 9th February	Thursday 15th February
Wrens	Saffron	
Robins	Mabel	
Kingfishers	Archie	
Woodpeckers		Jacob
Kestrels		Amelie
Ospreys		Ava N
Owls		Grace

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
09.02.24	Lottie, Tilly & Rose & Meadow	Wrens & Woodpeckers	Luna & Harry	
15.02.24	Year 5 & 6 tag rugby team	Kestrels	Elias	

						
Date						
09.02.24	Kestrels	Owls	Robins	Owls	Robins	Kingfishers
15.02.24	Owls	Kestrels	Robins	Owls	Kingfishers	Robins



# WRENS

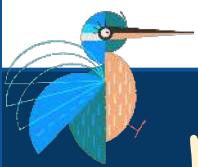


# ROBINS



Wrens have been enjoying their Phonics Review weeks by consolidating their learning through blending games. They impressed us with their Mathematical reasoning when introduced to Odd Todd and Even Steven. They were able to ask questions and explain why they thought a number was even or odd. Some stretched their understanding by exploring the possibility of two odds making an even! Our 'Topic Finale' was a sunny highlight. We went down to the woods. Wrens discovered and discussed so many elements we have learnt this term. Habitats were spotted, changes in nature and signs of Spring. We all felt very lucky to have such a lovely outdoor space on our doorstep. Shrove Tuesday, and we had no intention to go easy on our Wrens...we managed to squeeze one more writing activity out of them before making their own pancakes in class. We LOVED watching you grow this half term Wrens and hope you enjoy watching your Valentine's gift grow at home. Have a lovely, well deserved break.

Robins have progressed so well in their phonics, reading and spelling - we have been so impressed. They have also taken very well to maths within 20, especially the adding and subtracting. While the class are showing such an aptitude and interest in tens and ones we will go straight onto Place Value within 50 when we return from the break, which can also address any misconceptions that arose when looking at Place Value within 20. In Science we are comparing different animals - which began with ourselves (humans) and snow dogs, and now, thanks to our lovely story book by Alexis Deacon is the comparison of a crocodile and a bird. Through this we are learning the different animals classes, physical features, eating habits and environments etc, while also reminding ourselves that people who are very different can still be friends, and that people who are not necessarily related (genetically) can still be, or feel like, family. We have enjoyed observing, and recording findings from, our recent cress experiment and will look more into how plants grow next half term. In Forest School we were splitting wood and using tools carefully this week - it is so inspiring to see the children engage in skills that require such focus and precise fine & gross motor skills, another thing that was evident in their UNhomework - thank you families for being such a big part of your child's project, for teaching them skills and providing those opportunities. They all presented these to the class with such pride and confidence!



# KINGFISHERS



# WOODPECKERS



I can't believe we've already reached the end of Spring term 1! Kingfishers have explored multiplication and division this half term, learning various methods and confidently applying the method they prefer to find the answer to any calculation. In English we have been exploring the author 'Quentin Blake'. Kingfishers have enjoyed reading his many funny and wonderful books, focusing on character description, creating story maps, the purpose of expression and sharing their own opinions. In History we have completed our topic 'The Great Fire of London'. For their last lesson they created an informative leaflet, answering questions about before, during and after the fire. This was an effective way to assess their learning and understanding and I was so impressed with the level of detail that were put into some of their sentences. In Science we have completed our topic 'Animals including humans'. On behalf of Kingfishers I feel confident to say that we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring this area of Science this half term, linking it to other areas of learning such as English and PSHE, allowing us to go deeper with our learning and in turn Kingfishers have created amazing pieces of work to reflect this. In PE, dodgeball has been a firm favourite for many. During our games Kingfishers have displayed developing teamwork skills, the ability to listen to and follow instructions confidently, honesty, kindness and the ability to celebrate each other's successes. I hope you all have a wonderful half term. I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Another two weeks have passed and we are now officially halfway through the year! Woodpeckers have been working extremely hard in maths, as they have continued to explore multiplying a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number (both without and with exchange) and dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number (no exchange). It is at this stage, that the children used their knowledge of multiplication and division facts to help support them. In English, the children have been identifying the key features of a Myth and using WOW adjectives and synonyms to describe settings and their own Mythical creature. This linked beautifully with the history topic of Ancient Greece this half term. The children have demonstrated a real eagerness to learn and thoroughly enjoyed exploring and discussing various elements of the topic. In Science, the children have continued to develop their understanding and importance of a healthy balanced diet and what they entails. More recently, the children have explored the human skeleton. The children talked about the names of different bones - some that they already knew - then discussed why they are so important. Next, they investigated the Scientific question 'Do children with a longer femur jump further?'. The children ordered themselves from shortest to tallest (height), then measured the length of their femur, followed by the distance they could jump. They recorded their findings on a scatter graph.



What a super couple of weeks we have had in Kestrels. It has been wonderful to welcome back Mrs Hammond and the children have really enjoyed starting to get to know her. We have conducted some fantastic experiments in Science, including an investigation into tooth decay and a demonstration of food's journey through the digestive system.

We have finished our multiplication and division unit of work in Maths and have been delighted with the progress the children have made. We have enjoyed some great practical lessons in our new unit of work, Length and Perimeter.

In English, we have learnt and performed some great poetry, we have also been developing our knowledge of word classes in grammar and deciding what class a word is depending on what it is doing in the sentence. The children have also been working hard on their spellings - keep it up on Spelling Shed over the holiday!

The children have been developing their palette knife skills in Art and we are looking forward to producing a piece of art using these next half term. Have a great holiday!

Another half term has come to a close and I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what amazing progress that this wonderful group of children have made. They are becoming more resilient and mature by the day and it has been so brilliant to see how much progress has been made. We are frequently having purposeful discussions and the children are really learning to express their viewpoints in a calm and respectful manner. We can't wait to come back after half term to get stuck into Community Month and all of the fun activities that we have planned. I hope you have a really restful half term for a jam packed 5 weeks of hard work before Easter! Thank you to each and every one of you for making this another successful half term.

One for the diary: Thursday 14th March we will be going to the pub to make pizzas. This also ties in with our D&T curriculum as we will be designing and making our own pizza brands.



We are officially half way through the year, where has the time gone!

I could not be prouder of how well the children are progressing through the year so far. The children have been working incredibly hard to make progress in all aspects of school life, whether that be academically, personally or socially - all of the children should be really proud of themselves.

I would also like to take this moment to thank Mrs Bucknell for her hard work with Owls every Wednesday morning - I know the class will really miss you. We are however looking forward to Mrs Watkins coming to join the team next half term and take over the Wednesday morning slot in Owls class and has lots of exciting activities to share with you all.

Your child has brought home a few maths arithmetic activities for them to have a go at if they wish over the half term break. These are just a set of questions to help the children retain key information taught so far. Please do not worry if they are not sure how to solve a question, please just support where you can or leave blank and we can catch up on any gaps when we return.

Happy half term and I look forward to seeing you all back in Owls class on Monday 26th February!

What a privilege to be in the Guest Spot this week to tell you more about our Religious Education Curriculum at Stebbing. We have started the new Saffron Academy Trust RE scheme this year and it really works well alongside our Stebbing School Values of Readiness, Respect, Kindness and Being Safe.

The curriculum has three main elements: **Theology, Philosophy and Human & Social Sciences.** With each topic discussed, the children are provided with different enquiries.

In **Theology** this could look like: 'Where do religious beliefs come from?'

In **Philosophy** it could include the question: 'Why should we be good?'

**Human & Social Sciences** might raise a question like: 'How does belief shape identity?'

The enquiries vary from year group as their understanding and reasoning develops.

True to our Mindfulness approach at Stebbing, classroom discussions are led with respectful and kind enquiry. With the SATRE scheme teachers are provided with very well structured powerpoint presentations to use as input. There are activities and suggestions to consolidate the understanding of the topics with the children. There is a broad range of religions introduced in respectful ways. Revisiting topics as the children progress with inquisitive questions and insight. Children are invited to share their experiences and beliefs if they wish in class assemblies or whole school assemblies. We enjoy learning about all the different ways we can celebrate, so feel free to share with us if you want to volunteer for a celebration topic. Our School Council has written Our School Prayer to reflect our values and this is read at Celebration Assemblies. We would like to share it with you: Let's join together to say our school prayer.

If you wish to, you can end with 'Amen'.  
**Use my eyes to see new friends,**  
**Open my ears to listen to others,**  
**Open my mind to try new experiences,**  
**Help me to be kind,**  
**Let my heart know you are there.**  
 Amen.

The various religions are like different roads converging on the same point. What difference does it make if we follow different routes, provided we arrive at the same destination?  
 — Mahatma Gandhi —

Love and peace to you all - Mrs Earle

# EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
15.02.24	End of half term
16.02.24	Staff inset day
26.02.24	Back to school
27.02.24	Great fire of London workshop for Kingfishers
28.02.24	SEND family forum 1.45-3pm
March	Community month
04.03.24	SEN awareness week
06.03.24	Robins to Pizza Express
08.03.24	World Book Day
14.03.24	Ospreys making pizza at the White Hart 10.30am
19.03.24	Family consultations
20.03.24	Family consultations
21.03.24	Owls to Chelmsford Museum- Electrical engineer workshop