

BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

HEADTEACHER

We have had a great couple of weeks back at school. Last week I was fortunate to accompany the pupils to the swimming gala. This is one of my favourite events and such a treat for a Friday afternoon.

I continue to enjoy welcoming children to have hot chocolate and cookies with me each week. The children children are those that consistently show positive behaviours and adhere to our schools rules.

WE ARE IN 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,

because **every little helps!!!**



IMPORTANT NOTICES



We have a new lost property area inside the entrance foyer. There is a white drawer unit and lost property will be put in here each week.

SPORT @ STEBBING

Spring term is always jam packed with sporting events and we have lots of exciting opportunities to look forward to. We have already had a team compete in the Essex Boccia finals and the Uttlesford Swimming Gala finals at Dunmow Leisure Centre which were both incredibly rewarding events for all of our children who took part.

Upcoming sporting events:

- **Friday 2nd February**
Year 5 & 6 Hockey
- **Friday 9th February**
Year 3 & 4 Tag Rugby
- **Tuesday 13th February**
Essex Kurling Finals
- **Wednesday 15th February**
Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby USSP Finals

AFSS

Hello from the AFSS once again as we start the year off with the ever popular Quiz Night on Friday 26th January. We still have space for a few more teams if you haven't signed up yet. Please be in touch with Sophie on 07703 357553 to secure your place! The cost is only £10 per person and unlike previous years, we are providing snacks on the tables. The White Hart is glad to supply the brainiacs with pizzas but the orders need to be in by Tuesday 23rd. We will bring them to the school on the night! Don't forget to bring your own drinks whatever your choice! We have a limited selection on plastic cups available so ideally provide your own cups as well please. The next event for the children is the disco happening on Thursday 15th February but more on that event closer to time. Oh and also if you haven't noticed, Great Dunmow Tesco is now collecting the blue tokens! Please spread the word and ask people to support us.



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 12th January	Friday 19th January
Wrens	Maisie & Alex	Charlie & Toby
Robins	Michael & Henley	Archie & Ivy
Kingfishers	Louie P and Harvey	Freddie S and Nicole
Woodpeckers	Genevieve & Jacob	Albert & Sienna
Kestrels	Albie & Maryann	Mia & Nathaniel
Ospreys	Darcy & Ji	Zack & Isabelle
Owls		Archie & Saskia



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER




	Friday 12th January	Friday 19th January
Wrens	Luna	Avalon
Robins	Charlie. B	Rainbow
Kingfishers	Jasmina	Alasdair
Woodpeckers	Elijah	Evie
Kestrels	Lina	Violet
Ospreys	Maya	Kody
Owls		Finley

PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 12th January	Friday 19th January
Wrens	Elijah	
Robins	Benjamin	
Kingfishers		
Woodpeckers		Jacob
Kestrels		Elias
Ospreys		Sophia
Owls		Florrie

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
12.01.24	Evie	Wrens		—
19.01.24	Anyone who has helped a friend	Wrens	Harry G	Kingfishers

						
Date						
12.01.24						
19.01.24	Kingfishers	Robins	Owls	Kingfishers	Ospreys	Owls



WRENS



ROBINS



What an exciting week filled with Dragon dances, music and discovering different ways to build five.

This week in Maths Wrens learnt that we can write sentences in Maths! At first we were introduced to parts and understanding that different parts make a whole. Then we used our stem sentence: And All together makes 5. Discovering we can see it, say it, build it, draw it and now write it. Instead of capital letters and full stops we were introduced to the sign for plus, add and more: + The other sign was showing us equal, all together, total and whole: =

In art we made a dragon from our handprints and tried to write numbers and symbols in Chinese. In English we read the story of a lost bear. We were introduced to adjectives and how we can build sentences to try and describe the bear. Wrens enjoyed performing during Tuesday's assembly about Chinese New Year and showcased their reading skills to Owls during our weekly Bookclub reading time. It has been a chilly week and we thank you for keeping Wrens wrapped up warm for Forest School.

Robins are enjoying their Gymnastics during PE.

We have learned many shapes, including 'pike', 'dish' and 'tuck', and have also learned a 'pencil' roll. This week they each created a gymnastic sequence, which they will perform to one another next week, for 'judging' - we are aiming for 3 points each!

For Music we have begun to listen to the music of Italian Pianist & Composer Alberto Guirioli, which you may have heard in the background of one of our PE videos, posted on Dojo. Today as a warm up we moved about the hall responding to the instruments and tempo of the song. In PSHE with Mrs Pickering we have discussed listening skills, how important they are and played games to develop this. We have also demonstrated and discussed qualities that we see in a good friend. As our class topic is now Earth we have been learning to use the trackpad on the laptop to create a picture of Earth. This task is one that has taken a lot of focus and coordination, and been thoroughly enjoyed! Animals is our focus in Science so while experiencing this wintery weather we have been finding out which animals live in colder climates and finding it on the maps that we've painted and including it in the Earth pictures we have made on the laptops. In our first week of gymnastics we moved like those animals too as our warm up.



KINGFISHERS



WOODPECKERS

Kingfishers have had a fun and busy start to the Spring term. In Maths we are learning about multiplication, exploring equal groups, repeated addition and multiplications, and this week we have started looking at arrays. Kingfishers have enjoyed implementing the Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract approach and some Kingfishers have been creating their own Maths stories and calculations. In English Kingfishers have been looking at the purpose and key features of a fact file. They have begun to research an animal of their choice with a partner and are in the midst of planning and drafting their own factfiles, ensuring it contains interesting facts and information.

Linking very closely to English is our current Science topic 'Animals including Humans'. Kingfishers have consolidated the six main animal groups and explored the similar features that the animals within these group share. We have also been discussing adults and their offspring, matching them and grouping them in different ways. In History we are learning about the Great fire of London. Some of the children had fantastic knowledge already and shared some interesting facts with the rest of the class. We then compared past and present London and explored what life was like for people in the 17th century. We particularly focused on the jobs that were available back then, and then compared what they had in 1666 to our modern day firefighters, focusing on the equipment, technology and skills/training they had/have.

What a productive couple of weeks it has been in Woodpeckers class.

In maths, we have been exploring dividing (sharing equally) by 3, through sharing in equal groups of 3 and grouping in 3's. This then progressed onto sharing and grouping in 4's and 8's. We have been using concrete manipulatives and visuals alongside to support our understanding.

In P.E, we have been focusing on multi-skills, particularly, working on developing our balancing skills. With the use of a number of different stations set up around the hall space, we were to complete a number of balance activities, whilst supporting others.

Due to our Animals including Humans Science topic this term, we have been investigating nutrition and what a healthy balanced diet involves. We have spent some time exploring the nutritional values of a range of different foods, followed by a 'how much sugar in a drink' experiment. We made predictions based on how much sugar we thought would be in a number of different drinks (and some foods). We had a set of weighing scales and some sugar and weighed out the amount of sugar in each product. We were amazed with some of our findings.



KESTRELS

In Science this term, Kestrels are learning about animals including humans. We have enjoyed observing our own bodies as we learn how the digestive system and our teeth help us break down food.

We have had rich discussion about whether or not police officers in the UK should carry guns (as part of our English unit) and I have been impressed with how passionate, articulate and open-minded all the children have been. In Maths, we have been learning more about multiplication and it has been fantastic to see how much progress the children are making with their times tables knowledge - keep up the great work, Kestrels! We are all looking forward to playing the times table games that the children are making for their Unhomework.

In Art, we have been learning about different artists and practising mixing colours using Pointilism techniques. We have enjoyed starting a new unit of work in RE and looking at the world as a global village; the children were interested and compassionate.



OSPREYS

We have had a really good couple of weeks back to school. Ospreys have been working as hard as ever and I have loved seeing how committed they are to progress. In maths, we have been working through long multiplication and this week we have moved onto division. We even had a double maths lesson last Friday to make sure everyone felt confident with long multiplication and it was wonderful to see so many lightbulb moments happening. In science, we have moved onto our new topic of birth to old age. We will be making our way through this timeline over the course of this half term, the children have been incredibly mature so far and we have had some really mature and sensible discussions. We have really been enjoying our new class book 'Spellstone', we try and squeeze this in wherever we can! Swimming has also been a huge success! For the past 2 weeks the children have been coming back saying how much they are enjoying it and still managing to squeeze a bit of PSHE in before they go. Please make sure you let myself know if your child isn't able to attend swimming as we need to make arrangements for them to be in another class as all of our staff are used to be at the pool.



OWLS

We have had a fantastic start to 2024 in Owls class hitting the ground running in this incredibly short term.

Since coming back, we have started and finished our unit of measure where we have developed our understanding of imperial and metric measures, how to convert between the two and how to solve problems involving a range of measures.

In English, we have shifted our focus to newspaper articles and have utilised our understanding of traditional tales to write newspaper articles. Journalistic writing always proves a challenge as the children have to fight the urge to write a story instead of reporting the news. So far so good and I am looking forward to seeing Owls put together their very own Newspaper for us all to read based on current affairs of their choosing.

We have also had lots of enthusiasm within our new science unit of work where we have worked together to demonstrate how we see light, how light is reflected and, most recently, how light is refracted when it travels through different transparent materials.

We have also loved taking part in swimming with Steve and cricket with Grace Malyon at Essex Cricket and are really embracing all aspects of school life.

GUEST SPOT

This week our guest spot is all about Maths! I have been Maths lead at Stebbing Primary now for over 8 years now and it has been wonderful to see how the subject has progressed over that period. As a school, we follow the White Rose curriculum and this has allowed a clear structure for all staff to follow. We are a real advocate for the Maths Mastery approach too which is endorsed by the NCETM. This approach encompasses the idea that all children should be accessing the same level of age related work at the same time. As a school, we don't differentiate learning, instead we adapt tasks to suit different needs. We do this by using concrete resources or visual aids to support and enhance understanding. Teachers are skilled in using the CPA approach (concrete, pictorial and abstract) and they design lessons in order for these skills to be utilised. Again, this supports the mastery approach as it gives children the opportunity to prove their understanding in lots of different ways. As a school, we have also been lucky enough to be part of the NCETM 'Mastering Number' programme in KS1 and brand new for this year in Year 4 & 5. The aim of this programme is to ensure that key mathematical facts are engrained and that the foundations to number are really strong. In Year 4 & 5, the real focus is all around times table fluency.

If you ever have any questions, or would like to know more about maths teaching at Stebbing, please feel free to contact me!
Mrs Clayden (mrs.clayden@stebbingprimary.co.uk)

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
02.02.24	NSPCC Number Day
06.02.24	Safer internet day
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
19.03.24	Family consultations
20.03.24	Family consultations
21.03.24	Owls to Chelmsford Museum- Electrical engineer workshop