

BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

HEADTEACHER

We had such a great response to our World Book Day 'Book Club' for parents and local villagers. We had at least 130 people turn up to read. Thank you for taking the time to do this.

We had our Workshop for parents on 13th March to share the resources we plan to use as part of our PSHE curriculum and No Outsiders work.

Thank you to those who attended.

We have recorded the introduction which has been shared via Dojo. If you would like to view the materials used you can do so on Wednesday 27th March 3-3.30pm.

Mrs Lonnen-Smith and Mrs Clayden will also be available to talk through their books (Y1 and Y5) as they were both unable to attend on 13th March.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

A huge congratulations to Emily and Florrie in Owls class for taking part in the Dunmow family public speaking competition on Thursday 14th March.

Following weeks of hard work to construct, edit, learn and practise their speech (with the support of Lily), both Emily and Florrie stepped up on top the stage at Helena Romanes School with confidence to deliver a knockout speech titled, 'No Outsiders' to take home the first place prize!



SPORT @ STEBBING

We've had a busy few weeks of sport at Stebbing with four events taking place for all of our children over the past 14 days.

We started with the USSP finals of the year 5 hockey tournament with our fantastic team, lead by Carol Wooding, taking on 18 teams from the Uttlesford area. Competing against incredibly tough opposition, our team - who had been working incredibly hard in hockey club - finished in a fantastic 5th place! The following day saw our year 5 netball team also take part in the Uttlesford netball finals. With both teams being made up of children from year 5 and 6, they competed superbly throughout the 4 hour tournament to come in an impressive third and eleventh place out of the 20 teams taking part.

Our KS1 dancing club representatives then headed over to Dunmow St Mary's to showcase their dance that they have been working on in dance club with Mrs Earle. We are so proud of the courage, confidence and teamwork that the girls demonstrated to put on a fantastic show for the audience - well done girls!

Finally, to close the week, 16 selected children from KS2 were chosen to take part in the Dunmow family archery tournament taking place at Felsted School this afternoon. Keep an eye on Class Dojo to see how they got on!

AFSS

Sunny greetings from the AFSS! First of all, we would like to encourage one and all to start making an amazing Easter Bonnet for the school's upcoming parade. Last year it was great fun and was enjoyed by all. Please see Class Dojo for more details but in short, please bring in £1 per child as this will cover the cost of prizes for the winners and treats for all the children. If you forget, don't worry, you can always do a bank transfer as well. Now, looking into the future and the epic Summer Party, we would like to remind you that we only have a very few limited amount of early bird tickets for sale at the price of £20 per person. The ticket cost will go up to £25 from 1st April. If you want to save some money, while supporting school's swimming pool fundraiser, please get in touch with Harriet on 07809 331056 to secure your tickets. We hope everyone will have a great Easter break and we will see you all back in April with some more exciting events!



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 15th March	Friday 22nd March
Wrens	Gunnar & Robyn	Freddie &
Robins	Freddie & Henley	Daniel & Evelyn
Kingfishers	Christopher, Ethan and Louie. G	Jake & Lois
Woodpeckers	James & Albie	Vinnie & Isabelle
Kestrels	Amelia & Wren	Lina & Rose
Ospreys	Maya & Hadley	Ji & Savannah
Owls	Millie, Archie & Liana	Betsy & Isaac



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 15th March	Friday 22nd March
Wrens	Evie	Sullivan
Robins	Delilah	Daisy
Kingfishers	Monty	Ivy
Woodpeckers	Clara	Florence
Kestrels	Alex	Tilly
Ospreys	Ava B	Darcy
Owls	Florrie & Emily	Saskia

PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 15th March	Friday 22nd March
Wrens	Elijah	
Robins	Evelyn	
Kingfishers		
Woodpeckers		Scarlett
Kestrels		
Ospreys		Mila
Owls		Liana

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
15.03.24	Year 5 hockey team	Owls		
22.03.24		Robins	Harvey	

						
Date						
15.03.24	Owls	Ospreys	Robins	Owls	Ospreys	Kingfishers
22.03.24	Owls	Robins	Kingfishers	Owls	Woodpeckers	Ospreys



WRENS



ROBINS



Our explorers topic took us on a trip to America! We had a visit from Mrs Erika Finch who told us more about the indigenous tribes and Wisconsin. We recognised similarities and differences between Africa, England and America. In our outdoor role play area we have opened an American Diner where we had to write down our orders to be served. In Maths we have been consolidating our understanding of 9 and 10. We started exploring shape and used our building skills to create different structures and wonderful pieces of art. As we venture to South America we stopped over on some Caribbean beaches. We kicked off our shoes and with our feet in the sand we wrote postcards using our sentence building skills. Our Knowledge and Understanding of the world focus was all about finding information on maps. We went on an Easter number hunt and had to indicate the numbers on our outdoor playground map. The Wrens are very grateful for the money they raised selling their Easter crafts at the Stebbing Market and we look forward to buying a class bubble machine and big chalks for our outdoor area.

Benji Davies' 'Storm Whale' story has had the class completely captivated from start to finish - it promoted lots of discussion and inferencing. Robins enjoyed interpreting elements of this story using dance, music and art - moving as a storm and recreating 'whale song' have been two of our immersive-learning highlights. Also, for Geography, they used the story clues and their knowledge to make educational guesses of where Noi might live. In Science our focus has been animals and the class now have a strong grasp of the different animal classes and what features they have, to help them tell each class apart. In Geography this week Mrs Sando popped by to see our lesson as we stuck photos of animals from each class to the continents or oceans that they come from. Robins have learned the names of oceans and continents very well indeed - so if this is not yet signed off on their STEPS challenge booklets please bring these next week, so we can sign them. The class have achieved their staggering challenge of 3000 Dojo points during this very short half term, so next week we look forward to our video & popcorn treat, as well as a trip to the Village Store for Community Month. Finally, today's auditions were so enjoyable and the whole class showed great sportsmanship in encouraging and celebrating their friends!



KINGFISHERS



WOODPECKERS



In topic we have been comparing the UK and Kenya. We are exploring the similarities and differences of the Human and Physical Geography of the contrasting places. In Science we have been exploring Albert Einstein's theory of Evolution. We explored the meaning of 'evolve', 'adaptations' and 'metamorphosis'; an area we explored in our previous Science topic. In English, Kingfishers created an alternative ending to the story 'Patrick' by fabricating their own paragraphs. We introduced a new setting, character, problem and solution, ensuring we were following the sequence of the original story, and Kingfishers incorporated some very interesting and unexpected twists and turns to make their paragraphs engaging and fun. In Maths we are exploring measure and length. We have measured nearly every item in the classroom, including our peers, focusing on CM and M, converting between the measurements and exploring problem solving. In Art we have been sculpting with clay. Kingfishers created unique patterns and textures on their sculpture by *pressing* natural items that they foraged themselves.

As this month is community month, we recently spent some time litter picking around the village. The children worked together to collect as much litter as they could find, helping to make our village a cleaner, safer environment. In English this week, we have been focusing on using similes and metaphors in our writing. The children had a number of different Spring themed images located about the classroom. They then worked in groups to describe each image using a simile, producing many wonderful ideas. Whilst exploring metaphors, we read through a range of examples, then built on this by producing our own. The children were then set the task to organise a number of different simile and metaphor examples into the corresponding pile. In Geography, we have been exploring the settlements, particularly, describing the main land uses within urban and rural areas and understanding how the land is used. In Maths, we have been investigating length and perimeter. Initially, revising measuring in metres or centimetres to measure the length of objects, the children have now progress onto using metre, centimetres and millimetres and combining units of measure.



We have had a busy couple of weeks in Kestrels and I cannot believe that there is only one more week until the Easter holidays! In maths, we have worked so incredibly hard with our fractions topic using manipulatives and drawings to support our understanding. It has been wonderful to see so many 'ta-da' moments, where children have suddenly understood trickier concepts. In English, we finished our explanation texts topic and wrote some wonderful hot writes explaining Wallace and Gromit's Snoozatron, an invention that guarantees a full night's sleep. We have now started a creative writing topic, based on a film called Soar, which the children are really enjoying. During Science, we have absolutely loved continuing to play with the electrical circuit equipment and were amazed that by using materials that conduct electricity we could actually create a circuit.

Thank you to everyone who has come to support us in the shop this term for part of our community month. We have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and the children have always come back beaming, eager to tell me what they have done within their time. I think that we will all miss it next term! On behalf of all of Kestrels team, we hope you have a wonderful and restful Easter and we will see you for the Summer term!

I can't believe that we only have one week left until the Spring term comes to a close and we will soon be powering through to the Summer! The time has gone so fast and I have loved seeing so much all of the children have grown. We spent lots of this week completing some end of term assessments and the children should be really happy how confidently they could recall their learning that they have been taught in Year 5 so far. One of our highlights of the last few weeks was going to the pub to make pizzas. The children were so incredibly polite and asked some really interesting questions. They loved seeing their planned pizza companies coming to life! We would like to give our thanks to Jackie and Davide for hosting us and making sure the staff didn't go hungry! Our next trip is going to the Tower of London with Owls to enhance our next unit of work in history which is all about our Monarchs. We will be visiting the tower on Thursday 9th May. Please see the letter that was sent via Parentmail for more information. We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break; only 4 more days to go!



As we near the Easter break and two thirds through the year, Owls class continue to impress in all areas of school life. Over the past two weeks, and with SATs week getting ever closer, we continue to hit lots of maths and English objectives every week to ensure that all of the children are as prepared as possible for the end of key stage assessments. A reminder that we have the KS2 SATs week information evening coming up on Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 18:00 in Owls classroom. If you are unable to attend in person, I will be posting a Google Meet link on Class Dojo on Monday.

I was blown away in English last week as the children brought to a close the discussion text unit of work where they applied the concepts taught with confidence to put together considered, balanced discussion texts to present both sides of the argument (despite having strong personal opinions swaying towards one side). Thank you for your time in the recent family consultations, it is always lovely to discuss your children in detail to celebrate their achievements so far this year and look forward to what is to come. We also enjoyed our day at Chelmsford Museum where the children were able to share their knowledge learnt so far and utilise the sessions to further develop their understanding of electrical engineering.

Finally, to keep things ticking over for the children, I will be sending home some Easter work for them to enjoy so that they can hit the ground running when they return from the two-week

Art - where **no one** can fail! By Mrs Lonnen-Smith

I suspect that line for many of you reading last time, was provocative or evocative! Perhaps you instantly disagreed or felt suspicious, perhaps for personal reasons, or due to experiences you had when you yourselves were students at school. Well here at Stebbing we very much believe that art is as personal, creative, unique and diverse as every artist who creates it - we want the children to truly flourish, take emotionally safe risks, and explore their potential by coming out of their comfort zones.

A common factor affecting art is the self-consciousness that can occur, commonly within children of age 7-8. So, two years ago, our school curriculum had a complete reshuffle and was designed with this inhibition in mind. Year 3 is the turning point for this self-consciousness so the styles explored are cross-hatching (inspired by Raymond Briggs) and splatter painting (Jackson Pollock) - all very achievable with the skills they already have and hopefully fresh perspectives about what art can look like. This progresses in Year 4 to 'scribbling' ('20 PAOTY winner Curtis Holder) and also painting using a palette knife; Expressionist art (Monet, Van Gogh etc.) is shown to inspire. The children are reminded that art **need not be an exact match** of what they are representing... we have *cameras nowadays* to show what something looks like *exactly!* So, as artists we are blessed with the opportunity for freedom and creative expression, and the comfort that we cannot fail! Although everyone can succeed, these styles

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
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
15.04.24	Back to school
24.04.24	SEND family consultations
01.05.24	SEND family forum 9am
06.05.24	Early May bank holiday
09.05.24	Owls and Ospreys to Tower of London (more details to follow)
13.05.24	Year 6 SATs week
23.05.24	Lion King theatre trip
24.05.24	Break up for May half term
05.06.24	Back to school