



# STEBBING SPOTLIGHT

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 31st March  
Break up for Easter

Monday 17th April  
Bank Holiday

Tuesday 18th April  
Return to School

Monday 1st May  
Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May  
Y6 SATs Week

Friday 12th May  
AFSS Quiz Night

Wednesday 17th May  
Lion King Theatre Trip

Monday 22nd May  
Y2 SATs Week

31ST MARCH 2017

ISSUE 47

### HEAD OF SCHOOL

We are at the end of another term. The classes have worked very hard this term and have had enjoyable experiences too!

A very special thank you and fond farewell to Mrs Dicks, Kestrels class teacher. We will certainly miss you and hope you will return soon and keep in touch with us. We all hope you have a fantastic time on your travelling adventures!

THANK YOU

### COMMUNITY COHESION

What a fantastic community month we have had!

A special thank you to the AFSS for a fantastic Easter-themed afternoon!

I know members of the AFSS worked incredibly hard to give the children a lovely afternoon. Thank you for their organisation.

We look forward to finding out what each class decides to spend their £200 on.

### NOTES

Well done for the best weekly class attendance!

Owls - 24th March

Woodpeckers - 31st March

PARENT FORUM NEXT TERM

-date to be advised after the Easter break

Would you like to comment about our school? You can do so by visiting Parent View:

[www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)

### SPORTING EVENTS

We have had a relatively quiet couple of weeks following the extremely busy previous 2 weeks. with only two events taking place.

Firstly, our netball team went to Felsted Independent School to take part in the family netball event which saw 10 teams from the local area compete for the trophy that we have won the year before. After a morning of competitive matches, the children showed superb progress throughout the event coming in a very respectable 6th position, especially as it was some of the children's very first netball tournament and with only two year 6s on the team. The year 5s took a lot from this experience and will use it to their advantage as they prepare for next year's event.

It was then the turn of KS1 who attended a KS1 inclusion event where children were selected to take part in a range of activities and sports that they may not have the opportunity to take part in at school.

Next Term Clubs:

Monday - Athletics/Running Club

Tuesday - Cricket

Wednesday - Rounders

We are changing to our summer clubs in preparation for the array of sporting events that take place in the Summer term including sports day, rounders tournaments and KS1 and KS2 Cricket events.

Mr Le Masurier

## HEAD TEACHER'S AWARDS

Friday 31st March

Headteacher's Awards given to everyone who took part in Stebbing's Got Talent today.

You all performed brilliantly!

## AFSS

A massive thank you to everyone who helped before or on Friday. It was lovely to see the children having fun! Each class won £200 to spend! The event wouldn't have been possible without Easyfundraising so please all take the time to join up so we can do future events like this for the children.

**Click here for Easy Fundraising link! or visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)**

---Don't forget the Quiz Night on Friday 12th May! Info coming soon!

---June 10th is the Summer Festival! If there are any musicians out there who would love a chance to perform between 1-4 or anyone who wants a stall let us know.

## WRENS

We have had a fantastic term in Wrens class. The children have worked really hard and have made lots of progress. This term the children have become very independent and have really enjoyed completing their weekly challenges. I am very impressed with the work that the children have produced.

We have really enjoyed our topic this term. We have learnt so much about minibeasts and the children have shown this through their work. We enjoyed comparing the life cycle of a butterfly and the life cycle of a frog as we were given some frog spawn to have in our class. The children have enjoyed watching the caterpillars and tadpoles. Unfortunately our caterpillars are taking a long time to complete their life cycle. I will be taking the caterpillars home over the Easter holidays and will update you with their progress on My Montessori Child.

Our trip to Tropical Wings was brilliant. The children came into contact with lots of different animals and minibeasts. Some of the children were very brave and even held a cockroach. We also got to stroke a bearded dragon and a ferret. The children asked the zoo keepers lots of fantastic questions about the animals.

In Maths the reception children have been learning about pattern and symmetry. They have taken what they learnt and completed lots of activities independently. The year 1 children have been using a 100 square to help them answer lots of different maths problems. They have enjoyed becoming more familiar with the 100 square.

In English the children enjoyed writing a recount about our school trip. The year 1 children have also completed some fantastic writing about the Easter Bunny who stole our eggs.

Yesterday we had an Easter day with Kingfishers. We had a fantastic day of making Easter crafts and also listened to the Easter story.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break and I can't wait to begin summer term. Thank you for your continued support.

## KINGFISHERS

We cannot believe that it is the end of the spring term already...it has flown by so quickly! We are very proud of the children's hard work and progress. This term the children have shown such enthusiasm for learning and have particularly loved our topic work.

We had a fantastic trip to Tropical Wings. We had a wonderful day learning all about minibeasts and other animals. We had a short lesson with a zoo keeper who spoke about different minibeasts, their habitats and camouflage. We had the opportunity to hold a cockroach, stick insect and giant African land snails. The Butterfly farm was our highlight. Several butterflies landed on us.

In topic work we have continued to watch our Caterpillars grow, they have not turned into chrysalis yet but we are hoping this change will now take place after Easter.

Yesterday we had an Easter day with Wrens. We listened to the Easter story and then had a whole day of making Easter crafts.

In English we are enjoying letter writing. We have explored the features of a letter and are beginning to remember all of the things we need to include. We have loved reading The Jolly Postman and have written letters in reply to the letters in the story. We are going to continue to learn about letter writing after Easter.

In Maths we have been learning fractions. We have been looking at fractions in lots of different ways including shapes, fraction grids and amounts. We really enjoyed reading Peg and Cat The Pizza Problem. Some of us then made fraction play dough pizza!

Well done to all of the children who took part in Stebbing's Got Talent today. We would also like to thank the AFSS for all of their hard work organising the Easter Egg Hunt for us this afternoon, we have had a brilliant day.

It has been another fantastic term in Kingfishers! Thanks for your continued hard work at home. We cannot wait to begin the summer term!

## WOODPECKERS

It has been a very busy last two weeks in Woodpeckers class as we finish for the Easter holidays.

We finished our Greek topic with a trip to the Fitzwilliam museum in Cambridge. We were shown around all the artefacts and were able to spot lots of things that we have learnt about in class, such as the Gods and clay pots showing images from the Olympics. We also had a chance to look at some of the art in the museum. Everybody behaved beautifully and were a credit to the school.

Continuing with our Science focus on rocks, we have been looking at fossils and soils. We have learnt about Mary Anning, the famous fossil collector, and had a chance to make some fossils of our own. We have also been learning about the layers found in soil and how they are formed; we had lots of fun making our own samples of the soil samples using different types of cereal! Some parents may have had a chance to see these at home and learn about the layers themselves, although not all of the samples may have made it home entirely intact!

In English, we finished our instruction writing by following a recipe for making cupcakes and then decorated them. We then wrote our own instructions for our decorating process. We are big fans of learning through food in Woodpeckers!

It has been another great term and we are looking forward to the next. We hope you all have a fantastic Easter break.

## KESTRELS

Kestrels class had a fantastic visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge to support their studies of ancient Greece. It was wonderful for the children to not only get 'up close and personal' with real artefacts but also to learn their 'stories' from a museum expert. Many children said they would like to visit again with their families! To complete our unit of work on journalistic writing, Kestrels hot write is a newspaper report about the trip. The children enjoyed reading First News as part of this topic.

The animal theme for class assemblies continued when Chilli, a German Shepherd puppy, came in for Lola and Bella's talk on training police dogs – thank you, Sgt Mayne. Fortunately, Sebastian and Harry's assembly on sharks did not involve a live animal! What will be next?

Maths this term has largely focused on fractions and decimals and the children have realised just how important it is to learn their times tables to support their understanding. Kestrels have also converted times on analogue/digital clocks and solved time problems. Wearing of watches is greatly encouraged.

As this is my last Stebbing Spotlight entry, I would like say what a pleasure it has been to teach Kestrels this year. A big thank you to the children, parents and staff for their support and for making my two terms at this lovely school so enjoyable. I shall miss you all. Happy Easter! Mrs Dicks

## OWLS

Owls have had an extremely busy end to an extremely busy term. The children have been put through their paces this last term and they have all stepped up to the plate and the progress (not just academically) in every single child has been phenomenal.

We have concluded this term with another assessment week in preparation for the end of year assessments that the year 6s will be taking in May. It is clear that the children have grown in confidence within the test taking environments as their ability to deal with the assessments improves and so do their scores. The children all found out how they got on in all of their assessments this week and should be shouting them from the rooftops.

It has not just been assessments though, we have concluded off a short two-week unit of work on writing short stories with flashbacks having watched a very emotional video called 'The Piano' by Aidan Gibbons. The children have really enjoyed studying the video and have used it extremely effectively to write their own short story.

We have also concluded our PE unit for this half term. The children have really enjoyed their cricket over the past 5 weeks and the development in their skills and hand-eye coordination has been very impressive. As the summer term is coming, we will now move onto athletics and rounders in preparation for the summers sporting events.

We have also drawn a line under our Science unit of work on plants for the term. We have spent the half-term identifying key features and processes within flowering plants and have been caring from our own flowers throughout the half-term. Some have been more successful than others and we will continue to care for them for the rest of the year to hopefully see them continue to grow.

All in all, it has been a hugely successful term and I cannot believe we only have 1 term left of this year. It feels like it was just the other day that the children walked into Owls for the first time as a year 5/6.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017

Friday 31st March	Break up for Easter Holiday
Monday 17th April	Easter Monday
Tuesday 18th April	8.45 Return to School
Monday 1st May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 8th May	Y6 SATs Week
Friday 12th May	AFSS Quiz Night
Wednesday 17th May	Lion King Theatre Trip
Monday 22nd May	Y2 SATs Week
Friday 26th May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 5th June	Non-Pupil day
Tuesday 6th June	Non-Pupil Day
Wednesday 7th June	8.45 Return to School
Thursday 8th June	Y6 French Trip
Saturday 10th June	AFSS Summer Festival
Monday 12th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Week
Friday 14th July	Sports morning and Musical afternoon
Friday 21st July	Y6 Leavers Assembly 10am
Friday 21st July	Break up for Summer
Monday 4th September	8.45 Return to School
Monday 11th September	Y6 Residential Trip