

St Michael's Newsletter



Spring 1

Sunflowers and Snowdrops

A note from

Mrs. Dawber

What a busy start to the spring term we have had. It is lovely to see children coming into school with smiles on their faces each day. The children continue to amaze me with their attitude to learning. As I walk around school, children are working so hard in classes being inspired and motivated in their learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support. As a school, we know children learn best when home and school work together. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

We have been really busy again this half term in Nursery.

In Sunflowers, we have welcomed new children and their families, we have been doing lots of baking! This half term, our topic has been, 'our favourite stories'. We have enjoyed reading lots of different stories, re-telling the stories using props and creating beautiful artwork to display on the 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' display board. We have been learning to recognise colour, shape and number through play and have been developing our writing skills.

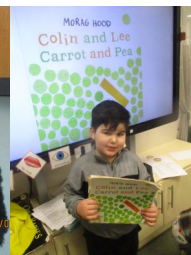
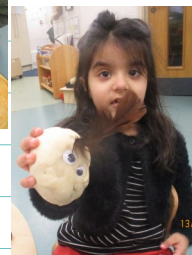
In Snowdrops we have also been very busy doing lots of exciting things.

We started off the term learning about Winter. We shared the story 'The Snowman' and had fun exploring the bit of snow that we had.

We have also been learning about different stories as part of our topic. Our favourites were 'Owl Babies', 'Colin, Lee, Carrot and Pea', 'Dear

Zoo' and 'Fox's Socks,

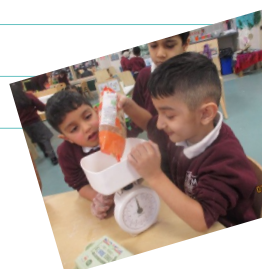
We learned about Valentine's Day and collaged hearts, writing messages to our loved ones on them



Daisies and Buttercups

This half term, Daisies and Buttercups have been busy learning all about Traditional Tales. We have enjoyed reading the stories, 'The Gingerbread Man', 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We have been very busy in the kitchen this half term, making and tasting porridge, baking gingerbread men and making our own sandwiches for our Teddy Bears' Picnic. We have also been busy learning about the celebration of Chinese New Year, comparing the celebration with those we have al-

ready learned about and looking into the similarities and differences between what life is like here in England and what life is like in China.



Daffodils and Poppies

It has been such an exciting and busy half term!

We have been reading stories about Olly the octopus and Pirate Pete. Our shark writing helped us write factual sentences and we found some amazing facts!

Thank you for helping your child learn to count in 2's 5's and 10's. We are now able to count money using these skills really well.

In PSHE we have been thinking about the question What helps us stay healthy?

We have talked about healthy food and how to keep our

hands clean.

We had great fun with the Bee Bots programming them to move around.



Bluebells and Primroses

Year 2 have really enjoyed learning all about the world in Geography. We have labelled and identified the oceans of the world and looked at hot and cold climates!

In our Science lessons, we have learnt all about how to live a healthy lifestyle. We have also looked at the life cycle of humans and animals.



In our English lessons, we have created our own versions of the 'Zog' story that we have read and worked on in class. We have also been writing persuasive letters to a 'Zog' character.

In Maths, we have worked on multiplication, data collecting and addition and subtraction.

We have had our thinking hats on in our PSHE lessons, wondering what we would like to be when we are older!

Willows and Horse-Chestnut

Spring has been very exciting so far for year 3. We have learnt about Italy in Geography and designed and made our own pizzas! In Spring 2, for History, we will be learning about the Romans.

We have been superb writers this term and our teachers are very proud of us. We have been using speech marks, paragraphs and past tense, while making sure our handwriting gets neater and neater. We have read David Litchfield's *The Bear and The Piano* and acted it out in drama. We have some fantastic actors and voices in Year 3!

In Maths, we have been learning all about the

written method for division and multiplication, and how important our times tables are!

We've had great fun learning gymnastics and orienteering in P.E.. Some pupils have started attending out-of-school sports tournaments—the first of many!

In Art, we did some poly-printing, and even made our own fossils out of clay! It was very exciting!



Birch and Sycamore

In Year 4 we have been learning about where our energy comes from during our Topic lessons. Did you know Mr Begg does his bit with Solar panels on his roof! In English we have been writing non-chronological reports about



real-life dragons based on a book called The Boy Who Grew Dragons. In Science, we have been learning about states of matter and looking at how they change.

We have also been loving our drumming lessons! We have come so far from our starting points and have learned all about pulse and rhythm.

In PE we have learned to play dodgeball and netball and in RE, we have looked at how different religions try to make the world a better place.

We have started The Humming Bird Project for PSHE.

We are enjoying developing our resilience and self-esteem.

Have a great half term Y4!



Elms and Beech

A great start to the Spring term for all Year 5! In our Geography lessons, we have learnt all about North America and focused on Mexico—the food, the culture, the landscape etc. We've been tasting some spicy food and have been planning making our own chilli con carne dishes.

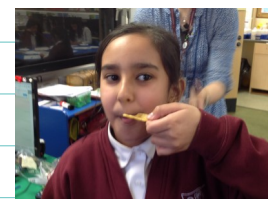
We've been writing some good pieces of work around 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell in English lessons including designing our own dragon and writing about our own island and dragon training clan.

In Maths, we continue to build on skills we have learned throughout Autumn term, with more focus on developing Mathematical reasoning and problem solving.

We've also just finished our Science topic of 'properties and changes of material' and enjoyed doing lots of experiments.

In RE, we have studied Hinduism, looking at the similarities and differences between faiths and in PSHE, we've been learning about emergency situations and how to deal with them.

All in all, a very busy half-term, the children are continuing to make good progress and looking forward to the rest of the Spring term. Well done Year 5!



Teak and Oak



Spring term has got off to a flying start, Year 6 have been working hard in English lessons, reading the brilliant book – A Monster Calls—and writing their own stories based on this. The children are making good improvements in their reading and grammar assessment scores as we continue to gear up towards the SATS in May. We are noticing that some children are still not reading very much at home—if this is the case for your child, please encourage them to read for at least 15 minutes each evening and then sign their Reading Record so that your child's teacher can see all their hard work.

In Maths, we have covered a range of topics this half-term, which again has resulted

in big improvements being made towards their assessment scores!

Year 6 also took part in the annual visit to Crucial Crew. As always, it was a super experience and the children's behaviour on the trip was superb. The staff at Crucial Crew highly praised the children stating they were 'a pleasure to work with'. Well done Year 6!

The children are working incredibly hard in school and it is just as important they keep up the work at home too with their revision. Speaking of revision, tuition club on Wednesday after school is well attended and the new revision books have been given out...keep it up Year 6, you are doing great!

Have a super half term holiday and we will see you back in school on Monday 23rd February.

Do you need to talk to somebody? There is help available for you!



Fortalice - 01204 365677

Bolton Start Well— 01204 33 8149

Endeavour— 01204 394842

Raise the Youth Foundation—01204 431 946