

West Tytherley CE Primary School

Friday 4th March 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all enjoyed a good half term and that you didn't suffer too much from the power cuts following the storm.

School is still standing and the only damage suffered was a few trees at the top of the playground.

We have had a great week back, with lots happening in all classes. I hope that you enjoy reading all about them in this newsletter. We have also attached a list of dates for your calendars, which are also available on the website.

World Book Day

Children and staff brought in their favourite book from home and shared it with the rest of the class. Some classic children's books appeared, such as Old Bear and Mrs Tiggywinkle and everyone was introduced to some new titles and genres. Asterix and Anime appeared in Oak class, whilst authors such as Michael Morpurgo, Cressida Cowell and Emma Carroll are still proving popular. Picture books involving princesses and animals were favoured amongst the younger children.

After play, children took part in a Scavenger Hunt, where they had to match up objects with books. They worked with partners, with the support of Oak Class to look for clues that led them to the book title.

Children have been set a reading challenge to read a wide range of different books. All children who complete this challenge will be awarded a certificate in Celebration Assembly.



News and events in Ukraine

We have thought long and hard about how best to help our children to make sense of the events unfolding in the Ukraine. We know that the children hear and see things from a differing number of sources and also that they will have varying levels of knowledge. We don't think that it is appropriate to hold generic assemblies or whole class lessons about the events, since this will not help to meet the needs of all the children, and may cause further up-set.

Our strategy is to talk to the children if and when the subject is raised, find out their thoughts and go from there. We are making sure that we keep abreast of all the materials that are being published for schools and children and will use these as needed.

If you feel that your child is particularly anxious about it, please do let us know if you feel that it would be helpful for us to talk to them.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend

Kind regards

Lucy Macey

COVID- most recent guidance : Those with COVID symptoms or a positive test should follow [guidance on people with COVID-19 and their contacts](#) and not attend school (note: symptoms relate to the three main symptoms of COVID-19 which are a recent onset of a high temperature, a new continuous cough and loss, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell)

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) guidance is clear that children should not attend school if they have any of the three main symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive for COVID-19 please read the [guidance for parents and carers](#) .

Pupils, staff and other adults who have COVID-19 symptoms, should follow guidance on [people with COVID-19 and their contacts](#).' And 'If you insist on your child attending nursery, school, or college when they have symptoms, they can take the decision to refuse your child if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.'

Weekly Awards

This week we are celebrating the achievements of the following children

Beech	Robyn	For being unconditionally kind to her peers and teachers
Chestnut	Emelia	For always thinking of others and being a great role model to others
Willow	Alica	For always having a smile on her face, She speaks beautifully to the other children in the class and brightens up their day by sharing her Slovakian culture.
Oak	Freya	for great explanation in Maths of how to place numbers on a number line, addressing some misconceptions; she became the teacher!

Thought for the Week

This week we have started Lent (a time of preparation for Easter) – it was ‘Ash Wednesday’ this week. We heard how the ashes were a symbol for our sorrow and sadness that we do wrong things. Lent is a good time for us to decide if we are doing right things or wrong things. We can pray: *Lord God, for all the things that I do that I know I shouldn't, I am sorry. Amen*

Vicar James

News from around school

Beech

Welcome back Beech Class, I hope that you had an enjoyable and restful half term. We kicked off the week with a new learning journey in Literacy - Superworm! We designed our own heroes and wrote about what their superpowers might be. We also looked at the front cover and wrote down what we could see. Year 1 have been practicing their comprehension and revisiting questioning vocabulary to improve their assessment technique.

In mathematics, we have started a unit on time and have so far been thinking about what comes before and after an event, making a note of what the children do before and after school. The children have also learned a song to help learn the days of the week and months of the year. We have used our class calendar to write down everybody's birthday in full. This will lead into our year 1 children learning to read the time to the hour and half past.

In Geography, we looked at a map of West Tytherley and tried to find our school, the park, the church and the shop. This half term we will be looking at our local park and how we could improve it to make it more suitable for the upcoming Summer season. In Science, we learned the correct names for different parts of the body and washed babies during our play, matching labels to the body part.



Chestnut



This week, the children have been finishing off their topics from before half term. In English this week, the children have written up their set of instructions as to 'How to Build a Clockwork Dragon'. They have had to write it in the style of our text driver, How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth, and ensure that there is humour within their instructions. Some of these dragons are being held together by jelly, spaghetti and even unsticky glue!

Chestnut class started their history sessions this week with looking at how safety in cars has changed from the first automobile in 1886 to a modern day car, my car, from 2018. They identified a number of different items that were on the modern day car and could explain why they were needed to keep us safe, e.g. a seatbelt is needed so we don't go forward in an accident. They then looked at the Benz automobile and were shocked to see it only had 3 wheels and no form of safety equipment. There were a lot of questions generated about what happens if you're in an accident in that car. Later in the week, the children started to research when different modes of transport were first created and this information is going to be collated into a timeline.

On Friday, the children are going to be finishing their cars and begin to test them in a variety of ways, looking at their durability and how far they can travel. Photos to be added next week.

We have also had World Book Day on Thursday. The children wrote a letter to a character in their book, before going on a scavenger hunt matching up books and props from the book.



Willow

Welcome back Willow class, I am so glad to see all your faces again. This week in Willow has been very interesting. We started some new topics: in English we have started a new book "How does a lighthouse work?" We started by using some of our science knowledge (from two half-terms ago) and started designing our own lighthouses which we will fit with bulbs and wires to make into working lighthouses.

We have also started a story book in guided reading: 'The Steampunk Pirates: The curse of the slippery sea monster'. So far this week, we have been predicting what the book will be about and getting to know the characters.

The year threes had a very exciting start to the week and on Monday they had the chance to go to another school and have a dance lesson from a professional teacher who is working with lots of schools to produce a dance to support the Commonwealth Games, which will be held this year in Birmingham. We learned some African dance moves, particularly from the Zulu tribe and the year threes got to teach the year four children some of their moves. It was inspiring.

We have also had World Book day this week, for which Oak class designed a scavenger hunt for the whole school. The children really loved working together to find out which props belonged to which books and everyone enjoyed working together.



Oak

Before half-term, Oak class have continued with their learning about space and the planets. Children have invented a new planet and started to write a mini fact file about it. They enjoyed getting the paints out and having some messy fun!

Children became historical detectives when they investigated and researched some artefacts from the Shang Dynasty. They had to use visual clues to work out the material, purpose or use and potential owner. At the start of the process, no one had any idea what the objects were!

This week, Oak class have been investigating the topic of friction, by finding out how the brakes on a bike work. They discovered that the rubberised brake pad is corrugated and works on the rim, not the wheel. They will design sets of brake pads using different materials and investigate which is the most effective in slowing a wheel down.



West Tytherley Primary School -Dates for the Diary- Spring 2

Please make a note of the following dates. There may be more to follow.

They will be added to the website.

Date	What	When	Where	Who	Details
4/3/2022	Celebration Assembly	2.45pm	Hall	All welcome	
10/3/2022	Swimming	1.15pm	Farleigh	Oak Class	
11/3/2022	Tag Rugby at Wallop	Am (Mrs Finlay to take)	Wallop	Invite Year 5/6	
11/3/2022	Celebration Assembly	2.45pm	Hall	All welcome	
17/3/2022	Swimming	1.15pm	Farleigh	Oak Class	
18/3/2022	Red Nose Day	All day	At school	All children	Wear own clothes and a red nose and bring in a donation of food for a local food bank.
18/3/2022	Celebration Assembly	2.45pm	Hall	All welcome	
21/3/2022	Netball at Test valley	4pm- 5.30pm	Test Valley	Year 4/ 5/6- invite from netball team	Mrs Finlay to select team and send letter
24/3/2022	Swimming	1.15pm	Farleigh	Oak Class	
25/3/2022	Celebration Assembly	2.45pm	Hall	All welcome	
29/3/2022	Parents Evening	4pm-6pm	In school	All parents	A letter will be sent out offering times
31/3/2022	Swimming	1.15pm	Farleigh	Oak Class	
31/3/2022	Parents Evening	4pm-6pm	In school	All parents	A letter will be sent out offering times
1/4/2022	Celebration Assembly	2.45pm	Hall	All welcome	
6/4/2022	Easter Egg Hunt	2pm	School- outside	All children	PTA organised
7/4/2022	Egg Rolling Competition	am	School- outside	All children	Your child will need to bring in a hard-boiled egg
7/4/2022	Swimming	1.15pm	Farleigh	Oak Class	
8/4/2022	Church service/ end of term celebration	10am	At the church	All welcome	