

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and spirits, Spring is in the air. As we approach the end of Term 4, I wanted to take a moment to update you on the recent events at Grove Park Primary School.



Firstly, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the parents who attended the recent parents' evening. Your presence and active involvement in your child's education are vital, and we value your ongoing support. If you are unable to attend, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class team for a suitable time to discuss their progress.

In line with our commitment to fostering a love for Reading and Science, we celebrated World Book Day and Science Day with great enthusiasm. The children took part in various fun activities and showcased their knowledge and creativity linked to Time. These events not only provided them with opportunities for hands-on learning but also instilled a deep appreciation for the wonders of books and the marvels of science. We held a competition for children to design a new bookmark and represent time. Thank you to all those who took part and a big well done to you all.



Serengeti Winners – EYFS Harlee (Giraffe) KS1- Bella (Meerkat) KS2 Bella B (Rhino)
Arctic Winners - EYFS- Isabelle B (Polar Bears) KS1- Eli (Puffin) KS2- Ella H (Arctic Fox)



I would like to extend my gratitude to our dedicated HSA for organising the Mother's Day sale. It was a delightful occasion that allowed the children to express their love and gratitude towards their mothers and loved ones. The funds raised will go towards supporting various school projects and initiatives, improving the overall educational experience for our pupils.

Staffing Update:

As we informed you during this term, it is with a heavy heart that I announced the departure of Miss Hyams, who has been an integral part of our teaching staff for the past ten years. Miss Hyams has been a remarkable teacher and made lasting impressions on the lives of many pupils during her time here. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for her commitment and dedication to Grove Park. We also say a sad goodbye to Mrs Downard, who has made the difficult decision to leave Grove Park. Mrs Downard has been within our community since 2010, working with many children throughout the school and supporting several teachers. We wish her all the best for the future.

We also have some exciting news that Miss Donaldson is due to get married in April, becoming Mrs. Watton. She also would like to inform you all that she is expecting her first baby! Her baby will be due in the Autumn, and she is very excited to tell her class next term. As well as this, we also share the lovely news that Mrs. Grady is expecting another baby. Her baby is due in July, and she is hoping to remain in Ostrich class until this time. On behalf of all the Grove Park community, we wish them all the best and look forward to sharing the safe arrival of each baby.



Lastly, we wanted to briefly touch upon the essential issue of railway safety. As part of our continual efforts to promote the well-being of our pupils, we arranged railway safety workshops during this term. These sessions provided valuable knowledge and skills to our children, equipping them with the necessary tools to stay safe around railway tracks. We encourage you to continue reinforcing these lessons at home and adhere to the proper safety guidelines when using railway crossings.

As always, I am grateful for your continuous support and involvement in your child's education, and we wish you a restful Easter break.

Further Notices:

We are committed to supporting children with their social and emotional health, along with providing safe spaces within the school where children are self-regulating and find a sense of calm. As part of our development projects, we are excited to share that Grove Park have appointed a Forest School assistant, Mrs Day, who will lead outdoor sessions for different year groups across our school site and within



the other Trust schools. Forest Schools allows children to learn, build and bond with others and develop key life skills through fun, outdoor activities. At Grove Park, as well as using the woodland area for these sessions, we are also developing a new provision called "Cuddle Corner". This will house rabbits and guinea pigs, allowing children to build connectivity with animals and develop empathy skills. Further information regarding our new animals will be sent home to you soon, along with consent forms for your children to access and engage with our new pets.

Bourne Kids Wrap around club

As you are aware we have a successful Breakfast and After school club provision at Grove Park that has become very popular. We are of course limited to the number of children per session each day and require you to book your children in before they attend. We cannot take your children who are not booked in, as it may cause our staff ratio to be incorrect. We reserve the right to refuse entry at this point. Please ensure your child is booked in for the correct number of days you may need us. Any further queries regarding our wrap around care, please contact the team via the club email:

bournekids@bamat.org.uk

Term 4 in Polar Bear Class

Our term kicked off with a visit from Creepy Claws! We learnt different facts about the animals we were shown and we were super brave!



We had fun dressing up for Science Day!



We have really enjoyed being creative this term ~ making dinosaurs using paper plates and split pins as well as painting and making clay animals.

This term our topic is Creatures! We have been exploring animals, mini-beasts and Dinosaurs!



We have enjoyed reading stories:
Dear Zoo
Tyrannosaurus Drip
Aliens love Dinopants
The Bad Tempered Ladybird



We have been writing our own letters to the zoo and speech bubbles. We worked in groups to write facts.

Our home corner in class got revamped after half term and we are having so much fun playing in there!



The Numberblocks have been helping us to learn adding one more and taking one away. We have also been practising our number formation. We have also been ordering our numbers from 0-10, counting backwards, grouping amounts and doubling.



We celebrated World Book Day! We got to mix with Year 1 and 2 and share different stories and take part in different activities.



We made bird feeders!



Our 3 Dojos across our school are: Ready, Respect and Safe. Whoever gets the most dojos each day gets to wear our special medal and have their photo up! Look out for this on our door.

Congratulations to Isabelle for winner our Science Day prize.

Puffin Class



This term Puffin class have enjoyed investigating African countries of the World. We have been learning about the most interesting African wild animals. The children have also loved reading stories by Rachel Bright, with a particular favourite being The Lion Inside and writing about the main characters.



In science, we have been learning about different animals and we have enjoyed comparing what they eat, where they live and how they survive. The investigation of poo was such fun and the children learnt valuable definitions: herbivore, carnivore and omnivore. Science Day was filled with wonderful experiments. The trip to Wingham Wildlife has certainly been a highlight of the term and we are very proud to note that the children behaved impeccably!

In Art we have been using a variety of resources to produce African musical instruments and necklaces. We were very proud of the amazing care and attention that was taken when producing the Mother's Day cards we hope that you enjoyed them.



In our discovery work, we have been learning about the different African habitats and we had such fun making them with our cardboard boxes. We enjoyed learning about the continents and seas of the World. I hope they have been singing to you!



We are very excited to tell you that our chick eggs hatched this week 😊

We had a fantastic Red Nose Day and the children loved celebrating and remembering the importance of the day. 😊



Congratulations to our school values certificate winners this term: Reggie, Oscar F, Trey, Lavina and Michelle 😊

Top Scorer on Numbot this term : Shaye 😊



Year 2 - Snowy Owls

Term 4 has been certainly been busy with lots of exciting events. This term our discovery topic has been 'Australia'.



Our writing text this term was 'The Koala Who Could'. We have written information leaflets about koalas, and letters and postcards to try and convince Kevin the koala to leave his safe eucalyptus tree. Our reading text was 'The Dragon Sitter' and we have loved finding out what mischievous thing the dragon has done next!

In maths, we have been learning all things shape. We loved finding different 3d shapes in our classroom and learning to use maths vocabulary to describe them. We have also learnt about fractions. We have deepened our understanding of quarters, halves and thirds and how to calculate fractions of amounts.

Within our Discovery lessons, we have deepened our understanding of how global warming is affecting another continent. We've compared The Outback to the Kent countryside, and explored The Great Barrier Reef and Uluru. We've also learnt about Aboriginal history and created wonderful pointillism pieces of art in an Aboriginal style.



This term, we have worked hard on our DT skills to make a puppet. We focused on how to join materials together and we are thrilled with the finished product! In science, our focus has been on materials. We have experimented with various properties to understand how objects are suited to what they are used for.

We have also participated in lots of themed days. In science day we learnt about time and there were so many fantastic costumes! For World Book Day, we had the opportunity to dive into different texts in other classes in the school.



We loved our diggeridoo workshop! We learnt about where the diggeridoo originates from, heard how it used today and even how to play one ourselves. We finished our workshop by coming together as a band and playing a tune together.

Next term, our topic will be 'Pirates'.

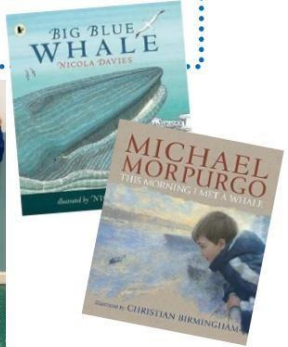
A huge congratulations to our class value winners for term 4: Tariq, Gabriel, Freddie, Finley M, Anika and Layton.

Lastly, I wanted to thank you for your support this year. I have loved being a part of your child's journey and I wish them the best of luck for the future.

Narwhal Class

This term in Narwhal Class, we revisited the topic 'Deep Deep Down'.

We have been learning specifically about whales and all of our learning has been based around two books: Big, Blue Whale and This Morning I Met a Whale.



In geography, the children recapped what they already knew about our seven continents and five oceans. We learnt about the Northern and Southern Hemisphere as well as the equator. The children can describe what countries are like that are close to the equator and the reasons why whales migrate towards the equator in the winter. The children also learnt about rivers and made some lovely collages that included different features.



In science, the children have been learning all about light.

They have explored light sources and can describe the difference between a source and a reflector. They enjoyed using mirrors to explore how images and light are reflected and also enjoyed looking at how shadows are formed. The children know that it is important to protect their eyes from different light sources.

The children celebrated science week this term too and we saw some great projects that represented the theme of time.

It was great to see so many children dressed up as scientists and really getting involved in the day's activities!



Our outdoor and indoor PE focused on the same skills this term. The children created dance moves to tell an under the sea story and they also practised their attacking and defending skills in small games of basketball.



The children celebrated Red Nose Day and World Book Day this term. They had a choice of which book they wanted to read and were then mixed with year 4, 5 and 6 to work on a creative task.



In computing, the children have been learning how to code.



Spring term value certificates went to the following children:

- Respect - Aaliyah, Ruby C, Ruby S
 - Resilience - Harley, Quinton
 - Responsible - Sophia A, Logan
 - Resourceful - Sammy, David
- Our champions who showed all four values were...Ava and Cora!



The spring term has also been great for competitions! Poppy, Jack, Aaliyah, Hudson and represented our class, in a dodgeball tournament involving schools within our trust, and came third overall.

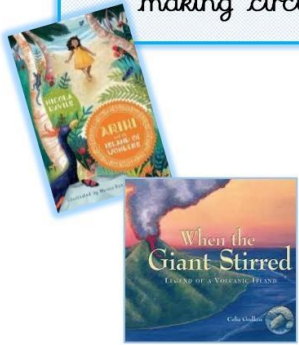
Then Sammy, David and Lily represented our year group in an active stacking competition and came first in their first game!

Our topic next term is "A Window to Europe"

Arctic Fox

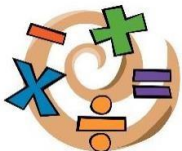
This term our Discovery topic has been 'The Natural World'. We have learnt all about Volcanoes, Mountains and Earthquakes.

Our science topic this term has been 'Electricity', and we've had great fun making circuits and predicting which circuits would be complete.



Our guided reading and writing texts this term have been based upon 'island' stories. The children have really enjoyed listening to 'Ariki and the island of wonders' by Nicola Davies. We have continued to refine our read and retrieve skills and have begun to focus more on our mastery skills of inference. We have been really impressed with the children's progress in reading this term, and we would like to thank you for all your hard work in supporting us in promoting the importance of reading and reading with your children at home.

DT this term we worked in teams to design and create our own Volcanos. We used multi-media to create our volcanoes, including choosing different colours to represent the lava flow and any vegetation that might grow. We can't wait for them to erupt!



We continue to focus on our times tables throughout the year. June sees all children in Year 4 across the UK take part in a multiplication test in which all children are expected to achieve the pass mark of 25. Fluency is the key to passing, something we are working on every day in class, with the support of our multiplication app TT Rockstars. If you would like your child to access this app at home, please ask for your child's log in to be sent home. Of course, any support you can provide at home is gratefully received. For more information about the Government multiplication test go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

Respect Responsible Resilience Resourceful

Congratulations to our class Value winners



Hayley, Sophie, Logan, Azalea, Tinaye and Max



Just a little reminder that yellow reading records need to come into school every day

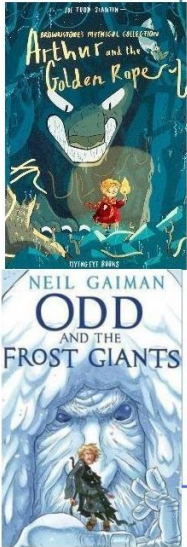


Our Term 5 & 6 Topic will be The Egyptians

We look forward to our trip to The British Museum in July where we will be taking part in an Egyptian mummy workshop! Next term also sees Arctic Fox class attend swimming lessons.



Year 5 - Snow Leopards



Linking to our topic, in English we have been reading 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton. The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading about Arthur's perilous adventures and writing their own version of the story. They also learnt that not all heroes are the most likely! In Reading, we have looked at 'Odd and the Frost Giants' by Neil Gaiman. The children thoroughly enjoyed this book as they learnt all about the Norse Gods Odin, Thor and Loki.

Our topic this term has been Valhalla. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. The children have enjoyed being creative and making a variety of things all linked to the Vikings. They even learnt that Anglo-Saxon artefacts have been found locally in Sittingbourne!



Also, this term we have looked at the following topics:

- Art/DT – We have been very creative this term in Snow Leopards. The children have used a variety of materials to create different Viking and Anglo-Saxon artefacts. The children have enjoyed designing and then making brooches out of clay and Viking soldiers out of tin foil.
- RE – We have explored the big question of 'Who is the most important person in the Easter story.' The children have enjoyed learning about this.
- PE – In both outdoor and indoor PE, the children have been working together in team building games. I have been very impressed with their teamwork and collaboration throughout the term!



In Maths, the children have shown great resilience when faced with tricky learning. The children have been working on their understanding of fractions this term. This has not been easy, but they have continued to show great resilience and a 'can do' attitude. I have seen a big improvement from the beginning of the term and have noticed that their confidence with fractions is improving!

Congratulations to our value certificate winners this term – Connor, Reggie, Freddie, Callum and Betty



Year 6 - Reindeer Class



This term our topic was 'Can we save the tiger?'

We thoroughly enjoyed our World Book Day and Science Day!

This term we have considered how we can help save animals who are endangered. We have learnt about places around the world in our geography atlas work, looking into biomes and climates. This has linked well to discussing adaptations of animals for their habitats, retrieving our learning of evolution in science last term.



DT: We Designed, Made & Evaluated our Tiger Traps as conservationists in Forest School!

Art: We have retrieved our sketching skills creating some amazing art pieces for our 'Make my Voice Heard' topic, Tiger portrait sketches, Mother's Day cards, and got creative with making Easter hats.



Linking to our topic, in English we have been reading the hybrid-text 'Can we save the tiger?' learning about various endangered animals. We have produced a first-person explanation, descriptions, list poem, persuasive writing piece, leaflet, and a hybrid-text of our own. We focused on: present perfect tense, semi-colons, modal verbs, adverbs for possibility, parenthesis, and cohesion. Our Pathways to Read book 'Tiger Heart' has created excellent discussions for making predictions and inferences using evidence from the text and illustrations.

In science, we have learnt about classification of plants and animals. We have had some exciting investigations looking at micro-organisms through testing mouldy bread. Our creepy claws visit was also amazing, being able to touch the animals whilst learning about them.

In maths this term we continued with algebra and moved onto units of measure. We have also had lots of revision on areas we needed to recap so far this year, including fractions, percentages, angles, shape and division. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning through songs as well!



A huge well done to Skyla-Mai, Matthew, Riley, Ellie B and Amy for being our values certificate winners this term.

Other topics that the children in Year 6 have been studying this term:

- Sports / Exercise routines (French)
- Coding (Computing)
- No Outsiders story & Safety and the changing body (PSHE)
- OAA (PE) - We thoroughly enjoyed lots of games such as the human alphabet and cross the swamp!
- Easter story & Hindu symbols linking to our Discovery (RE)



We are looking forward to making more memories with your children in Term 5 to start our new topic 'Great Adventurers'. We also have our SATs coming up next term - WB 13th May 2024.