

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful and busy term 4 it has been! We are delighted to share just some of the highlights that have made this term so special.

#### *Welly Wednesday Success*

This term we saw the return of Welly Wednesday and once again it was a massive success, with children and staff from every class taking part. It was fantastic to see pupils showing resilience, teamwork, and a real enthusiasm for exploring the outdoor environment. The smiles (and muddy clothes!) said it all. This event enables all children to try something new, collaborate and apply skills from the classroom to a real experience and make amazing memories along the way. We thank you for supporting us during this muddy event and hope the children came home full of happy stories that day.

#### *Representing our school with pride*

Throughout the term, children across the school have taken part in a variety of school trips, including Year 6- Big Cat Sanctuary, Year 5 - Kent life and Year 4 VR experience and Easter workshops. We are incredibly proud to have received such positive feedback from staff and members of the public with comments including how *friendly, polite, and well-mannered* our pupils were. They truly represented the school beautifully—well done, everyone! We also represented our school in a Maths Challenge Day at Westlands Secondary school. Our Year 5's showed their competitive side in a set of maths challenges against other primary schools. We were very successful, and the children applied their maths knowledge into something new and different!

#### *Working with Swale Council*

This week, members of our staff attended a Swale Council meeting alongside other local schools to discuss parking, safe travel, and movement around school settings. Further information proposed by the Council will be shared with families and residents soon. In the meantime, please continue to be mindful of others. We would like to gently remind our community that we are all role models for our children; aggressive language or behaviour towards pedestrians or other road users is never appropriate. Let's continue working together to make our school environment safe and respectful for everyone.

#### *OPAL Open Day*

We were delighted to host an OPAL Open Day, welcoming visitors from other local schools who wanted to see a Platinum-level play provision in action. Our guests were thoroughly impressed and commented on how *content, safe, and happy* our children were during lunchtime. They also noted how respectful, inclusive, and supportive the pupils were to one another—an amazing reflection of our whole school community. Our OPAL journey has gone from strengthen to strengthen and this is because of the children willing to trying something new and staff listening to the pupils' brilliant ideas. Together we have created a safe environment that enables all children to simply be children.



### *Thank You for Supporting Our Fundraising*

A huge thank you to all families for your support during our fundraising events this term. Our Red Nose Day, organised by our wonderful Diversity Champions, was a great success. You also joined us in celebrating British Sign Language Week, which linked beautifully to our ongoing work on the theme of *"a sense of belonging."* These events offered wonderful opportunities for pupils to shine, demonstrating respect, empathy and celebrating the uniqueness of their friends. Please ask your children about these special days and events, we are sure they would love to demonstrate new knowledge and information. A special thank you a member of our school community, Mr Bish who volunteered his time to deliver an important message about the deaf community and taught our children a new language along the way!

### *Year 6 Bikeability*

At the start of this term our Year 6 children took part in Bikeability, developing confidence and road safety skills as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. This training is incredibly valuable, and we are proud of how sensibly they approached each session. This activity is one of the many transition events we host at Grove Park to ensure our children are confident within the real world and can try something new.

### *Parents' Evening*

Finally, thank you to all families who attended Parents' Evening. These meetings play such an important role in supporting your child's progress, and we truly appreciate your time and partnership. Thank you to all the staff who shared valuable information about your child's achievements, behaviour and next steps. If you have any further questions please do contact your class team, who will be happy to help.

## *Happy Easter*

As we reach the end of a busy and exciting term, we would like to wish all our families a very Happy Easter. We hope you enjoy a restful break filled with joy, relaxation, and time together. Take care, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026.



# Giraffe Class Newsletter T4

In Term 4 in Giraffe Class, the children have been enjoying learning all about **Creatures**. We explored a wide range of animals, from familiar farm and jungle animals to fascinating **dinosaurs** from long long ago. The children loved learning facts, particularly about dinosaurs! We also became mini explorers while learning about **minibeasts**, such as butterflies, ladybirds, worms and spiders. The children had fun searching for minibeasts in our outdoor area and learning about where they live and why they are important for nature. Through stories, creative activities and hands-on exploration, the children developed their curiosity about the natural world and built their vocabulary, all while having fun with their friends. 🦋 🐛 🕸



Creepy Claws!



## The Very Hungry Caterpillar and our very own caterpillars!

One of our stories this term was The Very Hungry Caterpillar. The children loved this book and became very good at reciting all of the food he ate! It all became very exciting when the children saw our real caterpillars. They all knew the life cycle and what signs to look for the next step. We can't wait to see them turn into beautiful butterflies!

Our EYFS children had an exciting and memorable visit from **Creepy Claws**, who brought along some amazing creatures for us to meet. The children were fascinated as they learned about a variety of animals, including a hedgehog, a tarantula, a snake and even scorpions. The visit gave the children a wonderful opportunity to see these creatures up close and learn interesting facts about where they live, what they eat and how they protect themselves. Many of the children were very brave and enjoyed carefully touching the animals. They absolutely loved it! A huge thank you to Creepy Claws!

## Welly Wednesday

It was Giraffe Class' very first Welly Wednesday. It is safe to say we all had the best day! There was so much laughter, so many smiles and SO much mud! The children showed great resilience and we are very proud of them.





# Term 4 in Meerkat Class

What another fantastic term it has been! We have shown so much enthusiasm and curiosity in our learning, especially during our exciting castles topic. We are so proud of how much knowledge and confidence we have gained this term.

This term, our learning has been all about castles and answering the question: "Where is the best place to build a castle?" We have been incredibly interested in this topic and have become very knowledgeable. Some of us have even visited real castles in Kent! We can now name and explain different features of a castle, such as moats, towers and drawbridges, and describe how they were used for protection.



In DT, we designed and made our own castles using junk modelling. We carefully planned our ideas and included lots of key features such as towers, drawbridges and moats. We also used our knowledge of different joins from Reception to make sure our structures were strong and secure. Our finished castles were fantastic!



Forest School has definitely been one of the highlights of our term. We loved going every Tuesday with Mrs Day and exploring the outdoors. We took part in a variety of activities and learned lots of new skills. We were very sad when it came to an end in Week 5, but excited to hear that we will be able to do it all again in Term 6!

We also had great fun during Welly Wednesday! We got very muddy and wet, but had an amazing time. Even those of us who were unsure at the beginning joined in by the end. We enjoyed crawling through mud on the assault course, throwing mud at targets and building dens to stay dry from the teachers and their water guns!

As a final note, the Meerkat Class team would like to say how proud we all are of how well children are doing with their phonics at the moment.

Next term, we will begin an exciting new topic all about Space and Astronauts. We are looking forward to learning about planets, space travel and what it takes to become an astronaut. We hope you have a lovely Easter break, stay safe and keep reading – we can't wait to see you all next term!



# Lion Class- Year 2



**Respectful Responsible Resilient Resourceful**

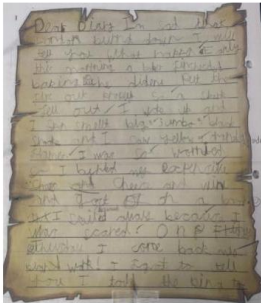
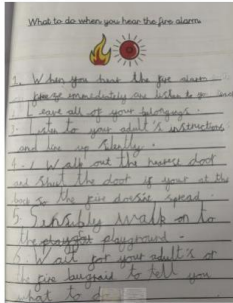
This term we have celebrated the following members of Lion Class for showing how responsible, resourceful, resilient and respectful they can be. Well done!! **Lily** (respectful), **Finn** (resilient), **Harlee** (responsible), **Tommy** (Resourceful), **Arabella** (respectful) and our Value Champion this term was **Mason** (all 4 values).

This term, Year 2's topic was 'The Great Fire of London'. We can answer 'The BIG question'- **What happened in the Great Fire of London? How did it start and why did it spread?'**

We became detectives and tried to answer these questions using clues from paintings, diaries and other sources of information such as physical objects. We managed to solve the case and find the answers!



In **English** we have been looking at features of a diary and an explanation text. We have written about the Great Fire using noun phrases, commas in lists, conjunctions and time conjunctions to sequence the events in our writing. We also acted out a fire alarm and then wrote instructions on what to do for people to follow. Instructions include imperative (bossy) verbs so we had great fun acting some out!



In **Maths**, we have been learning written methods to help us solve number sentences. We have been learning about column addition and subtraction, dividing by sharing and measuring using a ruler.

In DT, we designed and made houses from 1666. We researched hinges to make a door. We tried different ways to attach things to our houses.



**Welly Wednesday!**





## Year 3 – Elephant Class -Term 4 – Deep Deep Down



This term, Elephant Class have been learning about the world's oceans and how plastic pollution harms marine life. They explored whale migration and discussed the impact humans have on ocean habitats.

It was lovely to see the care and understanding they showed around this important issue.

In **Science**, we learned about the different food groups and why a balanced diet is important for keeping our bodies healthy.

We also explored the human skeleton with help from our model, 'Davey Bones', and learned the names of several bones – including the longest bone in the body!

The class can now even recall how many bones an adult human has, showing fantastic focus and enthusiasm throughout.

In **Writing**, we learned about the key features of a letter and explored persuasive techniques to make our writing more powerful. The class practised using time adverbials, subordinating conjunctions, and varied sentence lengths to create real impact in their work. Well done Elephants!

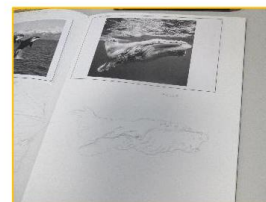
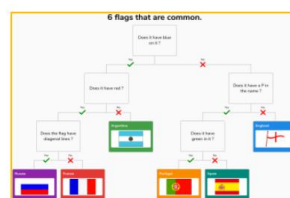
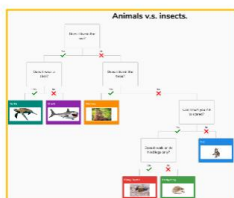


Welly Wednesday was a fantastic day, filled with fun, courage, and determination from everyone involved! We also loved celebrating World Book Day. The class took on the challenge of creating their own origami bookmarks, and their paper plate designs were brilliant!

In **Computing**, we have been learning about branching databases and how binary (yes/no) questions help us sort and classify information. The children then created their own branching databases based on a topic of their choice, showing great logic and creativity.

Fantastic computing learning this term!

In **Art**, the children have been developing their sketching and shading skills, using careful observation to capture detail accurately. They practised sketching sea animals and explored how shading can add depth and highlight key features. A wonderful term of creative learning!



### Value Champions -

Well done to the following children for demonstrating one of the school values this term:

Stanley

Yahya

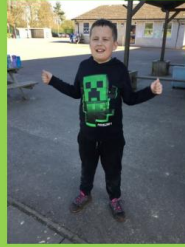
Evelin

Albie-Jak

Jack



## Zebra Class



### Term 4

Here we are at the end of another busy term and it's hard to believe we are already over half way through year 4.

The children have certainly had lots of fun days, including World Book Day and Red Nose day as well as Welly Wednesday. It was lovely to see them all dressed up and taking part in all the fun activities.

One of the highlights of our term was our visit to Iwade School for our VR workshop on volcanoes. The children were really engaged in their learning and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They made me very proud with their mature attitude during the day.

In our day to day learning we have looked at fractions and decimals in maths, electricity in science and Natural disasters in our discovery topic. We have made and exploded volcanoes. In PE we have been practicing our tennis skills they have been put through their paces with circuit training.

Congratulations to all of our values winners and I would like to say how proud I am of the children's continued effort in their learning. Well done Zebra Class, keep up the amazing work.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and raring to go in term 5.

# Term 4 in Rhino Class

This term our topic was the Vikings and the Anglo-Saxons.

In **writing** we looked at fantasy stories and we focussed on the story of Beowulf. We looked at figurative language, such as similes and expanded noun phrases and wrote our own fantasy stories, considering an opening, build up, problem, resolution and ending.

In **maths** we have focussed on fractions, percentages and decimals. We looked at perimeter and area of polygons.



We celebrated **World Book Day**; our focus texts were bunny vs monkey and the chocolate factory. We had to make our favourite characters out of paper plates. Well done to Evie who won the competition, with her Harry Potter design, and received a book!

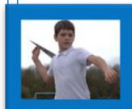
We took part in **Welly Wednesday** to celebrate our OPAL play learning. We loved taking part in the different activities, particularly the assault course where we got covered in mud!



Our **science** focus was living things and their habitats. We looked at life cycles of different living things.

During our **discovery** lessons, in **history** and **geography**, we looked at who the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings were, where they settled and why. We focused on key figures and events during that time and answered our assessment question 'How did invasion and resistance shape the Saxon and Viking civilisation?'

We celebrated **science week** and made paper aeroplanes. We used different materials such as tissue paper, card and newspaper and predicted which would go the furthest!



We embraced sign language week and learnt different signs to use in our everyday lives.



In **DT** this term, we made Viking longships! We looked at the different parts of a longship and discussed what materials we needed.



We have been busy celebrating many different events this term! We supported comic relief and dressed up in crazy clothes, with crazy hair for Red Nose Day.

In week 5 we visited **Kent life**. We took part in multiple Viking themed activities such as living like a Viking and looking at their daily routine, learning about Viking beliefs, making Viking jewellery and learning about how they used weapons and defence when carrying out raids.



# Term 4 - Ostrich Class



Term 4 has been purposeful and enjoyable as the children have been practising key skills in preparation for their SATs. Our topic, "Can We Save the Tiger?", has also been a highlight, especially our exciting visit to the Big Cat Sanctuary.

This term, the children explored the threats facing tigers and efforts to protect them. They researched, discussed and analysed before producing their own for and against debates. Ostrich class successfully organised information into well-structured paragraphs, used formal language, applied technical vocabulary and wrote captivating sections to create their final pieces. Ostrich truly showed a real maturity and a strong understanding of the issues.

Our highlight of this term was our visit to the Big Cat Sanctuary. The children were fascinated by the range of species and the conservation work taking place. We learned about the roles of sanctuaries in protecting endangered animals. The trip enabled us to enrich our writing with our amazing experience.

In Science, Ostrich class investigated how animals are grouped and how our term scientist Carl Linnaeus grouped and classified living things. We successfully created our own classification keys and deepened our understanding of vertebrates and invertebrates linking to our topic of the tiger.

Throughout this term, Ostrich class have been working hard to strengthen their SATs readiness. It has been wonderful to see their confidence and accuracy improve!

In art, pupils explored symbolism and chiaroscuro, they experimented with dramatic contrasts of light and shadow. We created our own tiger themed chiaroscuro pieces expressing themes such as strength, protection and danger and how emotion could be shown through light and dark. The final artworks were powerful, thoughtful and visually striking!



A massive well done to our certificate winners this term:

Eliza, Florence, Grace, Thomas and Kaya