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LOUDWATER UPDATE

Friday 1st April 2022

Dear Parents,

Important Calendar Dates

Monday 4th April – Year 1 to visit Flackwell Heath Library

Tuesday 5th April – Year 4 visit to The Mead

Wednesday 6th April – Year 5 Hispanic Evening

Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th – Y6 parent/teacher meetings (virtual)

Friday 8th April – End of the spring term – see below for pupils' finishing times

Monday 25th April – School re-opens for the summer term

Value of the month

Our value of the month for April will be Perseverance. During assemblies and class discussion time we will be exploring the following questions and ideas:

- How will you achieve your goals?
- How can we become more resilient?
- How can we help and support each other to succeed?

Our inspirational person this month is Nadiya Hussain. We will be exploring how she overcame anxieties to be the winner of 'Bake Off', a TV presenter and author. A read aloud version of one of her books can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvjW1kMqFTk>

More about Nadiya Hussain can be found here: <https://tvovermind.com/nadiya-hussain/>

News from the classes this week:

Foundation Stage

In Foundation Stage this week we have been enjoying the story "I want my hat back". We have retold the story, made a story map and written speech bubbles for the bear. In Guided Reading we have been enjoying another Nok story, called "A bag of tricks," and in Phonics we have continued to practise using the sounds we know to sound out and spell words.

In Maths we have been continuing our consolidation of this term's learning. We have been problem solving with numbers to 10, finding missing numbers and using pictures to make up number sentences.

Our topic work has focused on another type of bear, the giant panda. If you ask us, we will be able to tell you what they eat, where they live and something unusual about their hands!

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

<https://readingeggs.co.uk>

Year One

I have been so proud of the children this week. On Thursday they shared what they have been learning about our value of forgiveness with the rest of the school. It was the first values assembly since March 2020 so we were all feeling very emotional and really proud. Well done Year 1!

In English this week we have been enjoying the story 'Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis. We had to listen to the description of the Bog baby and draw what we thought it might look like. As we read the story we found out that the Bog Baby wasn't feeling very well and we wondered why. We had some super ideas which we wrote in sentences. Once we had finished reading the story we wrote instructions about how to care for a Bog Baby. One of our best ideas was: 'Leave it alone!' We talked about the use of an exclamation mark in this sentence.

In Maths we have been busy measuring. We have been using the words long, longer, longest, tall, taller, tallest and short, shorter, shortest. We investigated things that were taller and shorter than Miss Weston by going for a walk around the school grounds. We found lots of taller things such as trees, the outdoor classroom and our door. We have been measuring the length of classroom objects using cubes and then moving on to using a ruler and measuring in cm.

In Science we have been learning about the different things that animals eat. We used the words carnivore, herbivore and omnivore.

We enjoyed this video clip which explained these terms...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882hv/articles/z96vb9q>

In our art lesson this week we looked at Joan Miro's painting 'Birds and Insects'



We created our own version of this and chose our own titles.

In RE we have been learning the reasons why Christians celebrate Easter.

Useful websites

Reading Eggs and Numbots

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/dragons-den>

(Choose phase 5 and revise phase 5)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

(Keep practicing number bonds to 10)

Year Two

In English, we have been continuing to read the non-fiction text 'Titanic' by Anna Claybourne. We have learned about the features of an information text and created a Writer's Toolkit. We planned our own information book about The Titanic which we will write next week. Then we made a front cover and contents page ready for our books.

In Phonics, we have been revising compound words. We have built, defined, read and written compound words within sentences. In Guided Reading, we have begun to read the story of 'The Tear Thief' by Carol Ann Duffy. We have used our prediction skills to think about what might happen, retrieval to visualise the Tear Thief from the clues in the text and retrieval to answer questions about the story. We also, explored the vocabulary in the text, noticing similes and writing our own.

In Maths, we have made patterns with 2d shapes and learned different ways to sort 2d shapes using their properties. We have learned how to identify the number and shape of the faces on a 3d shape. We have also explored vertical lines of symmetry in 2d shapes.

In Science, we have learned how some animals adapt to their habitats e.g. tree frogs have sticky pads on their feet to climb trees and arctic animals have warm, white fur and blubber to keep warm and camouflaged. We explored different micro-habitats in our school grounds where we found lots of woodlice, ants, worms, slugs and centipedes. In PSHE, we learned about the importance of keeping passwords secret from other people and in Computing we created digital art based on the work of Mondrian. Please remember to use Reading Eggs and Numbots to support your learning at home. This week we had a maximum of 8 pupils using these resources in Y2. Well done to the children who are making use of these online learning activities.

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login-type>

Year Three

This week in English, we have been learning about a character's emotions and feelings. We have read some more of our class text 'Wolves in the walls' and have written from a character's point of view using first person language. We have also explored the text to understand how the author used specific words to create suspense. We have been writing sentences to create suspense.

In maths, we have been learning about perimeter. We have learnt how to measure and calculate the perimeter of shapes. We have also investigated perimeters of different shapes.

In Science, we have been learning more about rocks and the specific use of rocks. We have also identified natural and human-made rocks. In RE, we have been learning about the Easter Story. We have read and discussed important events in the story and have ordered them. In Computing, we have completed creating our branching stories on PowerPoint. We used hyperlinks to create options for the story. In PSHE, we have been learning about our community and have explored what links different places in the community. We have also explored the purpose of places within the community.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RpP9rHHni34>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=keC59pye3cs>

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

<https://www.frogplay.net/my/login>

Year Four

It has been Shakespeare week here in Year 4 this week! We have learned the story of Romeo and Juliet, and acted out the scenes as a whole class, using our improvisation skills. We have worked in small groups to act out a scene from the play, using dramatisation to show how the characters are feeling in the different scenes. Finally, we have started planning and writing Juliet's diary, showing her thoughts about Romeo's banishment to Mantua.

During our maths lessons, we have been working with decimals. We have counted in tenths and represented tenths in different ways including on a number line and on a place value chart. We have used this knowledge to help us solve problems. During our science lessons, we have carried out an investigation – 'What happens to sound as it travels over a distance?' We had to think about the variables that we could change and what we needed to keep the same in order for it to be a fair test. We presented our results in a bar graph and discussed why some results we had were not as we expected. In our PE lessons, we have continued to practise our skills in netball and badminton. In our PSHE lesson this week, we learned how to help someone who has a head injury.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zgffr82/articles/zqtdpbk>

Year Five

In English this week, we began by considering the meaning of the 'Circle of Life' and used Tim Rice and Elton John's music and lyrics as a starting point. Miss Underdown commented how fantastic it was to hear Year 5's opinions and the links we all made to our previous RE topic: Rites of Passage. Since then, we have been focussing on the features of a scientific explanation text. We researched the life cycle of a lion and made

notes, which we later changed into full sentences and short paragraphs. This was a useful collaborative exercise, where we shared our sentence structure ideas. We also tried hard to use a variety of sentence starters including a range of subordinate conjunctions (Before, When, If etc.).

In Maths, we have worked very hard on subtracting fractions from mixed numbers and have progressed to subtracting two mixed numbers, breaking the whole. Our confidence has grown and Mrs PC is proud of our progress we have made.

In Science, we have researched the stages of the human life cycle and this has overlapped with our PSHE lessons in which we continue to learn about the changes our bodies will go through during puberty. We produced some impressive work in Art on Monday, when we were challenged to complete a picture of a mammal, closely observing symmetrical patterns and features. We continued to practise mindfulness in our indoor yoga lesson and furthered our outdoor hockey skills, specifically dribbling and shooting with accuracy. In Spelling lessons this week, we have focussed on strategies to remember how to spell ten challenging words beginning with 'e' from the Year 5/6 list. Please ask us what these were and we'll try to remember how to spell them correctly! Here are some further tips on using subordinating conjunctions: [How to use subordinating conjunctions - BBC Bitesize](#)

Year Six

This week in Year 6, our reading and writing has been based around the tragic tale of 'Romeo and Juliet'. We have read two versions of the story and have used these to create a timeline of the main events. We are going to be writing a newspaper article based either on the deaths of Tybalt and Mercutio or the deaths of Romeo and Juliet. In preparation for this, we have explored some newspaper articles, identifying the main features. We have planned our writing, thinking about our opening paragraph, the sequence of events and possible eye-witnesses quotes that we can use in our writing. We have then used our planning to support the writing of our introduction and main sections of the article.

In Maths, our learning has been focused on perimeter and area. We have found and drawn rectilinear shapes (a 2d shape with straight side and right angles) that have the same area and have calculated the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes. We have also calculated the area of a triangle using approximation & estimating and have then use the formula (area of a triangle = $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{perpendicular height}$) to calculate the formula of any triangle.

In Science this week, we have looked at the theories of evolution of different scientists focusing particularly on Charles Darwin. We investigated how effective different bird beaks were at picking up different food sources. We linked this to Darwin's Galapagos Islands finches. In PSHE, we have continued to discuss how we decided what films to watch on TV, DVD or online. In Computing we have been deconstructing code in Kodu. This week in class, we have been enjoying the music of The Specials.

BBC Bitesize – Evolution and Inheritance – Great website to support our Science unit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw>

For regular times table practice

Times Table Rock Stars – children have their own logins - <https://trockstars.com/>

For regular practice across a whole range of subjects

I am learning – children have their logins

<https://www.iamlearning.co.uk/my/login>

[For regular Maths practice](#)

[Maths Whizz – children have their logins – Also part of their weekly home learning](#)

Citizen of the Month

The following children have been awarded Good Citizen for the month of March.

Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Emily	Marley	Ruben	Isabella	Leo	Ciaran	Nisali

Values

The following children have been awarded a Values Award for demonstrating our value for March, forgiveness.

Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Avaya	Lee	Dylan	Charlie	Rose	Emy	Milla

Achievement Award Winners

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
01/04/22	Rose	Lily E	Thomas	Darcy P	Joshua	Eliza-Faith	Leah

Head Teacher's Award

This week, the head teacher's award has been awarded to Mason S and Jacob P, in Year 5, for showing great resilience when working with fractions.

The following children have been recognised in achievement assembly for their good behaviour:

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
01/04/22	Jamie Sienna	Moleigh Ronnie	Scarlett Marcell	Emily Jensen	Jack Leo	Harry Harley	Amber Martin

The following children, in KS1, have made particular efforts with Reading Eggs and Numbots:

	Numbots	Reading Eggs
01/04/22	Marley – Y1 Mason – Y2	Sienna – FS Lily E – Y1 Oliver – Y2

The following children, in KS2, have made particular efforts with Accelerated Reader and Times Tables Rock Stars:

	Accelerated Reader	Times Tables Rock Stars
01/04/22	Imogen – Y3 Elizabeth – Y4 Dexter – Y5 Isobel – Y6	Binon – Y3 Joshua – Y4 Eliza-Faith – Y5 Blake – Y6

Attendance

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
01/04/22	99%	88%	98%	93%	88%	96%	94%

Punctuality

Number of children arriving after their class start time.

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
01/04/22	0	2	3	2	1	0	1

House points for the week

	Beethoven	Mozart	Tchaikovsky	Elgar
01/04/22	176	174	193	232

Advice from Gemma (Family Support Adviser)

This week's focus is about how to help your child if they are feeling anxious.

If there is something that you would like to talk about in more detail, please contact me via email (gnortheast@loudwater.bucks.sch.uk) or via my work mobile 07792 142825.

This information has been taken from the BBC Bitesize website, so please feel free to follow this link for more information and access to some videos related to 'how to tackle anxiety'.

[Anxiety: How you can help your child - with five simple coping techniques - BBC Bitesize](#)

Here are 5 coping techniques which you can try with your child. By trying to use these techniques, your child will become more aware of the importance of regularly celebrating all of their successes, talking about their feelings, addressing any worries that they may have, challenging their own thoughts and engaging in activities which they enjoy.

Number 1: Talk to them about it

"Don't underestimate the importance of helping your child to name their feelings. If they can't name them, they're then unable to understand them and work through them. Talking about why they feel worried won't increase their worry, it'll free them up, help them feel they're not alone and open up space to talk about different ways to manage it, and different things they can do that will help - for instance - meeting friends to walk to school together."

Number 2: Celebrate their successes

"It's easy to focus on the losses and stresses of the last year, but all children and young people have shown remarkable resilience, strength and determination during the pandemic. The impact has been profound, even for those who seem to have sailed through the ever-changing rules about what they can do, who they can see, how they learn and how and where school happens."

"With all children it's important to acknowledge and congratulate them. They've adapted, coped and got through the last tumultuous year. Celebrating this with them will help them to shift their focus onto their abilities and to feel proud of their successes. This, in turn enables them to build their self-esteem and to feel stronger."

Number 3: Put in worry time

"For children in particular, worry can be all consuming and if you're not careful you can find all free time in the day is taken up talking about worries and going round in circles. Set aside 20 minutes at the same time each day to sit down with your child and metaphorically open the worry box to 'see' and discuss their worries. At the end of that time, you metaphorically shut the box, locking the worries away in it. Once worry time is over, that's it until the next day."

Number 4: Challenge the thoughts

"A thought is just a thought. It's not a fact, and just because you or your child think something, it does not make it true. So, every time that your child tells you their anxious thoughts or worries, validate them and show them you understand, but then challenge the thought. Is it a fact? Probably not. Does your child have to listen to it? No. Is there a way of doing something practical to address it? If so, then do that? Is there anything else practical that can be done? If not, then the worry is not helpful and so doesn't need attention."

Number 5: Distraction

"Have you ever noticed that when you're distracted or fully engaged in an activity or conversation, you can sometimes worry less - or don't even notice worries? This is because worries need attention to grow and when we're distracted, our mind isn't free enough to give the worries attention, and so they reduce. It doesn't matter what the distraction is: board games, walks, TV, watching a film together, ball games, time with friends, cooking and baking...anything that occupies the mind."

Well-being activities to try with your children!

It is already April and that means that there is a new Action for Happiness calendar available for this month! Please view this calendar using the link below or find it as an

attachment to this week's newsletter. This month, the focus is on being active and there is a wealth of ideas in this month's calendar to get more active, to prioritise rest and sleep as well as ways to appreciate all that we have around us. I hope that this month's ideas bring your whole family joy!

Here is the link to the calendar: [Active April | Action for Happiness](#)

Year 4 Trip - Tuesday 5th April

On Tuesday 5th April, Year 4 will be visiting the Mead, opposite the school. We were due to be joined by the Chiltern Conservation Board and taking part in a workshop but unfortunately, they are unable to join us due to illness. We are still planning on spending the morning there and releasing the trout into the stream.

Please could children come into school wearing their PE kit and bring a pair of wellies or suitable footwear to change into and a warm coat. We will be back in school in time for lunch.

We will use the consent previously given on the School Gateway for local trips and walks.

Flackwell Heath Library Visits

We have resumed our visits to Flackwell Heath Library. The purpose of the visits is to enable the children to choose books from the library that they can enjoy in class. These are the dates for visits:

Year 1 Monday 4th April

Visits will continue in the summer term.

Become a Parent Governor

Would you like to become a member of our Governing Board? This is an important group of people who support and challenge the school to be the best that it can be for all children. We currently have several vacancies and would welcome expressions of interest from any of our parents. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

End of term tidy-up

On Tuesday, please could children bring a carrier bag to school with them? They will be bringing home some of the exercise and work books they have completed so far this year.

School Supplies Project

If you would like any help in providing school uniform or other supplies for school, please see the attached flyer for more information.

Wellbeing Matters Workshop

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

St Peter's Church Easter Funday

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Sierra Sports Easter Camp

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Yours faithfully

Clare Cunningham

Mrs C Cunningham
Head teacher

Update

As you are aware we have moved to sending out our update via email. Due to the GDPR, we are only able to continue sending out to those of you who have agreed, by email, for us to do so. If you know of anyone not receiving their weekly newsletter please make them aware of this procedure.

Disclaimer

From time to time we are asked by a range of organisations to give out leaflets. We always agree if we think this could be of interest or benefit to the children. However we do not endorse any of these organisations and parents should always check their credentials carefully to make sure children would be safe and well looked after.

Calendar events for 2021-22

	<u>April</u> Week beginning 4th Y6 Parent /Teacher Consultations 5th Y4 Trip to the Mead 6th Hispanic event for Y5 parents 8th School closes at 2pm for Easter Break 25th Children return to School	<u>May</u> Week beginning 2nd Parent /Teacher Consultations (FS-Y5) 2nd Bank Holiday 9th Year 6 SATs Week 16th Year 5 Assessment Week May 16th – 18th Year 6 residential W/c 23rd Jubilee Week 24th Plate Painting (whole school) 27th School Closed Training Day for teachers 30th – 3rd Half term break
<u>June</u> 6th Children return to School 9th Open Day 9.30 – 10.30 13th – 17th Assessment Week Y1, Y3 & Y4 28th Class photos	<u>July</u> 1st School Closed Training day for teachers 5th Secondary School Induction Day (Y6) New Parents Meeting 8th Sports Day 9th FOLS Summer Fete 13th Reserve Sports Day 15th End of Year Discos 19th 7.00pm Y6 Leavers Production 20th 9.30am Y6 Leavers Assembly School closes at 2pm for summer break 21st Additional day added to summer break in lieu of the Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday	<u>Class Assemblies Summer Term</u> 9.05 Start 19 th May - Year Four 26 th May – Year One 16 th June – Year Six 23 rd June – Year Five 30 th June – Year Two 7 th July – Year Three 14 th July - Foundation Stage

Please note: Pupils should not be taken out of school during term time for family holidays