



JYS NEWSLETTER



April 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the spring term draws to an end I thought it would be lovely to share some of the wonderful things the children have been learning and experiencing this term in school. It is a rather longer newsletter than normal but we have so much to share. This is a wonderful way to celebrate not only the children's hard work and effort but also that of the staff who make these inspiring and exciting opportunities happen. We are also so well supported by volunteers - parents, friends and people from the local community - a huge thank you also goes to you - we look forward to welcoming you back into school next term we would not have so much to celebrate without you.

Mrs Sadler

A quick review of the term in each class!

Reception



Year R had an exciting week when a dinosaur was spotted in the school playground. After some searching, we noticed that it had left us a rather large egg. We based our work on how to look after the egg and what might come out if it hatched. Can you imagine our excitement when it did hatch? It left some footprints which gave us some more clues about what type of dinosaur it actually was..."



Year R have enjoyed reading with their Year 5 Reading Buddies (the Year 5's love this too!) and love the wonderful outside activities set up for them during discovery time – whatever the weather!.

The children worked very hard on their dragon dance which was linked to their Chinese New Year topic and showed how confident they had become when they performed this to all their parents and visitors at the end of this term.



Year 1

This term, Year 1 have been learning about houses and homes in their topic 'No Place like Home'. First we found some hay sticks and bricks in our class room, left by The Three Little Pigs. We made story maps of the story and then wrote our own stories. We had 'Three Little Ninjas', 'Three Little wolves' and even 'Three Little Guinea Pigs'! One of our favourite things this term was our visit to the Weald and Downland Living Museum. When we got back, we used some photographs to make green





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screen videos. You can see them on the VLE. In science we have been investigating different materials and which ones would be the best for making houses. We even had a go at making a little mouse house!

The children said : "I liked learning about the Great Fire of London and writing Samuel Pepys' diary." - M; "I enjoyed doing the oil pastille fire pictures." – G; "My favourite part was building a house out of Lego." – D; "I liked making bread like Thomas Farrinor the baker from Pudding Lane." – B.

Year 2

In Year 2, the children had fun making a peach crumble as part of their work on 'James and the Giant Peach', during Roald Dahl Week in February.



They also thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu in early March. This photo shows them on their guided tour of the museum, meeting Chitty Chitty Bang Bang which was a highlight for lots of the children!



In PSHE, they have been exploring the concept of 'identity' and what makes us unique. Each child brought in a special object that means a lot to them and that shows something about them as a person. The children have presented their objects to the class before writing about them.



In Computing, Year 2 are doing a unit on programming which began with an outdoor session, in which the children had to design a clear set of instructions to guide a 'robot friend' around a route in the Quiet Area!



Year 3



Year 3 have enjoyed learning about pirates. We sailed out on the Jolly Jess and we learnt about smugglers and the famous Hawkhurst Gang who worked in Chichester and along the south coast. We had great fun reading The BFG, writing our own dreams and squeezing them into bottles that we made using inks and marbling.

Learning about our skeleton, and how our muscles work to make us move, has extended our work on food groups and healthy eating.





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Forest school has started for some, learning how to light fires, build shelters and facing fears by walking and balancing across a high log.

Outdoor learners have started to plan their treasure hunt by writing clues to key places in the school grounds, leading hunters to a map

and the finding of treasure. They have enjoyed a star orienteering activity where they needed to read a map to locate the position of hidden flags, and then copy the symbols. There were 10 flags to find.



Year 4



This term, Year 4 have undertaken a special project on the RMS Titanic. The children have used lots of historical artifacts to find out about this luxurious passenger steamship. They have also studied lots of primary and secondary sources to research who was responsible for the sinking of the ship. In literacy, the children used lots of drama to help write diary entries.

In maths, we used the playground to understand how big the Titanic was (the same size as 27 double decker buses!) and in science, the children learnt how to use Morse code to send SOS messages. Finally, inspired by photographs of the ship as it was being built, the children used a variety of different charcoals and chalk to create monochrome drawings of the Titanic.



Year 5



In Year 5, we began the year by joining children from other local schools to sing on stage at Chichester Festival Theatre as part of the "United Voices" project. It was a wonderful evening, and all that attended have spoken positively about the experience.

In class, we have had a busy term with a focus on our topic of "Rainforests". An animal handler joined us so we could get "hands on" with a range of reptiles, amphibians and other creatures from the rainforests of the world. Smoothies were made, using ingredients from the rainforest, and we created short videos of



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that experience. We have learnt about deforestation and we chose to write to some powerful people to ask for their help to prevent the devastation to the planet; these included President Donald Trump, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prime Minister of Australia, and the presidents of Argentina and Brazil!



Rachel from RnB Dance worked with us to create an amazing rainforest themed dance. In March, we were invited to attend STEM Fest at Chichester College and did a range of things from virtual welding, weather forecasting, slime making and maggot racing! In class, we have grown cress, beans and baby carrots, and we have participated in the "BBC's Terrific Scientific" work and tested water hardness, reaction times affected by clock change and made our own working stomach! In PE, we have taken part in "Space Mission X" and done challenges that have included somersaulting through hoops and scaling ropes and wall bars (the Martian Mountain Challenge).

We have also disassembled a Dyson DC22 to see how it works, been visited by firemen, travelled to Chichester library to meet an author and have started working with our YR learning buddies. And if that wasn't enough, some of the class have undertaken peer mentor training!



Year 6



As part of their WW2 topic work this term, Year 6 have been learning about what life was like for people living in Britain during the war. A leaflet called "Make Do and Mend" was issued during 1943 that intended to provide families with useful tips on how to be both frugal and stylish in times of harsh rationing. It

contained thrifty design ideas and advice on reusing old clothing in order for them to save money.

Year 6 have done their own "Make Do and Mend" DT project, where they turned old fabrics into mittens - here are some children with their fantastic designs.



Year 6 also enjoyed WW2 day this term, where they dressed as 1940s evacuees. As well as a visit from local history expert Paul Ullson, they gathered together for a 'rationed' lunch. In true wartime spirit, they made do without sugar and instead made cookies with carrots, which added natural





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sweetness to the recipe without the need for a scarce item sourced from overseas. They also tried some corned beef and spam, both popular tinned meats from the era. Yum!

The Year 6 children are also working extremely hard to prepare for their STA tests in May – Good luck we know you will all do your very best.

Friends

We have had some very useful meetings this half term with parents keen to support and develop our Friends activities. At the time of writing this, the cake sale, uniform sale and raffle are yet to take place but we hope this will be the start of a series of fund raising activities we have planned. Your donations and support in these really does make a massive difference to school. You will probably be aware that school budgets are under tremendous pressure. We will be exploring how the money raised will be used (we have loads of ideas!) so you know what we are aiming for. Why not join us on Friday 5th May at 8.45 for a Friends coffee morning and a chat. We would love to see you there.

Sporting Achievements

A team of 10 swimmers recently represented the school in the Arun School gala– the boys came fourth and the our girls were first out of 12 teams. After a hard fought competition the team were victorious at the Cormorants Schools Gala. This was our best result for a few years in a very competitive event.- well done everyone!



We also had a fantastic number of entries for the Corporate Challenge running races with over 30 children from Year 5 and 6 taking part. Some children ran exceptionally well with a top 5 finisher amongst the Y6 girls, a first place finisher in the Y5 girls. But we would like to recognise the children who persevered and completed the races even though they came in at the end each time.

Of the team that competed in the cross country running at Bishop Luffa, four children qualifying for the county finals of the Sports Games.

What was particularly wonderful to see in these events was the fantastic team spirit and the amazing way everyone supported each other. You all made us exceptionally proud – Well Done and a great big 'THANK YOU' to all the adults staff and volunteers who made these events happen!

We also have many other children consistently achieving in their chosen sport outside of school in triathlon, running, cricket, gymnastics, dance and football. We love hearing about their achievements in our Friday celebration assembly so keep sending those trophies and certificates in to school.

If you have any questions please contact the office on 01243 782192 or email: office@jys.org.uk



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Jessie's Got Talent !

What a fantastic evening this was. We had such a brilliant response and the talent and enthusiasm we saw was amazing. I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



School Developments

Thank you for your responses to our 'Homework' questionnaire. We had an excellent number of replies and these have been very helpful in reviewing our approach to homework. There will be more on this next term. You have no doubt seen that the builders are making very good progress with the alterations to the access to Year R, 1 and 2 and to the removal of the hut and installation of a new fence. We have been very fortunate that capital funding has been made available through West Sussex County Council for this work. It will greatly improve access and will give us more space on the playground that we can then look at developing to support more active play at break times.

From a Teaching and Learning point of view many of our teachers and support staff have accessed external professional development this term and this is going to enable us to keep reviewing our practice to make sure we are following the latest guidance and using approaches that current research recommends. Education is an ever changing landscape!

Finally...

We all look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday the 24th April but in the mean time we hope you all have a wonderful Easter holiday, let's hope the weather is kind to us and we can look forward to lots of sunny days and activities outside next term. A dates list is attached to help you plan your diary!

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Summer Term Dates 2017

| Date | Event |
|---|--|
| Monday 24 th April | Term starts |
| w/c Monday 24 th April | Externally led clubs begin |
| Tuesday 25 th April | Year 3 Forest School starts |
| Thursday 28 th April | Year 5 trip to Chichester Planetarium |
| Monday 1 st May | May Day Bank Holiday – <i>school closed</i> |
| w/c Tuesday 2 nd May | Teacher led clubs begin |
| Tuesday 2 nd May | Year 3 to Bishop Luffa for Key Steps Gymnastics |
| Wednesday 3 rd May | Class Photos |
| Thursday 4 th May | Swimming starts for Year 4 |
| Friday 5 th May | 'Friends' Coffee Morning – 8.45am. All parents welcome |
| Saturday 6 th May | Grounds Day 9.00am to 12.00pm |
| w/c Monday 8 th May | Year 6 SATS |
| Tuesday 9 th May | Year 1 Paul Ullson – 'Animals' |
| Thursday 18 th May | Year 5 Paul Ullson – 'Aliens' |
| w/c Monday 22 nd May | Creative Week (whole school) – 'Space' theme |
| Tuesday 23 rd & 25 th May | As part of the 'Space' theme, each class will visit the Tim Peake Exhibition at the Novium Museum in Chichester. |
| Friday 26 th May | Open Day from 12.00pm for all parents and families. Lunch will be followed by presentations and displays. Details to follow |
| | <i>Half Term Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June inclusive</i> |
| Monday 5 th June | INSET Day |
| Tuesday 6 th June | INSET Day |
| Thursday 8 th June | 'Friends' after school fundraising stall run by Year 3. Details TBC. |
| Monday 12 th June | Year 3 Paul Ullson 'Greeks' (part 1) |
| Tuesday 13 th June | NSPCC will be here giving sessions to the children on keeping themselves safe. Parent session on E-Safety in hall at 8.45am. More details to follow. |
| Tuesday 13 th June | Meeting for new Year R parents – 5.30pm |
| Monday 19 th June | Year 2 - Chichester Library to meet author Laura James from 10.30am to 11.30am |
| Monday 19 th June | Year 3 – Chichester Library to meet author Laura James from 1.30pm to 2.30pm |
| Thursday 22 nd June * | 'Sports Day' – Year's R, 1 & 2 in the morning. Year's 3, 4, 5 & 6 in the afternoon. Times and further details TBC |
| w/c Monday 3 rd July | Last week of teacher led clubs |
| Thursday 6 th July | Year 3 Paul Ullson 'Greeks' (part 2) |
| Thursday 6 th July | Reserve 'Sports Day' if the 22 nd June cannot go ahead due to adverse weather |
| Thursday 13 th July | Last swimming session for Year 4 |
| Thursday 13 th July | Disco for Key Stage 2 pupils |
| Tuesday 18 th July | Year 3 Forest School – last session |
| Tuesday 25 th July | Last day of term |

* In response to suggestions made last year, we are holding both Sports Days on the same day this year so that parents with children in both KS1 and KS2 only need to be available on one day (weather permitting).



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Future Term Dates:

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24th April to Tuesday 25th July
Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May
(KS2 SATS week commencing 8th May)
Half Term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June inclusive

Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th June INSET days

Autumn Term 2017

Tuesday 5th September to Wednesday 20th December
Half Term: Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October inclusive

Monday 4th September and Monday 30th October INSET days

Please note that future term dates are available on the West Sussex Council website

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-term-dates/>