

NEWSLETTER 18.03.2022

Dear families,

For this Red Nose Day, our school turned blue and yellow to show our support for the people of Ukraine. The children looked fabulous. Thank you so much for your wonderful donations this week and a big shout out to the Friends for organising the collection. You have shown great kindness and compassion. It is truly appreciated.



Thank you also for your kind donations for our bake sale at the end of today. All money raised from both the activities will go towards helping Ukrainians fleeing from crisis.

We are really looking forward to sharing your child's work with you at the Parent Consultations on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Hopefully you will have received your appointment time. Your child's work will be available for you to see in Elm Room and meetings will take place in the school hall. You are welcome to take your child home with you after your appointment, if you wish.

On Thursday, the EYFS unit welcomed two Hertfordshire Early Years advisors into the setting, to share our indoor and outdoor spaces, and our teaching and learning to see how we have been getting on! The visit was overwhelmingly positive, with special mention for the enticing and engaging learning environment and the children's exemplary behaviour and attitude to their learning! We are looking forward to acting upon guidance given to add in a malleable materials station to further support fine motor skill development. Well done Ash and Saplings and of course to Ms Lawrence and her Early Years team. Very well deserved!

Our Boxercise sessions continue to be a great hit with children and parents alike. Next Tuesday, it is the turn of Lime Class children and mums to be light on their feet and enjoy a fun session lead by Mr Edwards.

Have a wonderful weekend. Enjoy the sunshine,  
Lucy Tweedale, Deputy Head

## Diary Dates

**22/03/22 Lime Class**

**Performance 6:00pm**

**26/03/22 Farmers' Market**

**30/03/22 Parent**

**Consultations 1pm-7pm**

**01/04/22 End of Term**

**More to follow...**

## **Boxercise Mother and Child with Mr Edwards**

22/03/22 Lime Class Mums @8:55-9:30

29/03/22 Beech Class Mums @8:55-9:30

01/04/22 Ash and Sapling Mums @8:55-9:30

Don't forget your trainers and your water bottle!

We would like to use this opportunity to raise some money for the International Rescue Committee charity, all donations welcome on the day of your session.

## **A splash of colour from Lime Class...**

Just before half term Lime Class, was asked to enter a competition run by Taylor Wimpey Homes.

Their task was to paint bird boxes to brighten up the new development at Cooper's Grange and there were prizes up for grabs for the best three. Lime Class rose to the challenge and researched their designs along the theme of nature.

The children loved painting the boxes and took such time and care with their designs, working with immense pride and attention to detail!

We are so pleased to be able to announce that Taylor Wimpey have judged the competition and the results are as follows: 1st - Olive, 2nd - Bella, 3rd - Ben. The prizes are Waterstones book vouchers and will be arriving at school soon. How exciting! Huge congratulations to all of Lime class for such beautiful work. Here are the winning designs:



## **Loose Parts**

Can you help our children to further their imagination and creativity by donating some loose parts?

Loose parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. Loose parts can be natural or synthetic – from tyres, plastic piping, rope to wooden pallets.

Safe items, no nails, please.



## News from our classes...

### Early Years...



This week, the Early Years children have been celebrating Science Week! Focusing on the theme of 'growth', we transformed into spring detectives to see if we could observe the changes going on in our environment. We also enjoyed playing 'Zoom in!' looking closely at different growing objects and wondering what they could be! Some of the quotes were, "I think that looks like yellow tentacles!" and "I agree, it looks like a squid or a wiggly fish!" The children were so excited to zoom out and see the picture of the buttercup!



### Beech Class...



We went on our class trip to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle this week. It was a beautiful day that was absolutely perfect for our trip. The children used their previous learning about castles to identify the different parts of the Motte and Bailey and let their imaginations run wild as they pretended to be knights defending the castle. They really enjoyed petting the many animals that were roaming free and just getting to spend the whole day outside exploring. Their behaviour was impeccable as always and they did a truly brilliant job of representing themselves and our school. Well done children, we are so proud of you!

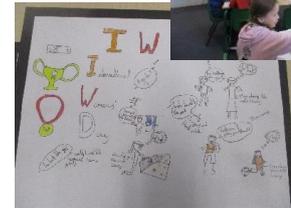


### Lime Class...

Lime class are extremely excited about our production – we hope you are too! We have been rehearsing and painting scenery all week.



For International women's day we read excerpts from the autobiographical book 'Coming to England' by the actor and presenter Dame Floella Benjamin. We then talked about her achievements, and why we think she is a strong woman and a good role model. We also talked about the meaning of words like bias, stigma and equality. This week is British Science week and the theme is growth – we wrote acrostic poems about what growth means to us and learnt all about life cycles.



### Maple Class...



In Maple class we have been busy getting ready for Easter! We made Easter cards for our Erasmus project and the children will receive them next week!

In Science week, we have been learning about digestion. We made looked at a range of animal poo (photos!) and matched them to the correct animal. Mrs Martin made poo so that we could see the jobs of some of the digestive system.



### Willow Class...

Science is all about discovery. It is about asking questions, understanding our world through observation and experiment. To celebrate British Science Week, Year 6 have been immersing themselves in all things science. We have taken a close-up look at viruses and their structure. We tried making a model of a virus using origami! After much concentration and many folds, we think we managed to create our own 'virus' model. What an incredible structure!



What a fabulous morning we spent with Mrs. Pressland, mum to Alfie and Science teacher at Birchwood Secondary School! We learnt about food chains, producers and photosynthesis. We investigated oil in water to simulate how to clear up an oil spill in ecology. We dipped feathers in oil to simulate sea birds caught in a spill and discussed the effects on the birds. Then we found different ways of

cleaning up an oil spill from containing the oil to dispersing the oil. Mrs. Pressland introduced us to the pH scale and tested soil samples for acidity. We linked this learning to our knowledge of how plants are at the start of every food chain and that if soil is too acidic the plants may not grow. Our time working scientifically with Mrs. Pressland was simply great! Thank you, Mrs. P – we learnt so much!

