



Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the weather, this week has been a very productive one for all our children. I am so proud of how hard the children are currently working and most are also behaving really well, respecting each other and enjoying each other's company. Our expectations of all of the children remain very high and for those who this week have struggled a little with the expectations, help has been at hand.

Interestingly, I was told this week by a couple of parents that my expectations of the children, in terms of behaviour, is too high and that 'kids will be kids'. I have to be honest and say I completely disagree. Learning as children to respect others, to behave well and to be able to control ourselves when things get tricky are essential behaviours for life. As adults we have a key responsibility to teach our children to behave well and to role model that behaviour to them.

In a school of 440 young people, good behaviour is a very high priority. It is an essential characteristic in order for all children to be given the opportunity to learn well. Giving the children the opportunity to learn well gives them the chance to achieve and to set themselves on the road to a wide variety of choices as young adults. I offer no apology for having high expectations of the children's behaviour and will continue to do so on a daily basis. Thank you for the support you have offered with our efforts here; it is greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you all next week at Parent Consultation Evening. Please make certain you make an appointment with your child's class teacher so that you can know how well your child is doing and what they need to do to move forward in their learning. These discussions are so important and I would ask you to make this a priority for the week ahead.

There have been some real highlights with the children's learning this week; so much fun has been had by so many.

A wonderful expedition week:

The children had a fantastic time on Tuesday when Google Expeditions came to our school. Each class spent at least 30 minutes using the VR headsets, with teachers leading them on a variety of expeditions. We went to space, we saw dinosaurs, sat in shark tanks, we saw volcanoes, we visited Africa..the list goes on! We hope that every child had a brilliant day, and was able to gain memorable experiences from the event. Well done again to those children who were invited to an extra session after school.

Volunteers needed please!

Do you have a few hours spare to help with School Trips/Library Walks/Reading with

Pupils/helping at after School Activities? As a school we really appreciate the help our Volunteer Parents offer our Pupils in having opportunities to learn in different environments and be supported by a variety of people. Parent volunteers can help out on a regular basis or just when they are free and activities are happening. School can also give references if a Parent volunteer wants some experience to support them in gaining employment or accessing a college course. If you have any questions about this role or wish to offer your support please give your name to the main reception, our Home School Family Link Worker Helen Murfin will be in contact to discuss further.



Nursery next week

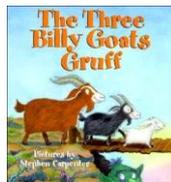
We will be looking at information books & how we can use these to find out about pets.

We will be having our usual PE session on Monday, please can you help us by encouraging your child to get themselves dressed & undressed at home.

We are all having a go at writing our names for our writing wall. If you want to practise at home with your child please remember to use lower case letters & just a capital letter at the beginning.

Year R

Exciting times are ahead as we move onto 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' as our topic. We're going to study the bridges at Hilsea Lines on Wednesday 8th February so please make sure your child has suitable footwear (that you don't mind getting dirty) and a warm coat.



Year 1

This term, our topic is 'Who am I?' and we are learning all about ourselves. Please talk to your child about their family and, specifically, where different people come from. Do they have a family member who lives in a different part of the country? Do they have family who come from another part of the world? Please send your child in with this information, you could write it down if that helps. Next week, we will be looking at maps of the UK and the world to find these places. Thank you.



Year 2

Have you heard about our fluffy little visitors? We are using our chicks to learn about life cycles and will use our knowledge to help our writing in literacy. In maths we are continuing to look at using our known number facts to solve addition and subtraction problems. To help with our topic work on food and where it comes from we have our trip to Goodwood farm on Thursday, it should be an excellent if a little muddy day! Please make sure that reply slips have been returned and that class teachers know about any pregnant females living at home. We are looking forward to seeing you all at our parent consultations on Monday and Tuesday. Please continue to help with spelling homework as it is really making a difference. This week you can help with maths by helping your child practice the numbers which make 20 (1+19, 2+18, 3+17 and so on).



Year 3

This week Year 3 have been budding authors writing suspense stories. Their fabulous work has been inspired by the recent visit of author Neal Layton, in which children asked him his top tips to write fantastic stories. In Maths they have been learning multiplication using times tables, which the children have been superb at! We are continuing to look at the work of L.S Lowry in art and in geography have expanded to studying maps of the world to locate oceans and seas. Year 3 had a great time participating in the Google expeditions session earlier this week and this has helped with our learning in geography.



Year 4

Another fun week in Year 4 has drawn to an end. This week we have explored our poetry personalities and shown our amazing arithmetic skill set. It has also been a testing week, especially on Wednesday, when Year 4 sat their mid-term assessments in Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and Arithmetic. Both Wilberforce and Nelson class rose to the challenge and all tried their best with some amazing progress being shown. On Monday both classes visited Ark Ayrton to experience 'The Cube' for a memorable underwater expedition. This was followed by Google Expeditions visiting the school on Tuesday where children stepped into the world of virtual reality and explored the globe. The week was closed with a trip to Gunwharf Quays for a walk around an art gallery. With only two weeks left until the children can enjoy a well-deserved week off, they can expect more fun, more experiences and continued hard work. Keep it up Year 4!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a wonderful week, and we all especially enjoyed space day which resulted in some beautiful writing and amazing art work! Next week, we will be continuing to learn about persuasive writing and using what we have learnt so far to have a debate in our classrooms. We will be becoming experts when working with decimal numbers in maths and continuing to explain our mathematical thinking clearly. Year 5 are still working on producing our best writing to enter the Radio 2 500 words competition later this month.

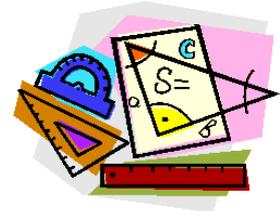


Support suggestion: Encourage your children to read lots and talk to them about what they've read!

Year 6

This week in maths, we have been mastering calculating percentages and applying this to working out questions from pie charts. In literacy, we have been analysing an extract from Matilda and beginning to write our own flashback stories. In topic, Luther King have begun to make their WW2 design projects, which we can't wait to show you! Travers have been investigating freedom and justice stories across different religions and then presenting what they have learnt, ranging from comic strips to drama!

Next week, we are looking forward to seeing all of you in parents meetings. If you haven't returned your slip, please do ASAP. Please be aware that we will allocate every child a time so that we can speak to you at this very important time of year. Next week, we will also be doing some practice SATs papers to help prepare the children for what it will be like in May. Make sure you've had a good night's sleep, a big breakfast and drink lots of water so you are feeling tip top!



Please also look out for SATs revision booklets that we will be sending home for your child before the half term.

Thank you for your continued support

Joy Waelend

Executive Principal