

Dear Parents

Welcome back after what we hope has been a relaxing and enjoyable half term for you all!

Many thanks to all of you who were able to join us in our Express sessions on the last day of half term which help the children 'express' some of their learning in their latest ILP (Imaginative Learning Project). Year One were immersed in creating constellations and electricity; Year Two were busy creating pizza; Year Three were fully immersed in the Stone Age creating Stonehenge from biscuits, weaving and discovering their own Bronze Age burial; Year Four were creating their own ice-cream, following their own recipes and instructions; Year Five provided a taster from their 'Sing, Perform, Inspire' experience as well as create their own Pestilence masks and Year Six were busy with Make do and Mend and creating their own mini Anderson shelters. Thank you to the STPA and all the parents whose contributions to the cake sale at the end of the half term was a welcome end to the half term.



Our last assembly had a literary theme and reminded children of adjectives in preparation for dressing up for World Book Day, which we will be celebrating on Friday, 8th March (More information below).

Three Stars of the Week were celebrated in assembly. Katie (Year Two) for her use of complex vocabulary, Jonas (Year Two) for his wonderful piece of independent writing and to Edward (Year Four) for his research investigating 'if you can walk on custard' – please [click here](#) if you would like to view his research.

Typing tournament certificates were awarded to William, Fionn, Eli and Katie (Year Two) for their speed and accuracy in typing.

Little Way Awards were presented to Carl (Year Four) and Ted (Reception) for kindness towards their peers – well done to both of them for their small acts of kindness which make a positive difference to those that they help.

We also said our farewells to Mr Palmer and presented him with a card of messages from every pupil in the school and a gift. Mr Palmer also, very graciously, presented the school with a plaque of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a reminder of the love and kindness that the family of St. Teresa's School always shows. I'm sure you all join us in wishing him much success and happiness in his new adventure.

Diary

This Week

26th Feb • Bedford Cross Country – invitation only

Looking Ahead

- 5th March • **E-Safety Evening for Parents – Details Below**
- 6th March • Ash Wednesday – Mass 10am (Key Stage Two)
- 7th March • Key Stage One Multi-Sports Tournament – [Information](#)
- 8th March • World Book Day – See Details below
- 12th March • Secondary School Transition Information Evening - Details to follow
- 18th March • Choir ECHOS8 Royal Albert Hall
- 22nd March • Parent Workshop – Spelling 8.40am – Details to follow
- 28th March • Open Morning 9.00 am – 11.00 am
- Multi Sports Event – Year Five & Year Six – Details to follow
- 30th March • Open Morning 10.00am – 12.00 pm (all children from Year One to Year Six expected to attend)
- 1st April • Class Photographs
- 2nd April • Peri Concert 4.15pm – Advanced & Intermediate – Details to follow

Items in red added to the diary since the last Weekly Letter to Parents was published

Dates for this academic year are all available on the school website.

There you will also find copies of school policies (hard copies may be requested from the office) and details of the curriculum for each year group.

Notices

World Book Day!

We are absolutely delighted to have Adam Guillain joining us for our World Book Day celebrations next week! He will be sharing his latest book, inspired by one of our pupils, The World Book Day Monster - there was a fantastic article about his inspiration here, and the new book, in the Oxford Times last week. His books will be on sale from 3pm in the Reception Area.

Pupils will have a fun-packed and inspirational day with writing workshops run by Adam, competitions and lots of different activities to take part in. Our Key Stage Two children also have a Young Shakespeare workshop on Hamlet. You are warmly invited to come in from 3pm (Year Five and Year Six from 3.15pm please) to share a book or two with your children in their classrooms. It would be lovely if you would like to bring in your favourite childhood book to share with them.

The children have been asked to come dressed as an adjective for the day and we are all looking forward to extending our vocabulary as a result! Do please ensure your children will still

manage the day in school in their costume and they also need to have the word clearly displayed.

It would be great if each child could bring in just one good quality, second hand book that they no longer want, so that we can start a 'Book Swap Basket' in the Reception Area. This can then be used regularly by the children. (Our next Book Swap event will be later in the term on 1st April.)

Activity Week

Easter Activity Week will be held from Monday 8th – Friday 12th April 2019 for Years One to Six. We will also be holding EYFS Activity Days from Monday 8th to Wednesday 10th April. Forms will be sent home in school bags this week. Please return forms as soon as possible to the school office.

E-Safety Evening

We will be offering two E-safety Evenings for Parents on Tuesday 5th March. The first will be from 2.30pm -3.30pm and the second from 6.00pm – 7.00pm. The sessions are open to all parents from Pre-school through to Year Six and any other parents you may wish to invite who may find the sessions useful.

The sessions will be run by Graham Briggins, a Thames Valley Police Officer with over 30 years' experience. Part of his role is to work with CEOPs (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) and other organisations which focus on children's on-line safety. Mr Briggins knows first-hand how to rescue the children that make mistakes and how the National Crime Agency, NCA, effectively trace and prosecute offenders (the adults who target/groom children). He's also aware of the current dangers and trends etc.

This will be a very informative evening to help you as parents understand the dangers your child can be exposed to on-line. One session not to be missed!

If you wish to attend please can we ask that you RSVP with which session you will be attending by Friday 1st March using the [Email Me Form](#)

Devices

Can we please remind parents that children are not permitted to bring any electronic devices such as phones, I-pods or tablets etc. on any school trips or sporting events. Thank you for your co-operation.

NEWS

Year Four Express Morning

Year Four had been working towards their exciting Express Morning all term, and it paid off! They were able to use their recipes to make ice-cream, and then had some fantastic packaging to eat it out of! They shook the milk and cream in an icy bag until it turned from a liquid to a solid - hard work pays off!"



Year Four then saw what happened when they mixed a solid (bicarbonate of soda) with a liquid (vinegar) - they created carbon dioxide, which is the third state they have been learning about: a gas! We had lots of bubbles and even more excitement with this experiment!

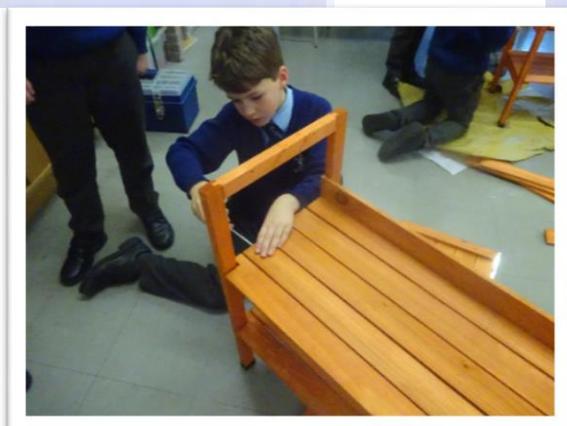
Afterwards, the children created a water cycle in a bag, showing the process of evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection. They have really enjoyed learning about this and were awed (and a little disgusted) to find out that they are probably drinking a dinosaur's wee!



In the afternoon, to consolidate everything the children have learned, Year Four had a slime workshop. They were able to answer lots of the questions, including how the particles in the three states of matter look and behave, which ones change their shape and volume, and what viscosity means. Lizzie from Mad Science was really impressed with their knowledge. The children then created their slime, using pipettes to add borax, drop by drop - they needed very steady hands, but eventually they had some gooey, colourful slime! They learned that, like custard, the slime is a non-Newtonian liquid and acts as both a solid and a liquid, depending on the amount of pressure exerted upon it.

Stem Club

Our STEM club did a spot of DIY in the run up to half term - they built tables ready for the STEM Den! The children worked hard using the screwdrivers and had the shelves on as quick as a wink! There are only a few finishing touches to go on after half-term, so watch this space!



Good luck to all the children running at the Bedford Cross Country tomorrow.

Mrs J Draper & Mrs Y Roberts
- Joint Head Teachers

