

Dudley House School

Newsletter – 23rd May 2022



Dear Parents,

The summer term is certainly a busy one and the children have been participating in plenty of events, with more planned for the coming months. Unfortunately, we have had to change the date of Sports Day to Monday 4th July, because the date clashed with the secondary schools move up day.

The last day of this half term is Thursday 26th May. We hope you all have a lovely half term break, and look forward to seeing everyone refreshed on Tuesday 7th June.

What's Been Happening

All Stars Cricket Festival – Thursday 12th May

Class 3 had a wonderful time at Grantham Cricket club participating in the All Stars Cricket Festival. They took part in a variety of activities to develop their cricket skills. Their bowling, batting and fielding skills certainly improved during the session. Well done everyone.



Library Visit – Wednesday 18th May

The children in class 1 and 2 had a lovely time perusing books in Grantham Library on Wednesday morning and also enjoyed Storytime and nursery rhymes, and learnt about the role of the librarian.

Tennis Festival – Wednesday 18th May

Children in Year 3 took part in a Mini Red Tennis Festival at Grantham Tennis Club. They spent the whole afternoon taking part in a variety of activities to improve their skills, as well as playing some mini matches against other schools. A fantastic afternoon.



Trip to Skegness – Thursday 19th May

Last Thursday children in Years 1 to 6 had an exciting day out in Skegness. They travelled by train and visited Skegness Aquarium where they saw lots of amazing aquatic creatures and learnt some fascinating facts. They also spent time on the beach carrying out science and geography field work, before returning home tired but excited after a busy day at the seaside.

Seaside Day – Thursday 19th May

Nursery and reception children had their very own seaside themed day packed full of seaside inspired activities. They even had their own ice-cream parlour!

Jubilee Celebrations

This week we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with plenty of Jubilee activities planned throughout the week to help the children develop their knowledge of the Queen. In preparation for our celebrations, all the children created her portrait, using a variety techniques. They were inspired by other portraits of Her Majesty.



Information

PTFA

Unfortunately, only 2 families attended our PTFA meeting last week, and so we decided to postpone it until the first week of next term. We hope to meet virtually on Thursday 9th June at 7pm for an hour. Please let us know whether this new date is suitable for you. We will email the Zoom link after half term.

Parent Governor

Unfortunately, we have received no applications to serve the school as a parent governor. If this is something that you would be interested in, please speak to Mrs Johnson before the end of the week.

Staff changes

Mrs Beckett will sadly be retiring at the end of this academic year after teaching here for a number of years and we will be very sad to see her go. Mrs Littler will also be leaving in the summer as she has decided to focus on being a fulltime mum whilst her children are young. However, they have both offered to provide supply cover for us. We are in the process of recruiting and will keep you informed.

School Council

The School council have met and are still keen to raise funds for ADRA, bake for the homeless and cheer the elderly in our local community. Plans are being drawn up. They discussed future places they would like to visit to enhance their learning and will shortly be going on a tour of the school to evaluate learning environments. All their ideas are responded to and help shape our school.

Safeguarding

Whilst travelling to Skegness the children were reminded how to safely navigate a train station. The guard also told the children about the dangers of playing on train tracks and crossings.

Recycling

Don't forget we have collection boxes on the reception desk where you can drop off your old batteries and print cartridges for recycling.

Curriculum Focus

Reading

Reading is always prevalent in school. Recently, class 1 have listened to stories and shared books at Grantham Library.



Class 4's assembly in May focused around their guided reading text – The Explorer by Katherine Rundell. This adventure story prompted further research into the rainforest and a wide collection of vocabulary which the children are now using in their independent writing. They are current reading Skellig by David Almond as part of a mixed genre emersion enjoying reading both in and outside the classroom. Class 3 have been reading both in English but also in French enjoying La Chenille Qui Fait Des Trous (The Very Hungry Caterpillar) by Eric Carle.

Science

Class 3 have been learning about living things. They have used their understanding of life processes to classify things according to whether they were living, dead or never been alive. They closely observed living things in different habitats and are developing their knowledge of classification keys to help with identification.



The shoebox habitats that they created as part of their Brain Builder homework were amazing.



Geography

All KS2 pupils have participated in geographic field studies this term. In addition to map work and field sketches, they have produced graphs from the data they collected whilst visiting the coast. Class 3 completed a survey of which seaside resorts have been visited by KS2 pupils and then used maps to locate these in the country as part of their coast work.

The younger members of the school created maps of fairy tales places and are looking forward to expanding their knowledge of the world as they focus on the gardens next.

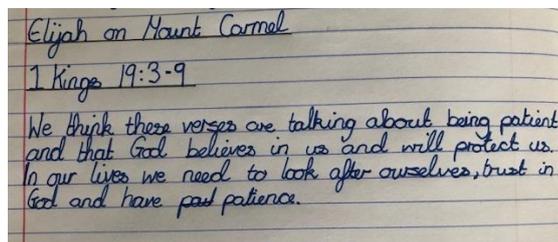
Brain Builder homework comes in all shapes and sizes, giving the children a choice of how to present their learning. This term was no exception. From paintings, to food mountains, to quizzes, animations and musical compositions, class 4 have used a variety of styles to enhance their learning about mountain ranges.



RE

Class 3 are continuing their exploration of Moses's life. Just as a potter prepares and shapes clay we explored how Moses experiences in his early life and as a shepherd, shaped him and taught him many skills he would need as a leader. We thought about how our own experiences are shaping and preparing us to be valued members of our community, now and in the future.

Class 4 has been learning about Elijah, an Old Testament prophet. They studied the story of the Widow of Zarephath and the story of Elijah on Mount Carmel, through reading the passage in the Bible as well as watching an animated version. Analysing verses in the Bible and what the children considered they were teaching were part of their learning. In future lessons they will learn about Elisha.



Worship

This term our worships have focused on the theme of perseverance. Through a range of Bible stories, plays and people's experiences the children have learnt the importance of perseverance, but also how we can offer encouragement, support and help to others as well. Thank you to all the children who have taken part in sketches, puppet shows, said prayers and made valuable contributions to our discussions.



Early Years



It has been a busy couple of weeks in EYFS! The children have continued to explore and retell the traditional fairy tales including The Three Little Pigs and Jack and the Beanstalk through the role play area, using small world toys, as well as an outside construction area. They even tried to build their own houses for the Three Little Pigs.

As well as making beanstalks and building castles for the giant, they also used the topic to explore counting in a range of different contexts and creating pictures using 2D shapes.



The children loved their seaside day in the about the different things they can do at the seaside, and investigating the seaside tuff tray. They also enjoyed being shopkeepers in the ice cream parlour which even served real ice cream in the afternoon!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Jubilee Week – 23rd to 26th May
- Jubilee Lunch and Celebration – 26th May
- End of Term – 26th May
- Start of Term – 7th June

Jenny Johnson (Headteacher)