

Newsletter



13 March 2020

Science is an amazing subject and we have certainly explored handwashing scientifically this week; quite fascinating! We even had some nurses visit to show us how it is done properly and why! The children also enjoyed science focussed assemblies and a range of science activities. Plus we loved inter-house activities in PE leading to additional Sporty activities on Friday.

As always, Parent Consultations are tiring for staff but a fabulous opportunity for parents and teachers to get together to talk about what matters most...your children! Thank you for your positivity in general and specifically about reports and your 1:1 meetings. At the end of the year you will receive your child's attendance certificate (a print out of their year's attendance data), your child's reflection of their year's achievements and highlights and they will also receive their Claygate Charter Award! This is new and being trialled this year. Our new weekly statement of upcoming learning has been received well; a great idea which came from parents! Parents also requested possible activities to do at home and we showcased some CPG books for the children this week. Thank you too for your quotes; we will add these to our website!

This week, we had our first visit from an Early Years specialist who will be invaluable on our journey of reflection and improvement of our provision. Several years ago, when developing Meadow Primary's EYFS as Phase Leader, I consulted Donna with great success; I was delighted to find that our approach and thinking is still aligned and I am sure working together will be productive!

Mrs Ali, our MFL Lead and I worked this week with an outstanding MFL specialist teacher. It was great to dive into this subject; spending quality time to reflect on how it is taught, the sequence of learning and the resources we will need for the very best learning opportunities for French across KS2. We plan to relaunch the teaching and learning of French after Easter! As you know, our children also receive a block of Japanese as part of our Claygate Charter Enrichment programme.

Mrs Golding has decided to seek pastures new and will be leaving us at Easter. This is a difficult time to recruit high quality teachers and we are keen to minimise disruption as much as possible for the children. Mrs Ali has therefore seized the opportunity to become lead teacher for Sycamore Class, and will teach them every morning, focussing on the core subjects. Mrs Cunniffe will teach the children in the afternoons, focussing on the foundation subjects. As both work closely together already, there will be lots of opportunities to overlap and planning for the summer term is already underway! This arrangement also means that both members of our Senior Leadership Team will have the other half of the day for their other responsibilities. Due to this change, I have decided to change Sycamore's class assembly to Friday 3rd April to coincide with Mrs Golding's last day with us, replacing the scheduled assembly on 22.5.20. Mrs Ali's enrichment Japanese sessions will continue; I am sure you will agree how much the children have enjoyed these to date.

We had a returning visitor from NSPCC to remind us of Childline's number 0800 1111 and what we can do if we are worried. More importantly she thanked us for caring and raising over £650; well done Chestnut Class who raised the most overall! It is lovely to see our values put to such good use! This will cover the cost of over 150 phone calls to Childline!

We are now handing fruit directly to children, rather than self selecting and have a reduced salad bar at lunchtimes to avoid over-handling to be extra cautious; bread etc is now served via the hatch by the staff team.

We will continue to keep you updated re Coronavirus. We continue to receive daily updates.

We are appreciative of the partnership working we do with you – thank you again for your support. Have a wonderful and restful weekend.

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Pobble

This weeks' published authors on Pobble are:

Chestnut	-	Charlie and Alex
Sycamore	-	Cecille and Millie
Aspen	-	Jack
Pine	-	Roan
Beech	-	Megan
Hawthorn	-	Amelia, Eva and Felix
Cedar	-	Rachel and Harry



We've had 2748 views on Pobble
Read our writing on Pobble.com

Weston Green School Football Tournament

Oscar, Harry, Max, Oliver, Felix, Albie and Angus from Elm and Chestnut classes went to Weston Green School to play in a Year 2 football tournament. The team played seven matches altogether during the afternoon using different players for each match. It was tiring but it was really, really fun! Albie did an excellent save early on and in the final Oliver scored a stunning goal out of the box which hit the post then went in! We won against Weston Green 2-0 in the final with a brilliant goal by Max. All of us got a medal presented by Martin Tyler as well as the trophy. It was an amazing afternoon!

By the team



Head Lice

There have recently been a few cases of head lice identified in school. While lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they can be allowed to spread.

There are many different treatments available from the pharmacist but we appreciate this can prove costly, especially if you have multiple children.

In our experience, a thorough going over with a nit comb and lashings of conditioner work a treat!



Whichever way you decide to tackle them; you must repeat the process until the eggs/bugs are gone.