

Class Updates - 22.04.2022



A super sunny return to school Butterflies! The children have been full of enthusiasm and have really enjoyed learning about plants to start our new topic '**Ready, Steady, GROW!**'

They had to follow instructions to plant some seeds. They chose from poppy flower seeds to a range of vegetable seeds. They are looking forward to taking care of the plants and watching them grow outside over the next few weeks!



At Forest School the children had a few jobs to do, such as topping up the pond water, watering plants and sweeping the paths. The children then collected the soil and materials to create wormeries!



In **Maths** we are continuing to consolidate the children's understanding of number facts of 0-10 and this term we are working on **11-20 and beyond!** The children are having lots of opportunities to develop knowledge of the 'teen' numbers as well as singing a range of maths resources.

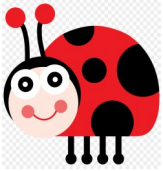


The children also enjoyed the visit from the **Lily Jo Project** this week and joined in with the songs which help to support children's mental health. Ask you child if they can remember what **H.E.R.O.** stands for.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS team





Year 1 Ladybirds Update

A Miss Nicholson & Mrs Potter & Year 1 Team

Ladybirds have gone straight back into their learning at full speed! We have had a busy week looking at Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett in English and writing super structured sentences.

In Maths we have done lots of activities recapping different strategies for answering problems.

We have begun a new topic in Science learning all about how plants grow, studying seeds and planting our own sunflowers.

We have even had a visit from the Lily-Jo Project, teaching us all about how to take care of our mental health. Ladybirds loved joining in with the singing and dancing and had lots to share. Why not ask if they can remember how to be a mental health 'H.E.R.O'?





Year 2 Caterpillars Update

Mr Pike & Year 2 Team

Welcome back Caterpillars. It was so nice to see you all so happy to be back in school. Although it has been a shorter week, we have packed lots in. In maths we were identifying heavier and lighter objects then seeing if we were correct using balance scales. In English we spent some time writing about the Easter break then punctuating sentences accurately. In science we looked at different objects and experimented whether we could change the object and if it would return to its original form. We used lolly sticks, paper, straws, coins, paper clips etc...

In PSHCE we listened to the PANTASAURUS song which teaches children about keeping their privates private. It also teaches them the underwear rule. See the website for more information:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

In R.E we started our new unit by discussing belonging and what it means to belong somewhere. The children shared where they felt they belonged and how they knew this.

At Forest School the class had plenty of fun looking for worms , drawing and measuring the worms, building dens, creating shadow shows and balancing on the rope.

Homework will be coming home today.

School trip to Audley End Miniature Railway on Monday—if you haven't already, please let the office know ASAP if your child will need the school to provide a packed lunch.

Many thanks

Mr Pike





Year 3 Update

Welcome back, Grasshoppers! It has been lovely to hear about all of your Easter holidays and well done for settling back into work so quickly!

In maths, we have started learning how to tell the time on an analogue clock. I have been really impressed with how confidently lots of the class can read the clock. Please encourage the class to read the time off their clocks at home as much as possible! In English, Year 3 have been using some fantastic descriptive language to write setting descriptions, carefully ensuring that they have been using all 5 of their senses.

In our Thursday PE lessons this half term, we will be focussing on cricket. The class have been practising their overarm throwing skills and their catching to ensure that they can successfully field.

We also had a visit from the Lily-Jo Project on Thursday where the children discussed how they could look after their mental health. This was done through singing, dancing and video clips as well as the acronym 'HERO.'

Miss Allin & Year 3 Team





Fireflies,

Year 4 Update

Well done on a super first week back after the Easter break. We have, as always, been incredibly busy this week.

In Maths, we continued looking at decimal numbers and their link to fractions. I was very impressed with how much the children had remembered after a big break in-between! We are also learning and developing our times tables and checking our answers using the inverse. I would appreciate it if the children could continue to learn these at home too!

In English, we looked at our next unit newspapers. We discussed what the purpose of newspapers is and how they display information. The children then read through a text and tried to identify all of the critical features of a newspaper.

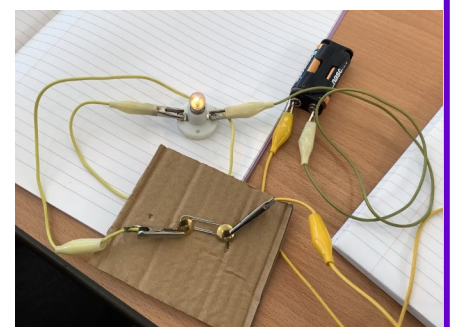
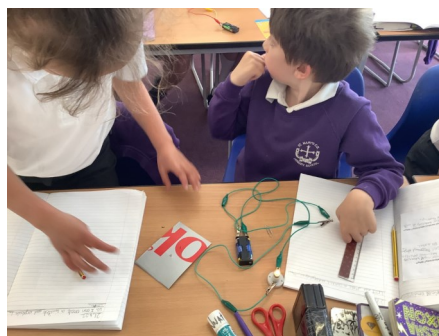
We continued our electricity unit in Science and made a homemade switch. Firstly, the children created a normal circuit and added their switch to it. They made it out of cardboard, pins and a paperclip. They then experimented and discovered an open/closed switch and how switches work.

The children participated in a fantastic PSHE session called the 'Lily Jo project' on Thursday morning. In this project, the children reflected on their mental health and sang songs focussing on being positive. I felt the children benefitted massively from this session and engaged in all of the activities.

Thank you for all of your hard work this week,

Have a fantastic weekend,

Mr Brown & Year 4 Team



Year 5 Update



Our Busy Bees have come back to school full of energy and ready to learn! Thank you to the children for making Mrs Shackleton feel so welcome and showing her the ropes during her first week with us at St Mary's.

We had lots of fun 'charming' some worms as part of our science studies this week. Using various techniques including mustard water, tapping sticks stuck in the ground and mimicking the rain, we managed to collect plenty of worms for our class wormeries. We will be measuring them weekly, gathering data to plot graphs and spot patterns. We are feeding our worms old tea leaves and vegetable peelings so if you have any spare, please bring them in on Monday.



In our English lessons this week, we have started learning about Performance Poetry. We performed some of our favourites using intonation, expression and volume, before then focusing on one particular poem called 'What Do You Want To Be?' by Wilf Merttens. We have also practised our 'striking and fielding skills' ready for next week's Rounders Festival. We look forward to seeing parents/carers at school on Monday at 5pm for the residential meeting. Danbury looks amazing—we are going to have lots of fun! Please make sure you have dropped off your medical/information form by then.

Mrs McInnes, Mrs Shackleton & Year 5 Team



Year 6 Update

Dragonflies have come back from Easter well-rested and ready to learn—which is a good thing with SATs only 3 weeks away! As a little request, any extra times-tables work you can do with your children would be a great help for the school!

The class kicked off their topic on WWII by looking back through history, using maps and fact sheets, to find out how the countries of Europe have formed and changed since the Napoleonic Wars (it was a huge surprise to all to discover that Germany hadn't existed for as long as England and France!). The children tracked the changes on the continent through to 1914, and how the different treaties led to the First World War. They then acted out trench warfare to understand just how scary they were—the Dragonflies commented on how it was more luck than skill that let you survive 'going over the top'! The class then analysed the outcomes of WWI, how inflation made German money worthless, and the rise of a German dictator who flouted the rules of the Treaty of Versailles...

We were also visited by the Lily Jo project, where the children learnt about H.E.R.O. —Helping others; Exercising; Relaxing; and Opening up!

Mr Clarke & Year 6 Team

