

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and Perseverance	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	



Newsletter

Friday 3rd May 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week's newsletter is jam-packed with things that have been going on this week and school is a hive of activity. The summer term always brings joy as we enable the pupils to take their learning in many different directions - some of these are academic and some activities develop their social and emotional skills - but whatever the slant on their learning is, the pupils respond positively and make the most of the opportunities presented.

In a few week's time, we will be sending out our annual parent survey. One of the questions that we always see more of a divide on is 'School lets me know how well my child is doing'. This is something we have worked hard at over the last few years and we now have a number of ways of sharing key information with parents; some comes through newsletters like today, some will be shared through Marvellous Me messages and badges, more formal information is shared at Parents' Evenings twice a year which will be individual to your child and then in a few weeks time we will be sending out your child's personal school report for this year which will show how your child has achieved, what attainment and progress looks like this year and personal targets for your child to be working on next. If your child has additional needs then there are further meeting points throughout the year to discuss progress against personal targets and individual support plans. We also have our dedicated teacher@ email address that you can use to raise concerns and ask general questions - staff will respond within 48 hours - but this is another channel we have made available to you along with ensuring that staff are at the door at the beginning and end of the day.

The school-home collaboration is really important to us and we hope that you are able to ask the questions about your child's progress so that you are aware how your child is doing. Should you feel this is something that still needs addressing, please do get in touch with us.

In the meantime, enjoy reading about the successes in this week's newsletter and enjoy the long weekend.



Year 5 and 6 Safer Streets Workshop

As part of their P.S.H.C.E., Years 5 and 6 took part in a workshop where they explored the theme of gender stereotyping. The workshop is part of the government's Safer Streets campaign which is aimed at children and young adults and how they can stay safe on our streets.

The children discussed the roles society still see boys and girls in. They also discussed ideas around emotions and whether they are treated differently because of their gender. They also explored what behaviours are right and wrong and discussed how some of these behaviours might make others feel.

The children showed many of our values when discussing some sensitive issues. Their maturity and thoughtfulness for others was evident throughout.

Everyone was given information on free Apps available that can support their safety when out and about. HOL-LIEGUARD can be used on their phone as a journey tracking app.

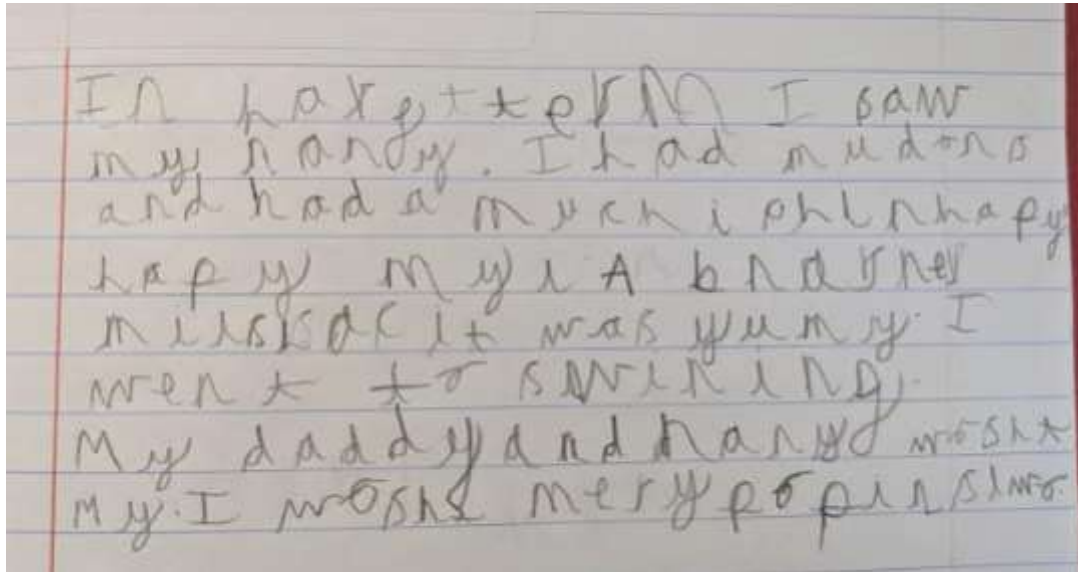
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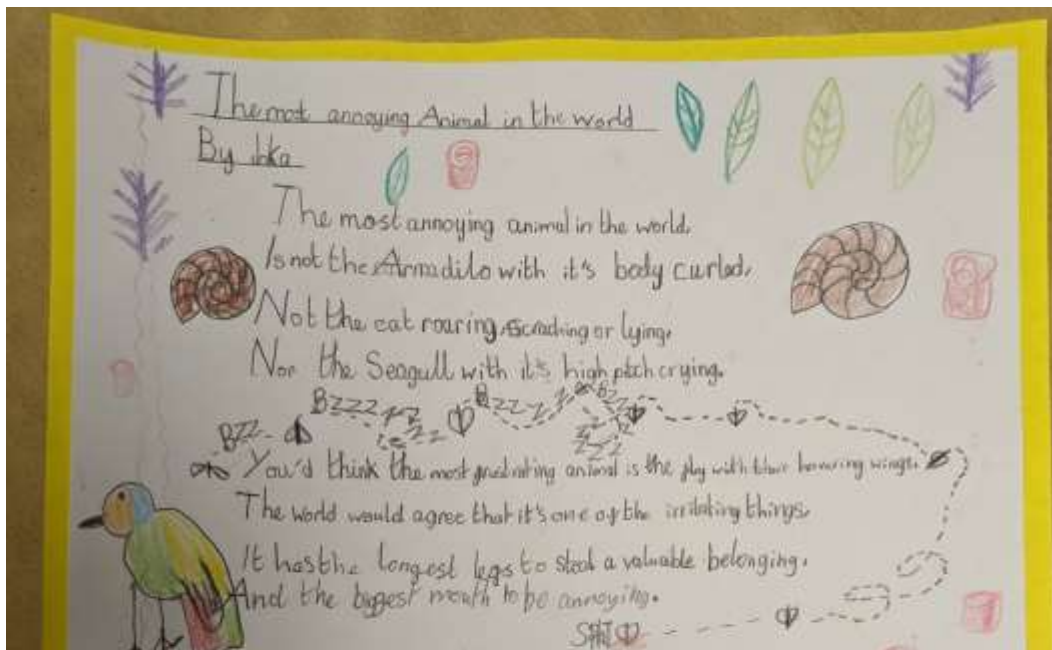
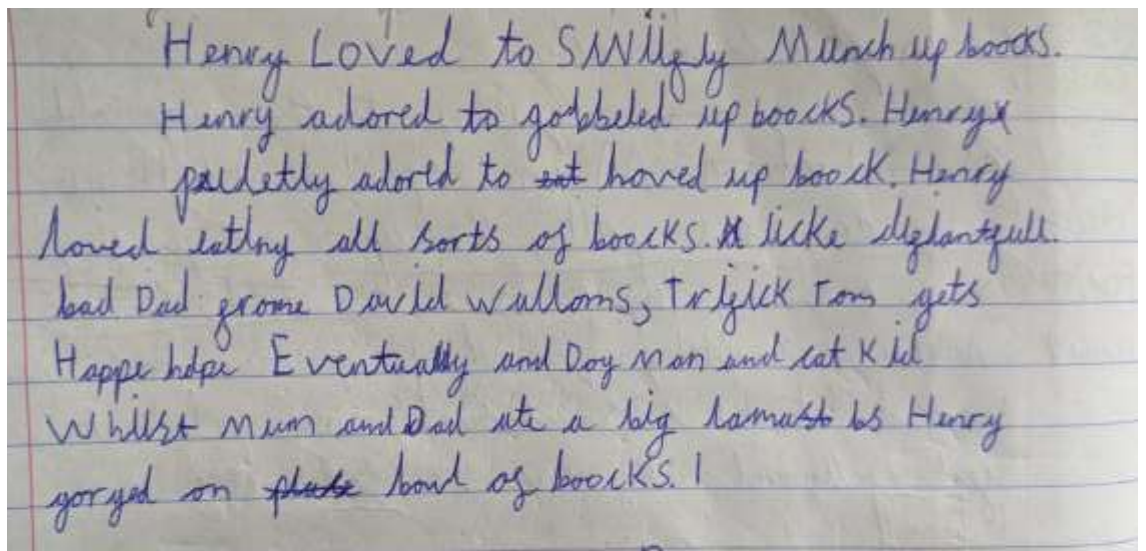
Writing at Maple Tree

Writing is a large part of our English curriculum and starts with things like mark making and pencil grip in pre-school before ending in personification and passive voice in year 6. The children are taught to form letters, spell words, write in complete sentences and then write longer texts. By the end of their time at Maple Tree, they will have written numerous stories, poems, non-chronological reports, diaries, explanation texts, recounts and more! Below are examples of what work looks like as the children move through the school.



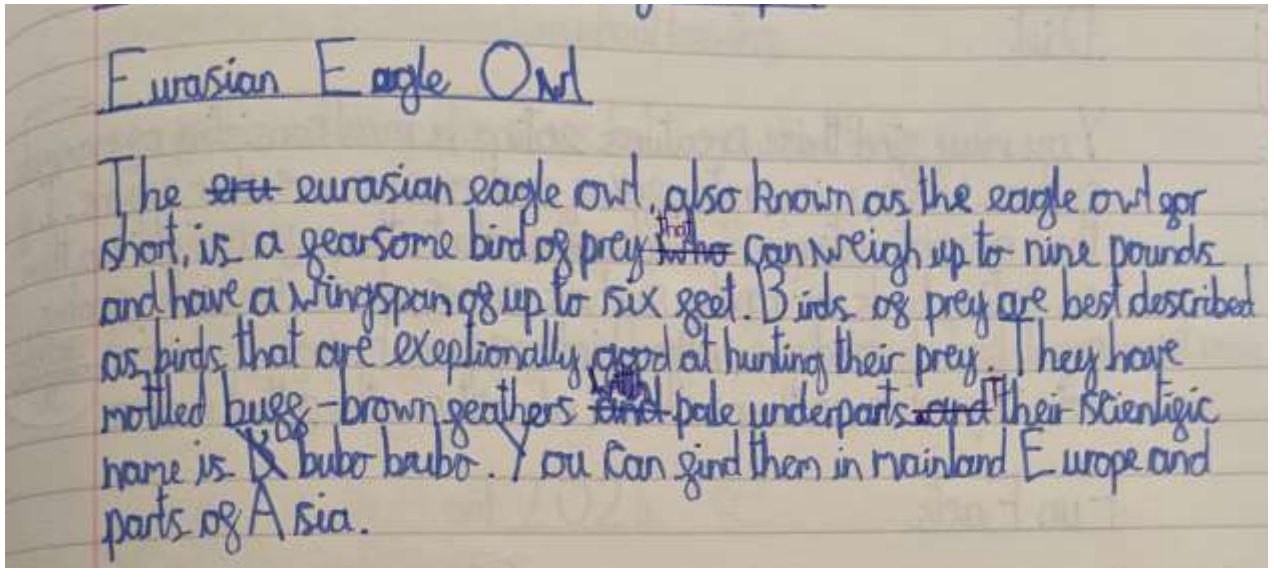
Year 1—pre-cursive handwriting (un-joined but using the lead ins and outs), capital letters and full stops and using phonics to spell words.

Year 3—Cursive handwriting (joined), different sentence lengths using conjunctions and a range of punctuation.



Year 5— Learning how to use all the punctuation taught, gaining their writing voice and considering the reader while writing.

Year 6 - revising and applying everything taught throughout primary school, introducing the last few grammatical skills and writing at length over a wide range of topics.



The best way you can support your child at home with their writing is to simply write! Create opportunities for real life writing, such as shopping lists, thank you cards and stories. Supporting your child to practise their phonic sounds or spellings each week will help to improve their overall writing skills too. Finally, don't forget that a child who reads widely, will use the vocabulary and ideas to help them with their own writing, so get reading too!

Fabulous Year 5 Football



On Wednesday, a group from Juniper class joined in a local football tournament at Robert Peel Primary School. There were nerves and there was excitement for the coming morning, but they all played fabulously in their blue shirts. We had two teams, both playing against nine other primary school teams from the local area. There was some great ball skills used, impressive saving and stopping and lots of goals. We (the accompanying teaching staff) were immensely proud of all of them for the team work they all demonstrated, their organisation skills and the support and encouragement they gave each other. Everyone did themselves proud and look forward to the coming sport events.

What's been happening in Aspen Class this week?

This week has been another busy week.

In English we have been focused on the traditional tale, Little Red Riding Hood. We have already read a few different versions, the original was a touch more unusual than modern texts but was very much enjoyed. We have been focused on adjectives expanded noun phrases and character descriptions.



In maths we have continued our fraction work and have been learning about halves, quarters, two quarters and three quarters. The children have looked at fractions of number and shape.

In Geography the class have been locating the oceans and seas that surround the U.K. They had to use their atlas skills and research.



Science was very interesting this week, we discussed the various stages of the human life cycle and the class shared their views on what they believed babies, toddlers, children, teenagers and adults can do. The teenager ideas were certainly informative and surprising.



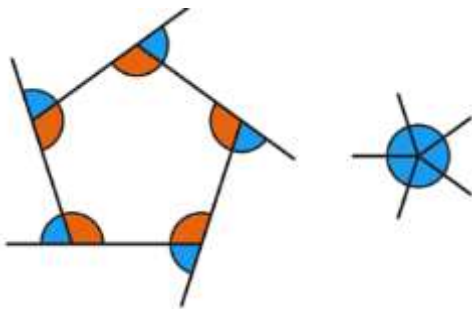
The class completed their artist inspired computer pieces of art work. They selected their own final piece and used colour, line and brush work.



Sycamore's Week

English

In English this week, we have been using the animated clip 'Alma' to inspire and develop our tension building skills, whilst also looking at enhancing our use of dialogue, by using it as a means of conveying character. We planned a short suspense narrative and began writing. We will conclude our week by editing our work with a focus on: our word choices, the structure and variety of our sentences, our cohesive devices that connect our paragraphs as well as looking at our whole piece and whether it is fit for purpose (suspense /target audience/flow).



Maths In Mr Neill's maths group, the class has been studying angles within polygons – particularly triangles, and special quadrilaterals. The pupils have been using their new learning to find missing angles, to identify the sum of internal angles in a polygon and then applying this knowledge to solve problems.

Geography The pupils have been planning an excursion into Sandy town in order to carry out a survey. They will be investigating the views of the public on a variety of topics such as bins, alcohol consumption, anti-social behaviour and traffic. The pupils have trialled their surveys on each other to iron out any mistakes or unclear questions.



Science In science we have been concluding our unit with a look at microorganisms and how humans have found wonderful uses for these potentially harmful living things. Sycamore now have a better appreciation for bread and dairy products as well as understanding the favoured living conditions for some of these organisms.

SATs revision Although we do not want to put undue stress on our pupils, nor narrow our curriculum, this past week has seen us spend more time on SPaG, reading and reasoning. We have been recapping past learning and ensuring our pupils are feeling confident in their run up to their Yr 6 tests.

RE In RE Sycamore have been focusing on the topic of Justice and how that ties into faith. What repercussions are and how different faiths' views on Justice support the systems and values that we share in Britain.

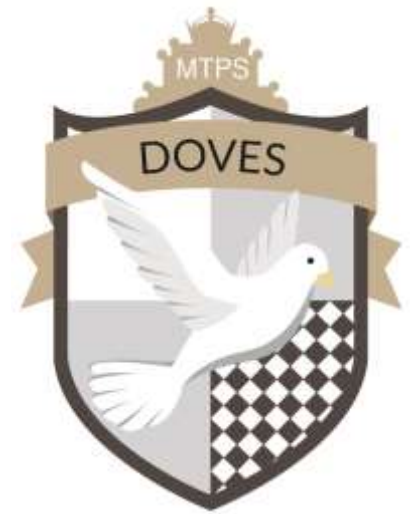
Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are ...being a fab all for... rounder!



Fir: ★ Oryn	Yew: Saffie	Aspen: ★ Zachary
Rowan: ★ Evie	Poplar: Ronnie	Juniper: ★ Isla
★ Sycamore: Ennis	★ Elder: Lottie	Well done to you all!

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Monday 6th May Bank Holiday
- Wednesday 8th May Class photos
- Monday 13th May—Thursday 16th May Year 6 SATs
- Thursday 16th May – Summer census day
- Friday 17th May FoMT Break the rules day
- Tuesday 21st May Road Safety Day
- Friday 24th May – Last day of half term
- Monday 10th – Wednesday 12th June Year 6 PGL Trip
- Friday 14th June FoMT Father's day gift shop
- Saturday 15th June –Sandy Carnival and Parade
- Friday 21st June World Music Day
- Thursday 27th June Year 6 transition day to Sandy Secondary School
- Wednesday 3rd July Pre-school Sports day **DATE CHANGE**
- Thursday 4th July Sports day (Reception-Year 6)
- Friday 5th July FoMT summer fete
- Friday 12th July Open afternoon and Proms in the Playground
- Friday 19th July Last day of school year.

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 29th April 2024

The best attendance award is presented to:
Poplar class!

Mulberries	Fir (YR)
92%	93%
Yew (Y1)	Aspen (Y2)
95%	95%
Rowan (Y3)	Poplar (Y4)
96%	97%
Juniper (Y5)	Elder (Y6)
93%	93%
Sycamore (Y6)	Our target is 97%
94%	

Parents' guide: Gaming advice to support pre-teens

internet
matters.org



Things to do

Set digital boundaries

Use a **family agreement to set rules** on what they can play, when and how long for to help them strike a healthy balance between gaming other activities they do.

Use reviews and sites to pick appropriate games

Read **parents and expert reviews of games** they are interested in to help you choose the right games for them to play.

Encourage them to play in shared spaces

This is a simple way to stay engaged in what they are doing while gaming and **step in if you feel something's not quite right**.

Set privacy settings and learn how to report in-game abuse

Make it a habit to **review their privacy settings on their account** and teach them where to report in-game abuse so they can take action if they feel concerned.

Gen-up on the lingo

Get up to speed on how players communicate while gaming to **spot the signs of cyberbullying or negative behaviour**.

Make gaming a family affair

Trying out new games with children makes it easier to relate and can give you a better sense of what the game is about and prompt conversation or safety measures to help them stay safe.



ICKWELL FAYRE, SANDY
CARNIVAL & OUR OWN
SUMMER FAYRE

CAN YOU HELP US?

**WE NEED
DONATIONS**



WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING
TO HELP US WITH OUR UPCOMING
FRIENDS OF MAPLE TREE STALLS.
GIFTS FOR OUR LUCKY DIP, SUCH AS:
PARTY BAG FILLERS, BOUNCY BALLS
ETC.

TATTOOS
SWEETS
BUBBLES

GOOD CONDITION TOYS/TEDDIES



PLACE ANY DONATIONS IN THE FOMT BOX IN THE OFFICE BY 30TH APRIL