



# Newsletter

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Autumn  
Term  
Newsletter

26<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear families,

The children have been enjoying exploring the new play equipment over the last two weeks and that, along with gardening club making a fantastic start to the vegetable patches and general upkeep of the pots and borders, has meant that the school is all set for the Summer Term. Learning has begun in earnest with our new big questions and our worship has been based on one of this term's characteristics: 'Problem Solving'. The children learnt about David and Goliath and how David solved a problem in his own way – something we encourage the children to do.

There are lots of events planned for the Summer Term so do check the school website for dates. One of those is as a result of the positive feedback from the questionnaire that went home last term. On **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May** we will be hosting a 'roadshow' where there will be stands relating to all sorts of areas of school life from the teaching of phonics to online safety. It would be great to see you there.



## Willow Class

In Willow Class we have started our new topic, 'Why Did the Dinosaurs Die Out?' focusing on developing as Young Leaders and Problem Solvers. We have talked about what we already know about Dinosaurs and about the difference between Dinosaurs and other animals.

We have read *The Odd Egg*, speculated on what might hatch from the egg and what its first words might be and retold the story in our own words using the phonics we have learnt. We have learnt new vowel trigraphs ear, air and ure and practised all the phonics we have learnt so far.



In maths we have focused on 2d and 3d shapes and on counting numbers bigger than 10, talking about *tens*, *ones* and *units*. We have talked about the jobs that people in our families do and talked about being good friends. In PE we have practised throwing underarm and overarm.

We have chicken eggs arriving today and are looking forward

to seeing them hatch in 3 weeks and are looking forward to our visit from Horsham museum next week.

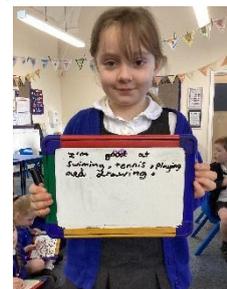
## Eco News

Thank you to the children who have helped plant new hedging trees at the back of the school, kindly sent to us by the Woodland Trust. What a perfect way to mark Earth Day!



## Beech Class

Beech class have been on 'fire' over the past few weeks! We have started adding sentences to our morning job, they have been so much fun! We are now using commas in a list in our writing. This is to engage our readers!



In English, we have been exploring what Pudding Lane was like before the fire. We know that the houses were close together and it was dirty! We watched a video, which showed us market stools where people would buy food for their families.



In science, we have begun our 'observation over time' experiment. We have put bean spout seeds in different environments around the school, there is even one in the freezer! We are going to record how well the seeds grow in the different environments.



Our home learning has been fabulous! (Thank you adults!) We have had two breaking news stories from news reporters from 1666. We have also had many beautiful drawings of the Great Fire of London.



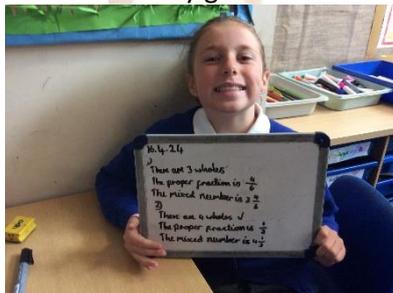
### Holly Class

We have had a great start to the summer term. To hook us into our new project about Creativity, we played a

game of football with a difference- there were no rules! We discussed the history of football and how rules are important to be successful. The game clearly demonstrated that without rules, nobody knows what to do!

In English, we have started our film unit called Cyber Kicks which the children have really enjoyed. We have been learning about adverts; persuasive writing techniques such as alliteration, rhyme and slogans. We have explored slogans and logos of famous brands to help us decide what makes an effective slogan/logo.

In maths, we have continued to learn about fractions. The year 3's have been comparing and ordering fractions and the year 4's have been looking at proper fractions and mixed numbers, comparing and ordering them. It has been a challenge but I am impressed with the resilience the children have shown. We also enjoyed an NRICH problem where we had several clues to work out a number and the children worked excellently in pairs to decide which clues were necessary, which ones weren't and why they were or weren't necessary to solve the problem. I have set the children a challenge to log into TT Rockstars once or twice at home to see how they get on.



In science, we started our project around Sound. We watched an amazing clip of Stomp, ask your children what

this is all about. We then had to gather items around the classroom that could make a sound. Once we had described the sound, we had to consider how to vary the sound. It was noisy but fun!



### Silver Birch Class

We have begun exploring this term's key question "How should society be organised?" by learning about Ancient Greece. We have started with focusing on Athens and Sparta – and debating the pros and cons of living in each city, depending on their approach to democracy (or lack of) and how life was different for boys and girls. It was a landslide preference for Sparta – the boys enjoyed the thought of 15 years in the wilderness learning how to fight and the girls mostly preferred how they would have had lots more rights and freedoms than they would in Athens. Hector's choice was arguably the most persuasive as he opted for "a life by the water eating grapes in Athens" rather than fighting in wars.

We have also started our new class novel "Who Let the Gods Out?" and the class have really enjoyed the humour and nods to Ancient Greek culture and Gods. In maths, Year 5 have been working really hard on area and perimeter problems while Year 6 have been learning about angles. In science, we are learning about reproduction in plants and animals – we've discussed the pros and cons of cuttings and pollination. In PE, we've been excited to start practising for Sports Day!

## Badminton

Children from Beech Class enjoyed a t Badminton taster day at St Paul's this week.



## Cake Sale

Sophia Booty, in Holly Class, is holding sweets sale on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April after school, on the playground in aid of Diabetes UK.



Please support her.

## Rear Playground all finished

We are very pleased to say that our rear playground is now fully functional and the kids are loving it!



**Well done** to Hattie for her achievements in the Hastings Art

## Festival.



## WELLIES

We now have welly storage for each class, so please remember to send in a labelled pair of wellies for your child/ren to be kept in school for playtimes when it is wet.



## Emotional well-being modules for parents

At parent's evening, there was information about modules that parents could access to support the emotional well-being for their child. These modules have been funded by the school and gives parents a life time access. We strongly urge you to take advantage of these. Please see our website for further details: [https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/emotional\\_wellbeing\\_for\\_children/680752](https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/emotional_wellbeing_for_children/680752)

We have been asked to circulate this poster on behalf of Mid Sussex Active who are the sports organisation who plan and run the wide range of sporting

competitions and festivals that our children access over the course of the year.



## Diary Dates:



See the website calendar for important dates:

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/calendar/223211>

Ms Lofthouse and all staff at Bolney CEP School

