

17 January 2025

Pyrford C of E Primary School Weekly Newsletter

What a Fabulous Kapla Workshop!



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Headteacher's Letter

Dear Parents,

What a week it's been at school! My personal highlight was definitely the Kapla workshop in the church on Thursday. Our Early Years and Year 1 children were absolutely captivated. If you've never heard of Kapla, it's worth a quick Google—it's essentially loads and loads (and loads!) of little pine planks that can be used to build amazing structures. A brilliant way for our youngest learners to get creative! Huge thanks to the parent whose company - Addlestone Electrical Wholesalers - generously covered the cost of the workshop, and to all the volunteers who came along to lend a hand—it's much appreciated.

This week, I also had the pleasure of meeting Nick Hutchinson, the new Rector. We had a great chat about how we can work together now that he's settling into his new role. Pyrford CofE is lucky to have Nick join the parish, and I'm excited about the opportunities ahead to strengthen the partnership between the school and church—and to look at ways we can support our wider community together.

In assembly, we kicked off a new theme: *Songs of the Heart*, inspired by the story of David and the Psalms. I'm looking forward to diving into these stories with the children over the term. We'll explore some big questions as we head towards Easter—always a fascinating journey with curious minds!

Also, attached to the email this newsletter came with, you'll find our **Social Media Guidance for Parents**. This was originally created last year to give advice on the different ways the school and its affiliates communicate, as well as a gentle reminder for everyone to keep comments kind and direct any concerns to the right person. I wasn't aware of it before, so apologies that it didn't go out earlier in the year! Just a little nudge—if you've got worries or questions about school, your best bet is to chat with your child's teacher. We're all working towards the same goal: giving every child the best possible learning experience.

Finally, I'd like to bring to your attention a sad local story some of you may already know about. Over Christmas, Freemantles School, a local special school, had one of their minibuses stolen and set on fire. They're now crowdfunding to replace it. If you'd like to support this very worthwhile cause, you can find more details here: [Freemantles School Minibus Appeal](#).

Hot off the press is the news that our Year 5 Girls 7-a-side football team won their match against St Dunstan's last night. We will give a fuller report when we play them again next week.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mr. D

Gavin Dutton
Headteacher

Parents Evening Meetings

Parents meetings will be held on Tuesday 4th and Thursday 6th February. Please note that **Alder Class** meetings will be on **Monday 3rd** and Tuesday 4th (no meetings on Thursday 6th).

Meetings will be in person in your child's classroom. Mrs Hope's meeting will be in the Conference Room (on the first floor at the rear of the building). She will meet with parents in their pre-school year only, as she will have met, or will be meeting, with parents of younger children at Squirrels.

Entry to the school will be via the rear doors only.

Appointments are booked online. The booking site opens at 6pm on Tuesday 21st January. The site can be found on this link <https://pyrfordcofe.schoolcloud.co.uk/> - we will email instructions early next week.

Please contact us in the office if you have any queries.

Golden Book Awards



N SQUIRRELS - Penny Dyer & William Hagell Our story this week is *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. Penny and William did an amazing job of retelling the story using the props. Well done!

R BEECH - Cameron Maskell for trying really hard with his writing this week, listening for the sounds in the words and trying to form them correctly. Well done Cameron!

R HAZEL - Lily Charlton for doing a lovely sequencing job of the story of *The Three Little Pigs*. She also wrote some parts of the story and was so proud of her work!

1 OAK - Olivia Harburn In English we have been learning to use S Plans to retell a story. We have been using our Power of Reading text *The Queen's Hat* to do this. Olivia did a fantastic job to explain where the hat went. She used interesting verbs and adjectives to add description to her writing. Olivia always listens well and it is clear that she has tried very hard. Well done Olivia!

1 PINE - Niamh Patel for a fabulous London skyline picture.

2 CEDAR - Benny Coventry He rewrote a character description of Rabbit in our English lesson. He worked hard on his handwriting and remembered to include lots of effective adjectives. Well done Benny!

2 HAWTHORN - Wilbur Foote for always working incredibly hard in all our Maths lessons. We have been learning about 3D shape this week. Wilbur can name and describe the properties of many 3D shapes and has completed several challenges. Well done!

3 ELM - Jake Clarke When Life Space came to visit us, we learned how to keep our minds and bodies healthy. Jake made exceptional contributions to the session, showing detailed knowledge and asking interesting questions. Well done Jake!

3 MAPLE - Elliott Lawes for 2 reasons. Firstly because of the excellent effort he is putting into his handwriting this term. The second reason is for his amazing scientific knowledge. His brain is full of interesting facts which he enjoys sharing with the class. Well done Elliott!

4 ALDER - Indigo Cobbett & Mariah Hassan During English, Indigo and Mariah worked incredibly hard as a team. They created excellent sentences with subordinating clauses and conjunctions about the robot in our story. Girls, you should be very proud of yourselves for working so hard and being very creative!

4 LARCH - Otilie Trainer-Clark for the amazing efforts in her writing. Otilie has clearly been inspired by our new text *Wild Robot* and produced some wonderful work. Mrs Steen was particularly impressed by her very persuasive letter to Roz the robot!

5 CHERRY - Oliver Lawry In Computing we are continuing our learning on Crumble (not the food!) and will soon be designing, building and programming our own robots. Ollie has a real flair for Computing and can share his deep understanding with his peers, helping them to debug their programs and add additional components. Great work Ollie!

5 ROWAN - Florence Gwyther for her fantastic work in English. She tried really hard with the rewrite of a letter of advice to Bradley, a character from our text *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*. Florence followed the S Plan carefully and clearly put her points across in each paragraph. She used a good selection of modal verbs and used adverbials to help sequence her writing. Excellent work, keep it up!

5 WILLOW - Horia Musca for his brilliant listening and participation during our music lesson. He was able to successfully work with his partner to play the new chords we have been learning on the glockenspiel whilst keeping in time with the beat.

6 HOLLY - Joshua Snowden-Reeve We are studying the Ancient Greeks and Holly Class have loved researching about the gods and goddesses. Joshua's poster about Poseidon really stood out. The decoration and colour choice impressed Mrs Bull and the information he found about this Greek god was very interesting. Well done Joshua. Great work!

6 LAUREL - Theo Calafatis for his fantastic work in English. Theo worked hard re-telling the story of Odysseus and the Cyclops and also working on his poster. Theo continually works hard in lessons and puts 101% into everything he does. Keep up the great work Theo!

Year 3 Multiskills

Some lucky Year 3 children had a wonderful time on Tuesday, participating in St Dunstan's multiskills festival with lots of other schools. The children showed great sporting ability as well as excellent behaviour, and everyone had a lovely afternoon practising a wide range of skills.



SPRING TERM DATES		
Thu 23 Jan		Y1 to Windsor Castle
Wed 29 Jan		INSET DAY
Tue 4 Feb	15:30-17:30	Parents Evening Meetings
Thu 6 Feb	15:30-19:30	Parents Evening Meetings
Thu 13 Feb		Y6 Greeks Workshop
Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb		HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Mon 3 Mar	pm / evening	Choir to Primary Music Festival
Wed 5 Mar		Y5 Vikings Workshop
Wed 12 - Fri 14 Mar		Y4 Hindleap Warren Residential
Thu 13 Mar		Y2 to Brooklands Museum
Fri 14 Mar	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - EYFS & Ys 1 & 2
Wed 19 Mar		YN & YR Little City Visit
Fri 21 Mar	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 3 & 4
Fri 28 Mar	14:00-14:30	MAGs Event (Years 1 & 2)
Fri 28 Mar	14:00-14:30	MAGs Event (Nursery & YR)
Fri 28 Mar	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 5 & 6
Fri 4 Apr	12:00	Last Day of Spring Term
Mon 7 - Mon 21 Apr		EASTER HOLIDAY

SUMMER TERM DATES		
Tue 22 Apr		First Day of Summer Term
Fri 25 Apr		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Rowan)
Fri 2 May		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Willow)
Fri 9 May		YR to Godstone Farm
Fri 16 May		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Cherry)
Tue 20 May		Y5 Fullbrook Away Day
Tue 21 May		Y5 Shah Jahan Mosque Visit
Thu 22 & Fri 23 May		Y3 Feet First Walking Training
Mon 26 - Fri 30 May		HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Fri 6 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - EYFS & Ys 1 & 2
Wed 11 Jun		EYFS Bugfest
Thu 12 Jun		Y2 to The Lookout Discovery Centre
Fri 13 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 3 & 4
Tue 17 Jun		Y6 Leavers' Service @ Cathedral
Fri 20 Jun		Y4 Chinese Dragon Workshop
Fri 20 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 5 & 6
Tue 24 Jun		Y6 Lego Stem Workshop
Fri 27 Jun		Y5 to Wildwood
Mon 30 Jun		INSET DAY
Tue 1 & Wed 2 Jul		Forest School - 1 class per day
Fri 4 Jul		Y3 Outdoor Learning Activity Day
Mon 7 - Fri 11 Jul		Y6 Marchants Hill Residential
Fri 18 Jul	12:00	Last Day of Summer Term

FamilyFirst

Proudly supporting  in improving the physical & mental wellbeing of families living in England



Read on this link

<https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue1-25>

SCHOOL UNIFORM

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Good quality pre-loved uniform items available in a range of sizes

The PTA are now running the uniform shop

- Email: pyrforduniform@gmail.com with your request
- Collections/donations: meet at the portacabin (back playground) on Fridays at 3pm
- Cash or card accepted - proceeds go to the school!

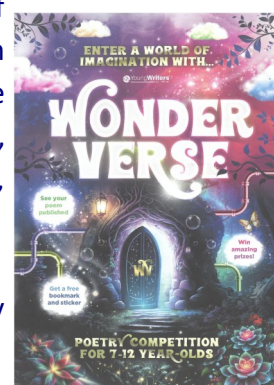
EMAIL: PYRFORDUNIFORM@GMAIL.COM

POETRY COMPETITION

This half term, children in years 1-6 will have the opportunity to enter a Young Writers poetry competition. This will be an **optional** activity for children to complete at home. For years 1-2, the task is to design a monster and write an acrostic poem about it. For years 3-6, they will write a poem of their choice about a 'wonderverse'.

Teachers will introduce the task in class and give a copy of the entry form to children who express an interest. Children need to complete their entry on the form. **The deadline is Friday 14th February.** Before the form is returned to school, please fill in the information on the form clearly: name, age, teacher's name, school name and postcode.

Children's work gets published in a book and you will have a chance to buy a copy of the book.



Dear PARENTS:- We need four parents per night to have the appropriate adult to child ratio in our Church Safeguarding policy. So, if you have not already volunteered this year, **PLEASE** LOOK and SEE if you might be free once this term, that would be WONDERFUL!

If free, you can email suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org or fill in this slip and return it at Youth Club Jnr. Many thanks.
Name & contact no./email _____

I would be available to help on Friday _____ (date)

JANUARY

Friday 17th January 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd

Friday 31st January 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd

FEBRUARY

Friday 14th February 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd

Friday 28th February 6:30pm-7:45pm

Ice Skating Trip @ Guildford Spectrum

MARCH

Friday 14th March 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd

Friday 28th March 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd

