

14th October 2016

Oxspring News

Newsletter for Oxspring Primary School

www.oxspringprimary.co.uk/



From Mrs Irwin

I can't believe that we are going to be starting our last week of half term on Monday! It has been a fabulous week at school, with all classes working hard towards their Harvest Festival celebrations. I was delighted to see so many parents / carers and family members on Thursday afternoon and take part in our festival. The children were superstars and are an absolute credit to you! Many thanks for all the super contributions for our auction, but also for the donations of money towards the Farm Africa Charity, as well as the PTA Playground Project Fund (see details of money raised below). Special thanks to our fantastic PTA who provided the lovely refreshments! Many thanks also to the families who took part in our 'Active Travel Just Dance' session this morning—what a lovely way to start Friday! On a final note, please don't forget it is individual and family photographs first thing on Monday morning!

PTA PLAYGROUND PROJECT FUND

Many thanks to everyone for their very generous donations for coffee and cakes after the Harvest Festival. We managed to raise a terrific £70.46 towards our playground project. Thanks also to the parents / carers who made the delicious cakes for the occasion! Please note that the next PTA AGM is on Thursday 3rd November at 6pm at Cubley Hall—all welcome!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Following the super auction, we are delighted to announce that your very generous donations meant that we raised £186 for the charity Farm Africa. Many thanks for your donations.

ATTENDANCE—Well done to Class 1 for achieving another fabulous 100% attendance last week! Excellent again Class 1! Class 5 came next with 98.4% followed by Class 2 with 98.1%. Class 3 achieved 96.8% and finally Class 4 with 94.3%.



EXCELLENT LEARNERS 14.10.16



Meet this week's excellent learners who shared some impressive work in our special assembly! The teachers choose one child for showing a positive attitude towards learning in any aspect of the curriculum, as well as a second child for mastering maths' (our M&Ms!).

Class 1: Seb S—For fantastic tidying up without being asked!

Reece M— For fabulous number work using Numicon.(MM)

Class 2: : Amy W—For super London research, even at home!

Alex E— For working independently on subtraction (MM)

Class 3: Lucy D—For fantastic effort and productivity!

Archie P—For superb learning in maths! (MM)

Class 4: Thomas H—For being an all round superstar!

Hana K—For excellent maths work using her multiplication facts! (MM)

Class 5: Johnny RW —For a completely stunning piece of computer art!

Rebecca M—For superb reasoning and thinking when working with fractions! (MM)

LIBRARY

We are desperate for volunteers to help out with our school library please. If any parents / carers can spare a few hours each week to sort out the books, help improve the environment and enable the children to access the library, please contact the office staff for further details. Many thanks!

RSPB BADGES



Many thanks to everyone who have purchased the animal badges which are for sale in reception. So far we have managed to raise £13.60 for the RSPB charity. Badges are still available for a recommended donation of £1.00 for anyone who is interested.

Roving Reporters

Class 1— In literacy Class 1 have been learning about the Ginger Bread man story. In maths they have been putting a number of buttons on the Ginger Bread man and then seeing how many they have put on. For art they have been sticking with the Harvest theme. They have been leaf rubbing and have been creating trees with their hand and finger prints. Finally they've been enjoying singing harvest songs! (by Sam and Jake A)

Class 2— Class 2 have been making scarecrows and crows for the Harvest Festival this week. In their topic work, the children learned about the Great Fire of London as well as finding out about the London Eye. They also learnt the London's Burning song. For Maths, Class 2 have been extending their knowledge of number bonds and also subtracting and measuring. (By Noveed and Jake)

Class 3— In English, Class 3 have been writing persuasive letters to other schools telling them how good Stone Age Day was. They have been using powerful adjectives, rhetorical questions, paragraphs and quotes! On Thursday the Class 3 did a Harvest rap – it was fantastic! Really cool!

(By Chloe and Rebecca)

Class 4— In Class 4 the pupils have been learning about structuring paragraphs for non-chronological reports! Maths has seen the children finding facts about multiplying by 10 and 100. Science was exciting—the children have been exploring how and why volcanoes erupt. D.T sounds really exciting because as part of their topic they have been making clay models of Stonehenge. (By Laura and Hazel)

Class 5— In maths this week Class 5 have been learning about fractions. In English, we have been writing a biography about Sir Edmund Hillary and his achievement of being one of the first people to climb Mount Everest. In addition, in art we have created patterns using computers based on the artist Bridget Riley's work—some finished ones are on display in our classroom. We have also been learning about e-safety and what to do and what not to do if something ever happens. (By Macie W)

ACTIVE TRAVEL CHALLENGE—Many thanks to everyone for really getting involved in our 10 day Active Travel challenge. The dance session this morning was great fun and was enjoyed by everyone taking part! Thank you! Next Friday before school starts is our 'hoola hoopathon'!



SCHOOL COUNCIL—Oxspring Primary School Council is off to a flying start! Our newly elected School Council have been very busy during the past three weeks. Before getting down to the serious business of representing their class peers and making important decisions and putting forward proposals they decided that they wanted to meet some real people in their local community who also have similar responsibilities. They also wanted to discover more about how local councils and government make decisions and go about their work.

SCHOOL COUNCIL continued—Angela Smith MP for our local area was invited along to one of the School Council's first meetings to talk about her work and what it's like to be an MP representing the views of the people. She shared her experiences of sitting in parliament and listening to the views of her constituents and how she goes about her daily work. She was most impressed with the children's interest in local and national matters and their curiosity of what MPs actually do. Consequently, she has invited them to visit Parliament and to meet her again in the House of Commons. We are hopefully planning to schedule this during the summer term.

Their next step was to meet the Mayor of Penistone, Councillor Paul Hand-Davis and he kindly invited the Key Stage 2 children to the Council Chambers in the Town Hall. This was a very enjoyable and interesting visit as the Mayor made all the children honorary councillors for the morning. They were shown how to formally ask questions by standing and addressing the council in the council chamber. Several local issues were discussed including traffic management, fly tipping, local play facilities and future house building.

The children were also very interested in Councillor Davis's responsibilities as Mayor and how he went about his work representing the views of local people.



Their latest adventure was to go along to the Town Hall in Barnsley to meet the Lady Mayor and two other local councillors. Needless to say the children were given a real 'South Yorkshire welcome' and the Lady Mayor gave them a personal guide including a visit to her own office known as the Mayor's Parlour!

She was very generous of her time and attention to them, and spoke in a lovely way at their level so they could clearly understand what the mayor does, and how she and the councillors conduct their duties and responsibilities. Having local councillors Robert Barnard and John Wilson in attendance was also very much appreciated, as they were very helpful in answering the children's questions.

The School Council are intending to reciprocate the Mayor's hospitality by inviting her to their school at some point during her year of office.

As a School Council they have learnt so much from their visits and meeting our local politicians. For them it was a real adventure of discovery into local politics, council protocol, as well as a great opportunity to learn about the history of their local Penistone Council and Chambers to experiencing a sense of awe and wonder from the palatial ambience of the Barnsley Town Hall! (by Mr M. Cassidy—Oxspring Primary School Governor)