

15th March 2018



Oxspring News

Newsletter for Oxspring Primary School

www.oxspringprimary.co.uk/



From Mrs Irwin— This week, we celebrated 'British Science Week' with a whole school science day, which certainly had the children 'buzzing' all around school. We shared the outcomes of the day in a very special science day assembly, which involved all classes showcasing their scientific learning! It was excellent and further details can be seen below. Many thanks also to everyone who came along to another 'Start the day with science' session on Thursday morning which was lots of fun! Huge thanks to Mrs Reeve for planning the range of science investigations which the children were able to do with their family members. We can't wait for the next one! On another note, I would like to say an enormous thank you to our wonderful PTA and all our families who have managed to contribute another incredible amount of money from their fundraising for our IT project and additional school improvement priorities! Please see the PTA update on page 2. At a time when our school faces such significant financial challenges your amazing contributions really do impact on the outcomes for our children! Thank you so much! Wishing you a lovely weekend.

START THE DAY WITH SCIENCE—Thank you to all the children and families who joined in with the early morning science investigations on Thursday morning!



SCIENCE DAY—As scientists, the children in Class 1 explored forces and made rockets. They also investigated glow in the dark stars. Class 2 had the important job of analysing 'dinosaur poo' to determine if it was a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore! Class 3 used their senses to explore different apples and the effect of food colouring. They also investigated whether people with longer arms can throw further. Our Class 4 scientists learnt about bones and muscles and tested their knowledge in a build a skeleton race. They then made their own muscles. Class 5 produced videos about the rotation of planets in the solar system. They worked in groups to perform, edit and finalise their work. A very memorable day all round!



EXCELLENT LEARNERS AND HOT SHOT WRITERS—



Meet our excellent learners who should be very proud of their achievements. 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 being a 'hot shot writer' (HSW). The HSW award goes to children who have shown excellent effort and progress in their writing, along with an impressive application of writing skills.

- Class 1:** Seb S—For being kind and supportive to younger children.
Hayden A—For fantastic independent writing! (HSW)
- Class 2:** Siggy S—For trying so hard in his dinosaur topic!
Harvey W— For a fantastic attitude to all his writing. (HSW)
- Class 3:** —For Henry G—For excellent effort in class.
All of the class—For amazing stories about Thor's magic hammer!
- Class 4:** Daisy S—For her outstanding homework—making a Viking shield!
Isabelle R—For up-levering her persuasive speech. (HSW)
- Class 5:** Molly O—For a fantastic homework video about Ancient Egypt.
Lauren D—For fantastic progress with her use of language and punctuation. (HSW)

SPORTS DAY—

We are delighted to announce that Mr Moody will shortly be selling the photographs which he took at our sports



day last week. Watch this space for further details. We also held a special sports day follow up celebration assembly this week. Huge congratulation to the yellow team for winning the overall house points from the event. Many thanks to Molly for collecting the trophy on behalf of her team!



ROVING REPORTERS

Class 1 - In Class 1, they have been writing space stories, ordering planets and asking questions about it. In maths, they have been counting backwards and measuring dinosaurs using longer and shorter skills. During PE, they have been very active and have enjoyed exploring the apparatus. Also the busy class have been making postcards and drawing pictures. (By Ava and Molly)

Class 2— This week, the children in Class 2 have been telling the time and have created their very own clocks. This week the class have been using the iPads to research for their Non-Chronological Reports. Mr Stratford has been playing a game with the class called Knights And Robbers. The class have been fascinated by the life cycle of dinosaurs and humans in topic work. Finally, the pupils have been using Scratch to move a lizard in certain directions and say hello. (By Will and George)

Class 3 - In science, class 3 tasted different flavours of apple with different senses and then they mixed lots of coloured water, then they threw a ball to see if it went further if you had longer arms. In Art they wove some woollen bracelets and in History they were finding out facts about King Alfred the Great. They also did some fun tag rugby which they called bunny tails. Then after all of this work, they got to go to swimming on Thursday afternoon. What an exciting week! (By Lauren and Rosie.)

Class 4 - In Class 4 this week they have been busily writing a persuasive letter to Barnsley Council. They even had time to look at the features of a poem. Also, they have been learning about decimals and percentages. But unfortunately they had to do lots of tests as it has been assessment week! On top of all that they have been making life size skeletons in science day! Class 4 have all enjoyed this week and they have been working hard! (By Lucy and Jess)

Class 5—In maths, Class 5 have been using coordinates to make shapes and translate shapes - also the year 5s have been doing their assessments. They have been learning about discussion texts and explaining their features. Class 5 made timelines to do with what happened before, during and after the Ancient Egyptians. During art with Mrs Irwin, they sketched Egyptian masks and made them look like real gold! In maths they timed each other doing activities and x the number by 525600 then x that by 5118. This was to find out how many of each activity they could have done since the start of the Ancient Egyptian era! (By Luke and Hugo)

SPORTS RELIEF WEEK—

As next week is 2018 Sports Relief, we will be raising the profile of health and fitness throughout the week. Children will need their PE kit in school each day please. On **Friday 23rd March**, we would like to invite parents / carers and families to a 'Fit Friday' event at 8.15 am in the Hall, which will then be followed by the **half term mile along the trail (KS1 at 9.15am and KS2 at 9.30am)**. Our sports coach, Mr Stratford will then work with all children across school to complete a series of circuit training events in and around school. Children can come to school dressed in their sports clothes for the day, and bring a donation of £1 towards the Sports Relief charity. Please ensure that the children are dressed warmly enough for outdoor fitness events too (weather permitting).



PTA UPDATE

We are delighted to be able to let you know that at yesterday's PTA meeting we gave school an incredible **£2700.00** to be spent on IT equipment! We look forward to hearing exactly how this will be spent when school have worked out the details. This is in addition to the five digital cameras and five iPads we were able to purchase last term too, along with paying for a new detailed programme for teaching ICT to Year 6. Massive thanks to you all for your continued support with our IT fundraising target. We look forward to raising even more for such an important aspect of the children's learning throughout the remainder of this school year.

Building on school's success in recent years with reading, last year Oxspring came in the top 11 schools in the country for reading at KS2! The PTA involvement in buying new guided reading books for KS2, as well as new reading books for KS1, has contributed to this fantastic success! As a result of this, we have been asked if we would be able to help with a new school wide initiative to improve handwriting. The PTA has agreed to pay **£495.00** for a handwriting consultant who will come into school and run workshops for staff and pupils, and provide follow up help and support. See the attached link <http://www.improvementinschool.co.uk/> for further details. We look forward to seeing the positive results! Once again, we would like to say a huge 'Thank You!' to you all, we wouldn't be able to assist school in the way that we do without your help and support. As Leader of the House in the school's Pupil Parliament Lauren D received the PTA cheques on behalf of the children. She said, "We are really grateful for the generosity—thank you from all the children at Oxspring! It is brilliant!"



EASTER—Could we please ask for any donations of Easter eggs for our Children's Easter raffle next week—by **Thursday 22nd March please**. Raffle tickets will be on sale from Monday at 20p each, maximum per child of £2. Our annual decorate an egg and Easter bonnet competitions will take place next **Friday 23rd March**, so please bring your entries into school on the morning of the competition.

Dates for your diary:

- ⇒ **Planetarium visit to school for Class 1, 2 and 5 on Tuesday 20th March (am)**
- ⇒ **Year 1 Phonics meeting on Tuesday 20th March at 6pm for parents / carers**
- ⇒ **Wednesday 21st March—Matilda visit**
- ⇒ **Friday 23rd March—Sports relief half term mile on the trail. 9.15 am KS1 and 9.30am KS2**
- ⇒ **Friday 23rd March—Easter raffle and Easter bonnet / egg competitions**
- ⇒ **Last day of term is Friday 23rd March. School opens on Monday 9th April 2018.**

Wishing you a very enjoyable and warm weekend from all the staff, children and governors.