



MESSAGE FROM MR SIM

Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of the Autumn. We wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some of the fantastic activities that have taken place this half-term.

It has been a time of beginnings. For some of you, this has been a new start. For others, a restart, with a return to something closer to normal. It has been a genuine joy to see school life bloom again. Assemblies, after-school clubs, children singing - we missed out on so much over the last 18 months. Seeing the impact of all of these activities has brought great joy and a deep appreciation of how important these wider aspects of school life are.

We hope this newsletter captures some of the variety and fun we have had in school over the last 8 weeks.

It has been great to celebrate our Stars of the Week during our celebration assemblies. Congratulations all of the children nominated this half-term:

Acorn: Luca, Emma, Sofia, Macie

Chestnut: Ahmed, Freya, Yashvidh, Khadija

Berry: Ali, Eoin, Aadhya, Aadhya, Amaya

Ash: Archie, Niamh, Ria, Jenson, Frank

Alder: Michael, Khalid, Ayaka, Elias, Shaila, Yekta

Beech: Romario, Nishwah, Evy, Di Di, Layla, Henry

Hawthorn: Martel, Thea, Dylan, Louis, Julia, Pedro

Elm: Aizah, Praise, Nathan, Tia, Olivia, Emily

Hornbeam: Tau, Evelyn, Harley, James, Emily, Maja

Holly: Stanislav, Lola, Arthur, Sammy, Ayman, Luis

Maple: Oscar, Ellyce, Keaton, Freddie, Ella, Jessangel

Linden: Eve, Jenson, Aubree-Grace, Ronke, Oscar, Masabih

Oak: Devon, Kezia, Kym, Frankie, Khaleya, Kacey

Pine: Angeleen, Rayyan, Dexter, Raheem, Gabriela, Freya

Willow: Summayyah, Charlotte, Jocelyn, Uzair, Riley, Lily





Foundation and Nursery news

The children have settled in well to school life in both the Foundation classroom and nursery. They are making new friends and learning all about school routines. We're so pleased with how they are learning to line up, tidy up the classrooms and sit and listen on the carpet. Thank you for all of your comments and uploads on the Seesaw app. We hope that you enjoy seeing what your child is learning at school.



In nursery, we have been linking our learning to traditional nursery rhymes this term.

In Foundation, our topics have included colours, Under the Sea and All About Me.



PE lessons with Mr Parrella are really popular!



The children are enjoying their maths lessons and exploring numbers in the classroom.



Key Stage 1 news



We are thrilled with how well the children have settled into the new classroom routines in Key Stage 1. Their attitude to learning has been excellent and they are enjoying discovering new things in their lessons.

It was great to see so many families at our consultation evenings and thank you so much for the fantastic support with homework and reading outside of school.

Year 1 children have been learning to make healthy choices and have created some delicious fruit kebabs in Design Technology lessons.



As part of our 101 Books to Read challenge, Year 1 pupils thought about what makes a good friend. They were inspired by reading 'Squirrels who Squabble'.



Year 2 are becoming superb poets! They've been thinking about what they would put in a Magic Box to make themselves happy. Their use of adjectives have really impressed us.

In Year 2, we have been practising our art skills and learning about different pop artists. Our topic was 'It's great to be me' and we really enjoyed learning how to draw accurate self-portraits

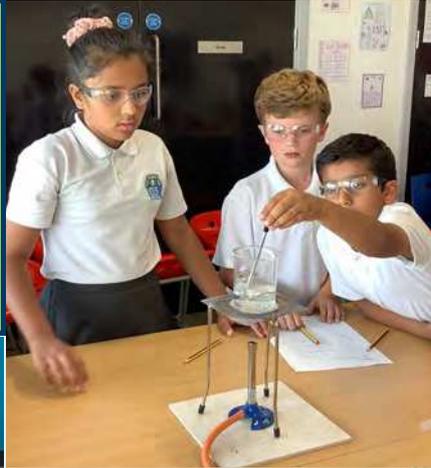
Monday 4th October 2021
 My Magic box
 I will put in the box:
 My chubby soft blanket,
 A fun round football,
 and nice cosy pyjamas.

I will put in the box:
 snow crunching,
 loud, exploding fire works,
 heavy, powerful rain.

I will put in the box:
 A mouth watering strawberry dolly,
 delicious cucumber
 and sweet pancakes.

Key Stage 2 have had a fantastic start to the year, learning about new topics and mastering new skills.

Have a look at Year 3's amazing modrock masks produced as part of their Egyptian topic. They've also been learning about different types of communication, including braille and morse code.



All year groups have been enjoying their science lessons. Year 5 have already learnt how to use Bunsen burners safely in the lab whilst Year 3 have been experimenting with magnets. Year 4 have been in the lab as well, creating their own water cycles and Year 6 have been experimenting with light boxes and shadows.



The wire sculptures produced in Year 6 have been exceptional. The children have carefully studied flowers and drawn them before creating their beautiful sculptures.



In Year 4, the children are becoming experts on volcanoes. A real highlight has been investigating the Mount Vesuvius eruption in Pompeii.



Sporting Success

One of the highlights returning to school this term is that we have been able to resume our sporting fixtures.

We have been thrilled to take part in:

- * Year 5 basketball at Middleton
- * Kommando Kids
- * Year 6 basketball at Middleton
- * Year 3/4 Tag Rugby
- * Y3 handball at Middleton
- * Year 5/6 basketball at Middleton
- * Girls football at Leon School
- * Year 4 handball at Middleton
- * Cross Country at MK Bowl



Year 3/4 Tag Rugby

Year 5 Basketball



Kommando Kids (complete with camouflage face-paints!)



We are always so proud of the children representing the school. They all show great resilience and good sportsmanship.



Bees and Bugs

In September, we took part in the community art project as part of the Great Big Green Week. Each year group looked at how to encourage insects into our local area and their importance as part of our ecosystem. Foundation and Nursery looked at butterflies and caterpillars and produced some beautiful art work and models. Year 1 used paper plates to make their colourful ladybirds and Year 2 made some creepy spiders out of cardboard tubes—some even had fangs! We were so impressed with Year 3 and 4's bug hotel designs and the amazing hotels produced as part of their homework. There were some luxurious new homes for Oakgrove's bugs! Year 5 wowed us with their garden designs, thinking carefully about what flowers to plant to help attract bees and other insects into the local area. They also made wild flower seed bombs to plant in our school grounds. As part of Year 6's focus on bees, Mr Leadbetter came down from secondary to tell us about Oakgrove bees and see the equipment that he uses at the Oakgrove hives. They even got to taste some Oakgrove School honey!



We took a photo of every child's work and displayed it as part of our honeycomb. We have been teaching the children that if we all do one small thing to make our local environment a better place, then together we can have a massive impact.



We were really proud to exhibit our work at All Saints church. If you were not able to visit the exhibition, you can now see the children's work in a virtual exhibition:

<https://artspaces.kunstmatrix.com/en/exhibition/8017200/local-schools-caring-for-creation>