

The Blue Letter: 26th April 2024



Learning, Loving, Growing,
Together with God.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Little Hoot Design Competition - We are asking any child who would like to, to enter our competition to create a design entry for our Owl. The winning entry will then be painted onto the Owl, which will be displayed in Chichester over the summer. We are asking the children to return their designs by Friday 3rd May. Competition entries will cost £1 which will go towards the £795 that we are aiming to raise. If you would like to see the unpainted owl, it is in our front entrance. Please send entries by Tuesday 7th May. We are also planning to have a non-uniform day on Friday 17th May in return for donations towards our fundraising for Chestnut Tree House.



Fidgets in the classroom - Studies have shown that using fidgets and stress balls can increase focus and attention and also work as a stress management tool. There are some children in school who are using them following conversations between teachers and parents as part of a plan to support their child. In order for the fidget to be helpful as a learning tool rather than being used as a toy, they need to be quiet, discreet, have an interesting texture and allow finger and hand movement. We are finding an increasing number of fidget toys coming in from home that are becoming a distraction in class. We have lots of fidgets in school to support the children that need them and would ask that children don't bring their own in from home please. It also means that there are no upsets around lost or broken fidgets in school. We appreciate your support with this.

Frozen Fridays - From next Friday afternoon (3rd May) we will be selling ice lollies at the end of the school day, and on Fridays for the rest of this term. They will cost just £1. Hopefully the sun will begin to shine and we will be able to start our weekends with a refreshing treat! Profits will be split between the Friends PTA and our fundraising for Chestnut Tree House.

PE-Kits - We have an increasing number of children without kit in school on the correct day. If you have any spare outgrown PE kit that we can keep in school for children to borrow, please pass it to your child's teacher and we will keep a central bank of spares. PE days are in the diary section and kits can stay in school all week. We don't want children missing out a key part of the curriculum because of forgotten kits.

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| Monday 29th April | Squirrel Class PE Ball skills and drills club ends 4pm (last session) |
| Tuesday 30th April | |
| Wednesday 1st May | Fox Class PE |
| Thursday 2nd May | Fox Class PE Owl Class PE Squirrel Class PE Outdoor learning - Year 1 - bring change of clothes Cricket Club ends 4.15pm Rugby club ends 4pm Dance Club ends 4pm |
| Friday 3rd May | Owl Class PE Create Club ends 4.20pm |

Advance Dates

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday
 Monday 13th May - Year 6 test week
Friday 17th May - non uniform day - donations for Chestnut tree house
 Wednesday 22nd May - class photographs
 Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May - half term
 Monday 3rd June - INSET DAY
 Tuesday 4th June - Year 4 multiplication check week
 Wednesday 5th June - new parents meeting
 Monday 10th June - Year 1 phonic check week
Friday 21st June - non uniform - tombola donations
 Monday 24th June - Diocese Leavers' Service - Cathedral
 Thursday 27th June - GAS sports (selected children)
 Friday 28th June - Summer Fair
 Wednesday 3rd July - transition day
 Thursday 4th July - Sports day
 Friday 5th July reserve sports day
 Friday 19th July end of year discos
 Monday 22nd July Year 6 BBQ
 Tuesday 23rd July End of Year and Leavers' Service 2pm
 Tuesday 23rd July - end of term

Sporting Round-up!



We started this half term with some of the girls from Fox and Owl Classes attending a cricket festival.

"I enjoyed it because I got to learn many new skills that I didn't already know "- Chiara

Thank you Mr Rogers and Mrs Squires for going with them.



The girls from Year Two went to a Girls' Disney football festival. All the activities were based around Disney films like The Lion King, Aladdin, Frozen and Toy Story. The girls all agree it was great fun.

"I like the game that was based on Aladdin." -Sienna.

"I liked the tagging game best." - Elanya

"My favourite was the shopkeeper game, based on Aladdin." - Jasmine

Thank you to Mrs Pendle for going with them and to the parents for doing the transport.

Achievers

Well done to all our achievers this week:



Squirrel Class: Leon, Freya, Alice, Alexis, Eddie and Lexie

Fox Class: Elisia, Hattie, Emily and Lucia

Owl Class: Freya, Gio, Elodie, Michael and Emily



Boxgrove Green Gardeners

Gardening on Wednesday got off to an EGGcellent start! The free range organic eggs were generously donated by Rookery Farm in Flansham. It was lovely to see the older children being supportive of the younger ones, helping them with their Cress Head activity when they needed it. Whilst the children worked on their colourful egg shell funny faces and sewed their cress seeds, we shared some interesting facts about eggs and cress. Who knew that eggs have been to space? Astronaut John Young rocketed into space with an egg salad sandwich on the STS-12 Mission! The world's largest egg was laid by an ostrich in 1947 and was 24 times the size of the eggs the children were decorating! If you want to know how fresh your breakfast egg is, see if it floats or sinks. A floating egg should not be eaten, a sinking egg is fresh! Creativity makes for hungry children, so our session was rounded off with gluten free crackers and egg mayonnaise from the eggs used in the activity - no waste here at Boxgrove and the children munched away happily thanks to Rookery Farm's happy chickens! The children learnt that cress is a micro-green important in their diet and will be watering and watching their Cress Heads grow over the next week. We'll compare how much their 'cress hair' has grown at next week's gardening club! Cress grows super fast within 5-7 days of sewing.

Next Wednesday (1st May) the children will be creating beautiful, vibrantly painted miniature hanging flower pots from tins that we will be hanging in the outside areas. We will need 24 old baked bean or other food tins (cleaned and with lids and any sharp areas removed) that the children can paint/decorate and plant up with flower seeds next week. We look forward to inspiring our gardeners as they grow in confidence by growing all things green and colourful!



Outdoor Learning

Year One had their first experience of outdoor learning this week. They made mud hot chocolates and got to drink real hot chocolate. They had the opportunity to take care of some of the plants outside and make pictures with sticks. Maddison made a great ladybird with hers.



Don't forget to send suitable clothes for them to change into on a Thursday this half term.

