



Speenhamland Primary School

office@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust.org
www.speenhamlandprimary.co.uk
@speenhamlandsch

Newsletter 10th November 2023



WE ASPIRE
WE CHALLENGE
WE SUPPORT



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

On Monday, the assembly theme was Remembrance and the children reflected on why we wear poppies at this time of year. The school council have done a fantastic job this week, giving up their social time, to sell poppies and other British Legion merchandise. It is always lovely to see the school community coming together to support such worthwhile charities. Next Friday is the turn of Children in Need - children can enjoy a non-uniform day for a £1.00 donation.

The enrichment opportunities we provide our children have continued this week with a group of year 6 girls attending the STEM day at AWE. Science and Engineering are career paths that traditionally are male dominated so it was lovely to inspire our girls and celebrate the scientific contributions of so many female scientists.

Finally, I would like to reinforce the importance of regular attendance at school. We are seeing an increasing number of holiday request forms. Under new guidance, we are not allowed to approve any holidays and we are required to fine for unauthorised absences. Attached to this week's newsletter is an attendance leaflet from the local authority as well as the flyer "Attendance Matters" which clearly outlines the impact of missed learning.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Lewry
Headteacher



Newbury Weekly News First Class Supplement

Have you seen the wonderful photograph of our new Reception children, which appeared in yesterday's First Class Supplement?

Thank you from the Foodbank

The Foodbank have weighed our Harvest Festival donations, which totalled 81.4kgs, This is equivalent of 170 meals for struggling local residents.

The Foodbank wished to pass their sincere thanks to everyone involved with this collection.



We're Supporting Children in Need Friday 17th November

To support Children in Need, children can wear their own clothes next Friday, (appropriate for school and weather) for a donation of £1.



SEN Coffee Morning

Wednesday 22nd November at 9 am
at Speenhamland School

Come and join us for a cup of coffee and a chat!
A representative from Autism Berkshire will be attending.

We look forward to seeing you!



AND THE WINNERS ARE...



Achievement and PSHE Awards

	SCHOOL	PSHE
Wisteria	Theekshika Mattaparathi	Nehal Govindji
Willow	Adelyn Smith	Zoe Rose Weston
Cherry	Leo Ross	Erick Bancu
Oak	Mirabel Iboje	Isaac Still
Ash	Alistair O'Flynn Chivers	Chloe Myles
Hawthorn	Jack Radley	Maria-Elisa Mihai
Juniper	Leah Fairchild	Lily Heaver
Maple	Georgia Bowley	Alphie Geemon
Acer	Isla-Grace Bickerton	Morgan Graham
Redwood	Brandon Bowley	Varvara Valakh
Cedar	Charlie Alston	Alec Down-Giddens
Maths/English Group	Erick Bancu	



HOUSE WINNER THIS WEEK

The Dragon's Eggs results for this WEEK are:

- 1st Verde 352
- 2nd Azul 339
- 3rd Laal 311
- 4th Zolty 301

Congratulations to Verde!

ATTENDANCE

This week's attendance is 94.41%

Last week's attendance was 92.19%

There was also 535 learning minutes lost this week through late arrivals, which is unfortunately a big increase!

Please ensure your child is in class for 8.30 am.

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Keep reading!

Reading logged in school and at home (3+ reads).
Well done to Acer and Redwood for achieving 90%!
Who will overtake them next week?

READING LOGGED 30-10-23 to 05-11-23		
Class	Number of children	Percentage
Acer	28	90%
Ash	13	50%
Cedar	22	70%
Cherry	12	50%
Hawthorn	19	70%
Juniper	10	40%
Maple	20	70%
Oak	18	70%
Redwood	27	90%
Willow	6	30%
Wisteria	5	25%

PUPILS' AMAZING WORK THIS WEEK

This week in reception, we have been reading the book "ZIM ZAM ZOOM" by James Carter. It is full of zappy poems to read out loud. To go alongside the poems, the children have looked at fireworks, drawn or built their own monsters and tasted different biscuits. They have all enjoyed this very much.

In maths this week, the children have been looking at 'whole' and 'parts'. They have grasped this well and have taken this into their choosing time, creating their own numberblocks.

Monster model by Oliver from Wisteria
Numberblocks 2 and 3 by Thea from Willow



Making Fun Maps for Newbury!

West Berkshire Council and Treasure Map Trails visited Speenhamland on Friday to gather ideas from school council to produce the trail maps for Newbury. Here is a report by Joseph from Cedar class.

On Friday, our school council went to meet some people from West Berkshire Council. We saw some of the exciting maps they had already made. They had ideas already such as Fairy tales, dinosaurs and sweets. Firstly, we made our own adventure names and we had funny ones such as mini backpack and scary ones like mighty ghost.

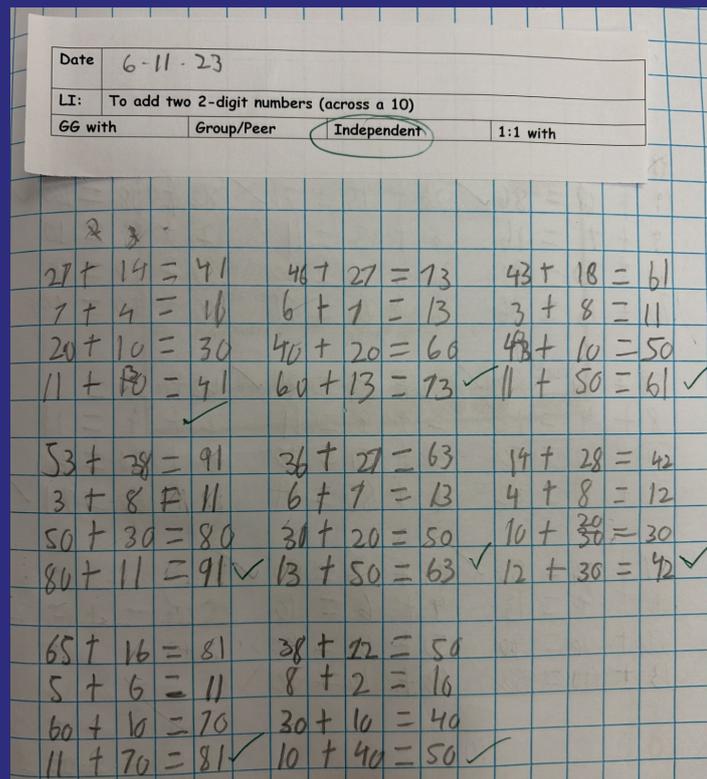
We then talked about the treasures of Newbury and we soon realised that there were many things we enjoyed much more than we expected, such as the lions and the sculpture of Queen Victoria, and the gargoyles by St Nicolas' church. After that we worked on our ideas for maps, as they were going to use them for the latest maps. It was a lot of fun and we opened up our minds to the creative side.

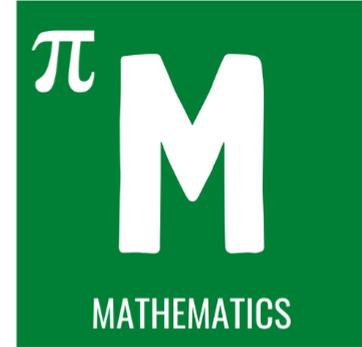
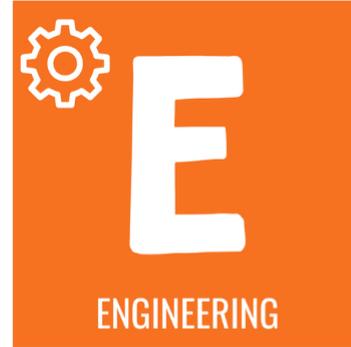
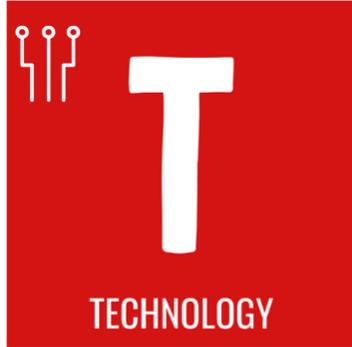
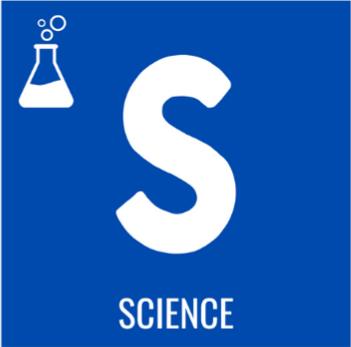
We had lots of ideas, discussed them and chose a favourite. The ideas ranged from jungles to parties in hell. Soon it was time to go. It had been a fun and eventful afternoon. This was something we would remember for a long time.



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This week in Maths, year 2 have been adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers using a range of apparatus. Mirabel showed excellent presentation to show how she worked out her answers.





This week, Miss Holdway took a group of upper junior girls to AWE for a STEM day. They took part in a variety of activities related to famous female scientists such as: Edith Clarke, Katia Kraft and Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock. They explored topics including static electricity, volcanoes, bridges and many more. As part of the day, AWE had a competition, where the children had to create a presentation about inspiring scientists. Swadha created a poster all about Sudha Murty and won first place! She received an impressive science kit! All the girls came away with books all about science! It was a great day and the girls have come away inspired!

Quotes:

One of my favourite activities was making a blue volcano and watching it explode using vinegar and baking powder. I learnt that lemon juice is an acid. When we place red cabbage juice into a petri dish with different liquids, we can find out if they are an acid or alkaline. *Isla*

My favourite part of the STEM day was learning about static electricity because we used balloons and rubbed them on our hair or jumpers. When we did this, we were able to see if the balloon would stick to a wall. I also enjoyed erupting a volcano as we made a blue one and it looked really cool. *Zara*

My favourite part was testing items to see if they were an acid, neutral or alkaline. With red cabbage water we found out that if it turned red, it was an acid, green was neutral and alkaline was blue. *Emilia*

The STEM day was amazing! We learnt a lot about static electric by rubbing our hair on a balloon and sticking it to a wall. My balloon lasted the longest! *Swadha*

