

Newsletter

Celebrating Achievement and Success For All



Speenhamland School

27 April 2018

office@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust.org

www.speenhamlandprimary.co.uk

[@speenhamlandsch](#)

Despite the weather, this week we have once again had plenty to celebrate in school. The Lower Juniors were visited by an “Anglo-Saxon” on Monday. They spent the day using historical artefacts to learn about the past. On Tuesday the Lower Junior Girls Football Team were awarded silver medals at the Berks and Bucks FA National Girls Football Week Festival. On Wednesday, the Y4 treated us to a steel drumming performance. They were exceptional. You will find pupil reports on the Anglo-Saxon visit and the steel drum performance on page two of this newsletter.

Homework

As a school, we value the contribution that homework makes to children’s learning. It allows the children to practice the skills they are taught in class, whilst also developing skills of independence.

At the beginning of this term we modified the homework arrangements to provide support for all the children across the school, including allocating homework prior to a weekend to enable sufficient time to complete tasks. Despite these changes, not all the children are completing homework as they should be. In most cases this is having a direct negative impact on their learning and therefore we are introducing consequences to encourage and support the children in completing their homework.

In the first instance where a child does not complete the homework within the given time, the Teacher will discuss this with the child and/or parents where appropriate. On the second instance of the child not completing a piece of homework, they will do so during Golden Time. This system will be implemented across the school from Year 1 in line with our school policy. As always, if you wish to discuss this further, I can be contacted via the school office.

Summer Term

Included in this week’s newsletter are a list of key dates for the remainder of this academic year. Whilst this is not an exhaustive list, I hope that it will provide notice of the key events that we are planning this term.

We are introducing the Parents information Evening on 14 June 2018. This will support transition by enabling parents to join Teachers from their child’s new team to hear about plans for the next academic year.

Haircuts

Since we returned after the Easter break, I have noticed an increasing number of boys with hair styles which do not meet the school’s guidance as stated in the Parents’ Handbook; “No extremes of hairstyle will be accepted including extremely short cuts or any patterns cut into the hair and unnatural hair colours”. If any parent wishes to discuss styles prior to visiting the hairdresser, I am happy to do so, however, very short hair on one side with much longer on top is not permitted. Thank you for your support with this.

Design and Technology Workshop Report

Apologies to Rowan Bettles whose name was omitted from last week’s Newsletter. Rowan also took part in the Design and Technology Workshop with the other pupils named.

Attendance

Our school attendance figure is currently an increase on last year. However, there are a number of children that are still late on a regular basis. This means that they are missing learning time. In order that this lost time is reduced, Y5 and Y6 pupils will make up the time during Golden Time. This is in preparation for systems they will meet at Secondary School.

Pupil Reports

Steel Drums

The Year 4 students have been learning the steel drums this year. We were extremely excited when we found out that we were going to be playing the steel drums. Before the drumming sessions began, we were split into two groups and we played two different songs: Sugar (first group), Can You Feel It (second group). Once we had progressed, we started to learn two new songs Monkey Man (first group) and Tempo (second group). We were taught by Jamar and Danni from Culture Mix and they were very talented teachers.

We were really nervous to perform to an audience as this was our first time but as we began everyone started to enjoy playing the song and by the end everybody was astonished by our musical skills. After the performance, everyone was complimenting us on our talents.

By Kaviya Rajkumar and Evie Murphy (Class 8)

Anglo Saxon/Viking Day Report

I really liked our Anglo Saxon/Viking day because it was taken by a real person who knew almost everything about the Vikings and Anglo Saxons. My favourite part was when we got to hold the spears, Matilda and arrows. I learnt that in the olden days they didn't have buttons they used pins on a key chain.

By Chloe Godfrey (Class 7)

I really loved our Anglo-Saxon and Viking visit. My favourite was when he carried out a pretend Viking burial. It was interesting to learn about all the things that were buried with a king. I learnt that they put highly scented flowers in the tent so that it disguised the smell.

Zorka Nagy-Galfi (Class 6)

Mrs E Parish

Associate Headteacher

Diary Dates

04-05-18 and 05-05-18	Reception pupils hearing screening
07-05-18	Bank Holiday Monday
08-05-18	SENCo Drop-In 9 am to 10.30 am (15 minute bookable appointment) Class 3 Sharing Assembly 2.30 pm
14-05-18	KS2 SATs Week
21-05-18	KS1 SATs Week
21-05-18	Y6 at Stackpole all week
22-05-18	Y5 at Corn Exchange Class 8 Sharing Assembly 2.30 pm
28-05-18 to 01-06-18	HALF TERM
11-06-18	Y1 Phonics Screening
12-06-18	Class Photos Class 11 Sharing Assembly 2.30 pm

14-06-18	Parents Information Evening (time to follow)
21-06-18	Summer Concert at Trinity
23-06-18	PTA Summer Fair
28-06-18	Y6 Stackpole Celebration Evening 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm
29-06-18	Sports Day (afternoon only for parents)
02-07-18	Class Changeover including new EYFS
05-07-18	KS1 to Marwell Zoo
13-07-18	Keevill Lunch Reports to Parents
16-07-18	UKS2 Production 7 pm
17-07-18	UKS2 Production 7 pm
19-07-18	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9 am
20-07-18	School Closes at 12 noon