

DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: <https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk/>

Headteacher: Mr R. Leigh Chair of Governors: Mrs R. Buckland

Friday 22nd November 2024

Headteacher's Thoughts

We certainly had a surprise waiting for us on Tuesday with the snow lightly laying on the ground. It did cause a stir although the timing of it was not good as it corresponded with our Open Day for Prospective parents, however we did have some families that made it and were given their tours by the Year 6 children, who had prepared brilliantly with leaflets available to explain areas of the school. Thank you, Year 6.

At the beginning of the year, I mentioned the importance of school attendance and the government drive to improve attendance across the country. With this newsletter, I have attached our attendance policy for your information, which explains some of the procedures around attendance for the school.

You will be receiving a letter with all the Christmas activities and events, including performances, Christmas lunch and jumper day, that are fast approaching for the festive period. It does seem early to be talking about it, but I know the time will go very quickly. If you do not receive that letter, please do let us know.

Next weekend sees the month of December, it begins the season of Advent as we wait and watch to celebrate Christmas with all the joy and thrills that it brings. So, we look forward to the first event with the FODS Christmas event and grotto on the 6th December starting at 4pm. This was great fun last year and there was so much interest in meeting Father Christmas, so do not miss out this year by booking through the booking system (see the poster below on the newsletter) – I am sure the excitement will be building all day.

I have been asked to mention some dates from the Church. On the 1st December, the church are having a free children's craft table in the Village Fair on Sunday 1st December from 1-4pm. Do pop and see them. Also, the annual Christingle Service is being held at 4pm on the 8th December – Christingle services are always magical experiences especially in the lead up to Christmas.

Mr. Leigh

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Co-operation

We will be thinking this term about the secret of good cooperation and how we can work together.

"Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts."

1 Corinthians 12:12

Future Diary Dates.

Monday 25th November – Visit by Blue Cross for KS1

Monday 25th November – Full Governors Meeting

Tuesday 26th November – Y5 visit to HoS Museum

Monday 1st / Tuesday 2nd December – Printing

Workshop with Kingham Lodge

Friday 6th December – FODS Christmas Grotto and Fair

Monday 9th December – 2:30pm SENCo coffee catch up

Tuesday 17th December – 9:30am Year 1 & 2 Nativity in church

Achievements Assembly

Well done to the children mentioned in our achievement assembly over the last few weeks.

Ducklings	Kai Fisher, Edward Townsend Toby Bosworth, Ashley Warner-Williams, India Blackwell
Owls:	Mehmet Aksahin, Isaac Broadbent Charlie Milner, Poppy Urriza Rodriguez
Mandarins	Belle Attwater, Ralf Dunsby Evie Spolander, Aggeliki Pyrovolou
Eagles:	Riley-Chase Waters, Leah Terry- Jackson Flora Bynorth, Grace Borer
Robins:	Zoe MacGregor-Smith, Ollie Wathes Ellis Moore, Ted Mercer
Kingfishers:	Theo King, Alana Bowers Zack Knibbs, Nataniel Wojnowski
Red Kites:	Thomas Lishman Mason Hart

SEN updates

Dear All – we as a school, county and country are seeing huge increases in worries around mental health. Latest mental health studies show that 1:5 – 20% of primary aged pupils, this is a rise of 50%.

There are many useful links and websites – these are two links that may be of use if you have worries and concerns. [Worries-and-anxieties-for-parents.pdf](#) & [Overcoming-your-Childs-Fears-and-Worries-Handout-with-reference.doc](#)

Please get in touch with me if you would like to make an appointment and talk through any of your concerns and worries about your child. Sendco@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk
I work on a Monday.

We will hold a catch-up coffee on **Monday 9th December** please come along and say hello in the school hall from **2.30-3.15pm**

Ruth Leach

Around the school

Nursery have been enjoying their new 'Fabulous festivals' topic. They explored Bonfire Night by decorating rockets with shapes, working together to match firework pictures and loved exploring the bonfire sensory rice tray. Last week they learnt about Remembrance Day. They made a poppy wreath and walked to the war memorial in the village to lay it and read a Poppy Day poem. They have read the book 'If you plant a seed' to learn about conflict and resolution and planted their own seeds to grow some herbs. Some donated large boxes have been very popular in the outside area for creating dens and mark making on!





This week in Nursery the children have learnt the story 'The Little Red Hen'. They have listened to the book being read, watched a shadow puppet show, played imaginatively with a red hen story tray, sequenced the story in maths and baked bread rolls.





Year 4

In Science we have been learning about States of Matter and how materials and objects can be grouped into solids, liquids and gases. Solids have a fixed shape and a fixed volume; liquids can move to fit any shape but have a fixed volume and gases have no fixed shape or volume. But not all materials can be grouped easily. We saw how sand can be both a solid and a liquid. We call this a pouring solid.

In our Science lesson we investigated how Oobleck behaves. Oobleck is a mixture of corn flour and water.



Last week we were learning to think differently about States of Matter. We talked about sand pouring like a liquid and how thicker liquids pour more slowly than water. We felt corn flour with our fingers, it felt really silky. We added five and a half squeezes of water from a syringe and kept stirring it. When you played with it, it was solid and when you stopped playing with it, it turned into a liquid. We could not keep it in the pot, it went everywhere! **William**



There are three States of Matter, they are solid, liquid and gas. In our investigation we made a mixture that is called Oobleck, it acts really weird. To make Oobleck you will need corn flour and water. I would recommend that you feel the corn flour; it feels so good! When you have felt the corn flour, put five and a half syringes of water in to mix it up. Then when you roll it in your hands it stays solid and when you stop it is liquid. The best part is when it gets so messy, the worst part is when you have to clean it up! **Ibbie**



Also, here are a few of our poppy paintings from our Remembrance assembly.





BODMAS

This week in maths, Year 6 have been wrangling with the mathematical rule of BODMAS which stands for: **B**rackets, **O**rder or powers, **D**ivision & **M**ultiplication and **A**ddition & **S**ubtraction). We have grown more confident using the system to make sure we can apply it to any kind of number sentence. Have a look at some of the work we have been able to complete above.



In art, we have recently completed our poppy artwork using oil pastels and water colours to create a dark and sad background, allowing the poppies bright red and deep purple colours to pop as a symbol of hope amongst the darkness. We also looked at some war poetry which links to our poetry topic in English and were able to use some powerful verses that we enjoyed to surround our poppies and make a small shape poem.



FODS NEEDS YOU!

Fods needs a new Chair and new committee members!

Grab a few friends and join Fods to have your say on events and how to donate back to the school!

Your time - Your suggestions
Your skills - Your ideas
Your Enthusiasm - Your help
WE NEED YOU

please email Claire if you are interested,
chairfods@hotmail.com

Sadly without a new chair Fods will have to close

Vicky's After School & Holiday Club Ltd



Christmas Holidays 2024/2025

Join us at Vicky's Holiday Club!

Located at Aston & Cote Primary School - from 8.30 am – 5.00 pm

Monday 23rd December 2024

Thursday 2nd January 2025

Friday 3rd January 2025

Vicky's Holiday Club is open to all children aged 4-11 and will include fun activities, including **arts and crafts**, **sport**, **indoor and outdoor play**, **baking**, **games** and much more. Bring your own packed lunch (a light tea will be provided) £40.00 per day



To book contact Vicky Hickman
Call 07887711454 or
Email: holiday@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk



www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

chat

and a cuppa

For families supporting children on the autistic spectrum

Please come and join us on the **last Friday of the month** (term time only) for a friendly cuppa and chat.

All families welcome, with or without a diagnosis.

Upstairs in the Como Lounge
34 Market Square, Witney
9am - 10.30am
If you have any questions, please email chatandacuppa@yahoo.com