DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dare Discover Do

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

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

Friday 14th March 2025

Headteacher's Thoughts

Last week, Year 5 joined in a Street Dance workshop at Henry Box, which has been a highlight of the Year 5 calendar, whilst Year 3 took part in a netball and football festival at Cokethorpe – which gave them an opportunity to learn new skills. Well done to both year groups for representing the school well at these events.

Last Friday was our World Book Day, an opportunity to get excited about reading. As always, I enjoyed seeing all the great variety of costumes and the related books as well as the enthusiasm and joy of the children. Following its success last year, we completed the teacher round robin – where their current class novel was read to each class, but the teachers (including myself) tagged each other and read from every book as they toured the school. The afternoon saw some of the classes working together with their buddy reading. Another great reading day!

On Monday, we waved goodbye to the Year 6s as they headed off on their residential to– a week away from home at the Pioneer Centre, how exciting! I don't want to give all their secrets away as I can imagine they will have many stories to share with their families before falling fast asleep. This year, I was able to join them for a short time to experience the fun. I will say that I was particularly impressed how they tried all the activities and how quickly they settled at the end of the day. Thank you to Mr Mahony and Mrs Horne for their hard work this week – I am sure they will sleep well this evening.

You will notice on **Wednesday 26th March 2:30pm**, there is an opportunity for parents to come into their child's class, so that they can share with you their work so far, this academic year. I know the children will be excited to share their successes with you

Mr. Leigh

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Joy

We will think about our own personal happiness - *inner contentment, enjoyment of life, laughter, at peace with the way things are, having a ready smile, deep joy.* The happiness of others - *making other people smile, putting others at ease, spreading a good mood, sharing a joke, relieving other people of worry or fear*

'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!'
Philippians 4:4

Future Diary Dates.

Tuesday 18th March – Y1/Y2 visit to Woodstock Museum
Wednesday 19th March - Y5 – Jonathan's Jungle Roadshow
Wednesday 26th March – Parents Sharing Afternoon – 2:30pm
Monday 31st March – Prayer Space in school for Years 4/5/6
Tuesday 1st April – 2:15pm Y3/4 Easter Performance
Tuesday 1st / Wednesday 2nd April –Parents Evenings
Thursday 3rd April – Easter Service in Church

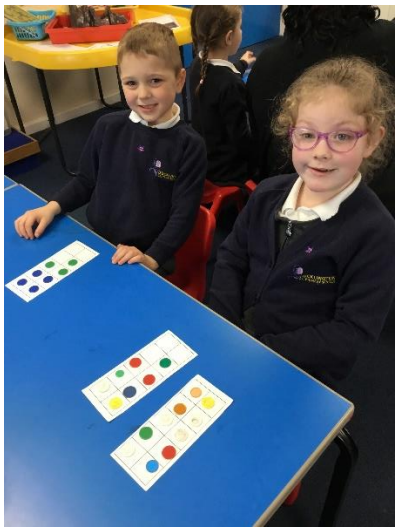
Achievements Assembly

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

Ducklings	Eli Fisher, Theo Lourenco
	Ashley Warner-Williams, Freya Hemming
Owls:	Alexander Little, Nozha Azadi
	Ignacio Beards, Isaac Broadbent, Toby Cross, Albie King
Mandarins	Evie Spolander, Ethan Rogers
	Miles Buckland, Zina Sicoie
Eagles:	Whole class for their visit to Cokethorpe
	Darcy Mittell, Blake Fitzpatrick
Robins:	Melissa Xhakollari, Jake Clements
	Lucy Beards
Kingfishers:	Ben Buckard, Florence White, Noah Greenall
	Nataniel Wojnowski, Tess Jackson
Red Kites:	Corin Wright, Ted Wootton
	Children away on their residential

Around the School

Year 1 have had a busy Spring term so far! We have been busy making numbers that are '10 more' and seeing how that looks on a tens frame compared to a partners. We are getting better at realising that fourteen is 14 and not 41!



In computing this term, we are learning about handling data and have started our unit trying to find an easy way to gain information about numbers of zoo animals! After using counting materials and writing the numbers of different animals down, we found that a tally chart was a most useful tool to have!

In art, we have been creating 3D sculptures using paper. We have had lots of fun decorating pieces of white paper and turning them into different 3D shapes like spirals, curves, 'bridge shapes' and concertinaed ones!

Our independent writing about 'Mr Leigh's runaway scarf,' has been such fun to read! The children really embraced the story adaptation from our learning about 'The Queen's hat' and came up for lots of imaginative ideas for where around school, his scarf could have blown to! Here are a few excerpts from the children's writing…

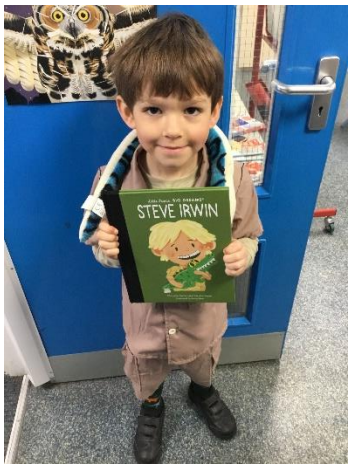
"One fine day, Mr Leigh was on the playground when, swoosh, the wind blew his scarf onto the school roof!"
"Help children! My scarf is on the roof!" said Mr Leigh. By Joel

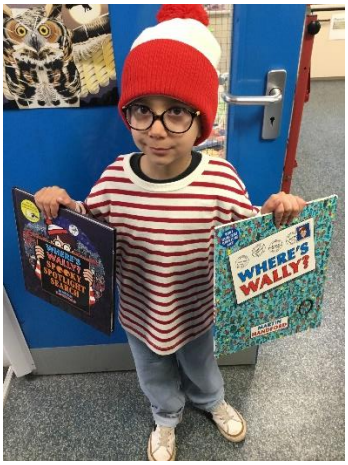
"Mr Leigh was about to catch his scarf, it just blew off again! He did not give up so, when it began to snow, he put on his ice skates until he caught his scarf!" By Lara

Mr Leigh said, "How will would we get the scarf back children?" One of the children said, "I know what we will do! Another gust of wind will blow and we might get it back!"

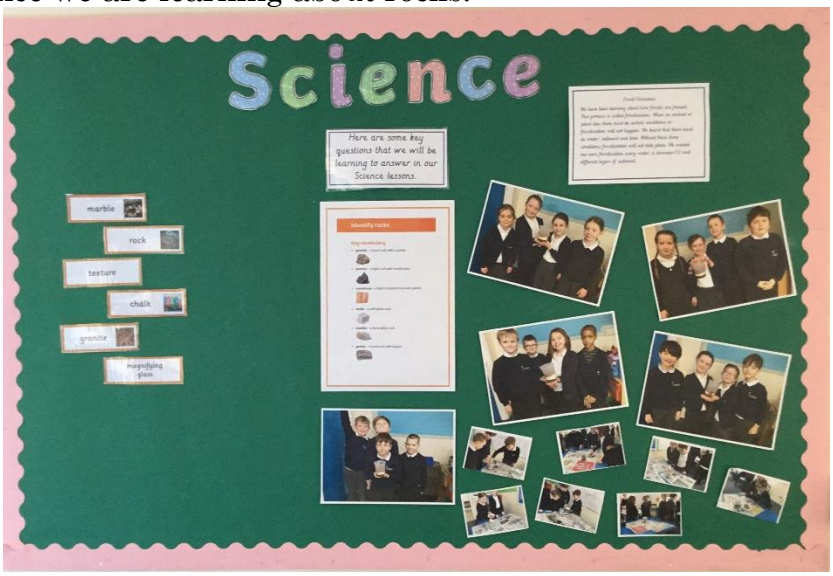
Mr Leigh said, "That's a great idea!" The second Mr Leigh finished talking; another giant gust of wind blew away his scarf!" By Iggy

As you can see, we had lots of ideas for our runaway scarf writing!
For World Book Day, we had so much fun! The costumes were great and the children really enjoyed the opportunity to be a book character for a day!



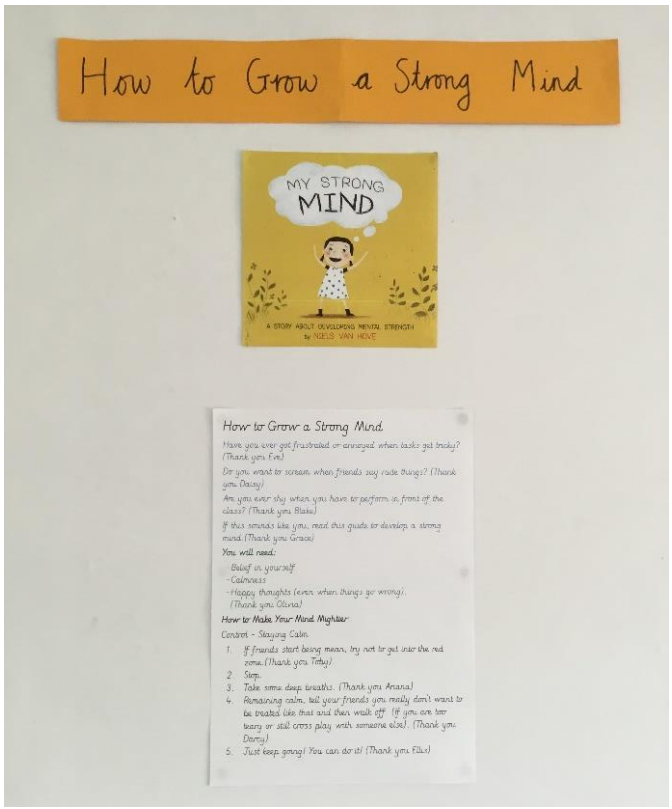


Year 3
This term in science we are learning about rocks.



In history, we have been learning about how people made pots in the Neolithic Stone Age and the Bronze Age and we tried out some different techniques to make our own versions.

We are basing our writing on a book called My Strong Mind (Read Aloud: My Strong Mind | Niels Van Hove). We are putting together instructions on how to grow a strong mind.



<u>News from year 5</u>.

We have continued to our learning about the Mayans, with homework projects coming in thick and fast!!

"We have been enjoying learning about this topic as I had never heard of it before and its interesting. Their culture is bright and colourful and they lived within part of the rainforest of South America. We have been making Mayan temples and head-dresses that are inspired by the Mayans." Esme, Theo and Tess

There has been further work completed on our life-cycle topic and our display has been creatively added to by the lovely Miss Jaques.

"I like learning about life cycles because you get to see how different animals grow up. I did not know that snakes hatch out of eggs" Orla.

'MESSY CHURCH'

Our next 'Messy Church' session will be held on Monday 24 March 2025 in St Bartholomew's church from 3.15 – 5.00pm. Our theme is 'Springtime'.

All children are invited to join us if they are accompanied by an adult. A selection of crafts will be available to enjoy, and a sandwich tea will be provided towards the end of the session. Please note food is generously provided by our volunteers and will have been made in their home kitchens.

We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you. Sarah Varnom

'MESSY CHURCH' IS BACK!
MONDAY 24 MARCH 2025
3.15-5.00PM
IN ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH DUCKLINGTON

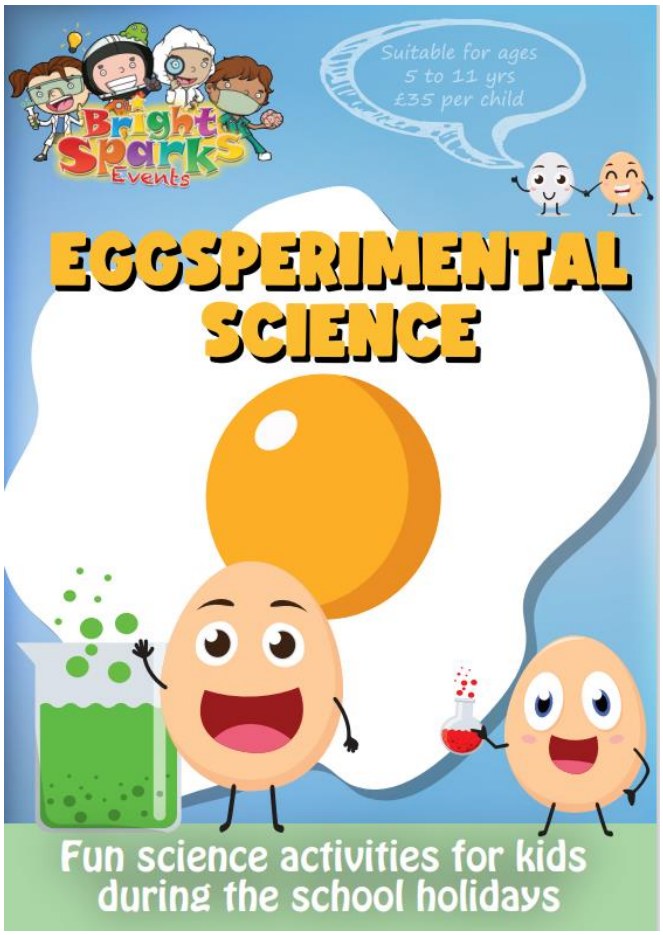
COME AND JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, MUSIC AND FOOD.
ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILDREN ALONG AND STAY WITH THEM DURING THE SESSION. TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Just a reminder:

'Messy Church' is:

- A form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality.
- It meets at a time (and sometimes in a place) that suits people who don't necessarily belong to church.
- It typically includes a welcome, a creative time to explore the biblical theme through getting messy; a short celebration time involving story, prayer, song, games and similar; and a sit-down meal together at tables.
- It's fun.
- It's a church for people at all stages of their faith journey and of any age
- It models and promotes good ways of growing as a family: a nuclear family, an extended family, and a global and local church family.
- Its aim is to introduce Jesus, to give an opportunity to encounter him and to grow closer to him.

WE REALLY LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND BEING CREATIVE TOGETHER.



Easter Holiday Camps 2025

Monday 7th April	West Oxford Primary School, Ferry Hinksey Road, Oxford, OX2 0BY
Tuesday 8th April	Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, Curbridge Rd, Witney, OX28 5JZ
Wednesday 9th April	Begbroke Village Hall, Begbroke Lane, Woodstock, OX5 1RN
Thursday 10th April	Stockham Primary School, Stockham Way, Wantage, OX12 9HL
Friday 11th April	Caldecott Primary School, Caldecott Rd, Abingdon, OX14 5HB
Monday 14th April	Long Lane Primary School, Long Lane, Reading, RG31 6YG
Tuesday 15th April	Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7JN
Wednesday 16th April	St Joseph's Primary School, Headley Way, Headington, OX3 7SX
Thursday 17th April	Gagle Brook Primary School, Cranberry Avenue, Bicester, OX27 8BD

Daily - 9am to 3.30pm. £35 per child per day. Sibling discount available.

EGGSPERIMENTAL SCIENCE

Call a member of our team or visit our website for more details

To book, please go to the 'Science Holiday Camps' tab on our website, and click the 'Register Now' button. All bookings are processed through Active Network. Suitable for children aged 5 to 11 years. Spaces are subject to availability.

Call: 01865 522 775

www.brightsparksevents.co.uk