

School Newsletter

Summer 1 2024



Finally the summer weather is arriving in our Surrey Hills and we are thrilled to be focusing on our outdoor learning, with our fantastic new Forest Schools area being built as we speak thanks to a generous donation received from Mole Valley as a result of the Westcott Village Association application for grant funding, which we are truly grateful for. Thank you to all parents for their positive responses to mid year reports and parent consultations - and a huge thank you to teachers for constantly inspiring our learning.

We have had some amazing trips this jam-packed term - from Brooklands to Wisley - have a look at all the photos on the next few pages which have included such a depth of learning outside the classroom.

This term has been a busy one with end of key stage assessments, all children remaining calm and showing their love of learning - they did you all proud.

We were delighted with over £4000 raised from the Teddy Bear's picnic - a wealth of community spirit shining through in partnership with Peaslake school. A huge thank you goes to all our volunteers from F@SH and beyond who made this incredible evening possible. Whether it is reading, running lunchtime clubs or supporting with visits, life at Surrey Hills would not be the same without you and a particular shout out goes to Becky, Ekpen and Amy who work tirelessly to raise vital funds and support our super Surrey Hills.

Kind Regards
Jacky Fyson
Executive Headteacher



Reception Bees Class

Bees Class have been busy learning about spiders in class and at Forest School. We searched for spiders and found lots of different types. We also found different sorts of webs. We learnt how spiders catch their prey and wrap them in silk to save them for later. We made webs and pretended to spin our own with our spinarettes.

Very exciting news ... our tadpoles have now grown legs so we can call them froglets! There are even some little tiny frogs which are sitting on the rock. They are so hungry with all this growing that we have to feed them some sausage.



'It was really tricky trying to make a spider's web. A poor spider has to make a new one every day!'



'Spiders keep the flies still by biting them with their fangs and then wrapping them up in silk. Then they turn their insides into soup and drink them!'

'I wonder why a spider doesn't get caught in its own web?'

Year R-2 Bees and Butterflies Class

Bees and Butterflies spent an enjoyable day out at Brooklands Museum. We were able to see lots of different vehicles spanning across the century. Highlights were seeing Concorde and going aboard the Sultan of Oman's luxury plane (the very last plane ever to land at Brooklands!). After lunch we spent time in the bus museum where we got to board double deckers and were even given our own tickets! "I loved the Sultan of Oman's plane, it even had beds!" Olly. "I really liked the buses because we got to sit on them with a ticket!" Jasmine. A fabulous day was had by all! Many thanks to all our parent helpers and the fabulous staff at the museum!



Year 3 Hedgehogs Class

Hedgehogs have been learning all things plants in science! As part of our topic, we have been looking at the functions of each part of the plant. We had fun dissecting plants to see if we could find the different parts of a flower. We were surprised how difficult it was to separate the different parts from each other.

“It was fun because we felt like a surgeon!” – Archie



“We cut them into different parts of the plants to see what parts of the plants were different” – Flossie



“It was fun because we got to see the different parts of the plant. I found the stem, petal, pollen, stigma and filament” – Herbie

Year 3 Hedgehogs Class

Hedgehogs have been learning about pneumatic toys in DT. What's a pneumatic toy you ask? A toy that can be powered by air to make it move. They had to design a toy that used a balloon to make it move. Once we had finished, we got some very important judges (bees!) to decide which toy was their favourite!



Hedgehogs grow to Wisley!

Hedgehogs brought their plant knowledge to life at an extremely sunny trip to Wisley! We drew all different sorts of plants and have used these as inspiration for our own drawings in our ART lessons back at school. Whilst we walked around, we made our own nature rainbows by collecting anything we could find on the ground.



Year 4 Rabbits Class

Rabbits have had a very busy and fantastic half term! Our first English unit of work was all based around making and floating paper boats, then writing a story about a paper plane.



The children all thoroughly enjoyed making and decorating their boats and walking down to Milton Street stream to float them.



Year 4 Rabbits Class

During this writing unit the children also had some hot chocolate and marshmallows! Finishing it all off with making and flying paper planes! As well as this, we have been learning about decimals, money and time in maths. They were also, all fantastically behaved and engaged during our golf sessions and loved learning a range of new skills.



In science we've been learning about states of matter, they have been great investigators, carrying out many practical activities about evaporation and condensation. Overall, a brilliant half term in Rabbits class! Lots of exciting things to look forward to after half term, with sports day and our residential!

Year 5 & 6 Owls and Otters class

Year 5 and 6 are learning about the function of the heart and our circulatory system. They have considered how to keep a healthy heart and the impact of fatty foods on our arteries.

We also looked in detail at a pig's heart.



'I can't believe this is the same size as a human heart and can even be used in transplants.' Thomas

'I didn't realise the valves would be so easy to spot and that is what we hear when we are listening to our heart beat.' Maya

'The aorta is massive! It really is just like a big tube for carrying blood.' Maddie R

Year 5 Forest School

Year 5 enjoyed applying their skills to make dens in the woods. They used basic materials and timber hitches to build their shelters. We were blessed with a stunning display of bluebells too! Many thanks to the Chesler family for sharing their woods with us.



Year 6 SATs and Breakfast

The Year 6s have been fabulous during their SATs week. They have conducted themselves so sensibly and worked so hard in the build up to this. We hope all their efforts are justly rewarded! The breakfasts have been a firm favourite with both the children and staff providing a friendly, calm and delicious start to their days! A massive thank you to Dawn in the kitchen and her family for the earlier mornings prepping of pancakes, crumpets, croissants and a range of delicious fruit from strawberries to watermelon!



Year 6 SATs

Year 6 celebrated the end of SATs in their new hoodies! Thank you to Ellie Quinn and FASH for organising the hoodies!





On Friday 10th May, we were able to hold the postponed 41st Teddy Bears' Picnic. The weather was fantastic after the pouring rain we had experienced on the Monday, and it was amazing to have so many people come along to support the event on short notice. Parents from our school and Peaslake infant school came together to organise this amazing family event and we were so grateful to the teachers, local governing committee, grandparents, family friends and past pupils from Surrey Hills coming along to help with setting up, manning the car park, and running the various stalls including the iconic duck race on the stream. We are still finalising the amount raised but current figures show each school will receive almost £4000 each which is a tremendous amount, and this would not have been possible without the amazing school community pulling together so a huge thank you to all involved.



So far this year we have spent over £3000 on sports provision for all the children, over £700 on amazing workshops in science and history, resources for struggling readers, and an annual subscription for all children for DoodleMaths. We are also extremely excited that the trim trail that we have helped fund is currently being built and the children will be able to enjoy it after the break. We cannot provide these wonderful things without your continued support so please sign up to help at our upcoming fundraising events.

F@SH are running the cream teas at the Abinger medieval fair on Saturday 8th June. This event normally raises over £1000 for the school. Please sign up to help at the link below:

<https://signup.com/go/UOQdaze>

F@SH will also be at WESTfest on the 23rd June where we will be running a kid's tombola, selling second hand toys, and running a "school rebels" stall. We are also one of the beneficiaries of the village fair so please come along and support the event. We will be asking for volunteers to help on the day.

We have our pre-loved school uniform sale on Friday 7th June so please bring any items you wish to donate to the school office after half term.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy a restful half term,

F@SH



We are delighted to announce that we have received an award from The Surrey Gardens Trust to support our learning in the Nature Garden. The children proposed that we wanted to 'grow more' and our pitch included plants, seeds and compost.

Year 1 helped to weed the bed in preparation. We planted sunflower seeds and are looking forward to growing strawberries and potatoes!



Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey and Sussex KSS

A few children from Bees class were invited to a press shoot for the Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey and Sussex (KSS) they all really enjoyed the day.



An example of the fresh fruit, salad and bread Dawn provides every lunchtime for the children as addition to the main meal.



Please click on the link below to see how you can keep your children safe whilst using youtube.

https://www.youtube.com/intl/ALL_uk/kids/parent-resources/



BE SMART ONLINE



S

SAFE

Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.



M

MEET

Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk



A

ACCEPTING

Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.



R

RELIABLE

You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare or look at three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.



T

TELL

Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline - 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk



BE SMART WITH A HEART

Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.



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you are helping to bring back nature.

David Attenborough
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Diary Dates 2023/24

June 2024	
5th-6th June	Year 5 Residential Trip-Forest green
6th June	Year 3/4 Tri Golf Festival
7th June	New Reception Parent Meeting– 4pm
7th June	Preloved Uniform Sale
8th June	Abinger Medieval Fair
14th June	Class/Leavers School Photos
17th June	Year 6 Guildford Service
17th-21st June	Year 6 Residential Trip
18th June	New Reception-Drop in Session 1.30-2.30pm
23rd June	WESTfest
25th June	Sports Day
27th June	New Year 3 Meet the Teacher 2.30pm
26th-28th June	Year 4 Residential Trip
July 2024	
2nd July	Move Up Day
2nd July	New Reception Transition (A-J)10-11am/(K-W)1.30-2.45pm
4th July	Year 5/6 Pixham Athletics
10th July	Year 5 Summer Fair
11th July	New Reception - Story Time and Explore 10am-11am
12th July	Preloved Uniform Sale
15th July	Year 6 Production-Dress Rehearsal (am)
15th July	Year 6 Production– Matinee Performance 2pm
16th July	Year 6 Production– Evening Performance 7pm
17th July	Year 6 Leavers Party
19th July	End of Term – Yr R-2 Finish at 1.15pm/Yr3-6 Finish at 1.30pm
22nd-23rd July	Inset Days
24th July-1st Sept	Summer Holidays

Diary Dates 2024/25

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