

February 14th

Spring Term 2020

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

Friday 14th February

Last day of term

Monday 24th February

First day of term

Tuesday 25th February, 2.15pm

House Pancake Races

Wednesday 4th March, 3.30

Wildlife Quiz against Charlton Kings Jnr

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

Friday 13th March

Sport Relief

Tuesday 24th March

Class 2 Recorder Concert

Tuesday 31st March, 2pm

Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 3rd April at 1.45pm

Easter Service at St Giles' Church

Friday 3rd April at 2.30

End of Term

Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

Easter Holidays

Tuesday 28th April, 3.15pm

Dodgeball Tournament at Birdlip

Weekly Winners

Hamish: Year 6**Leafy:** Heidi & Bethany**Patch:** Charlotte**Percy:** Sam**Zara:** Tom B

Dear parents, staff and governors

This term has only been thirty school days long but we seem to have packed so much in. In the last 6 days alone, we have had a house maths competition, a sponsored silence, an amazing disco, an enterprise project at the Colesbourne estate, science at Rendcomb and swimming in Cirencester. The children have also completed their "hot writes" in English and Year 4 & 6 have participated in the Gloucestershire well-being survey. This is a survey aimed at all Gloucestershire children to monitor their views, attitudes and understanding about themselves, habits and lifestyle.

As we prepare for the second half of the Spring Term, we welcome Miss Townshend who will be helping Mr Wyeth in Class 3 on Tuesdays and Thursdays – I know we will all make her very welcome. We are also finalizing Mrs Black's return from maternity leave at the end of March. Swimming will begin for Class 1 on Monday 24th February (please ensure they have a swimming costume, towel and goggles). House pancake races will be at 2.15 pm on Tuesday 25th February (all welcome) and the Easter Egg hunt will be on Tuesday 31st March, thanks again to Mrs Custard for organizing this. We are planning to have our second parents' afternoon on Monday 23rd March.



Class 2 Swimming at Cirencester

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Fundraising Total
£4072.46

School Charity
Air Ambulance

Current
Acquisitions

- New Trim Trail
- EYFS storage container
- EYFS Fencing
- Doodle Apps
- Reading books
- Internet Filter
- Outside Lights

House Maths Competition

This was a huge success last Friday with a great number of calculations and logic puzzles to solve. The aim was for collaboration and to show that maths is everywhere in our daily lives. Indeed, we learnt this week that snowdrops multiply in the Fibonacci sequence! The house captains played an important role in delegating activities and ensuring they had the right resources. The eventual winners were Hedgehogs with special commendations to Chané, Freddie P, Max, Scarlett, Thea, Matthew, Myla, Iestyn, Tom and Isaac for enthusiastic participation. House pancake races and singing competition coming soon...

Valentine's Disco

The Valentine's disco this week was a huge success. The children were buzzing all week and the sequined outfits and fancy hair styles were fantastic; the children had so much fun. A huge thank you to all the parents involved in making this event so successful, particularly Mrs Wilcox for organizing it and Joe Blankley for his excellent DJ-ing skills!



Colesbourne Estate Enterprise Day

Feeding 450 gardeners with soup, bread, tea, coffee and cakes in a three hour time slot was a huge undertaking. When we were initially given this opportunity, it felt exciting and manageable. However, working out the volume of soup required and the logistics involved in making, transporting and storing it made the project quite a challenge.



It was a huge success. The Year 6's made and sold £392 worth of cakes; they served, sold, cleared tables and chatted to the visitors – they were polite, diligent and used their initiative throughout the afternoon. We were very proud of them. The soup operation equally ran smoothly with some very happy customers. Mr Elwes and I would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who took part including Mrs Delpont, Mrs Webber, Mrs Pettigrew, Mrs Lowe, Mrs Schuster, Mrs Barber, Year 6 and Mrs George.

Sponsored Silence

It has been a very interesting day today with the children not speaking! It has been fascinating watching them communicate visually and I'm so pleased many of the children remembered our sign language day and could use the sign alphabet. Thank you to all the children who took part and thank you for helping the children get their sponsor money into school so quickly. The total raised looks exciting and we can't wait to spend the money to improve maths and science resources.

Eco-School and Coberley Lift Share

With the money from the Colesbourne Enterprise Day, we are planning to purchase more tablet devices. This is not to increase 'screen time' in our curriculum but as an eco-drive to try and reduce paper and photocopying costs. On a similar note, Tom B in Year 5 has suggested that if more families shared lifts to school it could have huge benefits for the environment, not to mention a reduction in travel costs. He calculated that one lift per week from Charlton Kings to Coberley could save 60kg of CO2 a year which equates to £50pa. If you would like to consider lift sharing, please let Mrs George know and we can put you in touch with like-minded families.



Class 2 have been learning about Judaism in RE this week recreated a Shabbat celebration and meal.

School Budgets

As we near the end of the financial year, it is important to be transparent regarding our financial status. We are fortunate to finally be in the black after almost three years with a deficit budget. Due to fundraising and government grants we have been able to improve the playground with a new trim trail and extension to the EYFS outdoor provision with new fencing, storage, roofing and equipment.

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We have continued to purchase reading books to support our scheme, doodle apps and on-line subscriptions to support teaching and learning. We have also installed outdoor lighting and ensured that all costly health and safety inspections, such as tree maintenance and fixed wire testing are up to date. We are about to invest in a new Internet safety filter and more tablets to enhance our IT provision. We are also pleased to have been able to keep our current class and staff structure. Thank you for your continued support.



Science at Rendcomb College

DfE Coronavirus Advice for Parents

The following advice for parents has been received from the Department for Education: "You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your child catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal. We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice at <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china>