



# Friday Letter for Parents and Carers

## 27th January 2023



### Headteacher Update

#### Diary Dates

##### February

3rd - NSPCC Number Day  
6th - 10th-Children's Mental Health Week  
10th - School finishes for half term holiday  
20th - School reopens

##### March

2nd - KS1 "Fire of London" Theme Day  
3rd - Hob Moor World Book Day Celebration (National World Book Day is Thursday 2nd March)  
13th - 16th - STEM week "Exploring Connections"  
17th - Training Day  
w/c 27th - Parents Evenings  
31st - School finishes for Easter holidays

##### April

17th - School reopens  
w/c 24th - Y3/4 performance "Cinderella Rockerfella"

Dear Parent/Carers

I hope your child(ren) have all come home singing this week. Miss Hagen has been teaching the whole school to sing (and sign) "True Colours" and I heard them on Monday in assembly. They were amazing! And then, also on Monday, we had our first day of Music lessons with Sing Education, organised by our Music Leader, Miss Tunstall. Mrs Moore is going to be working with us every Monday and we will have our first ever Hob Moor recorder club.

You will have hopefully seen our new school menu for after half term and ABM, who provide our delicious school lunches, have been working hard to promote this. One new idea, which I know the children will love, is that if a child has a school dinner on their birthday they will be given a special "birthday cupcake" to enjoy. And it's pancakes all round on Tuesday 21st February too. I will certainly be booking my lunch for that day! As you know the cost of our school dinners has been stable at £2.30 since 2015 and I have been very keen to keep it at this. However, it has got to the point, with increasing costs all round, that we have no option to increase this to £2.50 after half term. This will come into effect from Monday 20th February.

I hope you all received the latest information about the teachers strike action, which I sent out on Wednesday. Please do contact us if you have any questions relating to this, and if there are further changes I will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible,

Happy weekend!

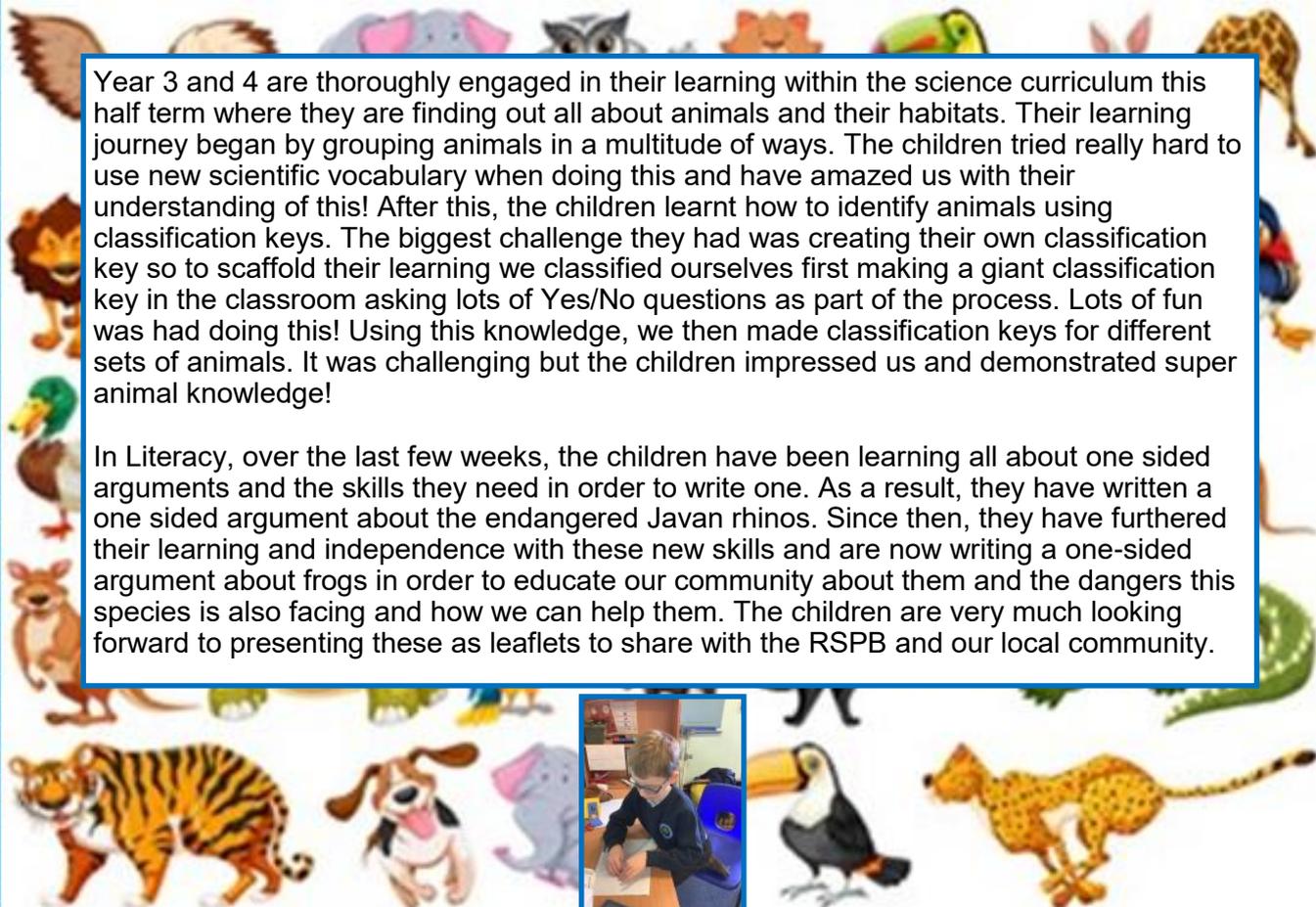
Debbie Cousins



### Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3 and 4 are thoroughly engaged in their learning within the science curriculum this half term where they are finding out all about animals and their habitats. Their learning journey began by grouping animals in a multitude of ways. The children tried really hard to use new scientific vocabulary when doing this and have amazed us with their understanding of this! After this, the children learnt how to identify animals using classification keys. The biggest challenge they had was creating their own classification key so to scaffold their learning we classified ourselves first making a giant classification key in the classroom asking lots of Yes/No questions as part of the process. Lots of fun was had doing this! Using this knowledge, we then made classification keys for different sets of animals. It was challenging but the children impressed us and demonstrated super animal knowledge!

In Literacy, over the last few weeks, the children have been learning all about one sided arguments and the skills they need in order to write one. As a result, they have written a one sided argument about the endangered Javan rhinos. Since then, they have furthered their learning and independence with these new skills and are now writing a one-sided argument about frogs in order to educate our community about them and the dangers this species is also facing and how we can help them. The children are very much looking forward to presenting these as leaflets to share with the RSPB and our local community.



# Reception Forest School

As part of their 'Into the Woods' theme, this half term, the children in Turtles and Starfish have been reading and thinking about 'Fairy Tales'.

At Forest School armed with maps, they explored the outside areas of school to find characters from the stories hiding in the Copse, The Sensory Garden and across the field on the hill.

"A map is to look at where you are going," said Martha.

"It's the woodcutters axe," said Cain.

"It's the big bad wolf," said Archie.

"It's Grandma," said Alexa.

"Goldilocks broke the chair," said Poppy.

"It's Mummy Bear from Goldilocks and the Three Bears, she's come alive! I've found another one, it's Daddy Bear," said Arrietty.

"I like Forest School because we can run around and I love looking at flowers and sticks," said Eli.

"I like going to Forest School because there are gaps you can walk through," said Bella.

Our class attendance this week is...

W/C	09.01.2023	16.01.2023
Orca	88.20%	89.50%
Turtle	95.10%	87.30%
Starfish	87.40%	81.10%
Octopus	90.80%	93.80%
Seahorse	96.30%	94.60%
Dolphin	90.40%	91.70%
Stingray	93.60%	92.90%
Lobster	87.30%	88.10%
Puffer Fish	94.80%	97.40%
Shark	87.90%	94.10%
Sea Otter	93.80%	94.20%
Whale	98.10%	96.70%



## Stars of the Week 13th January

- Turtle** Matilda for her amazing effort every day. She is **always** a positive role model to all of Team Turtle by trying her hardest!
- Starfish** Daisy for her amazing attitude towards all her learning and always being a brilliant role model to all her friends in Team Starfish!
- Octopus** Sarah for showing a great attitude in her learning, and working really hard on her blending with her reading!
- Seahorse** Poppy for her amazing effort in English this week writing about The Big Bad Wolf. Well done Poppy, keep up the amazing work!
- Dolphin** Canaan for showing a mature attitude in school, and being able to solve problems on her own!
- Stingray** Isaac for putting lots of effort into answering questions during class discussions and when completing his work. Keep it up!
- Lobster** Lacie-Mae for super effort in her writing this week using fronted adverbials. Well done Lacie!
- Puffer Fish** Harper for showing great determination in your times tables. Your effort and attitude towards learning has been amazing, keep it up!
- Shark** Matilda for persevering whilst completing difficult tasks. Keep up the hard work Matilda!
- Sea Otter** Preston for having a fantastic, determined attitude to all his learning, and continuing this positive attitude with his learning at home.
- Whale** Michael for excellent perseverance in maths. His hard work is paying off!

### Wellbeing Award

Zara for having the most improved attendance so far this year. Well done and keep it up!

### Miss Hagens' Deputy Headteacher Awards

Amelia for being an extremely kind and caring member of Year 6, and for putting so much effort into her maths.

## Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 6th - Friday 10th February

As part of our events planned for this week we will be holding a sponsored Dance-a-thon on "Well-being Wednesday".



More information to follow next week.

NSPCC

# Number Day 2023

Friday 3rd February

Take part in Dress up for Digits and have a fun-filled day of maths activities and games, while raising money to support our services such as Speak out Stay safe and Childline.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

