



Wise Owls News

Summer 1 27th May 2022

Welcome to Doddinghurst Infant School Newsletter

Dear Families,

This half term has flown by and we are excited for what's in store for the final leg of the academic year. It was wonderful to see a sea of **red white** and **blue** this morning and an unexpected appearance from the Queen, some couldn't believe their eyes.

We had a wonderful day, with each year group preparing for afternoon tea and a last minute practise of their chosen decade dance which was to be performed in front of the school. We had moves from the 50s to the present day; I was particularly impressed with their very enthusiastic hip shaking!

Our brilliant sporting achievements need to be celebrated, we certainly put Doddinghurst Infant School on the map with the brilliant effort from football, Three Tees cricket and Tennis teams. They all did exceptionally well, breaking all our previous records. The enthusiasm of the children was closely matched by the support of our staff, helpers and parents. They truly demonstrated all of our school values.

It has been fantastic to see so many parents and families join us in our workshops and more recently our sharing hour. We appreciated your support in asking the children questions about their work to help build their confidence and recording their responses. We find when they are asked direct questions about their work they find it challenging to give an answer. As a school we are working on building this confidence and their language skills.

This term saw the return of SATs for our Year 2s. These tests were the same as they were pre-COVID, without any adjustments. As expected our children were fantastic in their attitude to these assessments and we are, as always, proud of them and their achievements. After half term, Year 1 children will be taking the phonics screen, please continue to read with your child over the half term and practise real and nonsense words. Check the internet for some examples.

It has been truly wonderful to receive some complements about the school and staff this term when some said our school is really loved. I took the time to reflect on this comment and when I watch the enthusiasm, dedication and buzz of staff and children today, I can see what they mean.

We hope you have lots planned to celebrate and congratulate Her Majesty on this important event in British History. Enjoy the holiday, and hopefully a little sunshine!

Best wishes, Mrs Nicholson



EYFS UPDATES SWIFTS and WOODPECKERS

Since we have returned after the Easter break we have been sitting at tables for our writing and Maths lessons preparing us for our transition to Year 1. Our teachers have been very impressed with our independent learning and how we have utilised our resources such as sound mats.

At the start of the Summer term we celebrated Eco Week. We participated in a Superhero workshop and read the book Michael Recycle. We then used adjectives to write a character description about Michael Recycle. During Computing we learnt how to drag and drop using a mouse, sorting objects into the correct bins.



The following week, a mysterious package arrived in our classrooms; we received a teddy bear and a new book called The Everywhere Bear. Not long after the bears arrived they went missing! We were devastated so we decided to make lost posters and put them up around the school. Thankfully, Mrs Walker found the cheeky bears hiding in the staffroom eating all our flapjacks. The bears have enjoyed going home every day with us and sharing our adventures with the rest of the class.

We explored the story further through role play, freeze frame and music. Using musical instruments, we created storm and sea inspired sounds and music. Although, we're not sure our teachers appreciated our creative flair and pitch! Once we finished the book, we sequenced the main events of the story, drew our own story maps and wrote the story in our own words.



We have explored all numbers to 20 in Maths, particularly focusing on teen numbers. Using tens frames and objects we have made up number stories using first, then and now. E.g. first there was 6 people on the bus, then 4 came long, now there are 10 on the bus. We had fun practically acting out these stories with our friends in our learning environment. Developing our understanding of number bond facts to 10, we have begun recording these as number sentences in our books, trying to remember where each symbol belongs.

We enjoyed working with Leslie Williams, listening to stories told by puppets linked to our school values and as always we expressed ourselves through dancing. To prepare for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we have been reading The Queen's Hat and looking at famous London Landmarks. Working in teams and using a wide range of construction we built our favourite London landmark. We have used our creative skills to make our model of Big Ben, added our computer designs of the Queen's soldiers and typed their thoughts.



To celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, our school was invited to enter an Art competition. Using a wide range of materials we made a portrait of the Queen to be added to the exhibition. During DT we made jam sandwiches and demonstrated we could spread and cut using a knife safely.

At the end of the week we enjoyed some traditional British foods with the rest of the school during a school celebration picnic.

SCHOOL JUBILEE ART COMPETITION



At the Baytree Shopping Centre, in Brentwood High Street, in celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee, they have organized an exciting, creative competition! Pictures inspired by the Queen have been submitted by individuals and groups, to be shortlisted for display in their Jubilee Art Exhibition from Monday 23rd May until Monday 6th June. Our school have pieces on display, with some shortlisted!

Definitely something worth visiting during the half term week.

Fantastic work by our pupils, they make us proud.



YEAR ONE UPDATES CHAFFINCHES and ROBINS

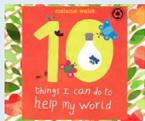
Only half a term left until the children become Year 2's, and we know that they will show us all that they are ready for the new challenges!



It was lovely to see all the efforts that the children, and parents, had put into the recycled trees over the Easter holiday. The staff were amazed by the different ways that families had approached the project; and the forest that was created by all of the trees was beautiful. It led us wonderfully into our 'Eco week', culminating with a visit from 'Super—Dooper Hannah' who came to teach us the importance of recycling.



The School Councilors and ECO Warriors for both classes set the example for the rest of the school by doing some litter picking around the school grounds and out at the front. They were very disappointed by the amount of rubbish they found!



'10 Things I Can Do to Help My World' taught us lots of ways that we can save the planet. We were reminded to reduce, reuse and recycle; turn off lights when we leave the room, turn off the tap while we clean our teeth, and do our best to walk, cycle or scoot to school instead of using the car. We enjoyed making human pictograms to show how we all get to school each day.

Following 'Eco Week' we started our new book in English, 'The Bog Baby', which the children have really enjoyed. They were fascinated by the Bog Baby's natural habitat and so, when we went for a walk in the Junior Bluebell wood, many of them were convinced that we would find our own Bog Baby! They also fully empathized with the girls over their decision to tell their mum about what they had found. They role-played as both the girls and the mum—which led to many hilarious examples of punishments, like being sent to their room for 100 years or being grounded forever!



We have been very proud of the children who have represented our school this half term at various sporting events. They were excellent examples of how we would like our children to behave and demonstrated great sportsmanship and determination. Well done to both our football teams, who won their tournament, to our 3Ts cricket team,

who knocked out our Year 2 team in the semi-finals, eventually coming 2nd and to our tennis players who showed resilience and determination. We are looking forward to more sporting opportunities next half term and are hopeful for teams when they enter in Year 2!



YEAR TWO UPDATES SWANS and KINGFISHERS



Goodness Gracious! Our Year 2's returned to school proudly prepared for our 'What a Wonderful World' topic, laden with their recycled trees, creating an ecologically friendly forest.



The first week we celebrated a whole school **'Eco Week'** focussing on the book "10 things I can do to help my world" by Melanie Walsh. We

worked our way through the book and completed activities to help protect our world. We investigated the



3R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle). Using natural materials we made bird feeders — you may have spotted these feeders positioned around our school and village! To finish the week we enjoyed a workshop where we became superheroes, travelling to a planet, in a galaxy, not quite far, far away. However, we embedded our 3R's knowledge and investigated

conserving electricity.

Within our **maths** we developed our understanding of **fractions**. Starting with revisiting shapes, then sharing a number equally between an amount. This enabled us to solve many word problems and our children reliably informed us that they can help to divide a cake equally between their families. Our maths learning continued with money. We made an amount using different coin combinations, double checking that we had used the correct coins.

Our **writing** took us on a journey of discovery based on the book 'Leaf' by Sandra Diekmann. They have used drama to investigate characters. Our children have demonstrated their British Values of; respect, democracy and tolerance working as part of a group developing their characterisation skills. We revisited and progressed our letter writing skills, from Leaf to his family, expressing how he feels in this strange foreign land.



Using our observational skills, and the schools outdoor areas, we investigated living things and their habitats. On our visit to the pond and woods the children explored a variety of micro habitats such as; a den, a warren, a nest and a web. Within **geography** we compared **Brentwood UK**, to **Brentwood, Canada**. Amazingly,

we had the good fortune of a real life visitor from Canada! We worked within groups to pose questions linked to, ways of life and the human and physical features of these locations. Steve wowed the children and after his departure, they discussed their favourite facts learnt. One child stated that *"they loved it all!"* .



We wanted to take this opportunity to congratulate our sporting stars in Year Two. We had a successful half term with both our **Football** and **Three Tees Cricket Teams**. Our Year Two **Football** Team finished Runners-up in the Shenfield Schools Partnership Tournament and our **Three Tees Cricket Teams** finished in joint 3rd place in the Three Tees Cricket Competition. We are so proud of all the children, they displayed our school values at all times and demonstrated how talented they all are.



Doddinghurst Parish Council

Cordially invite you to celebrate with them

**The Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Family Fun Day**



Sunday 5th June 2022

1pm until 5pm

At the Doddinghurst Village Hall/Field

There will be fun and entertainment including.....

- Climbing Wall, Obstacle Course,
- Helter Skelter, Disco Dome, Bouncy Castle, Circus Skills, Magicians,
- Paella Van, BBQ, Cream Teas, ice cream van, Bar and more!

FREE ENTRY & ACTIVITIES



**FLOWER FESTIVAL and SERVICE at
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH to CELEBRATE
the QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

3rd, 4th and 5th June 2022

*A Thanksgiving Service for the Queen will also
be on the 5th June at 5pm*

**THE ESSEX COUNTRY SHOW & THE
ESSEX WE LOVE DOGS**

3rd, 4th and 5th June 2022

The Event Field, South Weald - 10am-5pm

<https://www.essexcountryshow.co.uk/>

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



WISE OWLS IT

After half term look out for our new addition - our Online Safety Newsletter



UPCOMING DIARY DATES

28th May — 5th June inclusive half-term

Pupils return to school on Monday 6th June 2022

Friday 10th June	Movie & Munch
Tuesday 14th June	Lesley Williams Focus — Transition
Thursday 16th June	Class Photos
Monday 20th - 24th	Sports Week - Daily activities & workshops
Thursday 23rd June	Sports Day (24th June Reserve Sports Day)
Friday 25th July onwards	Transition visits begin
Monday 11th July	New Year 1 & 2 Parent Workshops
Tuesday 12th July	Lesley Williams Year 2 — Transition
Friday 15th July	Year 2 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 19th July	Book Presentation & Thank You Assembly
Tuesday 19th July	Leavers Disco
Wednesday 20th July	Last day of Term



COMMENTS, IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS

27th May 2022

If you have any comments, ideas or suggestions, please drop us an email or write in separately. We welcome your comments.



Do you have a worry about one of our Children?

Please telephone or visit the school and ask to speak to Mrs Nicholson or in her absence

Mrs Gutteridge.

01277 822721



DODDINGHURST INFANT SCHOOL

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