



# Wimborne First News

April 2017

## Wimborne First School



The sun is shining and the Easter holidays are approaching, let's hope it continues so we can have a relaxing break with our families and friends.

We are very excited to share that Miss Hardman will be coming back to Wimborne First School as she replaces Mrs Pritchard when she goes on Maternity leave at May half term. It will be like she has never gone.

Miss Gough welcomed a beautiful baby girl called Thea Remy Parkinson, congratulations! Mother and baby are doing well!

We would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Thorne who has worked at our school for many years but she has finally made the decision to retire formally from WFS. We are very fortunate though as she has kindly offered to volunteer her services to continue to support the children and help with handwriting and reading. The school would not be the same without her. Good luck with your retirement, see you after the Easter holidays.

Have a lovely Easter break, I hope the sun is shining and we all come back refreshed for the new term!

**Mrs Hartley**



## Ready, Steady, Pedal!

The last two weeks have seen lots of children coming to school on two wheels. It has been a fantastic event that has really encouraged the children to use their bikes and scooters. The results have been entered online each day and we have been competing with other schools to see which can have most journeys! It has been a really exciting event and in total Wimborne

First cycled and scooted a massive 1,139 journeys over the 2 weeks, with an average of 33% of children cycling or scooting to school each day. Based on the number of journeys that we completed compared to other schools, this put us in 34th position in the South West and 297th position in the whole country. Well done to all involved!

## DOWN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GARDEN

### Moles and Hedgehogs - Reception



Our recent topic Down at the Bottom of the Garden has been a huge success in Moles and Hedgehogs. The children started our topic with a wonderful contribution of all of their home learning. We were overwhelmed by the effort families had gone to bringing in books, creating mini beast pictures and collecting natural materials. They made a fantastic display in our classrooms and stimulated lots of interest and enquiry about things the children wanted to find out. Together we have learnt lots of new facts about mini beasts, just ask your child to tell you! The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of creative activities this term, developing their skills in expressive arts and design. We have painted pebbles to turn them into bugs, turned shoe boxes into secret gardens and made glass stain effect butterflies to name but a few. We have used

the Percy the Park Keeper books and The Very Hungry Caterpillar as literacy links with our topic. The children have loved retelling the classic story by Eric Carle and through the text they have learnt about life cycles, together we have made beautiful hanging mobiles to re-create this. In phonics this term the children have been consolidating their set one and set two sounds and the children in Mrs Wests phonics group have been reading ditty books. In numeracy we have been focusing on shape, space and measure, comparing height, length and weight and using the water to explore capacity. Through role-play the children have also been learning to recognise coins and order them by value. We were fortunate to welcome the RSPB to our Wellies and Waterproofs area and the children benefitted

from their knowledge and experience. Our fab finish for our topic was a visit from 'Crazy Creatures'. Both teachers and children alike were VERY brave and enjoyed holding snails, cockroaches and spiders!





# COME FLY WITH ME

Ducks and Mice -  
Year 1



Year 1 packed their suitcases and had their passports and tickets ready to board Wimborne Airlines. We watched the safety videos carefully and made sure our seatbelts were tightly fastened. We even had in-flight entertainment as the snack trolley was brought round by the cabin crew. Once we landed the children got their sunglasses and beach towels ready to experience some traditions and cultures of Mexico. It all began to get a bit chilly as we ventured off to Iceland and experienced the change in climate. It was a busy day but we managed to fly back to school in time to write

our very own postcard home. Throughout the topic the children have enjoyed using a range of atlases and globes to find different continents around the world. The children located these continents on a globe and explored how their position around the equator effects what they would take in their suitcase. They have explored the impact that the contrast of climates has on different countries and used clay to create an animal of their choice. Noise erupted in Year 1 as the children designed and made a range of colourful maracas. We then

explored how different colours can create moods in art work; as we sketched the northern lights using pastels.

We look forward to our Fab Finish where we will take a whistle stop tour around the world to taste a range of foods.

# ON SAFARI

Owls and Rabbits - Year 2



## Where would you rather live England or South Africa?

The sound of African drumming was carried through the corridors of Wimborne First School as Year two completed their 'On Safari' topic. The topic began with a visit from Mr Hayes, who used to live in South Africa, who showed the children pictures of exciting places and even taught them how to speak Xhosa! Some of the children even got the chance to try to make a sound out of the vuvuzela! Through the topic learning, the children explored the country of South Africa and began by looking at where South Africa was located and what this would mean for the weather there. They soon discovered that South African weather is much hotter than England and some of the children weren't too sure about living there with the heat as well as the wet season! They then explored animals that lived in South Africa and created some stunning silhouette pictures of the South African plain at sunset. The children then tried their hand at the traditional Gumboot Dancing which originated in the South African gold mines many years ago. They



got into the rhythm during music lessons where they learnt how to play the drums. The children explored local artefacts from South Africa and tried their hands at sketching them along with using clay to recreate some of the patterned pots. Finally, to celebrate the end of our topic, the children came were treated to a host of African activities to learn even more about life in South Africa. They were immersed in local life through tasting South African food, learning a local dance and listening to traditional stories. It has been a fantastic topic and the children have loved learning all about South Africa!



## Rabbit Class Assembly

The parents of children in Rabbit Class got a special treat when they came to the school hall to watch their class assembly. The children took the parents on a journey through South Africa showing them where in the world South Africa is, its weather and what the houses are like. Through the assembly, the children also taught their parents a few words in Afrikaans which is one of the 11 official languages of South Africa! Parents were also treated to some South African drumming and gumboot dancing, as well as some beautiful singing. The children showcased their amazing sunset silhouette pictures too.

A big thank you to all the parents for their wonderful support in attending the Rabbit Class Assembly and for helping the children to learn their lines and for providing some brilliant costumes!



# ANGRY EARTH

Squirrels and Otters - Year 3



We have continued to delve into the depths of volcanoes and earthquakes. We have been very artistic this half term; the children have designed their own volcano models and painted vibrant volcanic pictures. They had a fantastic time creating an explosion effect with paints and straws. We have also been studying 'the journey to the center of the Earth' in literacy, this has given us the opportunity to think about our descriptive vocabulary when writing adventure stories. We have learnt how to measure earthquakes and created earthquake safety posters to remind others how to stay safe in an earthquake!

We all had a brilliant time exploring algorithms in computing. We have learnt how to create an algorithm on a program called 'Logo' and had great fun using the 'Beebots'. They sometimes followed our instructions but when they didn't we had to 'debug' them. That means you take out the wrong instructions from the algorithm so they do what they are supposed to!

Otters 'wowed' us all with their super Tea and Cakes assembly. They taught us lots of interesting facts about volcanoes and

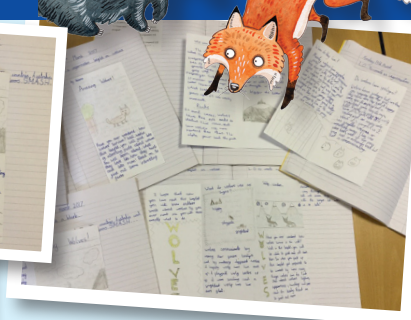
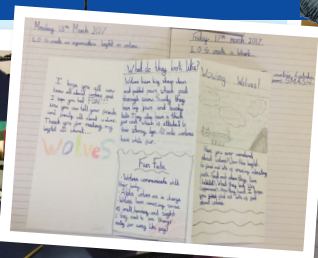
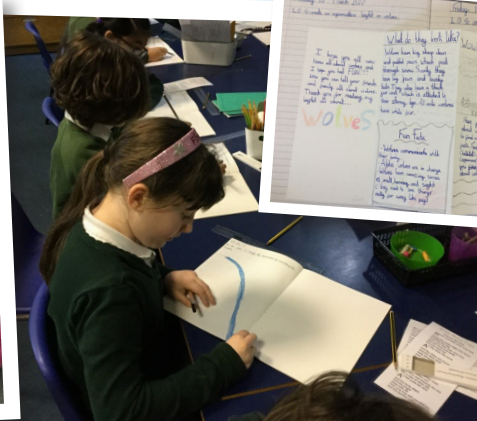


earthquakes and remembered all of their lines- even the big scientific words! The children enjoyed showing their brilliant exploding volcano paintings and they ended their performance with a song, which they sang beautifully! We would also like to say a big thank you to all the parents for helping the children to learn their lines, providing costumes and delicious cakes. Well done Otters!



# Lively London

Badgers and Foxes - Year 4



Year 4 kicked off this half term with their exciting Reading World Cup. We all enjoyed visiting the Wellies and Waterproofs area to build dens and listen to extracts from Stig of the Dump. It has been fantastic to see all of the children enjoying the wide range of books we were able to purchase thanks to the PTFA. Lots of them have been choosing books they would not normally read and thoroughly enjoying them too. The children looked great dressed as their favourite book characters for World Book

Day. It was lovely for them to be able to share their books with one another. The children were also given the opportunity to take their books to unusual places around school to read. Don't forget to send in your photos of the children reading in random places! We hope to see their new found passion for reading continue for the rest of the year. They will be able to continue using the Reading World Cup bookshelf as their own personal Year 4 library after the challenge is completed.

As we have been studying the River Thames, the children have been discovering the journey of a river and its features. Did you know that a river has three courses? We loved creating our own interpretations of rivers in different mediums in our sketch books. As the term comes to an end we will be designing and making our own brilliant bridges! A great half term and lots to look forward to after Easter as the excitement builds for Leeson House!





Wearing a red nose and making people laugh on Red Nose Day 2017...



## PTFA news

What a great term it's been. Now the weather is starting to get warmer and the clocks have changed you can feel that Summer is on its way!

We've been busy this term with the ever successful Quiz night where lots of tricky questions were asked but lots of fun was had and a wooden spoon was thrown in for the losing team!

We've also enjoyed some wonderful coffee and croissant assemblies.

Thank you for all the wonderful donations of cakes and croissants to help raise funds.



### Easter Spoon Competition

Our Easter Spoon competition has been hugely popular this year, it's been wonderful to see so many different ideas and creations. Well done to all who have participated.



The children have had a wonderful time taking part in our eggtastic egg hunt. Lots of fun was had searching for Easter eggs and in reward for finding them they all received a mini egg to munch! We were also joined by a very special visitor who had a tweet tweet of a time! We would like to take the opportunity to say a special thank you to Alan & Thomas Insurance and Octavia Hampton who have very kindly donated the Easter eggs for this event.



The children love a good boogie and no more so than at our Summer Disco. There's still time to get your forms in for this popular after school event which is taking place on **Tuesday 25th April**. Year 1 & 2 will get to show off their moves from 3.30 – 4.30pm followed by Year 3 & 4 finishing the disco off from 4.45 – 5.45pm. The children will get to enjoy a biscuit and drink prior to them dancing the afternoon away! Don't worry Reception, you're not missing out on the fun. They'll have their chance on **Wednesday 26th April**. Collection will be as normal at 3.15pm.

## How have we helped our School?

Over the past few months we've been able to help fund some amazing new resources for our School. This includes new outside play equipment for Early Years which will encourage learning through play inside and outside. We bought books and magazine subscriptions for the year 4 Reading Challenge to encourage Year 4's to read more. As part of this challenge the children are rewarded for the amount of books read and for reading in weird and wonderful places. We also bought an eco-toilet for the school to use in the Wellies and Waterproofs area by the paddock. Finally new Bee-Bots to enable the children to stay up to date with the ever changing technology world. Without your help and support none of the above would be possible so a huge thank you from all of us.

## Be part of the PTFA

We would love to hear from you, if you have any ideas on new events or fund raising please get in touch by emailing **ptfa@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk**. Being involved in the PTFA is a fun and sociable activity to do, it's a great way to meet new people. We try and run as many events as we can throughout the year but without your help this isn't possible so we are always eager to welcome new volunteers. Any level of support is welcome, and we don't expect everyone to help on every event or to give up all your spare time. Please come along to one of our meetings to find out what it's all about.

**Happy Easter, we hope you have a wonderful break and the Easter Bunny brings you lots of chocolate!**

*From the PTFA team*

**PTFA@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk**