



# Wimborne First News

Wimborne First School & Nursery

October 2020



## Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, THANK YOU for all your support over this last half term and following all the guidance and advice I send out via ParentMail. With things changing so rapidly in the country,

the quickest way to get information to you is through ParentMail, I do apologise for the amount of emails we send but there is so much information we need to share quickly.

We have been very fortunate this term to have been able to stay open and not close any bubbles. Every day that we keep the children coming into school and learning is a success! The staff have spent this term assessing the children and identifying what they need to work on next. Virtual parents evening will be happening after half term and the staff will be updating you on your child's progress. You should have all received a letter yesterday explaining how we will convert to remote learning, please could you read all the information sent out and try this over half term. If we have to close a bubble or the whole school we will immediately convert to online learning.

We are extremely lucky with the school

facilities, and would like to thank the children for coming back to school so sensibly, acting responsibly and following all the new rules. The staff and I are so proud of them. They are the future and we need to make sure that they come through this experience wiser and emotionally sound. We will continue to work next term on their emotional wellbeing. If you need any support please contact Mrs Pritchard our Pastoral Lead on [pastoral@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk) she is also available during our parent consultations.

Even though we cannot come together, we will plan some lovely events for the next half term and after the break I will send out some ideas we have to make Christmas as magical as possible with the support of the PTFA.

A big thank you to Mrs Pritchard for making my vision become a reality last week as we opened Little Caterpillars of Wimborne First School. The Nursery takes children from age 2 upwards and is an absolutely amazing facility. We have the most fabulous staff and Little Caterpillars has already become an important part of the school community.

A final message, over the half term please enjoy your break, the children have worked so hard. Please keep in mind the rules of social distancing, track and trace, the rule of 6 and help us keep this virus at bay. Thank you for

all you do for the community and supporting us through these uncertain times. Have a lovely half term and we will see you on Monday 2nd November.

**Sarah Hartley**

## A Couple of People to Say Thank You To

Firstly, we would like to thank David – the Site Manager at the Bellway development (Badbury Reach) for diverting the road sweeper into our school car park the other morning. They have smartened the front of our school, and what he did in 30 minutes would have taken about 4 hours with a hose and brush. Thanks.

Secondly, Simon Joyce of Jewsons Builders Merchants in Poole has supplied the shed for the Year 1 play area to store their play equipment in. He has also arranged for the Centenary Plaque to be taken down at the old school, moved to the new school and rebuilt. This was a big job, that a few people had turned down previously, so a big thank you for your help. Thanks also to those people that had offered to help with this back in the summer, but this arrangement worked out for the best. Whilst budgets within the school are so tight, gestures like these are hugely welcome, and very much appreciated.



## Marvellous Me

### Butterflies and Bumblebees - Reception



We cannot believe that we are already at the end of the first half term! Butterflies and Bumblebees have made a fantastic start to their school life and it has been a pleasure to get to know you all. We have been very busy over the past seven weeks. The children have all made new friends, found out about each other, enjoyed new lessons and thoroughly explored the indoor and outdoor environments. Everyone has been really impressed with how quickly the children have settled into school life and we love to seeing their eager faces every morning as they enter the classrooms and organise themselves for the day. Over the term, the children have been busy sorting, matching and comparing shapes and objects in maths. We have loved our outdoor PE lessons and have even begun learning our sounds. There have been lots of opportunities to practise our gross and fine motor skills,



by taking part in 'Storycises' every day and using scissors, playdough and other small equipment regularly. We have been making the most of our outdoor spaces, looking for signs of autumn, enjoying playtimes on the field and exploring the outdoor play equipment. We have been introduced to our Jigsaw friend 'Jeanie' who has helped us make a classroom charter and recognise the importance of working together and



understanding the many emotions starting school can bring.

Thank you for your continued support during this very exciting and important time for your children. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow and flourish during the next half term.



# Superstar

Hedgehogs and Mice - Year 1



What a brilliant start to the school year for our wonderful Hedgehogs and Mice! The children have settled in well and have enjoyed learning the new routines. We have certainly been busy bees learning lots in Year 1... In Maths, the children have explored the value of number and have enjoyed discovering the Maths activities in the outside area. In our writing lessons, the children have rehearsed the story 'Knuffle Bunny'. They have blown us away with their actions and expression when retelling the story and completed some

fantastic writing which made their teachers very proud! In the afternoons, the children have enjoyed; visiting the library, exploring materials in their science investigations and playing on the new field in their outdoor PE lessons. The children were also very excited when they were introduced to our new Jigsaw character 'Jigsaw Jack', who has helped us with our classroom charter and how to stay safe. To end what has been a busy, fun filled half term, the children were invited by the three little pigs to join them in their magical materials tea party. The children had a lovely

time carrying out science investigations and exploring what happens to a range of foods when they are heated or cooled. I think we may have chefs in the making! We are looking forward to our next topic 'Twit Twos and Cock a Doodle Doos', where the children will listen to the story of 'The Owl who is afraid of the dark'. The children will learn about the dark and discuss how it makes them feel, while enjoying a delicious hot chocolate and a yummy treat. We look forward to seeing you next half term!

# Expert Explorers

Robins and wrens - Year 2



What a fantastic start to the new term, the children have settled in so quickly and have certainly impressed us with all their hard work! In Maths, we have explored the values of numbers to 100 and have enjoyed learning how to partition them into tens and ones and use their knowledge to solve problems. They also became super detectives to work out missing numbers in sequences... move over Sherlock you might have some competition from Year 2! In English, the children have been busy bees learning all about nouns, adjectives and verbs and putting their knowledge to good use to write some silly sentences; there really were some super ones! They have also impressed us with all their expanded noun phrases when describing some of the characters in Where's Wally. Who knew there was a smiling man with a tall, white top hat, riding a blue octopus! The children were amazed when they looked up close. The highlight of the term and possibly the year was our fantastic Science experiment where we discovered that the properties of some materials could change when heated. The challenge was to see how long they could make the curly wurly and the budding scientist could not wait to unwrap the unsuspecting



curly wurly and lay their warm hands over it. They soon realised that as it warmed up it could be stretched, bent, pulled, rolled and moulded. Much to everyone's amazement the children managed to extend it to nearly 3 meters!! WOW Year 2, what fantastic scientist you have been! We are really looking forward to our next topic 'Happy Habitats', where the children will get to explore the school grounds and look for animal habitats and learn all about food chains. We look forward to seeing you next half term!



# LIGHT AND DARK

Squirrels and Rabbits  
- Year 3



We have really enjoyed our first science topic in Year 3 which has been all about 'Light and Dark'. We have learnt about different sources of light, done an investigation into reflective materials and even designed ourselves a great pair of sunglasses to help protect us from the sun's rays. We have used our sunny afternoons to go out and explore the different sizes and shapes that our shadows have made at

different points of the day. We wrapped up our topic by visiting 'the blackout room' to test our hypotheses about whether or not we can truly see in the dark!

## PE- Yoga:

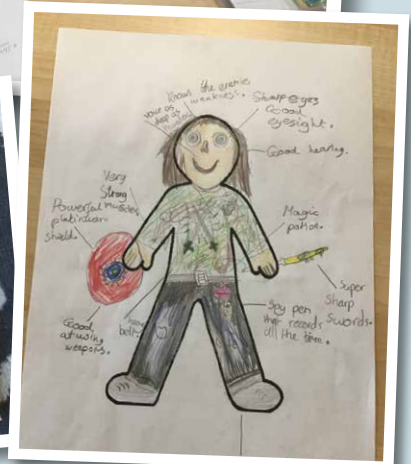
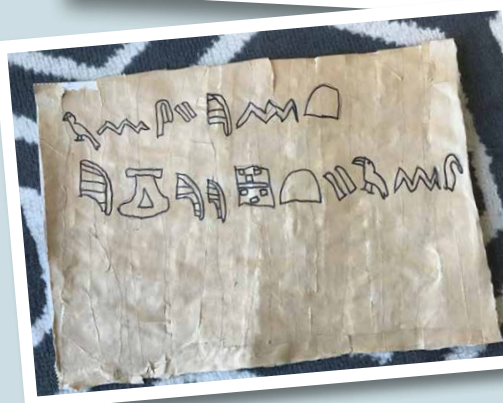
This half term we have been developing our yoga skills and learning new yoga positions. In the first week, we learnt a sun salutation story, which showed how our poses can flow from one to the other. Then as the weeks went on, we learnt new positions and linked them together to create our own yoga stories. We even managed to learn some partner poses as well as individual ones!

# BACK IN TIME...

Badgers and Foxes  
- Year 4



What a fantastic start to this half term! We had lots of fun transporting ourselves back in time to the Anglo Saxon and Ancient Egyptian era. The children had a great time making their very own papyrus style paper out of brown paper bags, PVA glue and water. We explored how the Ancient Egyptians would have written using hieroglyphics. After studying the alphabet written in hieroglyphics, we wrote our very own coded message. Can you decode our message and discover what we have written? During our learning, we found out who the Saxons were, what life was like for them and where they invaded and settled. Within our English lessons, we have been learning how to recount an event. We learnt how to write an effective recount using paragraphs, expanded noun phrases and first person. Miss Allen and Mr Bissagar were extremely proud of our work. In addition, we have travelled back through times to the Anglo Saxon era and begun reading the story Beowulf. We have created our very own hero and written lots of description for hero auditions (to see which hero can defeat Grendel). We also used the 'power of three' to extend our sentences when building a picture of a setting in our writing.





# WELCOME TO THE NEW BUILD



It is a shame that we have not been able to allow people in to our lovely new building to have a tour and enjoy the new setting. It is very special - bright, light, warm and welcoming. The children and staff have settled in very well, and everyone is just about used to where everything is now.

The building is performing very well, and we have plenty of room to create the bubbles we need to stay open and as safe as we can be. There is also plenty of space for small groups of children to move into other areas, so they can be assessed following the lock down, and then given the extra support,

if we identify a need. The field has been brilliant for playtimes and lunchtimes, again allowing the children to let off steam, whilst remaining in their bubbles. We have now closed the field for the time being, as it has been fed, and also needs to recover a bit from foot fall. Being a relatively newly laid field we just need to give it a chance for its first year. Even with closing it though we still have enough room on the games court, to have outside playtimes.

As we move through winter you will start to see the development of the grounds. We have plans to build an outside classroom near the wildlife pond and also start to turn that area into a Wellies and Waterproofs resource. The allotment has now been pencilled in for the very top of the site, near to where we want to establish our orchard.



## New School Crossing Patrol

Many of you will have already met Gary, our new school crossing patrol. He has previously worked as a carpet fitter, but then after he had done that for a considerable amount of time decided to take a job as a school site manager. Enjoying the educational environment so much he decided to train as a teacher and qualifying for that he taught in his native Hertfordshire for a number of years.

There then followed eight years of teaching in International schools in Valencia and Pamplona, in Spain, before he returned to the UK earlier this year. He decided to settle in Dorset so that his son could get a good education in the run up to his GCSE's. Although we miss Malcolm, Gary is fast becoming a great member of the team here at Wimborne First. He is a very approachable and an amiable guy, so please give him a cheery hello each morning. His only down side seems to be his love of Arsenal FC!

Just to let you know that the parents and staff raised nearly £450 for Malcolm's leaving gift. He will be presented with vouchers for Holmans shortly, so that he can purchase a new washing machine and fridge, when he moves into his new flat.

## You're Amazing — THANKS

Once again when we asked for you to support the Wimborne Food Bank and you did not let us down.

The trolley was filled every day with tins of food, pasta, toiletries and everything else needed to support those people that need a little extra support themselves, in these uncertain times.

The items are currently in quarantine but they will be taken to the food bank before half term, so that they can be distributed as and when needed.

The food bank provides enough food for breakfast, lunch and tea for 3 – 4 days. Most of the food is tinned or in packets, such as rice and pasta. Sometimes they are also able to offer a very limited range of fresh fruit and vegetables and bread. They are based at Leigh Park Community Centre, Gordon Road, Wimborne. They always welcome donations and items can be dropped in between 12pm and 2pm on Fridays.

Thanks once again for your amazing generosity.



## Little Caterpillars Nursery



We have now finally welcomed our Little Caterpillars in to Nursery! We have absolutely loved getting to know our new children and families during their settling in sessions and are really looking forward to getting properly stuck in to Nursery life over the next few weeks. The children have been very busy exploring their new environment, and our water area in particular has been a huge hit! Outdoors we have been having lots of fun playing in our 'Doctors Surgery', riding in the cars, mark making using our very chunky chalks and creating our own sand kitchen. Watching the builders and diggers at work just across the road has inspired us to buy our own diggers so we can play builders too. Throughout September, the Little Caterpillars team were selected including myself, Miss Howell (Nursery Manager) and Miss Morgan (Nursery Practitioner). We are also looking forward to welcoming Miss Read (Deputy Nursery Manager and SENCO) and a Nursery Apprentice after half term. One of our little ones could not have summed up the start to Little Caterpillars more perfectly. After saying goodbye to Dad and exploring each activity available his words were just simply "Caterpillars so cool". We could not agree more!

**Miss Howell**  
Nursery Manager