

27th February – 3rd March 2023

Weekly Highlights

Welcome back to school and the beginning of spring. What a busy week we have had!

This week began with us considering the season of Lent. Elan McQuaid, the St. Anne's Academy Chaplain, came into our assemblies on Monday morning to talk about the 40 acts of kindness initiative. The aim of this is to complete an act of kindness every day during the period of Lent. The themes behind these acts are: 'Do to your neighbour as you would to yourself' and 'be the change you want to see'. Today we have been litter picking in our pyjamas!

Some of the tasks are as simple as doing the washing up others are more challenging. We will set a reminder each day regarding the act of kindness challenge that the children can demonstrate and hope that you will support us in this. The challenges for this weekend are: Be kind to someone; Check to see if someone is okay.

Wednesday morning began with the sound of drumming, as Year 5 learnt to play the djembe drum as part of their history topic, 'How important is Eweka's story?' This is a study of a non-European period of history and focuses around the Benin kingdom. There was lots of enthusiasm in the drumming (I did have to close the office door at some points!), but the enjoyment had, and progress gained, more than made up for any disturbance.

Chill and Chat is a provision in school every lunchtime for children who may prefer a quieter space in which to craft, draw or play with games and Lego. It is very popular and as the entrance to it is near my office I often hear children celebrating when someone asks, 'Is Chill and Chat open?' and someone else says, 'Yes!' At the moment, the children have been using cardboard to create decorations that will make the sunshine space really inviting; they are very enthusiastic about cardboard! I have been amazed at the artistic abilities of our children and the space now has a huge cardboard sun with flowers, leaves and creatures also decorating the room. Next week, I will post some pictures that celebrate this space which supports children's well-being and social skills.

Today we have celebrated World Book Day with children and staff attending school in their pyjamas. It has been interesting to see what some of the staff wear in bed, (I'm saying nothing Mr Lloyd!). Thank you to all those parents who dropped everything to come and read with their child. Your support emphasises the important message that reading is key to all learning as well as being good for a child's well-being, which we actively promote as a school. I hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did.

Next week look out for an update in regards to the work the parent communication group have been doing, as well as an important letter from our Eco-council about the traffic on Springfield Road.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Cooke