

## Weekly Highlights 2<sup>nd</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> May

### Archbishop's Young Leaders

Year 4 had a great time on Thursday afternoon when members of staff from St Anne's Academy came to into class to start the Archbishop's Young Leaders programme with them. During the session, they began thinking about the word courage. They thought about what this word means and how a person might show courage in their daily lives.

### Netball Tournament

Wednesday saw our Upper Key Stage Two boys' netball team take part in a High 5 competition. On Thursday, we were lucky enough to be able to host the girls' Year 5 High 5s tournament – it was fantastic to have parents, children and staff from a number of Rochdale schools back at Middleton Parish! Both teams played well and achieved bronze medals. Well done to everyone who participated.

### Pupil Voice

It's always important for us to listen to the views of our children and this week our Healthy Body & Minds Council and Junior Faith Leaders had their first summer term meetings. The Healthy Body & Mind Council had lots of ideas for how school can develop the lunchtime clubs and what new playground equipment we may need. I met with our Junior Faith Leaders and we began to plan the Jubilee Service along with discussing how we can develop a prayer area within school that is accessible to all children at lunchtime. Next Thursday, Eco Council and School Council will meet after school.

### Inside the Classroom

Nursery have had lots of fun this week in their outside learning. Not only have they been building pirate dens up in our forest but they have also been planting beautiful, blooming flowers. Reception children have been learning all about Eco Warriors and how they help to look after the planet. In the forest they made nests for birds and small animals inspired by the work of David Attenborough. In HeartSmart, the children talked about things that they find tricky and what they can do to help them when this happens. They decided to use the words 'DON'T GIVE UP' to encourage themselves and each other to keep trying.

Our Year 1 children have been working extremely hard in Maths. They have been learning all about equal and unequal groups and they used a range of different resources to show groups of different amounts. In RE, they have been learning about Baptism and how babies are welcomed in the world. Year 2 took part in a yoga session this week and completed Secret Agent training, honing their skills as they prepare for the secret mission they will complete before the end of this half term.

Year 3 have been learning about ballads. They discussed how ballads tell a story and convey emotion. Using the example of the song Space Oddity by Davie Bowie, they made story boards to retell the story of the song. Year 4 have been having a great time in their music lessons too. They have learnt the lyrics of a Viking Dragon Boat song and have then started adding in musical instruments that have been played to the beat of the song. In writing, the children have continued working on their newspaper recounts based on the Battle of Hastings. They became journalists for a lesson and interviewed the other children in the role of warriors to create direct quotes.

In their Science lesson this week, Year 5 children have been learning about asexual reproduction. They have taken plant cuttings to see if they can grow some new plants from

one parent plant. In music, they have been learning to write graphic scores for a piece of music. They used the song Crazy Frog as their stimulus and built on their skills from last week of identifying colours to represent the music. The children identified how many sections the piece had and used their own symbols to represent the beats, pitch, tempo and instrument changes. Year 6 have completed their final revision sessions in readiness for SATs week next week. They are more than prepared for what is to come, so the one thing they need to do is believe in themselves. They need to remind themselves what bright, resilient, strong young people they are and that they will succeed like they have done before.

#### Meet the Team

Next Thursday, from 3:30pm to 4pm, senior leaders will hold a 'Drop In'. This will be similar in style to the class clinics; it will be an opportunity for parents/careers to pop to see a senior leader and discuss any queries you may have about school wide issues. If you would like to see us, please pop to the school office. Our Engagement and Inclusion Team will hold a further 'Drop In' for all matters relating to pastoral, behaviour and SEND. This will be held on Monday 16th May from 3:30pm – 4pm, just pop to the office to see one of the team. Queries relating to class matter must continue to be directed to class teachers, this can be done via class emails or at the next 'Class Clinic' on 24th May from 3:30pm – 4pm, this will be a face to face session held in classrooms.

I hope you all enjoy the weekend,  
Mrs Wainwright