



RYE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM FOUR



Easter Assemblies

This week we have been fortunate to have had two assemblies with visiting speakers.

We have had an 'open the book' assembly where we learned about Palm Sunday and the joyous welcome Jesus received when he rode into Jerusalem on his donkey.

Then we had an assembly led by Mary-Jayne who explained the Easter story with a very messy illustration involving baked beans, tomatoes, crisps, a pound coin and the help of Yasmin! This demonstrated how God sent Jesus into a messy world to rescue us, his treasure. This is what we celebrate at Easter.

The next illustration involved eggs! The fresh, free range, messy type! We learnt how Easter eggs represent Jesus rising from the tomb on Easter Sunday and bringing us new life and a fresh start.

We also heard a story I had never heard before— the story of the three pieces of wood. I have attached a shortened version of the story here.

"There are three trees standing side by side on a hill. They dream together of what they hope to become in the future; one wishes to become a chest for the finest treasures, one wishes to be a ship carrying a mighty King, and the last wants to stay on the hillside quietly pointing up to heaven.

The first is cut down and made into an animal's feeding trough, years later it finds out that it is the very same trough in the stable where Mary gives birth to Jesus, so it becomes the manger for him, his dream came true, he really did hold the greatest treasure of all!

The second is made into a simple fishing boat, but then it is the boat which Jesus goes in when there is a big storm and he calms the waves and his friends are amazed that even the wind and waves obey him. The boat, along with the friends, realise that he truly is the son of God, a mighty King!

The third tree is cut down and left abandoned and forgotten in a yard, until one day it is made into a cross. It is, of course, the cross Jesus died on, to save us. This then becomes the symbol of hope, forever pointing to heaven."

Miss Martin

Headteacher.



STARFISH



Starfish have had a busy term exploring houses and structures in our local environment. As a grand finale, we had a very exciting Den day last Thursday, where the children made their own structures using a range of materials and painted their own Den. They then had a chance to play in them.

In maths, the children have learned about 2D shapes and are naming them much more confidently now. The children enjoyed listening to a variety of new stories in our circle time sessions and are becoming much more skilled at answering questions about them.

The children have also learnt about keeping healthy: healthy foods, the value of exercise and also how important it is to brush their teeth.

We are very proud of how the children's learning and how their independence is continuing to flourish.



MINNOWS



This term, Minnows have demonstrated all of our school core values and proven that being little does not stop us making a difference. I am so proud that they all took part in Den Day, raising money for Save The Children's Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal. Working together the children had lots of fun, whilst problem solving how to build their dens and they impressively raised more than £160 which could fund warm coats for 32 children, or buy 73 mattresses for families to sleep on, or feed five families for a week.



Save the Children
DEN DAY



CLOWNFISH



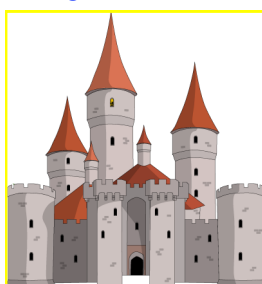
Clownfish have enjoyed the topic 'A Knight's Tale' this term. We have found out about all the different parts of a castle, compared castles and have enjoyed looking at pictures of all of the local castles.

We spent some time talking about the kinds of jobs that you may have had in a castle and the children decided what jobs they would have liked to do.

In maths we have been looking at Place Value up to 50 and understanding the value of each of the digits.

Clownfish loved the trip to Bodiam Castle and enjoyed seeing all of the parts of a real castle, some children even were brave enough to go to the top!

In Design and Technology we have loved making our own castles, with moving parts including doors and drawbridges.



SEAHORSES



In Seahorses this term we have really enjoyed learning all about Castles!

We have learnt about the parts of a castle and who would have lived inside and we really brought our topic to life by visiting Bodiam Castle.

In our English lessons we used the story 'George and the Dragon,' by Chris Wormell, to help us write our own narrative. It was lots of fun choosing a small creature for our dragon to be afraid of. In the original story he is scared of mice, in our stories the dragon was afraid of slugs, kittens, puppies, to name but a few! We have finished off the term designing and making our own model castles: complete with battlements, towers, doors and drawbridges. We practised using cutting and joining skills and learnt how to make our models strong and stable.





SEA TURTLES

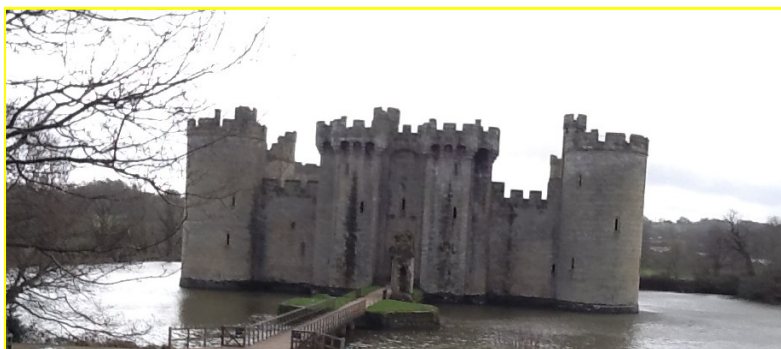


Sea Turtles have thoroughly enjoyed their, 'A Knight's Tale' topic. In English, they have created some beautiful poetry entitled, 'When I'm by myself. We then read the book, 'George and the Dragon' by Chris Wormell. The children used this text to write some amazing descriptive pieces about a nervous dragon.

In History, we have been learning about Norman and Medieval castles. The Sea Turtles can name the different parts of a castle and know who would have lived in a medieval castle.

In Design Technology, Sea Turtles designed and created their own castles using a range of different materials.

The highlight of the term was our trip to Bodiam Castle. The visit brought all of our history learning this term to life. The children enjoyed exploring the castle; they held the massive key used to lock the castle door, they saw the enormous Koi Carp swimming in the moat and they climbed the spiral staircase to the top of the tower and peered out between the battlements. A fantastic day was had by all.



CUTTLEFISH



In Cuttlefish this term we have been learning about Anglo Saxons. For DT day the children learnt about Anglo Saxon food. They planned and created their own stew. They then got to cook it! We also appraised our stew to say what we liked or would change next time. The stew was enjoyed by all, with many children even having seconds!





ORCAS



Orcas had much fun preparing, cooking and eating their Anglo-Saxon stew. The recipe was made using only ingredients that would have been available to the Anglo-Saxons during the time that they lived. Many new skills were learnt and much fun was had all around! Well done Orcas!



MARLIN



This term we have been learning about the ancient Maya civilization. We have done some map work to locate the Mesoamerican region, researched how the Maya civilization formed and the key features and compared their culture to our own. We have looked at how to care for ourselves, researching healthy lifestyles and food, completing our own recipe cards with a clear outline of nutritional benefits. After researching the foods grown and eaten by the Maya tribe, we cooked and ate a traditional Mayan dish. In art we have been studying Frida Kahlo, we looked at her style of self-portraits and eventually created our own of ourselves. We then went onto research her life and create a biography.

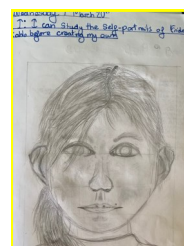




DOLPHINS



Dolphins have loved our topic looking at Mexico and the Mayans! Our Term 4 artist study has focused on Frida Kahlo, which inspired our beautiful self-portraits. We created Mayan masks using our sewing skills, before creating double page spreads after we researched Mexico further. As part of British Science Week, Dolphins took part in Science experiments looking at the theme of 'connections'. We took part in fingerprinting, electrical circuits and fizzy colours.



Author Visit

Key Stage 2 won an author visit last week, as part of our work with East Sussex Library. Lucy Strange, the author of children's fiction such as 'Sisters of the Lost Marsh', shared extracts from her fantastic novels, as well as sharing her top-tips for becoming a successful writer. Our 'Rye Reader Leaders' met with her for a photo opportunity and some extra questions!





Attendance News



Whole school attendance currently stands at 92.9%, please see the table below for your child's class attendance and the number of late marks their class has received so far this academic year. Our attendance target is 97%.

Registration Form	Present R/C Marks	Auth. Absent R/C Marks	Unauth. Absent R/C Marks	Late R/C Marks
Minnows	89.5%	8.8%	1.6%	86
Clown Fish	91.8%	6.4%	1.8%	89
Seahorses	93.5%	4.5%	1.9%	36
Sea Turtle	93.3%	3.9%	2.8%	64
Cuttlefish	93.2%	4.3%	2.6%	55
Orcas	93.1%	4.3%	2.7%	75
Marlin	94.2%	3.9%	1.8%	79
Dolphins	93.9%	4.4%	1.7%	34

School Timings

We would like to remind you that the school day starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3.00pm

More and more children are arriving late to school each morning. Children must be in school by 8:45am. Children arriving after this time miss out on their early morning learning time and disrupt the rest of the class when arriving late.

We have also had a significant increase in parents being late collecting their child from school and after school clubs. Please arrive on time, teachers have other commitments after school, such as staff meetings and after school clubs.

We have also had a number of parents needing to collect before the end of the school day. This not only interrupts the school office but subsequently the class and their learning when the office has to call in the middle of lesson time. Please, where possible book medical appointments outside of school hours.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding

**SCHOOL
HOURS**



As you will be aware, this year we have been sending **RAG**-rated attendance letters for your child (ren), each term. If your child's attendance is below 95% we would like to be able to work with you and your child to support you and see this improve, before we issue the next **RAG**-rated letter at the end of Term 5.

We do have various support measures to help; so if you would like some advice please speak to Miss Martin or Mrs Homewood on the school gate, in the morning, or call into the school office and speak to Mrs James or Mrs Cruttenden. We also have the support of Kate Ates our EWO (Education Welfare Officer), who is working with us and other local schools, throughout this year. She has been making contact and meeting with parents when attendance becomes a concern.

We want the best for all our children and to help them succeed; for us to be able to do this, children need to be attending school everyday, unless they are too unwell to do so.

Regular attendance ensures children to keep up in lessons, understand and retain the subject knowledge they are being taught. Children will good attendance also form and maintain strong friendship groups.

Please help us to help your child **Dream, Believe and Achieve**.

You Said: We did

In each newsletter we will endeavour to share things that you have suggested, which we then have been able to implement... You said: We did:

You said: more school trips

We did: This term alone our Minnows have visited various sites around Rye, our KS1 children have been to Bodiam castle, our Yr 5 children have been to the houses of Parliament. We have a trip and a residential planned for our year 6 children, "Beach School" plans are underway, as is a trip for our year 3/4 children.... Watch this space. We have also re-started our library visits. Thank you to all those parents who have supported financially or by giving their time to volunteer on a trip, we really couldn't do it without your support.

You said: less online homework and reading books-- more real books etc.

We did: We have invested a significant amount of money into buying new phonics books to send home and CGP work books for homework. Please see your child's class teacher if you have not yet received these.

If you do have any further suggestions for improvement or solutions to something that has been niggling away at you- we are always ready to hear them and act on them if feasible. Please contact the school office in the first instance at office@ryeprimary.co.uk. To help us to direct your email- please add "You said: We did" to the subject line.

Have you ever?

Our first "Have you ever challenge?" was very successful, as you can see from these photographs! Hopefully, more children will be encouraged to try new things next time they are involved in choosing items for the weekly shop!



Our next "have you ever?" challenge is for all of the children to knit or crochet a small square which we can join together and make into a huge blanket for the library.

If we have any one who would be willing to come in and support small groups of children in completing this task, we would really appreciate this, as this is going to be a big task, ensuring everyone has a turn to knit or crochet their square! We will provide all the materials, we would just love some additional adults to support with this. On this occasion I would say that experience is probably necessary; as we do need people who are able to show complete beginners (including me) how to crochet or knit!

Please contact your child's class teacher if you can help.



Monday 3rd April– Friday 14th April: Easter Holiday

Monday 17th April: Start of Term 5

Monday 24th April: Clownfish Library Visit

Monday 1st May: Early May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May: Minnow Library Visit

Monday 8th May: Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation

Tuesday 9th May: KS2 SATs Week

Friday 26th May: Last Day of Term

Monday 29th May– Friday 2nd June: Half Term Holiday

Monday 5th June: Start of Term 6

Monday 12th– Thursday 15th June: Sarah Prescott Photographer, class and individual photos

Tuesday 27th June– EYFS Sports Day

Wednesday 28th June– KS1 Sports Day

Thursday 29th June– KS2 Sports Day

Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July: Y6 transition days to Rye College

w/c Monday 10th July– Y6 Bikeability

Wednesday 19th July: Last Day of Term, **School Closes at 1.30pm**

Thursday 20th July: Inset Day (school closed to children)

Friday 21st July: Inset Day (school closed to children)

Monday 24th July: Summer Holiday Begins

