



St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Tuesday 19th March 2024

Goodbye - Mrs Weait. After **20 years of dedicated service** to St Andrew's CE Primary School, Anna will be retiring this term so she can spend more time with her family and take things a little easier. Anna has worked across the school and in various classes with 1:1 children, small groups and whole classes. She has played **a huge role in the St Andrew's family and will be missed by all stakeholders.** We wish you all the best Anna and thank you for all you have done for the school.



Year 1 have been experimenting with ice to see what materials **would melt it the quickest.** We submerged **Antarctic animals in ice and tried to find ways to set them free!** We set up the investigation using warm water; salt and fabric; and we used a timer to check if our predictions were accurate. **The children used their predicting skills, and thoroughly enjoyed prodding,**

watching, and evaluating what happened by writing down their findings. This was a great way for us to get practical during science, and link in with our topic of Antarctica. We also enjoyed a few extra visitors during World Book Day this year, after inviting Year 4 to come and be our reading buddies. The older children partnered up with the younger children and they either helped them read or chatted about what they were reading. It was a joy to see and hear reading being embraced by all.



The Year 5 and 6 boys made their school proud on the 6th March. They competed against different schools at the ASM Stadium. Plenty of goals were scored throughout the group stages with one going in from 25 yards out! The boys came runners up in the group stage which took us into the knockout stages. The St Andrew's team battled heroically and held their opposing team to a draw. The game then went to penalties, up stepped three courageous students. Unfortunately, it was

not to be and St Andrew's was knocked out of the competition. **The children can hold their heads up high knowing that they represented the school with resilience and perseverance.**



In Year 3, **the children had great fun dressing up for World Book Day.** We drew book characters; did speed dating for books, which involved the children speaking for 15 seconds about a book they had brought in, and then going onto the next person in the class, until they had spoken with everyone; **we did**

paired reading, where two children read the same book and went down to Foundation Stage where the children read books with the younger children.





The children and staff enjoyed immersing themselves in books on World Book Day. **Ms Weston and Raggy shared some favourite books with the children in assembly. It was lovely to see some very special books selected by Ms Weston, including one given to her by her grandfather when she was just four years old.** Each year group had a book swap so the children all had a book that is new to them to take home. It was lovely to see children from different year groups sharing books and reading to each other. We had a fantastic costume parade on the playground which enabled us to see all the children's wonderful costumes celebrating a wide range of book characters. **Each class spent time on activities helping to further deepen their love of reading. It is book day every day at St Andrew's.**



The St Andrew's Art Show was a huge success once again. The theme of Reading for Pleasure stimulated creative artwork in a range of media. **It is always impressive to see the hall being transformed into an inspirational art gallery where every child's artwork is celebrated.**

Congratulations to the children pictured whose work was selected as winners and runners up in each year group by our student teachers.



We are very grateful to Tez and Terry who worked hard in the half term break to create a table and seats in the centre of our gazebo. The children are able to enjoy a quiet space for reading and drawing during breaks and lunchtimes. **To keep our drawing box stocked, we would be grateful for donations of scrap paper and/or colouring pens/pencils.**

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to the **Story Museum in Oxford**. They heard a variety of stories from experienced story tellers and learnt how to **engage your audience when telling a story**. They were also able to visit the gallery and museum where they became real life bugs on the hunt for flowers! The children described the day as "**the best ever**" and "**so much fun**".

This British Science Week, EYFS explored all things **time**. Using sand timers helped us to investigate our questions. How quickly can you complete the climbing apparatus? How long does it take to cycle a lap of the playground? Which took longer? It was tiring work, but the children loved putting their ideas to the test!



Year 4 were lucky enough to get a reservation at the '**Book Tasting**' restaurant on **World Book Day**. The children were able to 'taste' a selection of books from a variety of genres and authors to encourage them to branch out from what they would usually read. **The menu included: poetry and rhyming books, picture books, graphic novels and magazines, classic novels, books by famous authors** (such as Michael Morpurgo, Roald Dahl and Enid Blyton) and non-fiction texts.



Welcome to Ms Eleanor Broadbent who will be joining the Year 1 team as a full time teaching assistant after Easter. We are delighted to have Ms Broadbent as part of the team.

Annette Mashru - Headteacher