

Redbrook Church of England Primary School Newsletter

No 86 February 16th 2023

Letter from Mrs Frey



Dear Families,

Half term is almost upon us and we are starting to see those wonderful signs of spring even if the weather is still sometimes rather wintery. It is always wonderful at this time of year to pause and reflect on how far our children have come with their learning since they started in their new year groups back in September and it is joyful to see all those green shoots starting to blossom. We are looking forward to sharing these with you after half term at parents evening. If you haven't done so yet, please do make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. There is much progress to celebrate with you and of course support from home is always very much appreciated by all of our teachers.

Miss Chambers has been with us in Kingfisher class since last October whilst Mrs Woods has been off work. Over the past 3 weeks, Mrs Woods has been undertaking a phased return to school and will be returning to the classroom full time after half term. We are so grateful for everything Miss Chambers has done for our junior children during her time with us, they have truly flourished. She has gone above and beyond the role of a supply teacher and we have loved having her with us. We plan for her to continue to be part of our team next term, undertaking cover work and a regular Friday morning slot in Kingfishers, so although we are handing the baton back to Mrs Woods, we are not completely saying goodbye to Miss Chambers.

During half term, it is Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day as it is also known. This is a day that, had we been in school, we would certainly mark together in our worship. If you would like to share more with your child about why we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, there is some wonderful information here along with a look forward to Lent:

Countdown to Easter | The Church of England

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a super half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 27th February.

With kindest regards

Natalie Frey

Robin Class



This half term, Year 1 have enjoyed exploring the story *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt. The lesson hook saw the children receive a letter from our classroom chairs, which captured their imaginations! From there, the children have done hot-seating, wrote a range of sentences, including exclamations, questions, statements and commands. They have also written a persuasive letter, choosing a classroom object to encourage other children to use them and why!

Reception have enjoyed exploring the text *Mr Gumpy's Outing*. They have been using their phonics to sound out and write words to form a sentence, linked to the story! They have also made their own role play boat, created their own small world scenes with animals from the story and talked about which animal is their favourite and why.

In maths, Year 1 have been learning about the properties of shape, measurement and have recently started number and place value: numbers to 40. They have also been practising their number formation and number bonds in their maths jotters.

Reception have learnt all about numbers to 10, recognising the composition of these numbers and practising number sentences. They have enjoyed measuring ingredients to make playdough and

experimenting with different amounts of water outside, discussing which containers hold more and less.

On Monday, 23rd January, we took part in lots of Chinese New Year activities. The children enjoyed finding out about each of the Zodiac animals and making their own dragon, which they danced with in a parade with the Kingfisher children! They learnt about how people welcome in and celebrate Chinese New Year through video & discussion. We are very grateful to parents and Miss Chambers for donating some Chinese food for us to sample. We had duck pancakes, Gong Bao chicken & prawn crackers, to name a few!

Robins have really enjoyed their outdoor learning experiences this half term. Using the Church grounds, the children have learnt about different types of seeds and birds, made birds nests with a range of materials and made observations in their journals. Thank you Cati, Louise, Aimee & Nicola for giving your time, the children talk really positively of their learning that takes place during the sessions.

I hope you all have a lovely half term.

Best wishes,

Claire Marfell

Chinese New Year





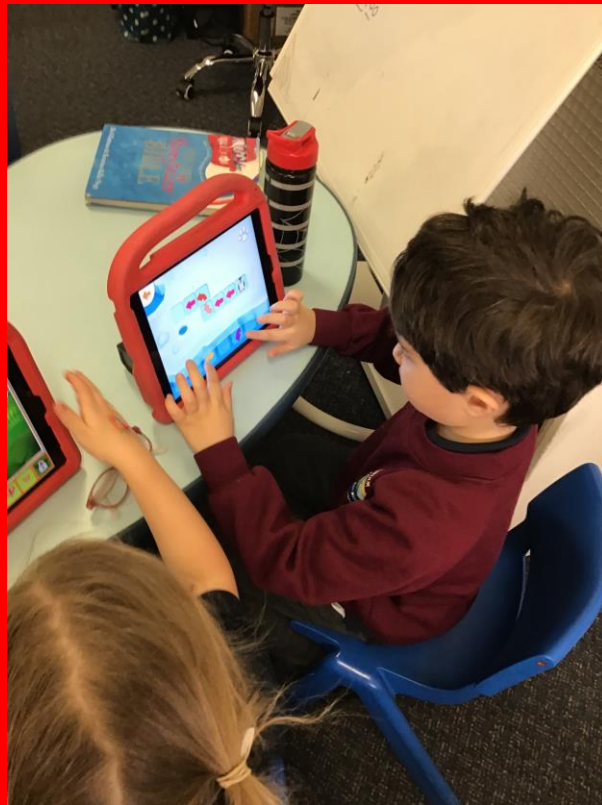
Outdoor Learning







Fun in Robin Class!







Kingfisher Class



I can't believe how quickly the end of the half term is upon us. Over the last few weeks highlights for the Kingfishers have included the pleasure of swimming lessons, learning to play the cornet and creating PowerPoint presentations.

Courtesy of Gloucestershire Music, the children have had the pleasure of learning how to play the cornet, including reading music such as the names and meanings of the notes. Tuesday afternoons have become particularly loud at Redbrook! Cornet lessons continue for another few weeks after the half term break.

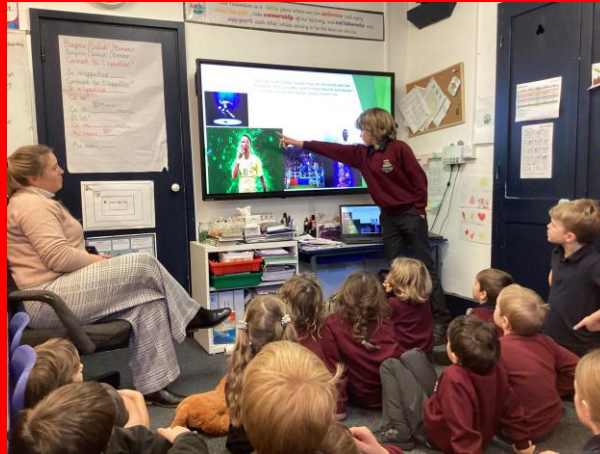




Swimming lessons have been a great success and the children have been a credit to the school whilst off site. Many of the children have made great progress with their swimming skills, building confidence in the pool.

In computing, the children have been learning how to research a subject by using the internet and putting what they have learnt into a PowerPoint presentation. They have created a range of different slideshows on various subjects and presented these to their classmates and the Robins. The children have learnt more about the software, such as how to animate their presentations, insert pictures and change fonts, alongside building important research skills, including picking out the essential information and putting it into their own words.





We also thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Lunar New Year on Monday 23rd January. The children learnt more about the traditions and stories to do with Lunar New Year and finished the day with some Chinese cuisine! A special thank you to those parents who were able to contribute items.



Finally, I would like to add what a pleasure it has been to work at Redbrook and with the Kingfishers. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the school and wish you all the best for the future.

Many Thanks

Miss Chambers

ELSA news



In the past few weeks our ELSA room has had a huge makeover! We now have a lovely calm space for the children to use that promotes positive mental health and well-being. The children also had the chance to name our space and they decided on "The Snug". To further enhance our space we would like to add some sensory items such as –

- Small house plants + decorative pots
- Sensory lights/ lamp
- Battery powered fairy lights
- Reed diffuser
- Books focusing on emotions and mental well being

Please do let us know if you have any of the above items you might be happy to part with!

Many thanks

Mrs Evans

Malvern Garden Competition



As you may be aware, the Federation is entering the Malvern Garden competition again in May this year. This is a fantastic experience for our children to be involved in and has previously been fabulously supported by families.

We would like to ask for your support again this year for our garden titled “How Grimm is our Garden?”

We are looking for a wide selection of items and materials, please let us know if any of you can lend / donate:

- Old wooden stepladder
- Child's wooden wheelbarrow
- Old wooden handled rake
- Large pieces of hemp rope
- Forest stone
- Paving stones
- Old fashioned potty for under bed
- Old tea cups and saucers
- Bark chippings
- Tarpaulin / matting
- Miniature churn

We also have 3 dates planned if you would like to get involved, these are:

3.3.23 After School Construction (at St Briavels)

This is an after-school event beginning to build some of the items linked to our choice of fairy tales for the garden.

24.3.23 Whole Federation Malvern Day (at St Briavels)

This is a day when we involve all the children across the Federation and put together a series of activities linked to our garden.

It is important to enable all of the children in the Federation to feel that they have a small part in the Malvern Garden.

If any parents are available, we are always looking for people to help to run the activities.

4.4.23 Planting Day in Easter holidays (at St Briavels)

Due to the timing of the Malvern Festival, we need to schedule a planting day in the holiday period and we will be in school on Tuesday 4th April from 10am to 2pm. Anybody who would like to come along and help would be more than welcome. Come along and bring some lunch!

New E-schools Lite App - Calendar

E-schools have released an app which will make it easier to access the federation website, including the calendar, on your mobile.

To download it:

Search for “eSchools Lite” in the [App Store \(Apple\)](#) or [Google Play \(Android\)](#) and download for FREE!

Choose Wye Forest Federation when you are asked which school.

To see the calendar, go to 'school website', then scroll down to 'upcoming events', then click 'view more'.

Dates for your diaries

Please check letters home for more details about events. Dates may change.

- Monday 27th February - first day of term
- Thursday 2nd March World Book Day - come to school in pyjamas
- Tuesday 7th March - Parents Evening
- Thursday 9th March - Parents Evening
- Friday 24th March - Federation Malvern preparation day
- Thursday March 30th Easter Service Redbrook Church 2.45pm
- Friday March 31st - last day of term
- Tuesday 4th April - Malvern planting event at St Briavels
- Monday April 17th - first day of term
- Monday May 1st - bank holiday
- Tuesday May 2nd School Photos
- !! UPDATED - Monday May 8th - bank holiday (coronation)

- KS2 SATS week Tuesday May 9th - Friday May 12th
- Malvern Show Thursday May 11th - Sunday May 14th
- KS1 SATS week Monday May 15th - Friday May 19th
- Friday May 26th - last day of term
- Monday June 5th - INSET
- Tuesday June 6th - first day of term
- Thursday 15th June Yr6 Leavers service Gloucester Cathedral
- Thursday June 15th to Friday June 16th - year 3 / 4 YHA residential
- Thursday July 6th Redbrook sports day times tbc
- Friday July 14th Year 6 Safari Park trip
- Friday July 21st - last day of term

We update key dates on our website (www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk), please check there and in your emails for notifications.

Term Dates 2022-2023

There is a downloadable version of this on our website at:

https://www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk/web/term_dates/363933

SEPTEMBER						OCTOBER						NOVEMBER						
Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		3	10	17	24	31	Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		4	11	18	25	Tues	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		6	13	20	27	Thur	3	10	17	24		
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	3	10	17	24	Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	5	12	19	26			
Sun	4	11	18	25	Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	6	13	20	27			
DECEMBER						JANUARY						FEBRUARY						
Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		3	10	17	24	31	Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		4	11	18	25	Wed	1	8	15	22		
Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		5	12	19	26	Thur	2	9	16	23		
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		6	13	20	27	Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat		7	14	21	28	Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	4	11	18	25	Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26			
MARCH						APRIL						MAY						
Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		3	10	17	24	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tues		7	14	21	28	Tues		4	11	18	25	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur		6	13	20	27	Thur	4	11	18	25		
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	4	11	18	25	Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27			
Sun	5	12	19	26	Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28			
JUNE						JULY						AUGUST						
Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		3	10	17	24	31	Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		4	11	18	25	Tues	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		6	13	20	27	Thur	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	3	10	17	24	Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	5	12	19	26			
Sun	4	11	18	25	Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	6	13	20	27			

Term Time		Holidays	
Bank Holiday		INSET days	