

Kings Worthy

Primary School

Newsletter



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Dear Parent and Carers

This Week's Final Guidance

This week I sent out the final guidance (we hope) around Covid. Can you believe that the first time I had to write about Covid and its varied consequences was back in March 2020. Does it feel longer than that to you as it does me?

As a school community we have gone through our ups and downs. New science, new ways of working together and communicating, and new technologies. Who knew that Google classroom would provide the opportunities that it does now when we first started using it.

I know that anxieties will remain for some and perhaps some of us long for those days when the roads were quiet on the way in to work and you didn't have to see your mother-in-law in person. If you would have told me two years ago that petrol prices would be at a record high and there would be a war in Europe going on I would likely have laughed in your face.

In the middle of the week, the PM announced his pledge to parents and carers that schools had been directed to find out what their children didn't know and make sure that we taught it to them. Those in education wryly expected this to be followed by a pledge that he'd instructed the medical profession to find out what was wrong with ill people and to try to make them better..... There was also an announcement that schools needed to create opportunities to talk directly to parents, as though parent evenings were a new concept borne out of a garden party somewhere in Westminster.

I would like to stress that this is not a comment from me regarding a particular party. All leaders throughout the country should head out to schools like ours so that they can understand that we are trying our very best to give the children the best educational experiences we can. Cast your mind back to the first day of the first lockdown when you were filled with the excitement of home tutoring with your own children. My own wife couldn't wait to get started. She'd done a timetable for the week and so much more! Was it two, four or six weeks later when she was declaring 'I've had enough now – they need to go back'. When was that actual moment when she, along with countless others, realised how multi-talented the role of a teacher is?

Whilst not always perfect, we are always striving to be better and I know that the hard work and dedication of every adult in this building is devoted to the same cause. Throughout Covid we have shown that we can do this together with parents and carers. Thank you for working with us and continuing to support everything we try to do for your children at Kings Worthy.

I would like to wish you all a fabulous Easter holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back on **Tuesday 26th April**.

Annual Local Authority Visit – 17.2.22

Each year the school is subject to the local authority conducting a leadership and learning review of the school. The chief aim of the process is to enable a school's on-going improvement through the provision of external challenge and support.

Some of the things on the agenda included: impact of SEND provision; impact of the school's inclusive practice on pupil outcomes; the extent to which task design can improve the outcomes in maths for all pupils from their starting points.

The day went very well and it was agreed that we have sufficient capacity for sustaining our current performance due to the fact that we have identified clear priorities for the school going forward.

Some of the comments in the final written report included:

- All safeguarding procedures are in good order.
- In phonics lessons there is consistency across the year groups with a variety of challenge.
- Pupils know the structure of the phonics sessions and were very excited about their learning.
- In year 2 the handwriting of the children was exceptional and it was an excellent learning environment.
- In key stage 2 all the maths learning observed clearly demonstrated the work the school has been completing on problem solving.
- Where practice is strongest teachers are using:
 - Instructions (explanations) which are clear and concise
 - Good use of the working wall (displays in class) – consistently referring to prior learning (teacher and Pupils)
 - Clear links from the sounds across Key Stage 1 to pupils writing in their tasks (phonics)
 - Support staff who were active in the classroom and supporting the teacher with behaviour management
 - Excellent behaviours for learning and environment
 - Good use of interventions from the support staff and teachers with pupils requiring extra support

Actions for us to work on:

- Develop and embed improvements to teaching and learning strategies, which includes variation to challenge greater depth learning and scaffolding and task design so that it is inclusive of all pupils and leads to improved outcomes.
- Embed monitoring, evaluation, and reviewing (alongside) with subject leaders so that they develop their judgements of teaching and learning across the school.

Frustratingly, I am still waiting to receive the report from our recent Ofsted inspection, and as soon as it is available to share with all of you it will be the first thing I do.

Hares of Hampshire – The Big Reveal!

We are very proud to show you our two beautiful leverets which have been designed by our competition winners and painted by the amazingly talented Megan Carr.

Our first leveret 'Holding out for a Hare-o' has been designed by our Year R and Key Stage 1 winners based on the theme of 'Superheroes'.



Our second leveret, 'When worlds collide', has been designed by our Key stage 2 winners and was centred around the theme of 'Our Natural World'.



I'm sure you will agree they are simply stunning and we can't wait to see them on the streets of Winchester as part of the 'Hares of Hampshire' trail over the summer. In September, our leverets will be coming home and will remain on our school site for all to see.

Congratulations to all our winners and well done to everyone for raising money for the Murray-Parish trust and for taking part in the competition.

Lastly, we would like to say a huge thank you to Megan for taking the children's designs and creating such wonderful finished pieces. As an ex-pupil of Kings Worthy, I know Megan has thoroughly enjoyed being part of this project.

Spelling Shed

The Super Speller competition finished at 1pm today so I will announce the class winner and individual winners of those in the first newsletter back after the Easter holidays. There was a battle between Year 5 and Year 2 this week to see who could win top spot. Last week, 2S were at the top, but will 5R have done enough to knock them off the top spot? Below are this week's individual winners. Well done to Year 5 for securing the top three spots on the leader board.

Individuals

1st Place - Ernest, Year 5

2nd Place - Gabriel, Year 5

3rd Place - Wilfie, Year 5

Classes

1st Place - 5R

2nd Place - 5LT

3rd Place - 2S

Science Poster Competition!

During Science week, we gave the children in years R to 5 the opportunity to enter the British Science Week poster competition. Each class then chose a class winner to go into the whole school competition. Congratulations to all of our class winners who will all receive a certificate each:

Hedgehogs: Eddie

Rabbits: Yasmin

1W: Chloe D

1H: Noa B

2W: Matthew

2S: Tala S

3M: Thomas W

3D: Chloe N

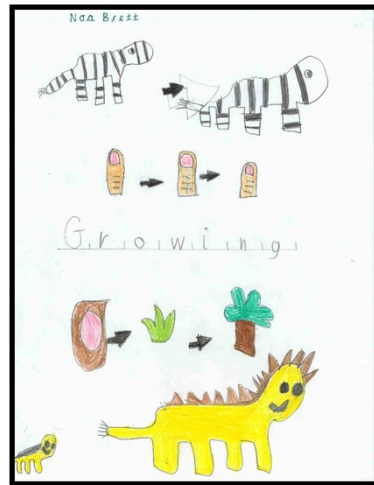
4B: Daisy D

4S: Zoe W

5R: Gabriel B

5LT: Rupert P-S

Their posters were then put forward into a whole school competition to decide on our overall winners who will be entered into the national competition (each school has a maximum number of entries, so sadly we can't enter everyone!). All of our overall winners will receive a science themed prize!



Noa B – Year R/1 winner



Thomas W – Year 2/3 winner

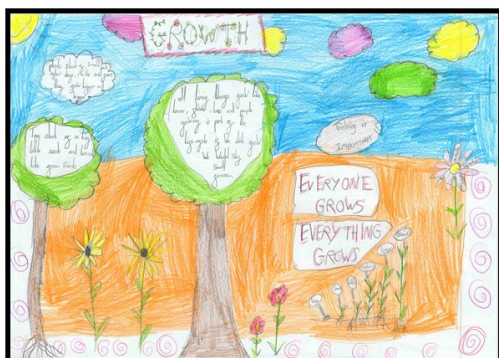
Huge congratulations to the following children:

Reception and year 1 winner: Noa B, 1H, for her wonderful poster showing how animals and plants grow and develop.

Year 2 and 3 winner: Thomas W, 3M, for his brilliantly researched poster all about how our world has grown.

Year 4 and 5 winner: Zoe W, 4S, for her beautifully presented poster on the growth of plants.

(written by Mrs Moore)



Zoe W – Year 4/5 winner

Poetry Slam

Yesterday we held the Poetry Slam finale in the school hall. Mr Rule was my assistant judge and I am very glad he was there as we were blown away by the amazing poetry performances that all of the children did. We had poems about spaghetti, poems about spring and even about aliens stuck in the toilet! All of the children performed to their absolute best and we are very proud of all of them. It was difficult to choose the overall winners for KS1 and KS2 but the winners were...**Tala in KS1** for her fantastic poem about the dinner hall, which she wrote herself and included some familiar teacher names in. **Elodie in KS2** won for her brilliant clear expression as she read, her eye contact towards the audience and the rhythm and pace of her poem about aliens. Thank you to all of the children for taking part, to everyone who supported the children in preparing their poems and for the positive feedback in regards to the competition.

(written by Mrs Morgan)



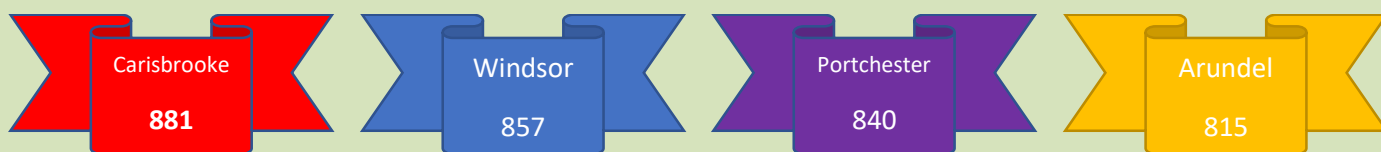
Farewell...and Hello

As I informed you only a few short weeks ago, Miss Wood leaves us today to take up a new challenge at Prince's Mead. Miss Millie Aplin-Haynes takes over the class teacher responsibility of 1W after the Easter holidays – it will become 1A. Miss Roadnight will also continue in 1A. Miss Aplin-Haynes has already spent a number of days in school getting to know the children and can't wait to get started.

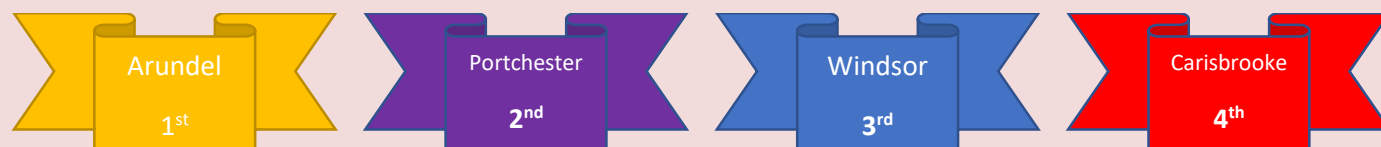
We wish Miss Wood all the best and thank her for the contribution she has made to the continuing improvement of Kings Worthy and the quality and range of opportunities she has offered to the children.

And hello to Miss Rebecca Conlen who currently teaches year 6 and leads Key Stage 2 at Whiteland's Park Primary in Berkshire. Miss Conlen was successful in interview a few weeks ago and will take over the full-time class teaching role in 6K from Tuesday April 26th and 6K will become 6RC. She is very excited to be able to help the children in their final run up to SATs and of course their transition to secondary school. She also can't wait to join them on the residential. She has spent some time in school getting to know the children and we know that as an experienced teacher of year 6, Miss Conlen will be a fantastic addition to our team.

House Points – Week 12



House Points – Termly



Jamie Dodson
Headteacher