

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

As we approach the end of another academic year, we've been blessed with some glorious sunshine; let's hope it continues to well into the summer holidays, giving everyone the chance to enjoy time outdoors and recharge.

Before we say goodbye for the summer, I'd like to extend my thanks to our fantastic staff. Their dedication throughout the year has been outstanding, not only in the classroom but through the many clubs, school trips, sporting events, and residential that have enriched the experiences of our children. These opportunities are a vital part of our school life and wouldn't happen without the commitment and passion of our team.

We're also incredibly proud of our children and staff for their achievements this year, particularly in our official results for Phonics, the KS2 SATs, and the Multiplication Tables Check. We've seen overall improvement across the school, a reflection of the hard work, determination, and countless hours of preparation from both children and staff. These results are far more than just numbers on a page; they represent growth, resilience, and success.

A special thank you must also go to the Friends of Wyke for their fundraising efforts this year, and to all of our families who have supported events such as the discos, Easter bingo, the Christmas Bazaar, and the Summer Fête. Your involvement makes a real difference. Our brilliant School Council also deserves recognition for their creative ideas and enthusiasm, including organising the fantastic Bubble Run yesterday! Thanks to everyone's efforts, we've raised a significant amount towards our new play area, and we're now excited to begin exploring designs.

We'd also like to say a big thank you to Miss Sheere, who will be leaving us at the end of term. We're grateful for all she has contributed during her time here and wish her the very best as she takes the next step in her new career.

This term also marked the end of an era as we said goodbye to our long-serving dining tables, loyal companions to generations of Wyke pupils since 1991! They've now been retired and replaced with vibrant new tables that have added a wonderful splash of colour to our lunchtimes (please see photo above!).

Looking ahead to September, we will be introducing a new Positive Relationships and Behaviour Policy, which updates our current Behaviour Policy in line with current research and best practice. This approach places strong relationships at the heart of everything we do, encouraging positive behaviour through consistency, kindness, and mutual respect. It will be introduced to pupils at the start of the new term and is already having a positive influence across school life in the way we work together and support each other.

We're also very pleased to share that our new school website will be going live shortly. The updated design will be much more user-friendly, especially on mobile devices, and we feel it reflects the vibrant and welcoming spirit of our school more effectively.

Finally, a fond farewell to Heron Class. They have taken on the responsibility of being at the top of the school with maturity and care, and we couldn't be prouder. We wish them all the very best as they move on to their next adventure and hope they will come back and visit us when they can.

So much has been achieved this year, and we are always striving to move forward and improve. While we've faced our share of challenges, I am genuinely grateful for the support I've received from our wonderful school community, staff, parents, governors, and, of course, our brilliant children.

Wishing you all a restful summer break, whatever you have planned. I look forward to welcoming everyone back to Wyke on Thursday 4th September.

Ed Birkett
Headteacher



OWL CLASS NEWS

Our last term in Owl Class has been brilliant. I can't believe we have nearly finished the year!

Our enquiries this term have shown how much the children's independence has progressed. Our first enquiry was 'What is Home?', where the children created their very own clay nests. They loved learning about food chains, and an animal's basic need for survival. Our trip to Longleat was fantastic. I was so proud of how well they represented the school and the great questions they asked the animal keepers. In our second enquiry, 'How do we live a healthy lifestyle?' the children have been Scientists, understanding the different food groups, and explaining why food is healthy or unhealthy. Our final challenge involved making a healthy wrap - the children loved making (and eating!) them.

In English this term we have been reading the book 'Fergal is Fuming'. It is about a small dragon who gets cross, and as a consequence breathes fire. The children created their own character and picked an emotion which their character felt, such as 'Sammy is Sad' or 'Max is Mad'. They wrote wonderful stories, and I was amazed by the children's efforts.

We have been completing quizzes this term, both in Maths and Reading. The children were so good at doing these! They tried their best and really embraced the challenge. Although at times they found them tricky, I was so proud of the children's resilience and 'can do' attitude!

It has been wonderful teaching Owl Class this year. They are a fantastic group of children and I have enjoyed getting to know them and seeing them learn throughout the year. I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Mrs Hodge



ROBIN CLASS NEWS

We have come to the end of another year and Robin Class have had an amazing term to finish the year with! We have been so busy with learning and have managed to squeeze three enquiries into this half term.

Our first enquiry was 'How could we play in different ways?' where we were Historians. We looked at how we could find out about how children played in the past. We learned how the toys were made of different materials in the past and did not use electricity to make them work. We enjoyed looking at toys from the past and trying to work out how old they were and how they were played with. We also enjoyed learning some new games to play. We loved having thumb wars and learning how to do French skipping. We also played pin the tail on the donkey, before creating our own version of the game.

Our next enquiry was 'What might I like to do in the future?'. We discussed the difference between things that people do (jobs) and what people like to do (hobbies). We looked at the Curious City States of Being and thought which ones we were like, and why. We then thought about the jobs we would like to do in the future.

Alongside this we have also been amazing in Computing. We were programmers using ScratchJr. We explored the app to create and edit sprites in animations. We finished this off by creating a space race with three rockets. We wrote algorithms for each individual rocket in the race to create a race. We were been super Mathematicians this term as well. We have learned to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. We have been finding halves and quarters and have also been super at telling the time. Our writing has continued to improve through Curious Quests - visitors from other schools have been very complimentary about the standards of writing from Robins!

To top it all off, Robins were all absolutely amazing in the Year 1 Phonics Screening assessment in June. They used everything they have learned in their Phonics lessons to read the words and we are so proud of all of their results. What superstars they all are! We are so very proud of them.

Robin Class have been such a fabulous class to teach this year. They have worked so hard and have made us smile every day. We are really going to miss them but know they will be wonderful Owls next year! Well done Robins - enjoy your Summer!

Mrs Beales, Mrs Scammell, Mrs Jones



July 2025

#006

HERON CLASS NEWS

Well, I can't believe we've come to the end of the year already and what an incredible Year 6 you have all been. You have had so much fun as a class and made so many lovely memories that you can take with you as you move onto secondary school.



We began this half term with our first swimming lesson at Bourton and continued for 6 weeks which was so much fun. Everyone improved their stroke and had a great time socialising with friends at "The Beach Club" as you liked to call it! We also had an inspiring visit from the Royal Navy who told us all about life at sea and the huge number of different jobs that can be applied for in the Navy. We had fun making our own flares which we fired high into the sky on the school playing field plus we were also tasked with working in groups to make a 6ft signal tower from a bag full of ropes, bolts and long plastic plates.

We completed our Enquiry "Where does our food really come from?" with a visit from a local dairy farmer who also brought with him several different cheeses for us to try and we even had a few pieces to take home with us! Our final enquiry was "How big is our footprint?" where we learnt about our carbon footprint and what we can do to reduce this. We also found out more about renewable resources and the legacy we leave as we move onto secondary school.

Together with this, we had our move up day to secondary school. Everyone came back really excited with tales to tell of tutor and teaching groups and hopefully you all feel ready and prepared for the start of your new journey in September.

Finally, we finished on a high with our performance of "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies", and what an amazing performance it was! We were all so proud of the incredible singing, acting and confidence you demonstrated and it certainly looked like you were all enjoying yourselves.

You have been an amazing Year 6 class and we are so proud of you all. We will miss you lots here at Wyke but know you will continue your journey with confidence and make the most of all the opportunities available.

Mrs Rose



KINGFISHER CLASS NEWS

WOW! What a fantastic last half term we have enjoyed in Kingfisher Class. We can't believe we are at the end of the school year already.

As mathematicians this term we have been learning about statistics and using information from tables to accurately draw a variety of graphs. We have also enjoyed learning about 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes. We loved making 3D shapes from cocktail sticks and mini marshmallows!

Our enquiry this term was 'Why did people travel in the past?'. We began the enquiry by thinking about how and why we have travelled, including local and long-distance journeys. We then spent time researching Matthew Henson, the famous explorer who was the first man to reach the North Pole. We loved the novel, 'Race to the Frozen North' by Catherine Johnson which told the story of Matthew Henson's adventures to the North Pole.

As Engineers we have researched pennant flags that are found on ships. We went on to learn about the different types of ships and how, when ships are at sea, they use a 'pennant' identification system, and we designed some of our own. Finally, we cut out felt shapes and then used running stitch to attach our shape onto the felt to make our very own pennant. After many finger pricks and much resilience, the children created some masterpieces to be really proud of!

The challenge task of this enquiry was to create and perform a sea shanty. We were lucky to have a visit from Cathy Murray, a music specialist, who spent the morning with the children singing and playing instruments. The Boomwhacker instruments were a favourite to play! In the afternoon Kingfisher Class wrote, practised and performed a sea shanty about our term's learning. Many of you came to see this performance and we are sure you agree that the children were superb!

Well done Kingfisher Class, you have been a pleasure to teach this year and we will all miss you! Wishing you all a wonderful Summer holiday and good luck in Year Four.

Mrs Abbott, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Marchlewicz, Miss Long and Miss Pollard



FALCON CLASS NEWS

Falcon Class have had a very full and exciting end to the year - fitting in a fantastic day out at Portland, an end of year performance, workshops with visiting experts, two enquiries, as well as all our usual learning and activities!

Our first enquiry, 'What do forces actually do?' was all about the visible and invisible forces around us. As Scientists we had fun learning about gravity, friction, levers, pulleys and gears through lots of exciting practical investigations. Then, as Engineers, we drew inspiration from Rube Goldberg's cartoons to design our own chain reaction machines. The children came up with some brilliant ideas and designs using their knowledge of forces and 'simple machines'. Our final enquiry was called 'Where is our twin?' and we became Geographers as we developed our skills in map reading and interpreting graphs to help us compare the geographical features of Gillingham and our twin town Le Neubourg. We also had fun learning new sewing skills to make some amazing weather themed banners!

A few weeks ago, we were lucky enough to go on an amazing day out to Portland. To begin, we had a lovely walk on the coast, and were then whisked off to Weymouth harbour for our sailing lesson! We all had a great time out on the water, and the children showed a lot of responsibility by listening carefully to the adults and following their instructions. At the end of the session, the children were taught some water safety skills and had the opportunity to jump off the jetty!

During the last few weeks of term, the children worked hard really hard rehearsing for our end of year performance with Year 6. The show, 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies', was a big success, and all the children should be congratulated for their dedication and resilience during the performances!

As Mathematicians, we learned about decimals, volume, converting units and negative numbers. As Authors, we developed skills in suspense writing. We also had visitors come in to teach us how to create stop-motion animation using iPads and a workshop on composing digital music! Some of the children also went out to compete in sporting events with other schools, including a swimming gala and an athletics event!

You have all worked extremely hard this year Falcon Class, have a well-earned break over the summer and all the best for Year 6! *Miss Cheetham*



WREN CLASS NEWS

What a wonderful year we have had with our Wrens!

They have been superstar learners - curious, excited, engaged and FULL of questions and more questions! We sometimes wonder quite how many questions we answer each day!

Our enquiries this year have been based around the children and the world immediately around them - from learning about themselves; what it means to be a Wren; how we celebrate festivals in school and with our families; what lives and grows all around us and the places we can go.

The children have grown so much and in so many ways since September and we are super proud of everything they have achieved.

They have made new friends, learned new routines, become part of our school community, learnt to read, write and count and continued to ask questions to find out more.

Here are some of this year's highlights!

- Getting to know our class puppet, Boris, and teaching him how to behave! (He's a little cheeky)
- Our Autumn Stourhead visit – collecting leaves and looking at the beautiful scenery
- The cheeky elves that joined us at Christmas time - causing havoc in the classroom and even inviting some of Santa's reindeers to a party - which luckily, was caught on CCTV!
- Putting on a Christmas Nativity show!
- Helping a Chinese Dragon find her lost egg and hearing a baby dragon inside the egg!
- Baking Gingerbread men - that came alive and escaped from the oven!
- Making vegetable soup - and eating it!
- Going on a train ride to Sherborne!

It has been an absolute pleasure teaching your curious, cheerful children and we are so lucky to be teaching them again next year...we just hope we can keep up with their questions!

We hope you all have a wonderful, restful summer and fingers crossed for sunshine!

See you in September! *Mrs Turvey and Mrs de Villiers*





WOODPECKER CLASS NEWS

What another busy half term it has been in Woodpeckers. During our first enquiry 'Where does water come from?' We visited Sutton Bingham Reservoir near Yeovil. We learnt about the water cycle, habitats found in and around the reservoir and how to clean water. As Scientists, we explored the properties of solids, liquids and gases. We answered the question 'is water the same as other liquids?' and learnt the word 'viscosity'. We also learnt that not all solids are the same - cornflour and sand have some very interesting properties.

As Artists, we created our own paintings in the style of the artist JMW Turner. We looked at how we can recreate water using watercolour paints and looked at the different effects of light on water.

Some of us were lucky enough to have a Music Technology workshop with expert Mr Keys. He taught us how to layer sounds using YuStudio, it was so much fun!

We LOVED our session with Warren from Three Discovery. We made up our own news stories and then enjoyed using green screen to create a newsroom and story backgrounds. Lots of new skills were learnt and some future presenters were born!

In our next enquiry 'What should we flush down the loo?' we have explored the impact humans are making on the planet through their use of single use plastics and palm oil. As Scientists we have investigated alternatives for single plastic items and designed posters to show our findings.

As Authors we have used the book 'There's a Rang-Tan in my bedroom' to learn about the devastating affects of palm oil plantations are having on Orangutans habitats. We have been searching through our cupboards at home to see which products contain palm oil and discovered there are a lot!

We hope all of Woodpeckers and their families have a lovely, relaxing summer break. *Mrs Turner, Miss Sheere and Miss Pollard*

