

The last seven weeks have flown by and we are already at half term! The school has a lovely calm feel to it both inside and outside the classroom, as the children and staff have settled quickly in to the new academic year. Den building has become the new 'must do' break time activity and has had a hugely positive impact on both learning and behaviour, as all year groups have been able to expand further into the grounds. If you are free, please join us after Magic Maths next half term and see for yourselves. Just remember your wellies! In the meantime, enjoy the break!

Highlights Phase 2 Autumn 1

A chef called Olive came to visit us in Fox Class. She wants our help to set up a restaurant and isn't sure where to begin! We turned our classroom into a restaurant and sent her pictures so she could get an idea about what it could look like and then she sent us some foods to research to make sure that the ingredients were locally sourced... they were not!

In Forest Schools, we have been out developing our Science, Fine Motor and Art Skills. We have made caterpillars and designed habitats for them; sketched and made a collage of trees using only natural resources and made "Log Dogs" and took them for a walk around the field.

We've also been clocking up lots of miles keeping fit and healthy doing Mile a Day. It's a good job we know how to add up big numbers now!



In Ruby Class, we have been learning about Road Safety and have shown mature and sensible behaviour towards such an important topic. We have really enjoyed learning new skills in gym with Mr Bower every Thursday; we are all able to do something we were struggling with before - from forward rolls and cartwheels to rope climbing! Outdoor learning and art have been enjoyed by all. We have been exploring the grounds and finding objects for our spooky tale in English.

For R.E Day, we created a Random Act of Kindness booklet and came up with lots of amazing ways to be kind to other people around the school, village and world. The whole class loved getting the glitter out and creating a masterpiece mask of Noah's Ark's animals. Inspired by the main character in the book 'The Promise', we all made our own promises to the world to make it a better place. This half term we have worked hard and worked together!

In Sapphire Class, we have really enjoyed getting our blue 'Right to Roam' bands which mean that we can use the lower woods during playtimes and lunch. We have lots of active fun and have also been building some dens and experiencing the autumn changes up close. Our gym, dance and games lessons have been great and we've been learning some basic first aid so we know what to do in an emergency.



We've really enjoyed writing stories and poetry this half term and learning more about food chains and nutrition in science. We've also had success in times tables awards, silver passports and getting pen licences. We're looking forward to our Egyptian day next half term and taking on our role of international investigators.



In Badger Class this half term, the children have been learning to work co-operatively. They have liked listening to traditional stories and joining in with rhymes and songs. During the Stay and Play Session, they enjoyed showing visitors around their classroom. Badger Class particularly love their regular dance, gymnastics and cookery sessions.

PHASE 1

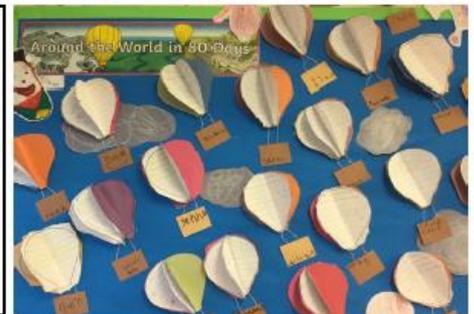
Badger Class
Otter Class
Squirrel Class



Otter Class have been working on developing their independence skills. They have been learning how to dress and undress for PE and use cutlery correctly. They have loved listening to and retelling the story of The 3 Little Pigs and have created their own versions. They have begun to learn to read, write and count and have also enjoyed making new friends.



Squirrel Class have loved sharing the story "Around The World In 80 Days" and have created a beautiful writing display. They have tasted fruits from various countries around the world and have begun to research a series of recipes from all the continents of the world. They plan to prepare and sample these tasty dishes next term. Squirrel Class have also enjoyed spending learning time outdoors and have discovered some of the amazing things found in our school grounds during autumn.



This week (19/10/2017-25/10/17) Yr R are photographed in the Surrey Mirror Newspaper's Starting School Supplement.

On Oct 4th, we were also all mentioned in an article in the County Border Newspaper. To keep up-to-date with our latest news, follow us on Twitter @BletchingleyVPS.

News from Phase 3

In Phase 3 we have been having a great time travelling to different continents of the world! One of our highlights, was our trip to India where we: took a boat ride down the River Ganges, tasted food from India, listened to Indian music and smelt the incense people from India might burn. We have really got to grips this half term with the outdoors. We have taken learning across the curriculum outside the classroom including: learning the features of a river, Diwali art work, personification poetry, recounts and sentence work.



We have all learnt how to carry out a risk assessment before taking part in outdoor learning activities which is necessary to keep us safe; this includes looking out for hazards and taking action if we need to.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our 'right to roam' bands but really need your help to make our dens even better. If you have any unwanted garden sticks, twigs, logs or any other suitable material for this we would be really grateful if you would let our teachers know. Then they can arrange a place for them to be dropped off. Thank you!



Harvest

Many thanks to all those who supported the children's Harvest celebration at St Mary's church last week. It really does add enormously to any occasion when it is shared in that way. I hope you were as proud of their work, presentations and singing as we were. A huge 'Thank You' also to Reverend Phaedra for inviting us into her church and helping to make the whole occasion as wonderful as it was.

Our collection for Water Aid raised £107, so many thanks to all who contributed!



Many thanks to those who have volunteered to come in – it is very much appreciated by both children and staff. If you have some spare time and would like to offer a skill or time to the school, it would be very much appreciated. Whether spending half an hour listening to children read or helping with a club in a break time, every minute gives the children something they would not have otherwise had – and they do love a visitor! A new project we would like to set up is gardening; likewise any other skill such as knitting, sewing, painting, first aid etc. If you enjoy a hobby and feel you have time to share your knowledge and enthusiasm with our children, please pop in or e mail!

