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29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

# KS2 NEWSLETTER

## Spring, 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas seems a long way behind us now the clocks have moved forward and the lighter evenings (and hopefully warmer ones too) are upon us. It was great to see so many of you at Welcome Time back in January and I hope you enjoyed visiting your child's learning environment. We have been really lucky this term in being able to offer a really diverse range of activities and learning opportunities for the children – it's been busy!

**Year 3 and 4** performed their showcases this term to packed audiences; dragons, Shakespeare and fossils featured!

**Year 4 and 5** are embarking on a national glider competition in partnership with the RAF Museum at Cosford called Fly to the Line:

<https://www.dendrite.me/competition/view/competitionid/59fa06e709d734a2a766339c#tab:collection-groups> Teams of children have designed and constructed gliders, competed with each other to see which team will go through to the regional final next term. After round 1 of 3, Team Oxygen are leading with a flight of 9m 30cm – round 2 and 3 will be held after Easter.

**Denefield Links:** **Year 6** were invited to watch the school's production of *Grease*, earlier this term providing our children the opportunity to see an entertaining and full musical production (lights, props, costumes etc.) and to see some ex-'Long-Laners' performing. **Year 4** took part in the annual Easter Challenge with Downsway at Denefield earlier this week: children completed tasks in different areas of the school from egg throwing in the sixth form common room, to penalty shoot-outs on the field. They collected letters on laminated eggs and unscrambled the letters to make the words: **Easter Sunday**. The Long Lane team won overall, bagging some toys and stationary for the class – well done!

**Word Book Day on March 1<sup>st</sup>** saw children wearing lots of fantastic costumes to celebrate favourite authors and characters from well-loved books. This was followed a week later by a whole school celebration of **International Women's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March**. Staff across the school dressed as famous women for a morning of hands-on activities and exploration of the lives of women who have made a difference. Children's writing during this week was inspired by the activities. **Shakespeare Week** fell the following week, during which there was much drama and throwing of Shakespearean insults! In addition that week, we were all treated to a **No Pen Day**; perfect for Science, PE and Drama – lots of learning, no writing -we were all very creative!

**Sporting News:** Sport Relief was celebrated with a week of sports activities during break and lunchtime, organised by the **Sports Ambassadors** and the **School Council**, culminating in a Dance-a-thon in the afternoon. Everyone agreed it was a lot of fun and raised approximately £150 for the charity. There is also talk of keeping up some of the activities next term; did you know that a mile is eight times round the field? Some of the

children were running three or four miles – amazing! **Year 5 and 6** played a Netball tournament at Denefield, coming 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. Also at Denefield, the **Year 5/6** boys came 1<sup>st</sup> in football and **Year 5/6** girls came 4th. Year 4 played very well at the Crosfields Tag Rugby tournament (won 1, drew 1 and lost 2). Well done all!

**Year 5 and 6** enjoyed a Victorian dress up day in February culminating in a visit from a character actor from 60 Second Histories who put the children through their paces Victorian Style!

**Science:** If your child has taken part in Science club this term, I hope they have found it engaging. We won't be running another one until next year. **Year 5 and 6** were treated to a workshop on Light by Mrs Tyson (<https://www.miniprofessors.com/>) and **Year 3 and 4** were treated to a workshop all about rocks by Mr Tyson – thank you to both of you; it was such a privilege and a treat to have scientist visits! **British Science Week** started on 9<sup>th</sup> **March** and children have been designing lab coats as part of a competition in partnership with BayLab in Reading. The winning design will be awarded a life size cut out of their lab coat as well as a class set of lab coats.

The Reading based charity **Launchpad** came to speak to us about how they help to prevent homelessness in Reading. It was very thought provoking. You can find more information on their website: <http://www.launchpadreading.org.uk/>

**A request:** we would be really grateful if you could send in your old newspapers for use when we are painting. Many thanks.

School finishes at **1.30pm** on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**; parent's meeting day is on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April** and the children start back on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**.

Have a restful Easter break,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. Rushent,  
KS2 Team Leader

*Some Key KS2 dates (Please see Mr Thorne's Newsletter for whole school dates):*

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Parent's meeting day
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3/4 trip to Gurdwara in Slough
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Parent's Forum (6pm)
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Denefield Roadshow (Year 5)
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>KS2 SATS Week</b>