

### Headteacher's Update

Firstly, a big thank you to both you and all our teaching staff for the hard work and dedication in supporting our children through this half term. An incredible job and lots of new learning has been accomplished by all

#### **New Parent Governors**

I would like to welcome the following 3 parents who have now joined the School Governing Body:

Mr Dale Welland  
Mrs Amy Farley  
Mrs Heidi Sieluzycski

#### **PTA / Parent Forum**

When it comes to fundraising, building relationships with the community and supporting the staff, being involved in a PTA/ Parent Forum is one of the best ways for parents and carers to get involved with school life. There are ample opportunities throughout the year to support school events and the students.

#### **What is a PTA?**

A school **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)** is a great way to bring together parents, teachers and the local community together to raise funds and to support the school. I have spoken to **Mrs Crystal Doka** who is happy to work with school. Initially, we need to generate interest and find out which parents would like to be involved in future fundraising and other school community activities.

#### **What is a Parent Forum?**

**Parent Forums** are a way for schools to encourage more parents to get involved in school life. They are informal groups where parents can raise issues, be consulted on school policy and give their views to help improve their child's education at the school.

The proposal is to create a PTA/Parent Forum, to look at fundraising and ways to improve the school. If you would like to find out more or get involved, please contact the school on:

[Admin2@westlea.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:Admin2@westlea.swindon.sch.uk) by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm.

Following this, we can arrange a virtual meeting to plan how we can support the school, raise funds and build relationships across the whole school community.

#### **Remote Learning**

We know how hard remote learning can be, thank you so much for your responses to our questionnaire and the very positive comments that came from this. We were delighted to hear that the majority of families do have sufficient access to IT to support their children, please do let us know if you have issues and we can see if we can support you. We recognise there are lots of challenges and you have given us some great ideas on how to improve (full feedback has been sent to you separately).

Have lovely, restful half term break

Join the PTA!



## Stars of the Week

**Ash Class** Amelia for trying hard to use her Phonics in her writing.

**Maple Class** Jenson - attending nearly every meeting and completing all his work.

**Elm Class** Leonardo for fabulous phonics.

**Rowan Class** Jess for great maths work with pictograms and bar charts and a super overall effort with her work this week.

**Cherry Class** Oliver for working so hard this week!

**Pine Class** Rose for her outstanding effort and attitude towards her work during lockdown.

**Willow Class** Rebecca for fantastic organisation skills, brilliant story-telling and a wonderful attitude to home learning!

**Oak Class** Charlie for working hard to complete all work despite having technical difficulties.

**Sycamore Class** Alana for an outstanding fantasy story and always facing every challenge with a smile and a sense of humour.

**Hazel Class** Tyler for being 'out of this world' with his amazing dedication to his work!

**Beech Class** Soham for just being absolutely amazing with everything.

# Class News

## Ash Class

Ash class have had a fun week learning about Chinese New Year. We have made Dragon masks, decorated an envelope in red to give to a family member, made lanterns and are ending the week by wearing red for good luck, eating Chinese Food and doing our Dragon Dance .



In Elm class, Chinese New Year preparations and celebrations have been great fun this week. We know lots of facts now and have made dragon masks, lanterns, cards and money packets. Chinese food, a dragon dance and lots of music were all part of the fun. We've had snow and ice to explore too!

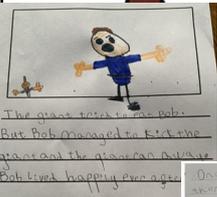


## Elm Class

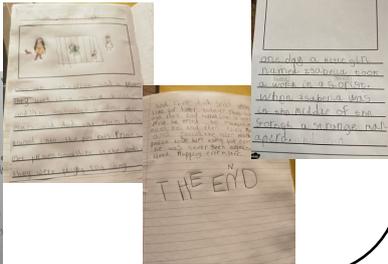


## Cherry Class

This week we have been writing our own 'Mixed Up Traditional Tales'. We mixed up the characters, settings and events and added our own ideas. Here are the first few examples of excellent writing handed in. Amazing work! Well done Cherry tree class for making us smile this week with your cheer and enthusiasm!

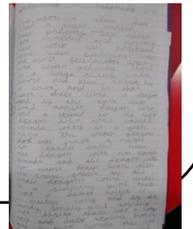


Once upon a time there was a wolf and a sheep. The wolf was very hungry and he wanted to eat the sheep. But the sheep was very clever and he had a plan. He said to the wolf, 'I have a very important message for you. I have to go to the village to get some food. I will be back in an hour. If you see me, please do not touch me. I will be very angry with you.' The wolf said, 'I will wait for you.' The sheep went to the village and he got some food. He came back and he said to the wolf, 'I am back. I have some food for you. I will give it to you now.' The wolf said, 'I will wait for you.' The sheep said, 'I will be back in an hour. I will be very angry with you if you do not wait for me.' The wolf said, 'I will wait for you.' The sheep said, 'I will be back in an hour. I will be very angry with you if you do not wait for me.' The wolf said, 'I will wait for you.' The sheep said, 'I will be back in an hour. I will be very angry with you if you do not wait for me.'



Sycamore class have ventured into some fabulous fantasy lands this week in English, writing our own fantasy stories with some interesting characters. Pictograms, tally charts and bar charts have been the name of the game in maths and we have even used our countings in 2s, 5s and 10s to help us do this. In RE we have explored Judasim and for Science we used cars to see which material would slow the cars down. As it was Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, we read all about Digiduck and came up with a truth, a lie and an opinion about an animal to help us realise that we can't trust everything we read on the internet!

## Sycamore Class



## Willow Class

What a fantastic week Willow Class have had to finish the term! In English we have been using story maps to write fantasy stories with dragon characters. We have been using expanded noun phrases and similes to create effective descriptions. In maths we have been using perseverance to find solutions to a range of investigations. With it being Chinese New Year this week, we have been making dragon masks and Chinese lanterns as part of our Geography work.



## Maple Class

This week the children in school have been busy making their own roundhouses. They used a combination of sticks and either paper or string as a base which they then covered in a mixture of mud and clay. In English we've been writing our own spooky stories - I hope they're not too scary I don't want nightmares. I hope everyone has a lovely half term break.



This week we have been writing our very own Myths. We got to create and design our own hero's and monsters. In maths we have been continuing with fractions which has been a little bit difficult but we are working super hard. During our science lesson we designed our very own game using magnets, some of made us our games at home which looked like a lot of fun.



In Rowan class this week we've worked on pictograms and bar charts in maths. We've described spooky characters and spooky settings and written our very own scary story! Celtic round-houses have been made and a lot of fun was had. In science we thought about the difference between opaque, translucent or transparent, and discussed which would be better for creating curtains for a dark room! I want to say a huge well done to everyone in Rowan class for such a brilliant week of learning online and in the classroom. It's been lovely to see the effort put into your work and the smiles on your faces each day. Have a wonderful half term!



In art, Oak Class have been learning how to draw birds this week. We have used a variety of techniques including digital drawing and sketching. Miss Watson was very impressed with all the work!



Hazel class have done a brilliant job making it to half term, although there were some very tired faces on teams this week! We have finished reading our 'Jazz Harper Space Explorer' book this week and it would seem that some people really loved the ending of the story, yet some people wanted to change the ending of the story. On internet safety day, we discussed how to respond to different situations on the internet and wrote out advice on what to do and what NOT to do. We have also created some amazing models to demonstrate the different phases of the moon!

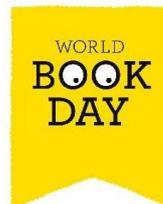


This week we have completed our unit on Harry Potter and written recounts of the trials Harry and his friends had to complete to rescue the Philosopher's Stone. In maths we have looked at making links and converting between different measures to solve problems. In art we have created mood boards linked to our topic of Mexico.



## And Finally...

On Thursday 4th March it is World Book Day! Lets get ourselves dressed up in our World Book Day costumes, either in school or at home.



There are lots of resources on the World Book Day 2021 website: <https://www.worldbookday.com/>

