

Headteacher's Update

As we come to the end of the third week of term, for those of you at home I want to say thank you for the huge effort you are all making. At school we know how difficult this situation is for you with juggling your own work commitments along with supporting your child as best as you can. We understand that having to home educate changes the relationships you have with your child too, but remember that you are not a teacher and home is not school – please do what you can and if you or the children need brain breaks or a change of routine then you must do this. High emotional situations do not support learning or positive mental health and so changing the routine to suit your ever-changing situations is a must.

Parking and Traffic

Following a recent Parish Council meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner covering West Swindon, a couple of issues have been brought up regarding Traffic concerns in certain areas. One of the main cause of concerns is the traffic outside of Westlea Primary school and cars parked there, specifically on Langstone Way, which may cause a hazard to children coming to and leaving school. The Police have asked for parents to be a lot more vigilant before and after school because we want to keep everyone as safe as possible.

End of Key Stage Tests

The Standards and Testing Agency has announced that primary tests and teacher assessments will be cancelled again this academic year. This decision has been welcomed by teachers and unions in recognition of the amount of time children have had away from school. The children will continue to receive the best education from their teachers and when school resumes, we will continue with our catch up programmes that we started, to help close the gap of lost learning.



Ash Class	Isla for always completing every activity set, with a smile on her face.	Maple Class	Cameron for amazing home learning - I've been so impressed with the standard of his work in every subject.
Elm Class	Beatrice for doing lots of activities with enthusiasm and smiles.	Rowan Class	Liyana for brilliant effort in all of her learning online.
Cherry Class	Theodore for being enthusiastic about everything that we do.	Pine Class	Rhys for his outstanding and continued effort in all of his work this week.
Willow Class	Barkley for completing excellent home-learning and sharing his wonderful sense of humour with Willow Class!	Oak Class	Layla for trying so hard at work this week
Sycamore Class	Emma for showing amazing effort in her work and settling back in to School fantastically!	Hazel Class	Rowen for always coming to each meeting with a smile on her face, ready and determined to learn!
		Beech Class	Isabelle H - for amazing English work linked to Harry Potter, fabulous algebra work in Maths and an awesome self-portrait in Art.

Class News



This week in Ash Class, we have been learning about space, we made rockets, pretended to take off into space and wrote about what we could see. We celebrated all the lovely things about our planet Earth. We enjoyed our stories, 'Goodnight Spaceman' and 'Whatever Next'.



Elm class (at home and in school) have been having lots of fun learning about space and doing space activities. In maths we have been learning about number 8 and finding ways to make 8.

Well done to all of Cherry class this week. Well done to the home learners! You are doing so well and are absolute super-stars! Thank you to the parents for your support! Lots of you are still working at the same time and you are doing an amazing job at doing what you can and is manageable for you and your family! Well done to the learners at school, you are working so hard! What a great team we are in Cherry class!



This week, Sycamore Class has been busy writing instructions on 'How to trap a dragon' for the mysterious Miss Q from the MOD. But having trapped the dragon successfully, Miss Q now wants to imprison it! We are hoping that our formal persuasive letters will change her mind and the dragon will be freed. 2, 5 and 10 are the magic numbers this week - we have been dividing in Maths using sharing and grouping. Plus, we have been celebrating our wonderful cultures - including Poland, Slovakia, Brazil, India and Albania and comparing these to Chinese culture, ahead of Chinese New Year!



Willow Class been working incredibly hard writing letters to the Ministry of Defence. They were trying to persuade them that we should have a dragon as a school pet! The language they used was very convincing and we think it would be difficult for the MoD to say no! In maths they have been working super hard with tally charts and pictograms. In Geography we have been comparing the culture from China with our own.



Maple class have been busy learning about the changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age - this week we have been learning about Roundhouses. In science we've been learning about light and have tried to complete a tricky challenge using mirrors to reflect light around a maze. I'm sure all of Maple class will join with me sending best wishes to Mete for a speedy recovery from his broken arm.

This week we have been working extremely hard, especially in maths. Looking at division has been quite tricky for some of us but we have tried are very best whilst being at home which is incredible. English we have been writing our very own episode to the spiderwick chronicles, we have been really enjoying this because we got to create ouvery own characters as well.



This week we've had a wonderful week on learning! We've looked at Celtic roundhouses in history, how light travels in straight lines in science, pounds and pence in maths, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials in English, and more!



Oak Class have been reading stories from faraway places and one story has been about tea leaf pickers. This got us all thinking about how much they get paid and Fair-Trade. We created some fantastic Fair-Trade posters. Miss Watson has been so proud of how hard all the children have been working at home and in school!



Hazel class have been fantastic with their home learning so far. I have been really impressed by how determined they are to not allow distance to impact their learning. They have been up to a lot over the past few weeks, including lots of space related activities and outdoor activities.



Beech class have produced some fantastic self-portraits this week. I was so impressed by everyone's efforts!

A big well done to Ellie who came up with some superb "flying instructions" based on our Harry Potter novel this term.

Overall, fantastic work all round from everyone. Well done!

And finally...

Please don't forget the writing competition.
Entries need to be emailed to
admin2@westlea.swindon.sch.uk

by the 10th February.

