

Newsletter

Autumn Term.

October 2023

Dear families,

We have had such a wonderful start to our new year, with lots of exciting activities for the children and fantastic learning too. We have welcomed our new members of staff: Mrs Glover, Mrs Thomas, Miss Dennis, Mrs Green and Mrs Broughton as well as our new sports coaches from Coach Unlimited: Miss Prime and Miss Goodband.

We are extremely proud to have our very own **Dove Bank Kitchen** and even more proud to report that we are serving nearly twice as many dinners to children than we were last year. It is wonderful to see so many more children enjoying a hot meal and seeing clean plates all round. Thank you to Mrs Clarke and to our LiFE catering manager, Mr Newman, for providing such tasty and nutritious food.



The school is now a very busy place from 7.30am when the children are arriving for Breakfast Club, our afternoon clubs are proving very successful too, especially Boxercise & Dodgeball club that is run by Miss Prime and Miss Goodband.



As a school, we recognise the importance of looking after our mental health. I would personally like to thank the School Council and Mrs Good, for working hard to raise awareness of this at our school with both our children and our staff and then encouraging the children to share their understanding with our families. Their message is clear:

"It's ok not to be ok".

Have a wonderful half term break, and as ever, thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Fletcher

LiFE

inspiration innovation integrity

Newsletter



Phonics Coffee Morning.

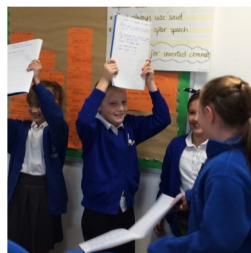
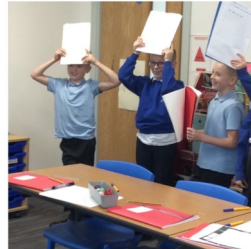
We had a very informative meeting to launch our new phonics scheme, 'Little Wandle'. Thank you to those families who were able to join us. We have added the presentation and any additional information to our school website.



Maple Class

Maple class have had a great start to the term and have really worked hard. They have enjoyed writing biographies and stories in English using lots of newly developed writing skills like relative clauses. Our reading unit about Nelson Mandela has inspired many interesting conversations questions and thoughts. In Maths, we have worked hard on place value to 1,000,000 and are now learning

about addition and subtraction including exchanging. We've had a great time learning about Forces in Science including: gravity and friction, air resistance and water resistance. Our geography unit about the Alps has also made many children keen to explore the area, especially on skis!



Oak Class

Oak class have had a fantastic first half term and have all settled into school life excellently! We have explored what makes us all special, learnt about different families, homes, our likes and dislike and we discussed lots about school life.

We have read lots of stories about superheroes and shared what our own superpowers are!



PIC-COLLAGE

Newsletter



Pine Class

Pine has been very busy this half term. We have completed lots of learning on sentence structure, narrative writing in English; including a fantastic virtual author visit with Lucy Noguera. We have seen some amazing handwriting improvements over this half term too. In Y3 Maths, we have been working hard on our addition and subtraction skills including how to exchange when going across 1s and 10s! In Y2 Maths we have been adding using a number line remembering to start with the biggest number first! Pine has completed topics on toys through the ages with lots of hands-on activities including playing like Stone Age children! Science has been lots of fun, learning about types of rocks and how they are formed. Pine have greatly enjoyed making a fruit salad as part of DT and will use this practical experience to help them write their own set of instructions. We have packed lots into the first half term and all of the children have worked very hard - Well done Pine!



PIC•COLLAGE

Sycamore Class

Sycamore class have had a super start to the Autumn term. We have been busy in English, writing a journey narrative based on the voyages of Charles Darwin, on The Beagle. During our maths lessons, the children have been focusing on place value and the four operations. In DT, the children have researched, designed and constructed playgrounds using carpentry and fixing skills. In our computer lessons, we have been researching the history surrounding Bletchley Park and the amazing code breakers,

who worked their during WW2, creating a digital poster and solving coding quizzes. In addition to our main curriculum, we have also enjoyed another coaching visit from Aston Villa and a very informative visit from The Dogs Trust. All in all a super start to the year.



Newsletter



Elm

We have had a very busy start to the year in Elm class. We are really enjoying using our new phonics scheme and reading with our new reading books. In maths, we have been busy learning how to use a tens frame and a part whole model. We are getting really fast at calling out our Number Bonds to 10 and we are now learning to count on and back using a number line.

In our English lessons, we have enjoyed reading and writing about the story of The Enormous Turnip and then using our skills to write about an enormous leek!



Dove Bank Dog

We are really pleased to say that Benji has been a massive success at Dove Bank this half term and so will continue to work with us in school to support children who want to read to him, take him for a walk or just enjoy a little cuddle.

He has now featured in most of the local magazines and so thinks he is a real celebratory!

He has been very spoilt with lots of little treats, toys and attention.

Well done to all of the children who have learnt very quickly how to respect Benji's feelings.

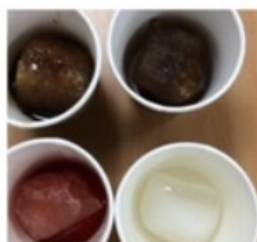




Larch

We have had a great first half term in Larch.

We have been working hard on our times tables. We have especially enjoyed using Times Tables Rock Stars and the Super Movers videos to learn them. Our favourite is of course Philber the Fox helping us to learn our eight times tables! We have really enjoyed our time with the sports coach on a Thursday afternoon improving our tennis skills and recently the children loved their boxercise taster session. In Science, after learning about the qualities of liquids, solids and gasses, we planned our own experiment to see which ice cubes made from different liquids would melt the quickest. Mrs Glover especially enjoyed receiving some pictures from the children conducting their own similar experiments at home. We start each afternoon with our class book and the children are enjoying being just a little bit scared by Roald Dahl's Witches at the moment. It looks like we shall have to wait until after half term to see if the boys ever turn back from mice into little boys!



Open the Book

Thank you to the team from 'Open the Book' who have joined us again this year to share different stories from the bible.

We all really enjoyed the latest story where we learnt all about The Feeding of the Five Thousand.



Newsletter



Head Teacher Collaboration meeting.

We were really pleased to welcome all Head Teachers from our trust and other members of the trust team to Dove Bank last month. The school performed a number of songs and showed off their wonderful signing skills in a special assembly. Thank you to the children and to Mrs Good for making this a wonderful morning.



Dogs Trust

Thank you to Sarah, from The Dogs Trust, who spent the day at Dove Bank working with all of the classes about how to treat dogs and how to keep our own dogs and Benji safe, as well as looking at ways to keep ourselves safe around dogs.



Parent Readers.

Thank you to our parent readers who have joined us again this year to support our drive to read as often as we can in school.

If you wish to join the team then please speak to Mrs Howard or Miss Smith in the office.

Diary Dates

All dates taking us up to the Christmas holiday have been sent out separately. If you require another copy then please get in touch with Mrs Howard or Miss Smith in the office.

Newsletter