

# OVERSTONE NEWS



Over the last month we have had a lot to celebrate in school. Children have been sharing their work and some have received a praise postcard home, we have created our Wow Wall! to celebrate outside achievements, we were all able to enjoy the wonderful children's fete hosted by the PTA and Mrs Brain survived the London Marathon.

Another celebration for this half term was the Harvest Festival, wonderfully led by Year 4. This was our first school event at the church this year and we were made very welcome. The children sang and read beautifully and we were pleased that some of the Year 4 parents could join us. Thank you to everyone for all the donations of food and toiletries which will be well received by so many.

We were lucky enough to be contacted by Waitrose in Leighton Buzzard over the summer who, as you know, donated a large number of items to the school for families needing food boxes. We have been able to distribute a lot of those items to people in our local community. I was very surprised to receive another call from Franky, the community champion, to ask if we would like some support for our forest school. I met with her last week and we received a cheque for £250 and a donation of bulbs to be planted around the grounds. Mrs May was certainly celebrating that day!

As many of you will know, I wrote to you last term to share the upsetting news that Mrs Willett, one of our Year 6 teachers, had been diagnosed with Stage 2 cancer. Mrs Willett was extremely brave and had three different procedures at the end of last term which left her quite battered and bruised. Well, I am very pleased to share the news that her body has fought back and she is now cancer free. She will continue to have check-ups and will be looked after carefully, but this is truly a reason to celebrate.

So, as half term is upon us, I hope you all have time to rest and reflect over the celebrations you may have experienced since the children returned to school. Some may be big celebrations such as a special birthday or being able to see people you haven't seen for a while and some may be small such as your child now being able to zip up their coat. Whatever the celebration, if it makes you smile then you are onto a winner.

Have a great half term, Mrs K. Eales

## Nov Dates:

Return to school : 1st

Parents Eve: 8th & 11th (remote meetings via zoom)

Wear it Green for MacMillan : 12th

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

We're having a Wear it Green day on the 12th November. A non-uniform day wearing something green to show our support.



## News from our classes

**Acorn** We have enjoyed some Autumn walks around the field and collected leaves, conkers, twigs and fir cones. We have done some leaf rubbing and printing with beautiful Autumn colours. We have also enjoyed scooping out pumpkins and helping carving them.

**Ash** We are delighted to be able to update you about the enormous hole that appeared in our playground! It was coincidentally identical to the hole that featured in Dan's garden in our focus text; 'The Something.' The children have enjoyed finding out about what happened to the ball that bounced into the hole and how it was returned to Dan by an assortment of underground creatures. We have learnt about story language, how sentences are formed and have created our own stories including a whole class one about an octopus called Elephant who loves tickling!

**Beech** We have really enjoyed being artists and have created our own Picasso inspired portraits. We mixed primary colours to make our skin and used pastels for our features.

**Elm** We have enjoyed interviewing Mrs. Eales about being a leader. We have been learning about people who have been or are leaders in our lives. The children thought of and asked some very interesting questions like "What do you have in your office?" to which Mrs Eales replied "Lots of books, usually a cold coffee on my desk and emergency Curly Wurlys".

**Fir** Year 3 has really enjoyed learning about Charles Elliott's sculptures and created their own versions of animal sculptures using wire, in the same style as the famous young, Buckinghamshire sculptor.

**Holly** We have been really busy this past month. We especially enjoyed our special guest speaker, Mrs Dyer from Guys and St. Thomas Hospital London. Mrs Dyer is a Specialist Digestive Nurse and she was able to talk to us about how the digestive system works. It was fascinating and very informative. We even carried out a stool analysis (it's ok they were not real - we looked at photographs!) using the Bristol Stool Chart (we also had a chocolate bar version!) We have learnt so much more through having her come in and talk to us and were very grateful to her for taking time out of her busy day.

**Oak** This month, we have been busy cooking! We made a yummy pasta sauce and chose healthy toppings for bruschetta! We have been looking at healthy eating and at Mediterranean foods so we used some Mediterranean ingredients in our pasta sauce and have tasted olives, feta cheese and other delicious toppings on our 'bruschetta'.

**Redwood** We've had loads of fun these past few weeks in Redwood, putting all our donations of weird and wonderful objects to good use. As well as lots of fun science experiments, we've been creating our own print/embroidery pieces, which involved us choosing a random assortment of materials, printing them onto the page, and then sewing on top of it! Thank you again to everyone for their donations, we've had a blast!

**Sycamore** We have enjoyed hiding pieces of bread around school in order to find the best place to grow the most amount of mould. This was in our science lessons about microorganisms. This is Josh and Neria's who successfully grew the most!

**Willow** In our recent English session, we learnt about bravery awards. We had fun watching clips from 'Pride of Britain' and then voted for our own - Pride of Overstone. Our award was based on our school values: listening; kindness; respect and trying our hardest. In geography, we became 'food tourists' in Switzerland. The children sampled various types of Swiss cheese and meats - everyone had such fun!

## News from around the school

**Gardening Club** We have been going around school tidying up the grounds to make them look more respectable. They have also created a bug area for wildlife. We have planted, cyclamens, wall flowers, dianthus, chrysanthemums and a number of daffodils. The school is going to look fabulous come the spring. In the last couple of weeks of the club we are going to look to see what other plants we can plant out to make sure we have an abundance of colour.

**Football** Training is going well and we played a great cup match against Swanbourne this month winning 4-2.

**School Council** We have been very busy in school tidying up the litter around our grounds to make it look neat and tidy. We wanted to do this as we are very proud of our environment. This half term will also see the introduction of 'Buddies'. Each year group will have a class to buddy with and do an activity. Year 6 will buddy with Reception and Year 3, Year 5 with Year 2 and Year 4 with Nursery and Year 1. These groups mean as the younger ones go through the school they can keep their same buddy.

## Reminders

### **PE and school uniform**

Please remember to name all kit and uniform including coats and trainers.

### **Royal British Legion**

Poppies will be on sale when we return in November.

**Have a safe and happy half term - Return date is Monday 1st November.**