



Vernon Primary School

Newsletter - Autumn 2020



Autumn Term Newsletter

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, staff, governors, parents and children, for their hard work, support and positivity throughout this first half term. The children have been truly amazing and have astounded me with their resilience and ability to adapt to change. It has been wonderful having them back in school and I look forward to seeing them all after the half term holiday.

Mrs Carvell

Staff news

A huge congratulations to Assistant Headteacher, Mrs. McNeil (formerly Miss Walker), who has recently got married! Despite the restrictions, they managed to have a very small ceremony and a celebration and we are absolutely delighted for her, her husband and their son.



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'Nobody else is quite like me'

We are also lucky enough to have welcomed 3 new babies to the Vernon family. Miss Swan welcomed Teddy on 6th August, Mrs Tootell welcomed Esme on 8th September and Mrs Hough welcomed Edwin on 20th September. We also say a temporary goodbye to Miss Wood who starts her maternity leave today.

School update

After half term we will be moving payments for school lunches and any school workshops to School Spider. This will mean you can both order and pay for school lunches within the Spider app. The cost for school lunches will be increased to £2.50. School lunches still need to be booked and paid for in advance (payment only for KS2 children).



Reception

Reception have settled incredibly well into school life. We have learnt about a range of skills and had book topic weeks with 'The Little Red Hen', 'Tidy', 'Owl Babies', 'Billy and the big new school' 'Whatever Next' and Percy the Park Keeper'. We have been making bread, drawing nocturnal animals, collecting autumn leaves on our weekly welly walks. We have started learning our letter sounds and Mrs Wilson and Mrs Brammar are incredibly proud of how everyone is doing with their reading.



They have been taking part in lots of fun lessons and fact finding activities all about mini beasts. The children got their clipboards ready, put on their goggles and grabbed a magnifying glass to go on a mini beast hunt around our school grounds. They were all so excited to find lots of mini beasts hiding on our field. They worked together and were able to find; butterflies, worms, beetles, woodlice, spiders, snails and even a caterpillar. Following the minibeast hunt the children then dedicated their time during playtime to create a bug house for all the mini beasts to live in. What a fantastic start to Year 1!



Year 1

The children in Year1 have come back to school and settled in amazingly. They were all eager to start Year 1 and get under way with our first topic, "A Bug's Life".



Year 2

We have been so proud of how Year 2 have settled into their new classrooms and routines. The children have all come back happy and excited to start their Superhero topic! We have been working hard learning to play the glockenspiel. We have been learning about tempo and pitch when playing the notes.



In Miss Worthington's class we thought about what great qualities we have as a class, we all thought of one word which sums up our whole class. We then made a montage out of these words. We also painted rainbows and did some mindful colouring.

In Miss Langthorp's class we thought about our individual qualities and why we love ourselves. The children then drew a picture of themselves and wrote a sentence about their qualities.

We then went outside for playtime and saw a beautiful rainbow over the school. The children were all so excited to have seen a rainbow on 'Rainbow Day'!

We have also enjoyed learning all about the Titanic. The have children loved pretending to be the passengers on the Titanic and discovering what the life would have been like for the different classes.

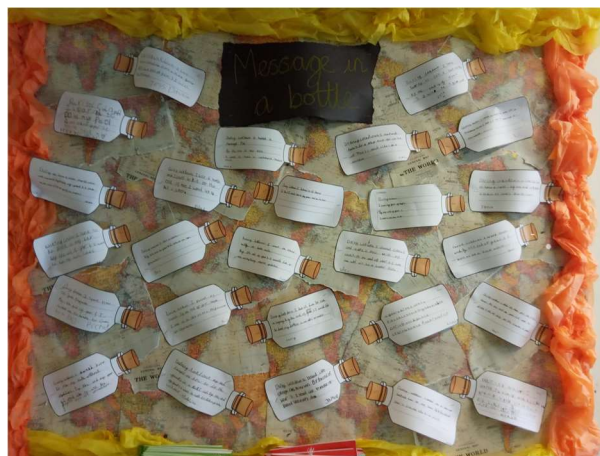
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Year 3

Year Three have had some exciting music sessions with Mr Richardson. The children have been learning about tempo and duration. They have applied their new found knowledge whilst playing the glockenspiel. Currently they are working towards performing Run by Coldplay.



In Mrs Evans' Class we wrote ourselves messages in a bottle in our first week back. We reflected on our achievements during lockdown that have made us feel proud. We then added what we hope to achieve in Year Three. Our messages are displayed in the classroom so we can look back at them throughout the year.



Year 4

In Miss Mackenzie's class the children have been learning the difference between a growth mindset and fixed mindset. We have also been thinking of things that we can do if we are stuck or need help. For example; instead of saying I can't do this, we can say how can I complete this task. As a class we have found that through using our growth mindset it has stopped us from giving up and giving in. To remind us of what a growth mindset is we have also placed our different ideas on the display board. We have really enjoyed learning about this.



Another exiting task in Year 5, involved writing formal letters to Mr Boris Johnson to inform him about school life under the new Covid- 19 restrictions. We asked him questions about Baby Wilfred, life as Prime Minister and also about how he was feeling since being ill himself. These letters have now been posted so it will be interesting to see if we get a reply.

Year 5

In Year 5 we have been doing lots of interesting activities since returning to school. Our topic this term is 'From Heroes to Legends' or 'Groovy Greeks' as we like to call it. On arrival at school one morning, we were greeted with a tragic scene from the myth 'Icarus and Daedalus'.

We spent the morning investigating the tragic death of Icarus by gathering evidence and deciding which pieces were the real clues to solve this incident.

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On Friday 9th October Year 5 recognised Mental Health Day. To begin the afternoon, Miss Wildig's class made themselves comfortable and joined in with meditation, picturing their tree house and what would be in their safe

space. They then looked at a range of positive affirmation quotes and wrote their own secret messages to each other. Using white oil pastels, each child created their own quote which was then passed to a different pupil in the class. With water colours, they painted the paper to reveal their message. Finally everyone wrote a positive word or phrase to describe each person in the class. These words were then placed in a balloon for each child. They took their balloons home and when appropriate, the children popped their balloon for a 'burst of happiness'.

ourselves. We encouraged each other and shared our own techniques for resilience.



Year 6

Year 6 have been enjoying a bit of mindfulness on a Friday afternoon. They have created natural Mandalas. Some have been inspired by Spitfires in our study of WW2 others let their creative juices flow. Blackberries were even used as natural paint and dust was used to frost other berries!

At the end of September, our school celebrated European day of languages. Across the year groups, we took the register in different languages, learnt how to greet people and improved our Spanish counting.



We are thought about our wellbeing with everyone making a rainbow kite and adding some positive statements about

We also located different European countries on a map, as well as researching their flags. Year 3 sampled French food and Year 1 listened to Disney songs in a variety of languages. Hopefully, this gave all of the children a sense of how important learning about different languages and cultures is.

Diary Dates

Month Year	
November 5th	Y4 Greek day
November 5th	Y2 Titanic Day
November 17th	Fluenz Vaccinations
November 20th	Minibeast day and animal intuition