



A note from your Head of School.

Hello all,

The term is going so quickly and we are very much into our stride with our spring learning. It is wonderful to see so many children making excellent progress and having such an eagerness to learn. It is hard to believe it was only a few weeks ago when the children were playing in the snow and now flowers are beginning to emerge in our planters and the children have enjoyed some lovely play times in the spring sunshine!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for regular updates on what is going on in school!

@UtkintonPrimary

St.paulscofeprimaryutkinton

St Paul's Primary School, Utkinton & Cotebrook

Best Wishes

Miss S Simcock



Learning Updates

Robin's Class

Robins class have continued to work really hard on their reading and everyone is coming on in leaps. It's wonderful to see the effort going into phonics for our younger members of Robins as well as older children becoming familiar with some amazing authors like Roald Dahl!

In English, we have been beavering away with our writing - Year 1s are really impressing me with the deployment of their phonics and I'm really pushing Year 2 and 3 with their vocabulary and feature choices—keep it up!

In Maths, we are still focussing on addition and subtraction strategies and we are having a big times table focus. Don't forget to keep practicing on TTRS and hit the button!

Outside of core subjects there has been so much going on!

In RE, we have been exploring Christian community and have visited church to explore how Christians worship.



In History, KS1 have been learning about the great fire of London. The children even built a replica of Pudding Lane and set fire to it in Forest School to witness what it must have been like.

In Spanish we have been continuing to practise our numbers and have learnt colours. We have also been engaging in basic conversation skills to ask how we are feeling.

Eagles Class

As a productive half term comes to a close in Eagles class, the children in Year 5 and 6 have been busy applying the skills and knowledge acquired within their extended piece of writing—an explanation text based on an animal of their choice and its adaptations.

Some of the skills include writing in the active and passive voice, using casual words and phrases and using colons to add an explanatory extension to a main clause.

In Maths, the children in both year groups have been learning about fractions. In Year 5, the children have learnt how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, convert mixed numbers to improper fractions and order fractions. In Year 6, our focus has included simplifying fractions, placing fractions on a number line and comparing and ordering fractions.

In R.E., the children have been enjoying their study of Islam and in particular the importance of the Prophet Muhammad. Each child produced an excellent diary entry to detail the visit of the Angel Gabriel, during which Muhammad was asked to pass on and spread the message of Allah.



Eagle's Class continued....

Over the last 2 weeks, the children have begun to explore the changes and developments of a human child, from birth to the age of 11. They produced excellent explanation text to describe each of these changes and have now started to explore the changes that humans go through between the ages of 11-14.

Our afternoon lessons have also been extremely productive, exploring settlements in Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire and significance of Roman developments such as architecture and roads. Eagles class have continued to enjoy their weekly lessons with Miss Whyte for ukulele, Miss Hemmingway for Spanish and Mr Aspinall for Mini Medics.



We are very proud of the children in Year 5/6 for passing their Mini Medics award, for which they were presented with a certificate on Friday morning.



We wish you all a very relaxing and safe half term.

Best wishes,

Mr Penny and Mrs Hughes

Little Wrens

Little Wrens have been learning about 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. We have continued our science focus of melting with melting chocolate to make rice crispy cakes and caterpillar

kebabs. In RE, Little Wrens looked at the bible story Noah's Ark and made their own rainbow.



Whole School Updates

Mini Medics

The children are really enjoying their sessions with Mr Aspinall on fitness and mental health & wellbeing. They have all attained a certificate to mark their engagement and understanding of how to care for our own and other people's mental health & wellbeing.





Whole School Updates continued.....

Knitted Bible

Our knitted bible was a huge success. We had a number of visitors from our local community and many of you too! This exhibition is a wonderful celebration of the bible and the children have very much enjoyed exploring from it and developing our understanding of "The Big Story"!



Owls

We are very keen to advertise our Owls provision. A reminder that this runs from 3:30pm–5:30pm Monday to Thursday. Mrs Hughes has lovely activities planned. If you have any questions regarding this provision, please ring the office or speak to a member of staff.



Ethos Conference

We were very excited to welcome children from across CDAT schools as part of our Ethos conference. Children worked together to explore and plan activities linked to worship and fair trade to run in their schools. Our knitted bible was out and we were very proud of our ethos councillors who hosted for our visiting schools—thank you Lexi, Peter & Renee!

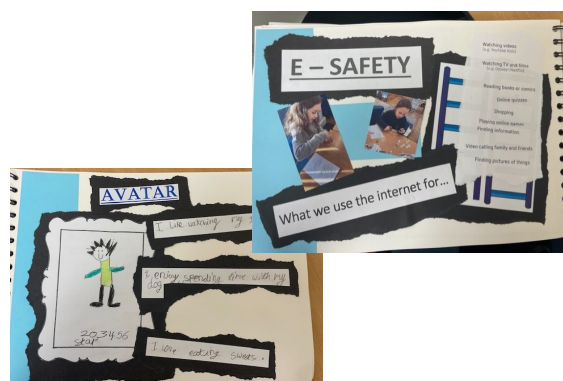


Toddler Valentine's Party

As you are aware, we are continuing to promote our school in the hope that our community will grow and flourish. After a successful Christmas party for local toddlers, we invited everyone back to a Valentines party this week. The event was organised by the fabulous Mrs Chaloner. It was lovely to see so many new little faces in the school. We very much want our school to be at the heart of the community and will do all that we can to continue to make these links.

E-Safety

The children spent time over week commencing 6th February exploring what is exciting and engaging about the internet but also what the risks are. They created Avatars and considered what was suitable information to share online.



Acts of Kindness in the community

To celebrate St Valentines day, we hid acts of kindness in our local area. We heard from several of the lucky finders and the children enjoyed hiding the items and sharing the love with the community.





Whole School Updates continued.....

Children's Mental Health Week

To raise awareness of mental health week, children have been learning about elements of their mental health & wellbeing.

We have chosen to do this under key themes:

Monday—Meet the Brain. Caring for our mental health as well as our physical health.

Tuesday—Celebrate our Character Strengths

Wednesday—Appreciate

Thursday - Relate

Friday—Engage



Community Helpers

Most recently we welcomed volunteers from church to help us with listening to children read. We have had some amazing comments about the children's manner and their eagerness to learn. If you would like to support in the classroom—listening to readers or if you have a talent eg crafting, baking or something else and could dedicate even a one off afternoon or weekly / fortnightly slot we would love to hear from you. Please ask grandparents and friends too if they feel they have something to offer!



School of the Week

Dee Radio announced that we were school of the week again this half term! Head to their website to listen to the children talk about our wonderful school.



Old Shirts

Please could we ask you to donate any old shirts (adult sizes) to school. We can use these as art shirts to protect the children's uniforms in Art / DT projects.

Thank you!

Dates for the Diary for the rest of Spring Term—

Thursday 2nd March—World Book Day

This year we are inviting children to come in wearing pyjamas and bring in their favourite book and soft toy.

If children would prefer to come in dressed up as a character from a book they are very welcome to but with the rise in the cost of living there is no expectation from us for you to spend any extra money for this occasion.

1st March—Secondary School place offers made for September 2023 admissions

Friday 17th March—Red Nose Day

Wear Red / free dress for £1 donation

Monday 27th March—Toddler's Eater Egg Hunt

Tuesday 28th March—World Museum Trip

Friday 31st March—Easter Celebration 2:30—3:30pm

Friday 31st March—School closes at 3:30pm

Monday 17th April—School opens at 08:45am

17th April—Reception Class places offers made for September 2023 admissions