

# Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an extremely busy final week of this half term with children publishing their learning outcomes and new displays being put up to celebrate their achievements. We were visited by two head teachers from other Inspire schools and an external consultant who spent the day with us - visiting classes, observing lessons and speaking to staff and children. They were impressed by the high quality learning environment and by the children's behaviour and attitude to their learning.

## CORE VALUES

Our core value for this half term has been collaboration. It enables children to grow in confidence as learners and helps to lift the lid on their learning as they begin to work with a range of children in the class and recognize each other's skills and strengths. They learn to ask for each other's help before going to an adult which helps to develop their independence and interdependence.



## ATTENDANCE

Class	19 <sup>th</sup> April	26 <sup>th</sup> April	3 <sup>rd</sup> May	10 <sup>th</sup> May	17 <sup>th</sup> May
Reception Ash	97.98%	91.50%	96.25%	94.00%	91.50%
Y1 Cherry	95.10%	100%	88.39%	90.21%	95.17%
Y2 Elm	99.02%	99.02%	96.37%	96.45%	99.35%
Y3 Holly	98.82%	97.65%	88.24%	88.82%	100%
Y3 Lime	99.05%	100%	97.62%	95.24%	100%
Y4 Oak	96.86%	96.88%	95.31%	91.88%	96.25%
Y5 Pine	98.42%	96.81%	100%	95.79%	98.95%
Y5 Poplar	98.57%	98.57%	95.24%	91.43%	96.19%
Y6 Rowan	99.17%	97.50%	94.79%	88.33%	94.17%
Y6 Willow	95.60%	98.00%	100%	92.00%	92.80%
Whole School	97.61%	97.62%	94.77%	92.03%	96.29%

There was an improvement in attendance across the school this week for most classes and the overall percentage was above national which is 96%. Congratulations to Lime and Holly Class for 100% attendance last week. Arriving on time for school in the morning is just as important as being in school every day. Teachers set early morning work for children to practice basic skills as well as giving them opportunities to respond to marking and correct or edit their work from the previous day. The Education Welfare Officer visits the school regularly and monitors punctuality. She will contact families where lateness persists in order to ensure that punctuality improves.

## THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

### RECEPTION – ASH CLASS



In Ash class the children have continued delving into the story of Malala's Magic pencil. This opened up the opportunity for the class to have a look at the country Pakistan from which the author Malala Yousafzai is from. They have been looking at Pakistan's geographical location on the map and the children have been drawing their own maps of Pakistan. Some of the children in Ash class have also had the pleasure of tasting some traditional Pakistani foods such as chicken, potatoes and spinach, chapattis, naan bread and rice. In their maths lesson the children have been discussing height. They have been investigating various objects both in the indoor and outdoor learning environment to



determine whether they were tall or short, using tape measures to measure some of the objects.

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## YEAR ONE – CHERRY CLASS

Year 1 have been publishing their news reports based on Dougal's adventures in Dougal the Deep Sea Diver by Simon Bartram. They have been creating fish in the style of cubism inspired by Picasso using shapes and interesting patterns and coloured them brightly to create a display of their learning journey this half term. In maths they have been quartering shapes and amounts using objects. They have begun to represent these fractions by drawing to explain their understanding. In science, the children have been exploring the four seasons. They have been discussing what makes a good friend and have been demonstrating how to greet each other appropriately. In curriculum they will continue learning about sustainability.



## YEAR TWO – ELM CLASS

Throughout this half term, Year 2 have been learning how to tell the o'clock, half past and



quarter to time. The children have been working really hard to use their time telling skills in class to make Elm class' timetable. They have been using their skills to also answer and solve real life problems, which have been relevant to them. They have been doing really well with such a difficult topic and have really impressed all the adults who work with them. In Literacy, they have applied their skills of narrative writing and created a character description of the old man from the core text 'The Tin Forest'. They have described his appearance and personality as well using the evidence from the text to justify their thoughts and ideas. In geography, they have learnt about physical and human features of the local area and have compared these with Argentina. They have expressed their opinion on where they would prefer to live. In music,

they have mastered their skills to match the rhythm and tempo of the song and accompanied with different musical instruments. Their final art outcome is now completed and the children proudly collaborated to create a collage effect using marble ink.

## YEAR THREE – LIME AND HOLLY CLASS

Throughout this half term in Year 3, we have been learning about equality and identity and making links to Ancient Egypt. This week we looked at how gender equality is represented around the world in various countries and compared it to how it was represented in Ancient Egypt. We came to the conclusion that Ancient Egypt had strong female leaders and also treated men and women equally. This included different laws that allowed women to own property and have the same rights as men over 5000 years ago. We discussed different types of equality and hierarchy within the Ancient Egyptian society. Then, we created a timeline of gender equality facts for both UK and Saudi Arabia. We used this to help generate opinions and evidence to answer our big question of 'How much progress has been made in equality for women since the Egyptian time?' and compared between present day and Ancient Egypt.





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## YEAR FOUR – OAK CLASS

This week has been an exciting week for Year Four, as they have published their non-chronological reports on gorillas and finished their art outcomes. Mrs Poole and Ms Krawniak are very proud of the enthusiasm and engagement the children have shown in their lessons, which is reflected in the quality of outcomes they have produced for their display for 'The One and Only Ivan'. In reading, they have been looking at making inferences about character's feelings and the setting and mood of pieces of text. They have also explored the positive and negative effects of environmental changes in science. In PE, the children have been working on their batting and bowling skills, which they were able to apply during a cricket workshop run by an outside organisation. Their global curriculum lessons this week have been exploring ways to produce sustainable produce in inner cities, and they have also reflected on what the future of farming might look like.



## YEAR FIVE – PINE AND POPLAR CLASS



This week in maths the children have been using two-way tables to make statements and have created and used line graphs. In art they have combined the skills they developed to create 3-D pieces of art in cardboard. They looked at famous buildings in London for their inspiration. In computing this week, they enjoyed playing and evaluating each other's computer games they designed and made. In English they have drawn together all of the skills and resources they have been developing to create a part of a narrative to write a new ending for the book they have been studying - The Boy in the Tower. In reading the children have been developing their evaluating skills to help them with their reading.

## YEAR SIX – ROWAN AND WILLOW CLASS

It has been a busy week in Year 6! The children have finished their prequel narrative based on their core text 'No Ballet Shoes in Syria'. It has been wonderful to see the children using a wide range of writing skills such as figurative language, parenthesis, character dialogue and adverbial starters. In maths, the children have been exploring angles. They have measured and drawn angles as well as investigating angles on a straight line and around a point. In Whole Class Reading, they have been learning about the journeys of refugees from all over the world, they have used their clarifying toolkit to identify the meaning of unknown words. They have also enjoyed a Virtual Visit from Charlie Higson author of WORST. HOLIDAY. EVER, he revealed some laugh-out-loud tales from his own holidays. At the end of the week the children were able to enjoy the warmer weather by taking part in a 'Chance to Shine' cricket workshop on the field!



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## PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor and are seeking nominations for an enthusiastic and committed parent or carer to join our governing body. If you are interested in becoming a governor or would like further information about what the role entails, please email [info@forestacademy.org.uk](mailto:info@forestacademy.org.uk) or speak to Mrs. Oldfield or Mrs. Wray.

## KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFE

More young children are being coerced or tricked into getting undressed or revealing themselves inappropriately on camera online. The tactics used can be inviting children to play a 'game' or issuing a 'challenge' to see how fast they can get changed into different clothes or into a swimming costume. This might happen over video chat or a livestreaming app; children often don't even know this has happened; videos are taken and then circulated. You can find some resources from Lgfl's "Undressed" campaign to help them remember **never** to get undressed or changed on camera. <https://undressed.lgfl.net/>

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Each week, staff nominate children in recognition of their effort in learning. Congratulations to the children below for their hard work!

CLASS	LEARNING STAR
Ash Class	Gahier
Cherry Class	Shomari
Elm Class	Djenaba
Holly Class	Bonnie
Lime Class	Ebun
Oak Class	Josiah
Pine Class	Dilan
Poplar Class	Rida
Rowan Class	Luke
Willow Class	Ziyad

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Have a wonderful half term holiday!

We look forward to seeing you on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.**

From Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Wray and all the staff



Happy Birthday wishes to:

Abel	Lime Class
Leo	Lime Class
Dylan	Elm Class
Berat	Oak Class

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## **Support and Advice**

These are very challenging times for everyone, but there is a lot of help available. Below you will find the contact details of a number of organisations to go to if you need help or advice:

- For help with welfare rights advice, call the council's free advice line on 0800 731 5920 to speak to an advisor or email [welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk).
- [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be available for a limited time to top up housing-related benefits to cover housing costs such as rent
- You may be able to claim a [discretionary reduction in council tax](#)- visit Croydon Council website to find out if you qualify
- There are three food stops with community partners in New Addington, Selsdon and Thornton Heath, where eligible residents can get £20 worth of food and groceries for £3.50 per week. For information email [anita.konczack@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:anita.konczack@croydon.gov.uk)
- Gas and electricity prepayment meters during COVID-19. Contact your energy suppliers, to discuss options to ensure your supply is not interrupted. Visit this website for further information: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-energy-supply>
- The council's Gateway service helps residents avoid homelessness, and offers support ranging from one-to-one debt advice and maximising benefit entitlement. If you are a Croydon resident needing support from Gateway staff, email [gcc@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:gcc@croydon.gov.uk) including a mobile number so an adviser can call you back.
- Croydon Council have a [COVID-19 web page](#) which will be updated daily with any changes to services.
- Help for anyone experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse - Croydon Family Justice Centre  
020 8688 0100 or email [fjc@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:fjc@croydon.gov.uk)

**If you have concerns about a child (or their families) welfare, contact Croydon Council's**

### **Single Point of Contact (SPOC)**

Telephone: 020 8726 6400

Out of hours: 020 8726 6400 (ask for out of hours team)

Email: [childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 16:00

### **NSPCC**

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

You may remain anonymous if you wish.

**If you think a child is at risk of immediate harm telephone 999**