

The Head Teacher writes ...

Our last two Prep reflective assemblies have given us the opportunity to consider our senses, in particular sight and sound. This week, I challenged everyone to stop for a minute or two at some point during the day and listen, *really* listen to the sounds around us and to look at the sights around us. Our beautiful field provides the obvious venue for this.

However, I began thinking and appreciating the things I am fortunate to see and hear each day in school. Hardly a day goes by without a member of staff sharing a comment from a pupil, often humorous, often poignant and frequently exclamations of awe and wonder!

This week, we took our choir to join in the Young Voices Concert at the O2. The sound was terrific and the atmosphere amazing but for us staff, to see the look of joy and rapture on our pupils' faces made the early mornings and hours of practice more than worth it.

Every day, we witness 'light bulb' moments as a pupil understands something for the first time or we see the excitement when they are rewarded or noticed for being kind and helpful.

I hope I always have the time to 'stop and stare' and the capacity to really listen and appreciate all that is going on around me in our busy school. It's what makes the job so special.

Meet our Year 6 Entrepreneurs

There's an amazing buzz in the year 6 classroom this week as we have now embarked on the challenging but enjoyable Wishford Young Business Enterprise Award. Earlier in the week, the classroom was awash with paper, sketches, doodles, lists, initial ideas, discussions, heated exchanges and general excitement. We don't wish to give too much away at this stage so watch this space for news of exciting initiatives for the whole family!

Let's allow the children to speak for themselves...

"....learning new skills, working with others and using everyone's ideas to produce the best business"

"when (Yr6) did it last year, I knew we'd do it well" "We can improve on last year!"

"I'm really excited to be part of it" "This could change our entire lives"

"This opportunity will help us in our future"

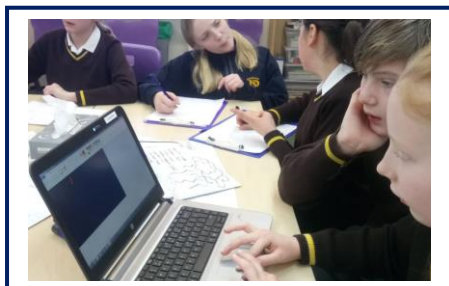
"This is competitive - like business - the experience needs enthusiasm and co-operation"

"It will be hard and probably stressful.....bring it on!"

"I love being in groups having the chance to set up a business"

"The enterprise gives children a taste of what advertising is like and responsibility ready for high school"

"Creating ideas, developing skills and working together is motivation for my future"





AUTUMN TERM CHESS RESULTS

MOST IMPROVED

Max
Henry J
Jessica T
Nina B

Chess Runner-Up

Overall Chess Champion

'Suicide' Chess Champion

YEAR GROUP CHESS CHAMPIONS

Yr 2 Henry T
Yr 3 Emilio
Yr 4 Stefan, Charan, Rohan
Yr 5 Harrison

Hollyann

Neha

Yr 3 Ashley

Yr 6 Neha

Mr Bryant writes...

It's been an exciting start to the term for the recorder groups as we take on new challenges. Year 2 group have now learnt their first four notes and we had lots of fun playing their new piece 'Elephants' as well as looking forward to Easter with 'Hot Cross Buns'. By now all should have their own descant recorder and a copy of 'Recorder from the Beginning – Book 1' by John Pitts. We have room for two more recorder players if anyone else wants to give it a try.



Year 4 has started the year with scales and pieces from the Initial recorder syllabus, a challenge they seem to be really getting their teeth into. Everyone from Year 4 should also own a copy of "Recorder from the Beginning – Book 2" by John Pitts. These can be bought from the school office.

Years 5 and 6 are now working towards their Grade 2 recorder exam. They are enjoying learning the extra technical work and for fun blasting out pop pieces, so we should have a fantastic concert coming up soon!

If you would like to give recorder a try it is not too late! Pop along to your year group lesson for a trial.

We are looking forward to hearing them all play at the Musical Showcase concert in March.

Coming up next week:

FEBRUARY

Monday 5th Year 4 to Library

Wednesday 7th Primary Maths Challenge – Bonus Round

Friday 9th 8.45am Parent Council

Monday 12th – Friday 16th : Half Term

MAKE SOME NOISE

Year 4 have been learning about sound vibrations, and how they travel. In Science they have been playing some exciting interactive sound games, as well as making their own musical instruments out of recycled materials, and writing instructions for how to make them in their English lessons.

What an exciting (noisy) week!



INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

2.00pm

Prep pupils are enjoying our new cross country course on the school field. Many are well on the way to completing the marathon distance by running 65 laps this term. We will be holding our annual interhouse cross country competition for all Prep pupils on Friday afternoon.

We would like to invite you to come along and cheer on each house whilst enjoying a hot drink and a cookie.

Donations to NSPCC, our charity this term.

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM



NUMBER DAY

Thank you to Mrs Kinnes for organising some fun activities and assemblies this week focussing on maths. The coins collected are being counted and a total will be announced next week.