



Theme for next week : Single-Use Plastics

### Head's Message

Dear Parents,

Further to the coronavirus guidance that I sent out earlier this week, I would be grateful if you would let us know if your workplace has sent you home as a result of a suspected case of coronavirus. May I also remind you that if you are travelling to and from a Category 1 or 2 area, please follow the advice from Public Health England and inform us of your travels.

On other matters, I must raise a concern regarding parents who park on Bunces Lane while dropping off or picking up their children. Despite the signage requesting otherwise, a significant number of parents continue to run their engines whilst waiting. I understand that Bunces Lane sits between two busy roads, but idling engines emit large amounts of gases into the air, impacting negatively on the air quality which is already poor. I understand you may be trying to keep warm but this is at a significant cost to our children's health, as well as the environment. It is only for a few moments so I ask you again to turn your engines off and dress more appropriately in the colder weather. The School is making an effort to address this important issue with signage. I am equally sure your children are aware that you are not abiding by the School's requests.

This week, a car was broken into on Woodford High Road. The person's bag was stolen, and a card was used five times before the account was frozen. Please do not leave valuables in the car as this encourages thieves to break in.

The offers for 11+ have now been finalised. Out of the 54 pupils who sat selective entry tests, 48 have been offered places which equates to 89%. This really is a fantastic result!

This morning, a very respectable number of potential candidates sat our own 11+ entrance exam. We look forward to welcoming those new pupils to whom we have made offers. I have no doubt that they will make a valuable contribution to our School over the next two years.

We have already had plenty of rain this year. I hope the weather is kinder to us over the weekend.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom



On Thursday, pupils throughout the School embraced our World Book Day theme of bedtime stories. Children and staff enjoyed the opportunity to come to school wearing their pyjamas or onesies. During the day,



children moved to different classes to pair read with children from other year groups. Later in the day, they watched, whilst enjoying their milk and cookies, some famous authors and illustrators share their love of stories and drawing.





Congratulations to all the pupils who took part in the Middle School Spelling Bee final on Monday morning. Very well done especially to Suleman in Year 4 who was



crowned the overall champion. Proceeds raised will be donated to SNAP, an Essex-based charity for families with children and young people who have any special need or disability.



Year 1 have been learning all about the moon. The children have written questions to help them research interesting facts which will be used to create fact files about the moon.



The EPSCA U11 zonal chess tournament took place last Sunday. Congratulations to our Group A team who qualified for the semi-finals.



This week saw the visit of WGPS to play the Year 5 girls at football. This is always a great opportunity for all the girls in the year to compete and represent the School. Well done to all the girls on their efforts.

Year 4 have been learning all about sound in their science topic. This week, using musical instruments, they have been investigating how sound reaches our ears and how the size of vibrations have an effect on the volume produced.



Mr Lawson attended the Eco-Committee meeting last week. He was quizzed on various eco-projects, including our new water butt, new bird boxes, solar panels and bee-friendly planting around the School.



On Wednesday, the U11A netball team had a very early start as they travelled to Godalming to take part in the U11 National Netball Cup, competing against different teams from across the country. Our first match was against a very strong Farrington's side but St Aubyn's played some exceptional netball to win 4-0. This strong performance continued as the girls went on to win 4 more group matches, qualifying them for the quarter finals, where they met Putney High. Despite going 2-0 up, the girls were unable to win the match and suffered a narrow loss. The girls played the best netball they have ever played and should be incredibly proud of their achievements.



Just before half term, 6NS held their charity day, raising £702.73 for the World Wildlife Fund and specifically for the Australian Bushfire Appeal. Activities included a cake sale, a raffle, a lucky dip and a football penalty shoot out, to name but a few. They also used iPads to make a Gimkit tournament online! Well done 6NS for all their hard work.



In maths this week, year 6 have been looking at estimation. Set 1 have used mathematical modelling to investigate how a capture-recapture model can be used to estimate animals in the wild.

Congratulations to Maryam, Harrison, Amna, Serena and Zara in Middle School who earned their Times Table Ambassador badges this week.



On Thursday, the U9A team braved the torrential rain and played in the New Hall netball tournament competing against 13 other schools. Despite the terrible conditions, the girls showed amazing resilience and were able to move the ball down the court well, scoring lots of goals across their matches. They were undefeated all day and crowned winners of the tournament. Well done girls.



5SY have been practising their hand-washing techniques in class this week, in line with Public Health England advice.