

# Newsletter

For this newsletter I have asked the teachers from each year group to give an idea of how the children have settled back into school life and what they have been doing since our return on 8 March 2021.

## Nursery

It has been so lovely to welcome all the children back to Nursery and to see them so happy to be back with their friends. Children in nursery have been very busy learning about different vegetables, based on the story 'Oliver's vegetables' by Vivian French. Some of the children have been counting the carrots growing in the soil and others have been using them to print with. We have also looked closely at the vegetables using magnifying glasses, we have tasted some too! This has helped us to improve our vocabulary of describing words.



## Year R

Reception children have come back to school ready to learn. The teachers have been so impressed with how enthusiastic, happy and settled the children are. We have been learning about growing and it has been lovely to hear the children talking so confidently about the differences between babies and themselves.

They have produced some brilliant writing on this topic in our English lessons. In maths the children have been consolidating their skills by composing numbers in different ways. Our PE lessons have focused on the children improving their strength and agility.



## Year 1

The children have come back to Year 1 full of smiles. They have settled quickly back into the school routines and are ready to learn. Since the return to school we have been busy thinking about the story of Handa's surprise. We thought about many adjectives to describe the fruit in the story as well as writing the story ourselves. In art, we have also been thinking about the different fruits. We used our painting skills to mix powder paint to create a painting of a piece of fruit.



In maths, we have been thinking about 2d shape and the properties of each shape. We have also started thinking about the value of each digit in a 2 digit number. The children were quickly able to recognise how many tens and ones were in each number.

## Year 2

Year 2 have settled back into Portswood brilliantly. We have been very busy since getting back and have been having lots of fun. We visited the lively city of Mumbai during our India day where we got to ride tuk tuks, taste Indian food, and experience lots more creative activities. We have started our science investigation, where we are finding out how plants grow in different conditions. We have also been loving PE where we have learnt country dancing and perfecting our hockey skills.



## Year 3

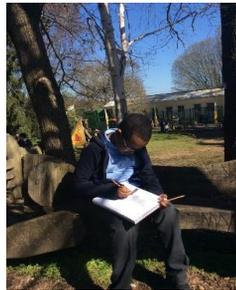
We are very proud of how Year 3 have come back so confidently and settled happily into their learning. Although we were shocked to find out that the Iron Man had visited the school (and caused quite a metal mess!), this has led to some wonderful reading and descriptive story writing based on the classic text by Ted Hughes.

During In2Music lessons, the children have impressed us with how much they remembered about their violas and ukuleles and we are all excited to be swapping instruments after Easter. Recently, we went back in time to Ancient Greece where we studied artefacts, tasted food, learnt about Olympic sports and decorated our classrooms with collage Gods and Goddesses. Thank you to parents for providing the wonderful costumes; they really helped the children enjoy our special day.



## Year 4

It has been amazing to see all of the Year 4 children settling back into school life. We have been learning all about Antarctica and Year 4 have produced fantastic non-chronological reports. They have also been studying and been inspired by the incredible journeys of Robert Scott and Ernest Shackleton. We have had Mr May come and visit our class to discuss his trek to Antarctica. We have also been enjoying the fresh air and sketching flowers and leaves in our environmental area focussing on tone and shape. In PE, we have been using the apparatus to jump and practise our pike, tuck and arabesque moves.



## Year 5

The children in Year 5 have settled back into school life brilliantly and have loved getting stuck back into learning at school. This half term, we have rounded off our learning about volcanoes by writing explanation texts about the process of volcanic eruptions. We were so impressed with all the children's knowledge and the range of technical vocabulary they were able to use. We also had an amazing time making pizza. We applied all the learning about Italy over the past term and created our own Italian pizzas. We made the dough from scratch and learned how to knead then added our own toppings before we sent them to the ovens. A huge thank you to Marie and the kitchen staff for helping the experience run smoothly.



## Year 6

The Year 6 children have continued to be as amazing as they were before their enforced absence from the classroom. They have produced some fabulous and creative work on 'Wolf Brother' since their return to school and have also researched the life and works of Isambard Kingdom Brunel prior to making presentations to the Dragons Den panel of Mr Ward and Mr May. Year 6 have also been learning how to use 'I Can Animate' to create stop motion animations and have produced some phenomenal sketching in art. In addition, their science unit on electricity has involved children creating both series and parallel circuits while also exploring the differences between insulators and conductors.



**Tony Head**  
Principal

## Red Nose Day

### Donations



It was nice to see the children dressed up for this occasion. Together we managed to raise over £418. Well done and thank you.

## Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Thursday 1 April 2021	Last day of term.
Friday 2 April - Friday 16 April 2021	Easter Holidays – school closed.
Monday 19 April 2021	Inset day – school closed
Tuesday 20 April 2021	Children back to school