



Our value for the month of December is 'Love'
'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' John 3:16

Learning about Love



Our value for this month is Love. In collective worship on Monday, we talked about what love is and how we can show love. The children suggested many words

that are important when showing love: care, respect, appreciate, protect and trust. We watched a short animated clip of the First Christmas. We discussed how so many people showed their love and dedication to Jesus and the sacrifices many of them made.



I spent Thursday afternoon last week in Redwood Class (Year 3) and we learnt about Advent. The children spoke about what they were looking forward to at Christmas. I told them that I am flying off to Donegal in Ireland for the holidays so that my father-in-law can spend Christmas where he grew up (he hasn't spent a Christmas in Ireland since he left when he was 19 years old). This will be a special time for us as a family. I was touched to hear how important spending time with family is to the children as well and how many of them would be thinking about The First Christmas on the 25th December.

Winter Wonderland-Saturday

What a wonderful community event we shared on Saturday! A huge thank you to all of you who stayed late on Friday night and were cooking turkeys early on Saturday morning. It was a big team effort to transform the school and required a great amount of forethought and organisation. It was lovely to welcome so many of you on the day and you will be delighted to learn that the profit from the day is over £2000! My very special thanks and appreciation must go to the team of Mums who have worked tirelessly for many weeks to put on this event: Mrs Bird, Mrs Byles, Mrs McGuinness, Mrs Rothwell and Mrs Whelan. Without them, the event would not have gone ahead. Thanks also to the children and other Mums who stayed behind on Friday and worked so hard. It was lovely to see how involved the children were in the event (The Friends of the future!) Thank you to all the class reps who

mobilised a huge group of helpers from across the school, to run the variety of stalls.

Governor's Open Afternoon

On Monday afternoon, our School Governors spent time in all the classes. They chatted to the children about their learning and looked at work. All the Governors commented on the confidence with which the children spoke and how good they were at articulating their learning. The afternoon concluded with an assembly, where certificates were awarded to the following children: Thomas P & Sophie (Sycamore), Erin & Oliver (Willow), Mia & Josef (Cherry), Finley & Sophie (Redwood), Kenan & Jessica (Elm), Jayla & Tom (Beech) and Tabby & Elvin (Oak). Mrs Gray (our Chair of Governors) presented the certificates. The staff had tea and cakes, following the end of the day, which was a lovely treat. I would like to thank all our Governors for taking the time to come into school, not just on Monday, but at various other times in the school year. Many were present at the Consultation Evenings, encouraging parents to give feedback and chatting things through. Many of you may not know that school governors are volunteers and they work hard to ensure the smooth running of the school, as well as supporting and encouraging staff and especially myself, as a new Head.

Author Visit



On Wednesday of this week, Jack Trelawney visited and presented a short assembly on what it is like to be an author and how he gets his inspiration from everyday experiences. He has written a series of books based around an alternative world in Cornwall (where he grew up). He inspired the children and many enjoyed the book signing after the assembly. Well done to Joshua in Beech Class (Year 5), whose short story won him a prize. Other children won prizes for answering some tricky questions. Jack left a letter for any children who didn't purchase a book, but would like to. He promised to sign the books and send them directly to the children. Let the Office know if you want a letter.

'Readathon'-Yr. 1-6/Sponsored Trundle-Reception

Remember to order your books and in Reception, collect your sponsors. Please talk to class teachers if you are having any difficulty with this and thank you as always for your support with these two initiatives.



Ancient Greek News



Year 4 Elm had a wonderful Ancient Greek Day this week. The class looked splendid in their costumes and they really enjoyed the range of activities which included wax tablet writing, soap carving, tile painting, mosaic making and home remedies for ailments stall! (All of which took place in the agora).



In the afternoon the class worked in groups to entertain each other with both comic and tragic plays, dancers and slaves who served an authentic Greek feast! Many thanks to the parents who were able to join us to ensure all elements of the day went smoothly and to our wonderful historical guide, Lizzie.



Christmas Card Deliveries

A reminder from Monday 11th December until Friday 15th December, Oak Class (Year 6) will be offering a Christmas Postal Service for in-school deliveries. The children will be on duty in the mornings of this week so that you can post your cards in return for a small donation to the NSPCC (our chosen charity for Christmas).



Grant Shapps Visit

Quotes from our parents about the road, feature on Grant's website and twitter - have a look. We are hoping to make the Welwyn and Hatfield Times this week too.

Busy Office

The Office is very busy some mornings, so if your child is in KS2 they can give money and any slips in an envelope and hand to class teachers. These will go into the class folder and be taken to the Office.

Parent Council

Parent Council met this week and discussed feedback from parent consultations. This was very positive and we will bear in mind some of the suggestions to make it even better.

Good Work Assembly

Congratulations to the following children, who shared their work in Thursday's assembly. We enjoyed seeing their drawings, poems and writing.

- Willow:** Veda & Erin
- Cherry:** Josef
- Redwood:** Cerys
- Elm:** Millie & Megan
- Beech:** Freddie
- Oak:** Lola



Also in this assembly, the following children in Redwood (Year 3) were presented with their pen licence and their first pen. Congratulations: Sarah, Cerys, Caitlin, Ben & Sophie.

What's On:

- 11.12.'17-Music Assembly 9:15am,
Parents welcome
- 12.12.'17-KS2 Carol Service (2pm)
- 13.12.'17-Choir to Monks Walk
- 14.12.'17-KS1 Nativity (9:30am)
Christmas Dinner
Carol Service (7pm)
- 15.12.'17-KS1 Nativity (1:30pm)
- 19.12.'17-School finishes at 1:30pm
- 4.1.'18-School begins

Attachments:

No attachments this week.