



Dear parents,

How lovely the mornings and evenings are becoming as the days lengthen. Spring has definitely sprung! Enjoy reading more about the children and their activities below.

Class One Assembly

The children led a lovely assembly on friendship. They explored what friends do together through sharing a story. They also explained who their special friends were and what was important in their friendships: playing together; sharing, being kind, and having fun. It was wonderful to see every child speak to such a large audience— we were all impressed. Thank you Mrs Parsons, Mrs Williams and Class 1.

African Drumming

The children in KS2 have been learning about Africa this term but all the children in KS1 and 2 were given the opportunity to work with Simon and Roger from Bantang Music last week. They brought the energy of African culture and drumming to school! The children learned how to play different rhythms on djembe drums with growing control & play and perform in ensemble contexts. The children worked with concentration and obvious pleasure in their sessions. Simon and Rodger were impressed with the musical skill of the children and commented on how KS2 children progressed more than normal within the sessions. Some classes loved sharing some of their learning with parents at the end of the day too.



The thoughts of the children in Class 2 on their experience:

- Rio: I liked playing the drums.
- Bea: I enjoyed learning about the drums. The top is made of goat skin and the bottom is made of wood.
- Charlotte: I learned to keep time by counting 1,2,3,4 in my head.
- Jack: I liked all of it!

Thanks go to our wonderful Mrs Birch for organising the visit and our fantastic PA for funding it.

Easter Egg Raffle

The amazing Eastington Easter Egg Raffle will be on Thursday the 4th of April straight after school. Last year we were amazed with your generosity that led to an array of Easter eggs and bunnies being won by many children and villagers who purchased tickets - the table was laden! The collection has started for this year in the front entrance— please keep the donations coming. The PA team have generously provided small eggs so every child will have a chocolate treat as they take part in their class egg hunt within the day even if they don't win one in the raffle.

Japanese Culture days

The children had a fantastic day on Monday. We welcomed 40 teenage students from Japan to the school. Our Japanese friends sang a beautiful Buddhist song and explained what their school life was like—we were amazed to hear they usually did their homework between 8 and 10pm. They also shared the reasons why Kyoto was a special city for them. Our children greeted our visitors warmly and our Class 5 children were wonderful when giving them a tour of the school. Class 5 also enjoyed origami and calligraphy workshops with them. The highlight for me was watching our children and the students play together at break time. The children in class 2 said, "it was the best play time ever!" A wonderful visit for everyone. We wish our Japanese friends well for the rest of their stay in Gloucestershire.



Easter Egg Hunt

Our wonderful PA are working together with Eastington Playgroup to organise a fun Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday **April 6th between 10am and 4pm**. Families can work together to walk the village to find eggs – each of which will carry a clue. The clues will work together to make a sentence. If the sentence is correct children receive a small chocolate egg. The Hunt will start at the school where there will be a snugly reading area and refreshments. En route there will be a stop at the Kings Head House where there will be activities, refreshments and a bouncy castle! It should be a great day of family fun—come along and enjoy it together. Tell your friends too—all are welcome. Maps needed for the hunt will be available for purchase from playgroup, school and on the day. The cost will be £3 for the first child and £2 for siblings.

Scarlet Fever

We have been notified by the Director of Public Health & Commissioning of Children's Service in Gloucestershire that there has been elevated activity in scarlet fever nationally for a sixth consecutive season. They would like us to take this opportunity to remind you of the signs, symptoms and the actions to be taken. Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, patients can develop complications and if you have any concerns please contact your Doctor.

The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'. As the child improves peeling of the skin can occur.

It is recognised that infections can be spread through direct physical contact between children and staff and through shared contact with surfaces such as table tops, taps, toys and handles. Children with suspected scarlet fever should remain off school for 24 hours after the commencement of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection. The children in our school have looked at the importance of hand washing this year as part of their PSHCE curriculum and in response to pupil survey findings. The School Council have also made fantastic posters for the school bathrooms as a reminder. We hope this helps reduce the spread of all infections within school.

Dates for your diary

I have listed below some of the key dates for your diary:

March 2019

- Tues 19th - African Drumming workshops: 2.45pm parents welcome to join us
- Fri 22nd - Class 1 Assembly
- Mon 25th - Assembly theme: Care
 - Visit from Japanese students
- Tues 26th - Parent Evening
- Wed 27th - 2:50 C5 Percussion Performance—Parents welcome
- Thurs 28th - Y5/6 Swimming sessions commence
 - Parent Evening
- Fri 29th - Class 2 Assembly

April 2019

- Wed 3rd - KS1 Dance Club performance 3pm in the hall
- Thurs 4th - 3:15 Grand Easter Egg Draw
 - **Last day of Term 4 for children**
- Fri 5th - INSET for staff
- Sat 6th - Easter Egg Hunt

- Tues 23rd - **Start of Term 5 for children**
- Thurs 25th - Bag2school
 - 6:30pm Country Dance Festival—Stratford Park

May 2019

- Mon 13th - Y6 SATS week
- Fri 17th - Whole Class photographs
- Mon 20th - Corinium museum & workshops Class 5
- Tues 21st - Corinium museum & workshops Class 3 & 4
 - Parents information evening for Reception 2019 Parents
- Thurs 23rd - KS2 Dance Club Performance: 3.45pm
- Fri 24th - May Queen 3.20pm

June 2019

- Mon 17th - PGL for Y6 pupils



Thank you for your continued support,

Zoe Avastu