

# NEWS

Summer 1 2016 – Issue 14



## Dear Parents/Carers

Children are continuing to work hard this term, with Year 6 enjoying getting back to normal following some very hard SATs Tests last week! Now it is the turn of KS1 children to take part in National Tests and Phonics Screening. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing them 'Good Luck!'

The Summer Term has seen our residential starting again. Year 3 have recently spent a night at Woodlands – they had a great time on things like the assault course, canoeing and a zip wire. Years 4, 5 and 6 are looking forward to their residential, which will be taking place later this term.

A big thank you to all Year 1 parents who attended our Phonics Workshop for parents recently. There was a great attendance from parents! As you know, we are always looking at ways to engage and work with parents. We are aiming to repeat our fun day which was held last July. Please look out for details.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

**Mr Lambert**  
Headteacher

## PUPILS ON ROLL

We currently have 418 pupils on roll – Highest number ever!

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance continues to improve! Currently 96.23%, but we need your support as parents to improve punctuality as a number of children are arriving late and are being collected late from school

## FRIENDS OF CHILWELL

Next meeting - Tuesday 24th May at 9.00am

## RECEPTION

This half term in Reception we have been exploring Space. We have discussed the planets and looked at stories such as Beegu and Aliens Love Underpants. The children have all enjoyed creating their own aliens and writing all about them.

In Maths we have explored the concept of capacity and weight. We played with the water to learn all about it and had a fantastic time making cakes. We had to carefully weigh the ingredients and make sure we mixed them well, and baked them in the oven.

The children in Reception have taken part in a number of outdoor learning sessions this half term.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed going outside and there has been a huge impact on their learning. The children created a fantastic fairy tree house, and den in the woods, and bug hunting.

We have been extremely lucky to receive a number of tadpoles from Mr Cole's pond that we have kept in the classroom. This has allowed us to explore the lifecycle of a frog and we are now looking after them carefully waiting for them to grow.



**Aston Neighbourhood Police Team** Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Astonpolice](http://www.twitter.com/Astonpolice)

If you are a twitter user please consider following us @Astonpolice. We routinely upload information and photographs about what we are doing in the neighbourhood. It is a fantastic way of keeping up to date. If you require further details, please call 101 ext: 841 6312

# YEAR 1

It has been a very exciting half term in Year 1!

## ENGLISH

We have been looking at Traditional Fairy Tales. We have learnt how to use adventurous vocabulary to write descriptions of the characters and settings in the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have also enjoyed taking part in role play activities to explore the characters of Little Red Riding Hood and the big nasty wolf.

## MATHS

We have been learning about measuring weight and length and capacity using 'standard measures' (kg, cm & m and l & ml).

We have also been learning our times tables and have concentrated on the 5's this term.

We used counting on to help us work out missing number addition and subtraction calculations and used partitioning to help us add two 2 digit numbers.

## HISTORY

We have been learning about what life was like for children in Britain in the 1940's to 1960's. We had an exciting visit to the 'Back to Back'

houses in Birmingham city centre where we learnt lots of interesting information about how people lived.

## RE

Our themes in RE this half term were 'Expressing Joy and 'Being honest, open and truthful'. We looked at what makes us happy and how the birth of Jesus brought joy to the people around him. We talked about why it is important to be honest and truthful. We heard in a story about how the honesty of Abdul Qadir Jilani affected the dishonest people he met in a positive way.

## SCIENCE

Our science work this half term has been all about 'Growing gardens.'

To learn more about what plants need to grow, we visited Park Lane Garden Centre where we saw different types of plants, what they need to grow and survive and how to look after them properly.

It was a fantastic learning experience!

We have also been learning about the different parts of a flowering plant and their functions.

We had great fun testing if the wolf could blow our houses down and it was very difficult!



## PHONICS WORKSHOP

Huge thanks to Year 1 parents for attending the Phonics workshops on Tuesday 26th April 2016 and Thursday 28th April 2016. We hope you found it useful and feel more informed about how to help your child with phonics at home.

The children really enjoyed having you in the workshop and spending time showing you everything they have

learned. We hope you use the pack of resources at home when supporting the teaching of phonics. Thanks for your positive feedback and we value all your views and suggestions.

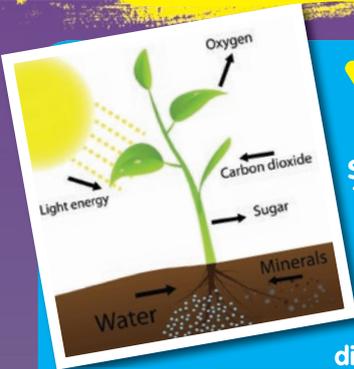


# YEAR 2

## SCIENCE

This term children have worked really well in learning about plants. They have enjoyed being able to explain the functions of a plant, learning the process of photosynthesis, exploring how different plants disperse their seeds

and investigating if the amount of water affects the growth of a plant.



## ENGLISH

In English, children have been learning to apply their writing skills. In particular we have been focusing on using descriptive language skills and applying them to write a character description about Horrid Henry which children really enjoyed.

## MATHS

In Maths this half term we have been learning all about measures, telling the time, shape, estimating to check answers to calculations are reasonable and using the inverse to find missing numbers and check our calculations. We have also been focusing on applying our reasoning skills to solve word problems.



# YEAR 3

We have had an amazing summer term so far!

## ENGLISH

This half term we have been learning about play scripts. Children were unfamiliar with play scripts therefore for inspiration we watched the Lion King and used the film to help us create our own play script. Children have enjoyed role playing different scripts and have used stage directions to improve their performance. Children have then attempted to include features such as this in their writing.

## MATHS

In maths we have been focusing on different forms of measurement. Children have been exploring capacity, length and weight practically and have used the results to compare different objects using mathematical symbols. We have also introduced the column compact method of addition and subtraction to children and

they have been using this new method to help them solve problems.

## SCIENCE

In Science the children have had the opportunity to decide what they would like to investigate. We have investigated questions such as 'Can a plant grow in the dark?' and 'What happens to our heart when we exercise?' The children have led their own learning and set up their own investigations.

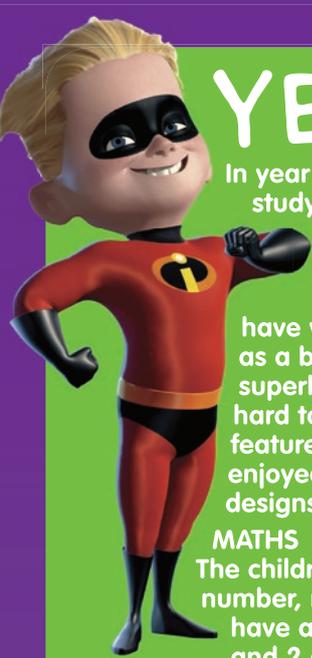
## TOPIC

This term children visited Celtic Harmony to find out what life was like in Stone Age Britain. Children learnt to create shelters, explore real life roundhouses and took part in a soap knapping activity.

## COMPUTING

Our focus for computing this term has been audio books. Children listened to different audio books and discussed features of a good audio book. After learning how to use the software children used a variety of musical instrument to record an audio book in groups of a famous fairy tale.





# YEAR 4

In year 4 this half term, we have been studying:

## ENGLISH

The children have been learning how to write an explanation text and have watched the film 'The Incredibles' as a basis for designing their own superheroes. They all have worked very hard to use the different types of language features within their explanation and have enjoyed being creative with their superhero designs.

## MATHS

The children have been studying fractions of number, money and measurement. They have also been looking at numbers with 1 and 2 decimal places and learning how to add and subtract these. Additionally, they have also been learning about Roman numerals and solving problems with these. Finally, the children have been using their knowledge of addition and subtraction to solve and create their own word problems.

## TOPIC

Our topic this half term has been the Victorians. The children have been learning how the Victorians used to live, what their daily life was like, how they were educated and how different members of their society were treated, such as those who lived in the work houses. The children have also had the opportunity to look at real Victorian clothes and artefacts from Birmingham museum. They have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and many children have been doing extra learning at home about the Victorians, which is fantastic.



## SCIENCE

The children have been learning more about sound this term. Their learning has been based on carrying out their own investigations about how sounds are made. For example, they have exploring how to change the pitch of different musical instruments and how distance affects sound.



# YEAR 5

It has been a fantastic half term in Year 5!

## ENGLISH

We have been reading and comparing stories from other cultures. We have shared and learnt about customs and traditions of our own cultures and used this to inspire our writing.

Additionally, we have used expanded noun phrases and adverbial phrases as well as the use of our 5 senses to write lively and creative stories.

## MATHS

We have been extending our knowledge of fractions by adding, subtracting and converting improper fractions to mixed number fractions. The children have also been challenged with a range of word problems, where they had

to use their prior knowledge and problems solving skills to think critically to answer the questions.

## FRENCH

We have developed our linguistic skills further and learnt how to identify body parts with the use of song and actions and learnt to name different items of clothing.

## SCIENCE

Our work this half term has been all about 'Investigations.' Children wanted to find out how well different plants grow under different conditions. Children had to think about how to plan and carry out their investigation and as a result developed their scientific enquiry skills.



# YEAR 6

Wow! What a busy, brain busting half term we have had in Year 6. In both English and Maths the children have been consolidating and cementing their knowledge, whilst adding to their already astounding vocabulary and bank of grammar terms.

With an ever positive attitude the children have been attentive and keen to learn by creating grammar guides; working as peer assessors and testing their knowledge through the use of past SATs questions.

During SATs week this positive attitude has continued; we have all been so proud of the way in which the children have approached the tests and the continuous positivity that they showed throughout the week. It ended fantastically with a wonderful trip to Drayton Manor theme park as a reward for the continued positive attitude to their studies and commitment to improving their Maths and English.

Finally we are looking forward to the Year 6 residential to Colomendy in Wales; we know that this will be an experience that the children will never forget and take away with them as a highlight of their Primary school years.

We wish the children a restful half term.

Mr Byrne, Miss Norwood, Miss Grover, Miss Simmons and Miss Parkes



# ICT TOP TIPS FROM OUR CHILWELL E-CADETS

- 1 If you come across something that upsets you online, you must tell somebody so they can help you.
- 2 Never tell anyone your personal details, such as your password, your phone number, address or email address.
- 3 Always make sure that you show good behaviour towards others online.
- 4 If you are a victim of cyber bullying, don't delete the messages. Keep them as evidence and do not reply back.
- 5 If someone you don't know tries to chat to you or get you to do something, end the conversation.

## SUMMER TERM 2016

Half Term: Monday 30 May 2016 – Friday 3 June 2016  
Children return back to school on Monday 6 June 2016  
Term Ends: Friday 22 July 2016



## EU REFERENDUM

Thursday 23 June 2016  
School closed for pupils

