



Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018



### **The Curious Cat's Adventures at Haydonleigh**

#### **Foundation Stage**

What a cracking week in Foundation Stage with the arrival of duck eggs! A farmer from Cornwall arrived with eggs and all the equipment we need to hatch and care for the ducklings. The children have been quietly watching and waiting and were overjoyed to meet the first duckling as it safely hatched in the incubator, quickly followed by another.

Both new arrivals are happily snuggled in the warm brooding cage and we wait patiently for the others to appear.

I have marvelled at the children's reactions and their sensitive and caring nature towards the small ducklings. They really are in safe hands and will be loved and cared for beautifully. What a wonderful opportunity for our youngest children, we can't wait to see what happens next!

#### **Year 1**

Last week the children had a perfectly exciting week. They thought it was fantastic getting to visit the Year 5 children upstairs and thoroughly enjoyed sharing their books. The excitement continued as they got their very first look at the lovely Reading Bus. They then wrote some superb recounts about the Bus's history and their experiences of the Reading Day. This week the children are getting to borrow a book from the Library Bus for the first time and they are amazed that they get to take them home for a whole week! In Maths the children have been sizing up different items and comparing which are heavier and which are lighter. In Topic they've continued to think about some different animals and thinking about the features of non-fiction ready to write their own fact files about big and small beasts! I hope someone chooses to write about Big Cats like me!

#### **Year 2**

I noticed on my morning walk that Year 2 are growing some seeds. They seem to have put their seeds in different places; I even noticed some in the fridge when I went to get my milk! They have told me they are doing an experiment throughout the week on what a plant needs to grow healthily. I can't wait to find out their results!

In Topic, the children have been learning about a village in India called Chembakolli. They have been looking at similarities and differences between Chembakolli and Haydon Wick. They have been comparing the transport, weather and school life. The children have enjoyed exploring the two different locations.

The children all had a great day on World Book Day and enjoyed visiting the Library Bus. They can't wait for their first library visit!

#### **Year 3**

What a busy week few weeks in Year 3!

After all the excitement of opening the Library Bus, they have been "feline" good! There were some "pawesome" fancy dress outfits, I think I even spotted my favourite character "Hairy" Potter and his philosophy "FUR's" stone! They have since been completing fantastic newspaper articles, with real eye witness quotes from the Panthers.

In Maths, they have been getting the "fine line between denominators and numerators" sorted (but only a FRACTION of people will get that joke) and in Science, to continue their work on magnets they have been getting very creative, designing their own magnetic games to play... I wonder if I could use the magnets to attract some fish from the pond.

#### **Year 4**

Last week, I heard high and low sounds coming from the Year 4 classrooms. The children had been making Pan Pipes using straws. There has been a super effort from the children with their sci-fi stories. They have written a new adventure for the Iron Man on a mysterious planet in a far off galaxy. In P.E. I noticed the children looking very red and puffed out as they were completing circuits and improve their personal best.

#### **Year 5**

Whilst wandering around the Year 5 corridor, I have noticed some purr-fect diaries from creatures that appear to have been abducted by jellyfish! Luckily their tale is a happy one as they were returned to a beautiful place full of plants and flowers. This appears to have been an inspiration for art work, the Year 5 children have been investigating a range of art materials, which they are going to use to make their own image of a beautiful place, and I can't wait to see them. I heard some paw-some debating going on, congratulations to the super-purr-ior debating team, who came joint second in the debating competition – amazing work done by all!

#### **Year 6**

World Book Day was a whirlwind experience for all the children in Year 6. Full of anticipation, they flooded through the school gates, dressed as a myriad of colourful book characters, whilst clutching a browsing book. I purred with joy as I observed them share their favourite stories with the Year 2 children. They really were paw-some role models and did such a lot to spread the reading for pleasure bug. I couldn't resist it and simply had to curl up with a few of them just because I simply love a good story. 'Everybody Writes' day was equally inspiring. After a visit to the amazing new Library Bus, teachers asked the children to imagine themselves aboard a magic bus capable of transporting them to the scene of any book. They were whisked off to various imaginary settings; to Wonderland, to Hogwarts and even to the offices of M16 and write a report in the role of a journalist. The resulting newspapers included quotes that the children had collected from one another and were a purr-fect celebration of our brand new reading bus.

**Let's**

**talk**



### Inter-school Debating Competition

Well done to the Year 5 debating team who developed their skills in public speaking with the question "Should single use plastic be banned?"

The judge, Cllr David Renard, was impressed by the eloquence of all the children taking part and the confident way they debated their points.

Well done to the winning school, Brook Field - they have the honour of hosting the competition next year!



Well done to the choir for singing so enthusiastically at The Wyvern Theatre on Wednesday evening. They looked smart in their red, white and blue neckerchiefs singing songs from around the British Isles. All their families, who watched the show were very proud. Mrs Brown, Jessie Thompson and Mrs Franklin were very pleased with how they represented Haydonleigh.



It is Waste Week from 19th March and this year the focus will be on food waste. Eco club have been busy thinking of how to advise children on reducing the amount of food we throw away. The children will be learning more interesting facts in class. Please talk to your child about how you could reduce waste in your home.



Year 2 are having an India Day on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March. If there are any parents in the school who can contribute in any way eg, cooking, dancing, sharing of information/artefacts then please speak to a Year 2 Teacher or communicate via the Office.

What is your favourite quote or saying?

That's a tricky question... it always makes me laugh when someone says 'it's raining cats and dogs' I'm still not sure what that actually means!!!



This week we have been thinking about the value of Enthusiasm. Children have been talking about having a 'can do' attitude and not giving up! We might find something tricky but it is important to keep on trying and put your heart into whatever you do.



The children from Years 1-6 have started to borrow books this week from the Library Bus and are thrilled with our new addition to the school. Please can we ask you to check the list below to see which day your child has their library session. EVERY week, your child will need to bring their book back on their library session day, even if they want to carry on reading it. It is necessary for us to do this, so we can keep track of the books and ensure that we don't lose any!

Mondays - Mrs Walters (Y5) Class 18/Miss Bloomfield (Y1) Class 4/Miss Osbourne (Y1) Class 6

Tuesdays - Miss Glasspole (Y3) Class 10/ Miss Parsons (Y1) Class 5

Wednesdays -Mrs Wojewodka (Y3) Class 12/Miss Kenshole (Y5) Class 17/ Mrs Rochester (Y5) Class 16

Thursdays - All classes in Y2, Year 4 & Year 6

Fridays - Mrs Park Class 11 (Y3)

Foundation Stage children all will have a session on the bus each week but they aren't borrowing books at the moment.



**Family Holidays in term time.**

A reminder that the Headteacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any request for leave must be made in writing. A response will be returned indicating whether leave is authorised. Any absence not authorised may be liable to a local authority penalty notice.

This Easter, Swindon Music Service is running an exciting Rock / Pop workshop. Details attached.

Finally we offer our congratulations to Mrs Walters in Foundation Stage who is expecting a baby. Further information will be given to parents of children in her class but it is anticipated that she will be here into the summer term

Yours sincerely,

Frances Billinge

Headteacher