

Owls



and



Penguins

Welcome back to the 1st half of the Spring term. This promises to be a very exciting and busy half-term.

This half-term's

value is



Perseverance

The children have had another successful half term.

Some highlights so far ...

The children have enjoyed the story of Guy Fawkes and Diwali and making firework pictures and divas.

The children labelled pictures of Christingles before making their own. The children worked very hard learning their Christmas songs and performing the Nativity.

The children are really benefitting from the new hollow blocks donated by our Friends. They have built a variety of vehicles and structures whilst developing their co-operative skills.

Special Black Bags:

Building on last terms success with the black bags we would like to continue with this project. This term we will be asking children to bring in a favourite traditional story, find out about their parents or grandparents favourite toy when they were a child and changes in the home plus any other recent celebrations or events they would like to share.

A useful reminder:

It is helpful to name label all of your children's clothing and belongings.

Our new outdoor classroom:

We will be continuing to develop our outdoor area. Please remember to provide a pair of wellies for your child to wear in the outside area when it's wet (donations of any old pairs would be appreciated). We expect to use the outdoor space in all weathers so we also ask that children come with warm/ waterproof clothing in the colder weather.

We are looking for donations of small pieces of soft wood for our woodwork table. Please look out for Mrs. Pickard's Wishing Tree list for other donations.

There will be a 'Drop in session' on alternate Wednesdays from 3:00 pm until 3:15pm; this is a time for you to catch up with us, discuss any concerns etc. Furthermore, the team are always more than happy to have a chat after school or for you to arrange a time to meet with us with the office.

We are very excited about getting to know the children better and look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure your children have the best start to school.

Mrs Bailey, Mrs Fuller and the Year 1 team.

Literacy

In phonics we will continue to recap previous phases and introduce new ones. We encourage the children to apply these in their reading and writing.

We will look at the traditional tale Jack and the Beanstalk write labels, captions and continue to create our own stories, narrating and acting them out as a class.

Please continue to support your child regularly in practicing their phonemes, keywords and sharing books together.

History

We will be finding out who Emily Wilding-Davidson was and the effects she had on all women's futures.

Geography

We will be going on a walk round Great Barford thinking about its characteristics and comparing it to a village in Tanzania.

Maths

We will focus on addition and subtraction within 20.

We will recap place value within 20 and work up to 50.

We will also continue to work on multiples of 2, 5, and 10s.

Science

We will continue to focus on seasonal changes and the weather associated with this time of year.

The children will be learning plant names, finding out about British birds and investigating materials e.g. magnetic, not magnetic.

PHSE

We will continue to reinforce expectations, rules and boundaries.

We will be discussing dreams and goals.

Physical Development

In PE we will be doing gymnastics exploring shapes. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school from the start of term. Just to remind you that the children need shorts and a t-shirt in the colour of their team, and that their clothes need to be labelled with their names. Earrings should not be worn on PE days and long hair needs to be tied back.

ICT

We will be exploring ICT ensuring the children use the equipment appropriately and safely. Our focus this half term is on Lego builders and maze explorers.

Art and Design

We will be looking at African art and the work of different artists for example Chris Ofili. Art activities will include printing.

RE

In RE we will consider what makes some places significant and or sacred to believers?

We will look at the celebration of Chinese New Year.

Get involved

If you would like to be involved in the school community by volunteering, we appreciate help with any of the following; readers, cooking, gardening or arts and crafts.

For more information please don't hesitate to contact the office. admin@gbpa.org.uk

***On a Wednesday afternoon
Mrs Pottruff and Mrs Collins will
cover Year 1 enjoying a music and
movement session.***