

# Compton All Saints' C of E Primary Newsletter Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Hello everyone, I hope you are all well.

It seems ridiculous to be staring the final half term of the year in the face but we are! Y6 SATs are over, the Year 2s have also finished their tests today and we are busy planning lots of fun-filled summer activities. This week's newsletter is all about the children – not only the work they've been doing but the extraordinary fund-raising as well.



Firstly, I would like to say a big well done to the Year 6s for their hard work and excellent attitude towards SATs the week before last. Their application and enthusiasm did them great credit. As part of the process, some governors came in to help invigilate and to ensure that papers were stored securely and processed correctly. Governor Jenny Walmsley sent in the following message, the sentiments of which were echoed also by Governors Charlotte Bailey and Simon Theobalds:

*'I would just like to say how impressed I was with the mature and sensible manner Year 6 approached their tests today. Although the second paper was challenging there were no moans and groans and just an air of quiet effort and industry. The children responded to the professional manner in which the tests were conducted and behaved in an exemplary fashion.*

*Miss Hewitt had obviously prepared them thoroughly for the papers but had also managed to convey that it wasn't an ordeal but just a chance to demonstrate their abilities.*

*Many congratulations to all concerned.'*

Let's not forget the Year 2s who have also done Maths and English tests this week. They too worked really hard and concentrated extremely well. They had a very grown-up approach and we are very proud of them.

## **Next we need to congratulate the children again – this time for some wonderful enterprise and fundraising.**

The Plant Sale, which was organised by Mrs Snowdon and her gardening team, did a brilliant job of preparing and displaying lots and lots of plants and seedlings. They raised a very impressive £260, half of which they are donating to Railway Primary School and half of which is for Compton. We are very grateful to Mrs Champion for all the help she gave to the event and also to Mr Hamblion, our trainee teacher from last term, who managed to get us all the plant pots free of charge and came along to support the children as well.



This afternoon Mrs Conway will be presenting the results of the Enterprise Month initiative which the CSA launched before the Easter holidays. What a storming success that has been – your inspired (and inspiring) children have raised an astonishing £600 with all their creative fund-raising ideas.

Money aside, seeing the children so excited and keen to show off their independent entrepreneurial skills at the 'Sell-a-thon' was a delight. There was a great buzz on the playground and it was a super learning experience with a real context. Thanks to all involved.

## Parent and Carer Questionnaire

Thank you to all 49 respondents – a big improvement on the 27 we had in 2015! I am pleased to say that the results were very positive indeed overall and will be published on our website soon, along with the school's and Governors' responses to particular questions and ideas.



## E-Safety evening

On a rather more disappointing note I have to report that only five people turned up for this event a couple of weeks ago. Considering that 25% of respondents to the questionnaire said that they 'didn't know' whether the school helped their child to stay safe online this was particularly ironic.



## Bags2School

More fundraising success! Thanks to Nadina Shaw for organising this event; we raised a very useful £180 this time. Please keep saving all your textiles for the next date which will be in the autumn term – details to follow.

## Playground use before and after school

Please can I remind everyone that children can only use the play equipment on the field after school and with parental supervision on the spot (ie not from the playground!). The field and equipment is out of bounds on Thursdays, however, because of the after school club.

Please also remember that the playground needs to be cleared swiftly on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday for the same reason. Thank you.

## Here's what's been going on in the classrooms this week:

### Ladybirds

You will remember we've had some very wet days this week but that didn't stop Mrs Cooke! She made the most of the opportunity and took Ladybirds outside to make dams in the channels along the edge of the playground. The children experimented, measured and observed and experienced real-life learning that was great fun. This week the children have also designed and started to make allotments as part of their 'Growth' topic and made family trees using twigs for PSHE. They have also listened to the Elves and the Shoemaker story as part of their fairy tales focus. In Maths the Year 1s have been focussing on recognising and using coins.



### Hedgehogs

In Science the children have been investigating the life cycles of flowering plants including drawing and labelling them. They have also 'un-potted' a plant to closely observe its root system. English work has involved inventing good and bad characters for stories, writing profiles that describe what they look like and how they behave. In Maths, the children have been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and calculating using multiplication and division.

### Foxes

I had the pleasure of seeing Foxes children hard at work earlier this week. They have been practising finding equivalent fractions which can be tricky! In English they have been studying news reporting and have been making notes from video clips that will form the basis of a news report of their own.



In Science the children have been investigating and devising branching databases for living things as part of their Classification theme. History work has linked with English through listening to spoken news reports about our school during WW2. This has prompted some exciting research into air raids, shelters, black outs and evacuees.



### Falcons

Falcons' class book this half term is Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver. It is a dramatic and descriptive story set in ancient times about a boy, Torak, who is forced to fend for himself in the forest. This week the children have been writing letters from Torak's father, Fa, to his son about what he will need to do to survive. In Maths the Year 6s have been drawing spirals within different shapes; the Year 5s have been revisiting previous themes from

earlier in the year – this week working with large numbers up to one million. The children have also learned about Maya food and drink and made Maya hot chocolate as part of their topic work.

Finally, the nits problem. This issue is ongoing and a cause of huge frustration to parents and teachers alike. We are considering ways in which we might be able to work together more successfully to eradicate this problem.



- From after half term, we are going to stock some nit-removing products in school so that if you are called to come and collect and treat your child, you will be able to purchase what you need from us, saving you a separate trip to the pharmacy.
- Please can EVERYONE treat their child during this half term, so that we can try and start the final few weeks of the school year all-clear.
- Please ask grandparents and other relatives to check their heads as they can be a source of re-infection as well.
- Please see the links below for the most up to date advice from the Winchester School Nurse team.

<http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/health-and-wellbeing/childrens-health/-health-and-wellbeing-childrens-health-headlice-threadworms-and-ticks-/?headlice>

<http://www.chc.org/>

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Allison Driver

