

8th December 2023

Year 5 Newsletter

Dear Parents

It has certainly been a busy couple of weeks! In maths, the children completed our 'Area and Perimeter' unit, finding areas of rectangles, compound shapes and irregular shapes. In English, we got to the end of our class book 'Varjak Paw' with final written tasks of a descriptive recount and a newspaper report. The children have really enjoyed this book and if you want to buy your child a little extra Christmas gift, I can recommend the sequel - 'The Outlaw Varjak Paw' by S.F. Said. In science, the children investigated thermal conductors and insulators and in RE we considered the qualities needed to be a Messiah (Saviour) and the evidence from the Bible that Jesus was the Messiah.

In Design Technology, the children designed and sewed Tudor money pouches. Some children absolutely loved this task, whilst a few declared that they never want to thread another needle in their lives. I suspect that Mrs Spratt may feel the same way!



Teachers of the Week

Last week, Cody gave a great presentation about football, specifically the winners of the Ballon d'Or. The children clearly listened, as they were all able to answer his quiz questions.



This week, Joshua had put a huge amount of effort into the preparation of his lesson about the Solar System, making paper mache planets and questions on individual cards for his quiz. He was a natural teacher, warning the class that they would need to listen in order to answer their quiz questions! I was very impressed with his confidence and knowledge.



Romeo and Juliet

We always love watching The Young Shakespeare Company perform and this year's production of Romeo and Juliet was no disappointment. The way that they make Shakespeare so accessible for Key Stage 2 children is really inspiring.

Leybourne Grange Nativity

We know that Christmas has truly begun each year when we attend the Leybourne Grange Nativity. It really puts everything into perspective and we are made so welcome. The children were respectful, really enjoyed themselves and sang absolutely beautifully.

Stationery supplies

I will begin to allow children to write with pens after Christmas, as long as their handwriting is really good. A pen or two may make a good stocking filler. We ask that the children use any pens with dark blue ink, except biros, as these require too much pressure to write with.

We recommend these pens: Pentel EnerGel 0.7mm Metal Point , as they last quite a long time and don't tend to smudge.



Personally, I always use Pilot V-ball 0.5 liquid ink rollerball pens for all my planning and marking, as I find that they flow nicely and they also last a long time,



We greatly appreciate the fact that parents have provided resources for the children again this year and it has been noticeable how much better the children have been at looking after their own equipment. Of course, we always provide anything that the children need to carry out their work, if they don't have their own supplies.

Key Stage 2 Nativity

We have been working really hard rehearsing for the nativity next week. We look forward to performing it to you On Tuesday 12th December at 2pm. I appreciate that this seems like a strange request, but the children in Year 5 need a pair of sunglasses for their song! If your child has not already brought in a pair - old ones or novelty ones rather than posh ones - then it would be great if they could bring some in on Monday. If they don't have any, it isn't a problem, as I have some spares.

Home Learning

I think we are all far too tired to be doing additional home learning, so there is just one more set of spellings to learn before Christmas.

Best wishes,

Louise Grinstead