



STAMFORD ST GILBERT'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Vision

To inspire a love of learning

There has certainly been a lot happening both in and out of school this week. The children have been working so hard and I have seen some brilliant learning taking place. Staff have met to discuss progress in learning and we are delighted with much of what we see. Thank you for all the support at home you are giving your child as well – it makes all the difference.

I know there is much talk about the Coronavirus and what this means now and going forward. I am keeping a close eye on the news and will advise you of any changes to school life as required. I have talked with all the children about the current situation as they have all been talking about it. I have reassured them and said they must not worry. School and parents are keeping them safe and well. They can do their part by keeping clean by washing their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds (or Happy Birthday twice), or when using a tissue we have learned the phrase 'Use it, Bin it'. The children were all very grown up and sensible – I was very impressed.

School for the time being will continue as normal – next week is Science and Eco Week! I know there is so many exciting activities and visitors in for the week and we look forward to sharing it all with you in our next newsletter.

Kind regards
Miss Dicker
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

14/03/2020	Cross Country Y 3-6 - SWA
18/03/2020	PTA Event- Bags2School
23/03/2020	Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm
24/03/2020	Parents' Evening 3:30pm-6:00pm
24/03/2020	ProKick Schools Challenge
24/03/2020	EYFS & Y6- National Child Measurement Programme

Attendance

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Each week we announce the attendance percentages for each class, recognising improvement and the class who has achieved the best attendance!

*Congratulations to Donaldson Class
who had 99.66%
attendance last week.*

Foundation Stage

This week the Tigers and Caterpillars have been thinking of planting and growing on a bigger scale by thinking about where the fruit and vegetables that we buy in the supermarket might have come from. We looked at a variety of vegetables and realised that they all began as a seed that needed to be planted by a farmer, just like we planted our beans. We really enjoyed watching a video of farmers harvesting fields of peas. There were so many peas!! Then we read the story Handa's Surprise and learnt about some more unusual fruits such as guava and passion fruit. We know that different fruits grow in different countries because they need hot and sunny weather. We used netbooks and iPads to create pictures of our favourite fruit or vegetable and also talked about how they are both important for a healthy diet. It has also been a very exciting week as the bean plants have begun to grow. Some are getting taller and taller by the day!



Key Stage 1

Years 1 and 2 have been learning the story of Robin Hood and have been re-creating the legend as a comic strip. Here the children are representing the time after Robin Hood and Little John fought on the bridge and became friends. They thought about how they could freeze-frame the moment and try to capture the action and the mood. Children then worked together to choose the dialogue they wanted to write in their speech and thought bubbles. Years 1 and 2 children have enjoyed drawing and writing their own comic strips this week. They were especially excited to be rewarded by watching the theatre production of Robin Hood on Thursday afternoon! It certainly was tremendous fun! There has been some interesting discussion and debate in classes this week about whether Robin Hood was real or not and justifying whether we would like him to have been real. Children learned that legends are based on some elements of the truth and loved hearing about King Richard I and Prince John. What a fabulous week!



Key Stage 2

In RE and English, the Year 3.4 children have been thinking about our wonderful world this week and what they would do if they had to create the world. There were some amazing ideas from the children and they used superb vocabulary to describe their different daily creations, talking about 'tempestuous oceans' and 'humid rainforests'. Some of our children focussed on how different and wonderful people are:

'On this day, I made you and you were my masterpiece. I took a long time making you, just like other people. What made you special is that you were different, and everyone is different. Some had dark skin, some light, some people were tall, some small. That was the end of Day 6!'

In Science this week, we've been outside carrying out research on the Solar System! We got into groups to represent the comparative size of each planet, and then measured the scaled down distance between them. We realised that Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are closer together than the other planets and nearest to the Sun. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are much further away from each other and the Sun, with Neptune being furthest away at 2.7 billion miles! The children measured each distance with a trundle wheel and found that the distance from the Sun to the Neptune reached from one end of the school field all the way down to the end of the bottom playground and even further! It was quite an eye-opening investigation!

The children thoroughly enjoyed 'Robin Hood' by Image Theatre on Thursday afternoon! The response was very positive and the children participated in a debate on the statement, 'Robin Hood is a Great Historical Hero'. There was lively and enthusiastic argument for and against this viewpoint! A huge thank you to the PTA for funding this wonderful, creative opportunity!



Key Stage 2

On Monday, Y5.6 had a fantastic Tudor Day at Burghley House. The day started with us meeting Henry VIII, who told us all about his life: how he came to the throne, why he had six wives, who his children were and how he became so large! We also enjoyed taking part in various workshops, including a kitchen visit, a Tudor feast, Tudor games and learning to dance in The Great Hall. The day finished with us meeting Dr Mort who told us all about their strange Tudor remedies and even tried some of them out on us! Did you know that the barbers were also surgeons back in the Tudor times?

On Thursday morning, the children had to become detectives in order to solve the crime that had been committed. There were a variety of clues left: two people, an apothecary bottle, two different coats of arms and a wedding ring. The children asked great higher-level questions which really helped deepen their understanding. The crime scene left the children feeling puzzled and couldn't work out what all the clues meant. Eventually, after much discussion and deliberation, the children understood that the clues linked to Romeo and Juliet - one of Shakespeare's plays that we will be studying over the next few weeks!



The Big Read



A reminder that 'The Big Read' will be finishing finished on Sunday 15th March, please return your child's Reading Log and all sponsorship money, in a named envelope, with the completed sponsor form via the **PTA Post Box** or your child's class teacher, by Wednesday 18th March 2020. Cheques can be made payable to the St Gilbert's PTA.

Everyone who enters will receive a special "The Big Read" Certificate to celebrate their amazing efforts!

Her are a few pictures of some readers engrossed in their books! Please do Share your photos with us. We would love to see photographs of your child reading, especially in unusual places. We will set up a wall display at school. Please send a printed copy in to the class teacher or e-mail the PTA at stgilbertspta@outlook.com including your child's name and class or share on the St Gilbert's Parents facebook page.



Newsletter News

From Term 5, we will no longer be putting out a weekly newsletter, instead we will be using our Facebook page to update you with news stories, events and pictures. We will of course keep you informed of all dates and essential information through Parent Mail. Further details to follow.



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