Welcome from the editor

Hello my name is Finley and I am the Editor of this edition of the newsletter.

We have all been very busy since the last newsletter. The older primary students have been learning about the Romans, the Tudors, including William Shakespeare and the environments and habitats in the world. All the primary students went to see Wendy and Peter Pan and studied the story at school.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 have been preparing the garden planting beans, peas, herbs and potatoes. A bug hotel has been put together to encourage more wildlife into the garden. If you have any bamboo sticks or moss this will help the bugs feel more at home. The nursery have been learning about clouds and rainbows and we were all busy making Mother’s day cards. I hope you liked them. A couple of weeks ago we celebrated World Book day and a week later we had a successful fundraiser for Sport Relief.

Hopefully you will enjoy the newsletter as much as we have enjoyed putting it together.

Finley
Finley Owen, Editor

Headteachers Update

Spring is finally here!

I really thought we would never be able to enjoy the outside again without wearing waterproofs and wellingtons.

Unfortunately, with the ground being so waterlogged it has prevented us from resuming Forest School but are hopeful that we will return after Easter.

It has been a very busy term, welcoming many new children into the nursery who have all settled in well. A new Parent Teacher Association has been formed and must say that I am looking forward to working closely to create closer links with parents, the local community and the wider Montessori community in promoting our school and nursery.

During the summer term I plan to run a workshop for parents who would like a further insight into Montessori education and how the children learn by using the materials. At the end of the term, we will be having an Open Day, both of these events will be on a Saturday.

More information will follow shortly.
IMPORTANT
INFORMATION

I apologise for any inconvenience but the Nursery and School will NOT close on Thursday 1st May but we will be closed on Thursday 22nd May instead.

As you know our eldest son, Tom, has suffered with chronic eczema for the last three years. As a baby he also had the condition, and as new parents we remember vividly times when he would stick to his car seat and his skin would peel off, or we had to tape socks around his hands to prevent him scratching his skin off.

To try to describe it at its worst to someone who has never had it, is to say:

“Imagine being bitten all over your body by itching flies, then you scratch so much that your skin rips off or it just catches on your clothing and you are left with a body that is so raw that daily life is like having perpetual sunburn and the slightest amount of clothing makes you cry...and that is after you've stuck to your bed sheets or bled all over your school shirt.”

At whatever time of life you have it, as a baby, a teenager or an adult, the cycle of itching, the weeping skin, the hatred of your own body never goes away. There are the masses of creams you need to cover your body in, the pills and antihistamines you need to take, not to mention the occasional need for prednisolone (a steroid given to mums at risk of premature labour to build up the lungs of their unborn babies!). Then there are the infections, the staph bacteria that accumulates on the skin, the fact your skin is a barrier and when that barrier breaks down you’re prone to infections such as colds, pneumonia, strep etc, this creates absence from school and hospital stays and the need to keep away from friends and relatives with colds and coughs when your eczema is at its worst.

Add to that the fact that you can’t go swimming, you can't use deodorants or shower gels, you feel very self concious of your body and the continuous questions, you get bullied at school...and you just want to be a normal teenager!!

Richard and I are trying to raise at least £500 to enable the eczema society to continue to try to spread awareness, to provide counselling for young teens in particular who are at a very vulnerable time in their lives, and to try to help them discover causes.

The Five Peaks Challenge is set over a 12 hour period in the Lake District. We have to Crinkle Crags, Bow Fell, Esk Pike, Great End and Scarfell Pike in the same 12 hour period.

We would be SO grateful if you would dig deep and sponsor us to do this, maybe a £1 a peak or suchlike. ANY amount however big or small would be so wonderfully appreciated so that other teenagers don’t have to go through as much agony as our boy has.

PS: He is currently doing VERY well however, but wouldn’t be doing so without both the NE society and our wonderful consultant dermatologist and eczema nurse at the teenage eczema clinic at the JR in Oxford!

http://www.justgiving.com/Rachel-Bee1
Walking five peaks in raise of money for eczema research.

Peter Pan Review

Dhriti Balakrishna, 10 years, Year 5

On the 25th January, I went with our school to watch Wendy and Peter Pan at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford upon Avon. I liked the play because it was exciting and wasn't at all what I thought it would be like.

There wasn't only the characters Wendy, John and Michael but another brother called Tom.

So it was different to what J.M. Barrie had written.

Before the play in the morning we participated in a workshop. We met three
actors, one who played Wendy, the others playing Tink and Tiger Lily. We asked questions and I asked if they felt like their character when they played their part. The person that who acted as Wendy said she did feel like the character. We were then allowed to position the three actors in position on the stage that we thought they should be in for a certain part of the play.

After this, we went to a different building and played games. A lady named Sophie would say something and we had to reply with a particular word. For example, “A boom, boom, boom” then we would say “A ratatatat”, “what happened to Wendy?” we would say “I don’t know!”

We then walked around the room, Sophie would ask us to get into groups of a certain number. We made shapes in our groups or scenes from Neverland. Amanda and I were the lost boys, Daisy was Tink, Ila was Wendy and another girl from another school was Hook and somebody else was a tree.

After lunch we watched the play. It was brilliant! It was so cool, Peter Pan had six shadows played by six people. Michael called himself a mermaid and Wendy said that Peter Pan was totally mental. Peter Pan took Wendy on a cloud then they started flying and Wendy kept on shouting “Wooooo, woooo!” My favourite part was when they all kept trying to fly!

I would like to take my parents to see it again. Every time the Jolly Roger came through there would be a loud noise which sounded like thunder. When they were fighting on the ship Smee let off the canon and something that looked like a fire ball shot out! It was very scary when it shot out. I think it’s a very good play. At times wires came down then Peter’s shadows clipped one on him so he could fly.
World Book Day
Alice Wasley, Age 6, Year 2

On Thursday March 6th it was World Book Day we all dressed up as a book character. I was Goldilocks. My friends were Handa and Sita, Diary of a Wimpy Kid and James Bones. My teacher Mrs Everley was “Where’s my teddy?” Look at the pictures down below and you will some of the costumes.

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 21st May Group photograph please ensure that your child wears their school uniform.

20th June. Dress up and dance in aid of Macmillan Cancer support.

The Tudors
Amanda Nkemena, 7 years, Year 3

We have been studying the Tudors as part of Shakespeare week. We dressed as Elizabethan ladies and gentlemen. Every day we read Shakespeare books and talked about the Tudor kings and Queens.

Henley in Arden has loads of Tudor houses and we went for a walk down the High Street and took photos of them, with Mrs Pidgeon and Miss Pippa. Did you know you are not allowed to destroy buildings from very far back like Tudor buildings, this is called “listed.” Tudor buildings are black and white, Henley ice cream is one of the Tudor buildings, they have dark wood doors and there is black wood hanging out (timbers). Instead of nails they have wood pegs. The houses have loop the loop patterns and there were leaded diamond shapes on the windows.

Summer Term begins
28th April
We have been learning about what the Romans wore and what they ate and how they went into battle. The men wore a toga and ladies wore chitons and slaves wore tunics; they ate bread, meat, grapes and cheese. The poor people lived in an Insulae and the rich people lived in a domas. Their battle formation was called a turtle, they put their shields at the top and sides and back to protect themselves against the enemies spears. The Emperors of Rome were very horrible. They had chariot racing and sometimes it killed people. They also had gladiator fights and the Emperor would decide if they lived or died.

SPORT RELIEF

Friday 21st March was Sport Relief day. We wore jumpers and bounced on a trampoline and ran on a mini treadmill. I came in with jeans and a woolly jumper with silver stars. I even had a little teddy bear whose name is Finley. They raised 51 million pounds! AMAZING!

Everyone had lots of fun and we started bouncing mad. Oh Yeah! Especially Finley, your editor this month. He went crazy. I would like to thank everyone who joined in and donated money for all the children around the world. Our school raised £25.00.

Dhriti Balakrishna

Important moments

Please share those moments that you have with your child at home, so that we can put them in their learning journals. When they point out a shape, or write their name, get dressed on their own, ride a tricycle, read their first words. If you think it’s important its important to share it with nursery and school. They grow up so fast enjoy those wonderful moments.

Thank you from the news team, Dhriti, Ben, Finley, Amanda and Alice