

Newsletter 22

12th March 2018

Head's Message

I very much enjoyed the rearranged World Book Day at Northampton Campus last Thursday. The theme was characters from Roald Dahl books and I cannot think of a book that was not represent – from enormous crocodiles and a BFG to Boggises, Bunces and Beavises, Willie Wonkas, Twits and even an Augustus Gloop! The costumes were fantastic...well done! It was lovely to see the Year 6s reading to the nursery children from The Pavilion and then we were entertained with songs from James and Giant Peach and Matilda performed by the Northampton KS2 Choir. Brilliant!



Xen, our Young Enterprise team are taking part in the Regional Qualifier event on Wednesday evening. We wish them every success as they hope to secure a place at the Regional Finals.

House Cross-country - Wednesday 21st March

This year's joint school cross country event with Biggleswade Campus is taking place next Wednesday 21st March at Amphill Park, MK45 2HF from 11.15-3pm. All parents, families and friends are invited to attend; it would be great to see many of you there. There will be refreshments and a charity cake stall.

This week you will be receiving numbers to stitch onto their coloured tops that pupils wore on sports day. Year 3 pupils can wear their normal PE tops with their numbers attached.

Please note there will be no lessons on this day and pupils will need to be transported straight to Amphill Park for 10.30-10.45. Please liaise with your regional transport coordinator regarding travel arrangements. Local parents will need to organise their own transport arrangements. Parents are more than welcome to bring and/or pick up their children from the venue but must let bus drivers know.

This week the charity committee gave an assembly showing pictures of their visit to Keech Hospice and Mrs Coleman gave a thought provoking talk which should very shortly be available to see on our school website.

The justgiving page is up running and the donations are slowly building up but we still have a long way to go to break our target. Please donate using the interactive poster sent round last week or the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/crosscountrykeechamphill/dashboard>

If you want to find out more about this charity then please visit www.keech.org.uk



If every pupil raises £32 each this could pay for one hour of nursing care in their in-patient unit!





Quelle voyage! We had an educational visit to study heritage and immerse ourselves in French culture for a day on Monday 5th March. The Eurostar took us to that wonderful city Lille, and we arrived at 10 o'clock. After walking past typical French buildings, we arrived to the Belfroi de Lille. This tower is on the side of the town hall and was built to show the power of the city, and the height ensured the officials could see invaders from far away. After climbing up 300+ steps, we arrived at the balcony and from the top of this tall building, we could see the amazing views of the whole of Lille.

Excursion scolaire à Lille

We walked around several streets and then headed to the centre of Lille where we could see some amazing architecture and looked around for a true French lunch.

We decided on Breton Galette (brown savoury pancakes) which had fillings such as salmon and crème fraiche or ham and cheese. We sat in one of the two beautiful, sunny market squares to enjoy the Galettes.



We then went on a 2 hour entirely French spoken tour which was challenging to understand at times, but also very interesting! This trip took us around many iconic sites, where we saw another Belfroi which was smaller, but with more stylish architecture. Then we saw the old fish market which had incredible mosaic artwork.

We entered the Chambre du Commerce with an impressive domed roof.

Opposite the chamber of commerce was a building with cannonballs embedded on the side which have been there since invaders attacked. We continued to wander around the streets and went to the shopping centre to buy some authentic French products. This included buying waffles (or 'gauffres') with our choice of toppings. Then we headed back home – quel excursion agreeable!



100% Attendance Competition

The number of pupils still with 100% attendance this term has now fallen to 77...46% of the school pupil population. Two weeks to go!

Our overall attendance figure for the school year still remains at 96.3% this week...we are still aiming for 97% as a minimum

We are now just over half way through the school year. There are currently 27 pupils who still have 100% attendance since September 2017. Any pupil who manages to maintain full attendance for the whole year will receive an award at the End-of-year Award Ceremony in July!



EVENTS TO KEEP IN VIEW MARCH/APRIL

13th March – Key Stage 2 Open Morning

19th March – KS2 Parent Consultations – Primary closed

21st March – Joint House Cross-country Event – Ampthill Park

23rd March – Joint Spring Concert – Dunstable Conference Centre

23rd March – Term Ends – 3.00pm

9th April – Summer Term Starts for all Pupils



Year 5 & 6 Assembly/ KS2 Open Morning

Tuesday 13th March 2018

09:15 Assembly Start

Followed by KS2 Opening Morning with a short break at 10:40-11:00

12:00 Finish



Parent Information on IT Matters

Some pupils have been using school emails accounts or Canvas to hold social conversations between each other. Both of these applications are being very closely monitored by OneSchool UK and Campus and interventions have already been made. The pupils were reminded last week that these are only to be used for learning conversations and formal communication. The guidance they have been given is:

If you would not want your parents or a future employer to read what you have written then do not send or post it!

Please could we ask for your help with this. By regularly checking your children's emails, Canvas account and internet history it will help them to keep themselves safe and develop good online habits. If you have any questions or concerns about an IT issue please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or a member of the Leadership Team. Thank you!



Science Week

As part of our commitment to the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and maths) subjects we will be holding events in school on 9th–18th March to support British science week. The theme is **Exploration and Discovery**.

Year 7 and 8

Pupils will be researching examples of exploration and discovery and will design posters to display their findings. The best 5 posters will be entered into the national British Science Week competition. Full details are on Canvas. Pupils will take part in experiments to find the food with the highest energy content so that they can suggest what an explorer should take to eat when on an expedition.

The whole school

The ocean is still being explored. One area for concern is the plastic that has been washed out to sea. Technology is being used to help locate this plastic and 'The Plastic Tide' project needs our help.

The Plastic Tide harnesses the power of drone technology in an innovative and revolutionary way; surveying beaches in a series of beach cleans to capture images, and through the help of citizen science, train our Machine Learning Algorithms (MLAs) to remotely detect plastic build-up, with numerous and multi-disciplinary applications. Dr. Erik Van Sebille, world expert on marine litter and Science Adviser to the Plastic Tide, says;

"The Plastic Tide will significantly enhance our understanding of the amount of plastic on coastlines, by trialing revolutionary drone-based automatic detection

of the litter. This will aid the creation of a global of inventory of marine plastic pollution, and help identify hotspots, impacts and fate of our plastic.”

This is where YOU come in! Each piece of plastic or litter you tag trains our computer program (or machine learning algorithm) to detect, measure and monitor plastics and marine litter. Helping realise a vision from the skies!

Pupils from all year groups can help tag beaches. To find out more follow the link to

<https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/theplastic-tide/the-plastic-tide>

Run to the Deep



The surface of the Ocean to the bottom is over 10Km deep and is separated into 5 different zones. During the cross-country event pupils will run a scaled down journey to the bottom of the sea. There will be a way-marker to show when a new zone has been entered with pictures of the type of creatures that can be found there. There is a mobile app available for parents that gives a commentary about each zone as you run a 10Km course. Details can be found on www.runtothedeeep.com