

# WHADDON NEWS

## Summer Term 1

Welcome to the Summer Term 1 Newsletter. Here you will get a glimpse of your children's school life and allow you to share their experiences and successes. We hope you enjoy reading it.

### Whole School Meetings



Each Wednesday morning, the children run a whole school meeting. Everyone is able to suggest agenda items and all are able to speak and vote on any decisions needed to be made.

This term, some of the topics raised were:

#### **Kindness**

Everyone agreed we should challenge unkindness and each week we now share acts of kindness we have seen.

#### **Single use plastic**

The children decided to write to the fruit supplier to ask for them to consider the packaging they send the fruit in. It was also agreed to try not to bring any single use plastic into school in lunch boxes. We have joined Surfers Against Sewage and learnt how single use plastic ends up in the sea and the damage it does.

#### **Play times**

The children reflected on safe and kind behaviour and how we can improve the way we play together. They also decided on new equipment and purchased them.

#### **Uniform**

A whole school vote decided that everyone should be able to choose what they wear to school, ensuring it was practical and safe

#### **Care of the chickens**

A rota was agreed upon for the care of the chickens and everyone asked questions to ensure we all know how much food to give them.

## New Build

The build is progressing swiftly and we are all very excited at the prospect of a new classroom! The building will also include a heated Forest school/Sport changing room which will include lockers, pegs and benches.

Huge thanks go to FOWS for their fundraising which has made this possible. FOWS seriously needs your support to continue the fundraising to ensure the building can be furnished and equipped so please do attend their next meeting if you can.





# Learning Outside the Classroom

## Features of our Village

To begin our new Mantle story, Hedgehog Class went for a walk around Whaddon to identify geographical features of a village. We found houses, roads, the church and chapel, the village hall, the pub and the village sign. It was very interesting to look so closely at the village and to talk about what the village sign had on it. The next day, we imagined what Whaddon would have been like 1000 years ago and, using images to help, created our own Medieval Village outside using our large blocks.



## Fractions in Squirrel Class.

Squirrel Class were learning about fractions and took their learning outdoors. They were finding fractions of amounts using natural resources such as sticks, stones and fir cones. They found quarters, thirds and halves and were ensuring that they were making **equal** amounts.



## Forest School

It has been a very wet Forest School for most of the term. However, this has not deterred any of the children. Fortunately we have the new cabin to take advantage of if need be. The hedgehogs have been enjoying creative activities such as making spiders using clay and natural resources. The chickens are keeping us all entertained. All the children are enjoying the responsibility of looking after the chickens especially now that they are free range. Squirrels were recently set the challenge during Forest School to take Miss Swain, Miss Cartwright and Mrs Wright on a local walk. Before we left school we looked at a map together using the key to find a suitable, local, footpath route. The squirrels directed us, using their maps to a local stream. Sadly on the way we found plastic rubbish which the children were most disgruntled by. Wisely, the children decided to take it back to school to dispose of it properly and prevent it entering the ocean.



# Super Squirrels

## Shout Out!

Isobel and Theo have done an incredible job of learning their spellings this term. Also, Henry H has completed the entire Year 3 and Year 4 spelling list!

Arrany for working *so hard all of the time* and for embracing absolutely anything we give her to do!

Mercy and Henry W have been challenging themselves in their writing to use as many techniques as possible.

Sienna has been working incredibly hard on her fractions this term and shown a great attitude to learning maths facts

Elizabeth and Callie for showing endurance during our Mantle magnetic games project and using 'trial and error' positively to help their learning.

Given has been a hugely compassionate Squirrel and *always* looks out for others.

To all Squirrels for their incredible magnetic games project. This term they've completed the entire process from exploring initial ideas, making detailed designs, learning about magnets and new DT joining skills, making and decorating the games, writing instructions and advertising posters and making TV adverts using a green screen app.

# News from the Hedgehog Burrow

We have had such a good half term in Hedgehog Class. Our Mantle of the Expert story has involved some medieval villagers (the children) who have been invited on a quest by Queen Matilda. The Queen has lost her castle and kingdom and needs a new group of knights—she met the villagers and decided they would be good candidates. Just a few of the things the children have been learning are: buildings in a medieval village and the materials they were made from; jobs in a medieval village (we have several rat catchers); geographical features of our own Whaddon village; how to design a coat of arms and make a shield; and the best geographical location for a castle.

**Arthur** has been spotted being a good friend on a lot of different occasions.

**Hope** can always be relied upon to help out, from tidying up to helping other children.

**Erica** has been a fantastic part of our Medieval Village. She has some super acting skills!

**Ewan** has been a super scientist - from magnets, to water funnels with ducks in... he is always investigating something.

**Hannah** has been very creative with her drawing, building, making and ideas.

**Jack** has been using his excellent designing and building skills to teach other children.

**Elena** is the Queen of Kindness in our class. She can always be relied upon to be kind to other children.

**Matthew** has learnt to recognise, count and order numbers to six which he has been working hard on all half term.

**Tilly** has been doing a lot of writing and is very proud of herself for it.

**William** has been working very hard on his reading this half term.

**Seb** has done some incredible writing this half term and makes his teachers smile with his writing.

**Romily** has learnt a lot of spelling this half term, as well as all of her doubles to double 10.

## The Term Ahead

### **Hello to you all!**

Looking ahead to our final term (does it really seem possible?) we are all hoping for sunshine and Covid free, happy days, and welcoming you into school again.

### **Events**

Sports Day: **Monday 12th July**. If Covid restrictions allow it, please come to school for 1.30pm for this event. If the weather is too wet on this day, we will keep **Wednesday 14th July** in reserve.

**End of year reports** will be sent out in the final week. This will be a little slimmer than usual due to the amount of time the children have missed but will, of course, be useful to inform you of your child's learning, next steps and how you can support them during the summer holidays to prevent gaps and regression.

**End of year celebration:** 16th July at St Mary's Church. Again, if Covid restrictions allow, please join us for this from 1.30pm at the church. You will be able to take your child home from the church.

### **September 2021 New Starters**

Our new little ones will be joining us for their Family Picnic on the 1st July. They will also stay for a taster session on the 8th July. All of the children will spend time with their new teacher in their new classroom on that day.

### **Huge congratulations**

...to Miss Helen Nash as she looks forward to her wedding in July!

...to Miss Kim Swain for passing her degree and securing a teacher training place.

We are delighted Miss Swain will be completing her training with us next year.

... to Miss Kirsty Cartwright as she moves on to a new teaching position at a new school. Miss Cartwright has been with us since 2016 carrying out a teaching placement in her second year of training. We will be very sorry to see her go but wish her the best of luck as she continues her career.

### **Governor Vacancy**

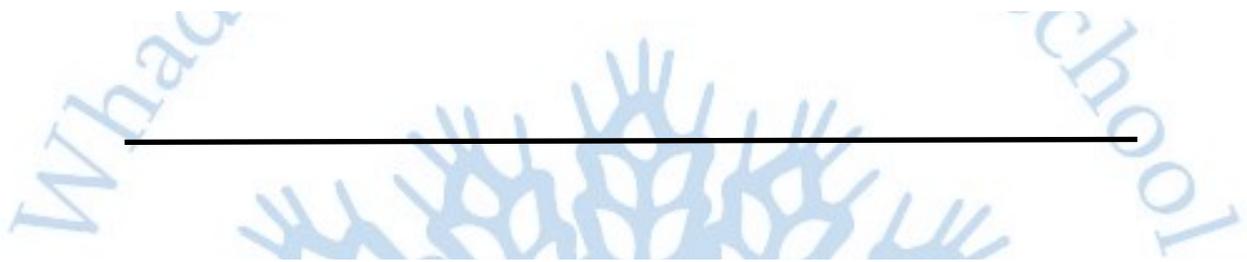
We currently have three vacancies on our Governing Board. These are not parent governor vacancies but if you know of someone in the community, who would be an asset to our school, please do let us (and them) know.

## SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS

SUMMER TERM 2021	Monday 19 April	Friday 28 May
	Monday 7 June	Wednesday 21 July

INSET DAYS 2020/2021

Monday 19 July 2021  
 Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
 Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021



### SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2021/2022

AUTUMN TERM 2021	Wednesday 1 September	Friday 22 October
	Monday 1 November	Friday 17 December
SPRING TERM 2022	Monday 3 January	Friday 18 February
	Monday 28 February	Friday 8 April
SUMMER TERM 2022	Monday 25 April	Friday 27 May
	Monday 6 June	Thursday 21 July

TERM TIME BANK

HOLIDAYS 2021/2022

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

INSET DAYS 2021/2022

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022