



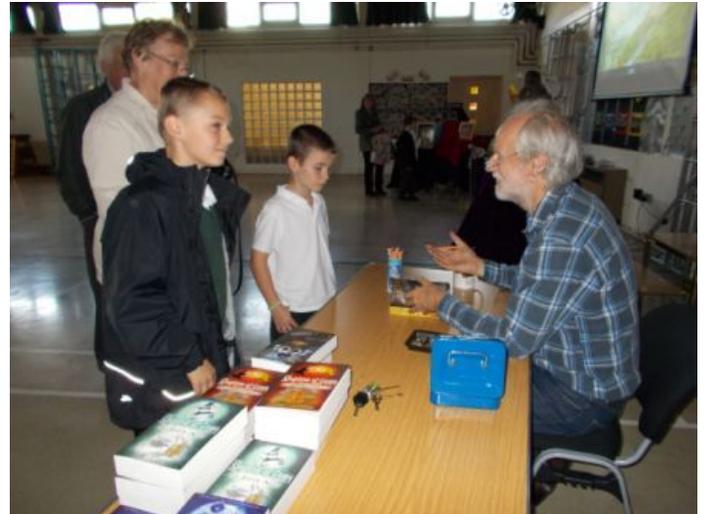
News on the Ninth

Gusford Celebration Newsletter – Issue 61 – 9th November 2014

Inspirational Memories

What are your memories of being at primary school? The contents of this News on the Ninth show the sort of memories that our children will have: meeting a real author; becoming a CSI detective and walking in the woods and meeting frogs. We hope that you will enjoy reading all about it.
Mr Tapscott

Author visit - Jasper Cooper



On Friday 10th of October Jasper Cooper came into our school to tell the pupils about his books: Gordo, Candara's Gift, Silver Well and The Glass Prison. We discovered that he is not just an author but he is also a talented artist and musician. Jasper first became interested in writing after reading one of his 10 minute stories to his children. Eventually he turned it into three books, which is called a trilogy. Kiran quotes, 'I would recommend Candara's Gift to all book lovers'. Harvey quotes 'I like Gordo's front cover. It is the best because it gives you a taste of the adventure'.



In this edition

Inspiration

P1	Author Visit
P2	Y5 CSI visit
P3	Y4 Bread making; Y4 Maths
P5	Divali in reception



Collaboration

P4	Reception & Nursery Walk
P6	Star Trekking
P6	Parent Council

Progress

At a recent review of school performance with the Active Learning Trust we looked at the progress we made last year in our Y6.

APS Progress

APS points are the average point score made up from all the pupil's results. The national expectation for Y6 APS is 27 points. Last year Gusford was above this in reading and maths but below the national average. Over the last 3 years we have risen at 3 times the national rate in maths and seven times the national rate in reading. Writing is our target area in school for this year to increase improvement.

	2012	2013	2014	Progress
Gusford Y6 Reading	26.3	27.2	27.7	+1.4
National Y6 Reading	28.8	28.5	29.0	+0.2
Gusford Y6 Maths	26.5	27.1	28.4	+1.9
National Y6 Maths	28.4	28.7	29.0	+0.6
Gusford Y6 Writing	25.1	25.3	25.6	+0.5
National Y6 Writing	27.3	27.5	27.9	+0.6



Kiran Nolloth, Harvey Bell and Daniel Perkins 5F



Inspiration

Y5 CSI visit



On Tuesday 14th October, Mrs Clarke came into school to explain to 5F about her role as a Crime Scene Investigator (because we are learning about crime and punishment in school). Firstly we had a discussion if we knew who she is and about her other job. She told us that she is a Crime Scene Investigator she also told us that she is only in school Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday she is working as a Crime Scene Investigator. Not only if someone is burgled she also does all sorts of things like she tries to get evidence to prove to the police what type of finger print it is because it could be a whorl, loop, arch or bridge.

Then Mrs Clarke told us when you touch things you can't see your finger print or your hand print, it is called latent because you can't see them. There is a special type of powder which is called fine powder but also there is a granular powder. There is a magnetic stick which is called a wand. Also the powder is magnetic so it sticks to the wand - it looks like a spiky hedgehog! Harley dressed up with what you would wear at an actual crime scene. He had to wear footwear that says POLICE backwards so if you put special powder where you have walked you will read police. He had to wear a mask you could breathe in because you will give away germs which is evidence. He had to put a white disposable suit on so you can throw it away when you've used it. You also have blue gloves to protect your hands.



Afterwards we had a go at finger printing and we had to see if it is a whorl, bridge arch or loop. Then we got told what other equipment which is used at a crime scene. It is called electro static lifting apparatus they use this to gather the evidence. I learnt that you could actually see finger prints on top of them. I would recommend it to others. It was really good. I enjoyed this lesson very much.

By Olivia Mayhew 5F



Inspiration

Year 4 Bread making



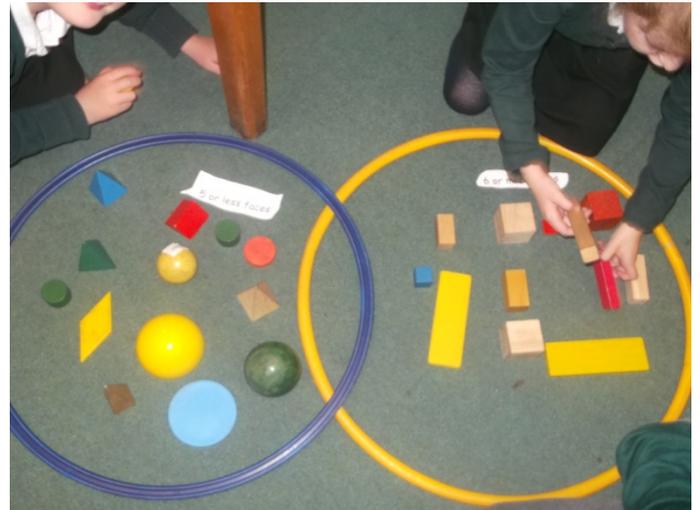
In Year 4 we linked our Design and Technology project to our Geography unit. We first tasted bread from around the world and then followed a recipe to measure accurately the ingredients needed to make the bread. In addition to this we thought about a healthy diet and chose some healthy options to add to our bread. We had to design our bread and then used our mathematical knowledge to build nets and decorate them to appeal to a younger child. We linked this to advertising and persuasive writing. We all enjoyed the process and the smell of freshly baked bread made us very hungry!



Year 4 Numeracy



In Year 4 we have been looking at both 2D and 3D shapes and measures. We sorted all of the shapes using hoops as a Venn diagram and a Carroll diagram by their criteria (curved and straight edges and both), (number of faces and vertices) the children had to justify their reasons for their choices. During another lesson we went out on the playground and used measuring tapes and trundle wheels to measure dinosaurs and make comparisons about their size.





Collaboration

Reception & Nursery Walks



The children in Foundation visited the local woods near our school. They went with their families to see all the beautiful autumn colours at this time of year. Mums, dads, granddads and little ones joined us as we ventured up the hill towards Spring Wood. The children went adventuring and discovered and explored in the wood.



They went 'trip trapping' over the wooden bridges but no trolls could be found. They collected colourful autumn leaves and stuck them on their special silver head bands to carry back to school. Some children found little frogs jumping about in the leaf litter on the ground.



Children at this age love to explore and investigate whilst having fun at the same time. Just look at the photos to see how much enjoyment they had as well as learning a lot about their local area.

Dancing

Congratulations to two of our children who took part in the ISTD Ballroom and Latin finals in Blackpool on 1st November.

Hayden Wise 6H for coming 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Emilia Swann 6S for coming 5th in Ballroom and 1st in Latin





Inspiration

Walks

The children in reception have been learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali.



This colourful festival celebrates the festival of light and the Hindu new year. The celebration took place on 23rd October this year. The children learnt about the customs and celebrations that take place. Some of the celebrations are very similar to our festivals.



The children create beautiful rangoli patterns in a range of ways to welcome the goddess Lakshmi. These patterns were traditionally drawn by the doors of houses to welcome the goddess and to bring good luck and fortune to families. The word 'divali' means a row of little lights. Traditional diya lamps are set out with oil and these are lit to welcome Lakshmi. Families go to their temples and presents are given. Homes are decorated and parties and fireworks occur.



Collaboration

Golden Guides & Star Trekking

This half term we are launching the 'Gusford Golden Guides'. These are 6 key behaviour guides that we are all going to focus on achieving:

Inspiration	Aspiration	Collaboration	Expectation
1) Following School routines that help us to learn & keep safe	3) Being the best that we can be & working hard in all that we do	4) Being kind, helpful & polite	5) Treating others as we would want to be treated
2) Caring for Property that helps us or belongs to others			6) All following school procedures

Each week we will focus on a different one in whole school assembly. This week we have been reminding ourselves of our class routines like 321 for being quiet and 123 for movement around class.

In order to support this initiative the Headship team of Mr Tapscott, Mrs Hook, Mrs Urquhart & Mrs Clayton will be 'STAR TREKKING' children who we see modelling good behaviour. Special Star Trekking Stars will be given to up to 5 children each in a day and for those parents who are on Parentmail we hope to send an email and/or text to let you know your child has been Star Trekking. We have given some of these out already and it is great to celebrate the good we see. This is another good reason to be signed up for Parentmail and for us to have your mobile number and email on the Parentmail system so we can celebrate this with you.

Parent Council meeting - 6th November 2014

The 3rd parent council meeting reviewed our actions from the last meeting.

New website This is in process and a second draft is being reviewed.

School grounds Parent council noted the improvements in the trimming of hedges along the paths which was raised by the parent council.

We also discussed the following:

Side gate Parent council discussed the side gate being unlocked. This is due to access needed for entry to collecting morning nursery and Brookside and dropping off afternoon nursery and Brookside. The school will look into a sign on the gate and whether it is feasible to lock and unlock or whether other gates can be locked to compensate.

School Meals The free school meal entitlement for all infant children seems to be going well. The parent council discussed help for infant children choosing pick and mix so that it does not reduce pick and mix availability for KS2 children. The school will work with EATS to iron out any problems

Parentmail The texts and updates are really appreciated. Some texts need to have subjects or class names added as they could relate to a number of classes. The office expected this to be added automatically by the system. This will be added in the future.

Our next meeting is at 2.30pm on 4th December 2014