



News on the Ninth

Gusford Celebration Newsletter – Issue 63 – 9th February 2015

Inspirational Memories

I love the sense of pride children have when they show you their work. The Otters were so excited to show me their tongue twister and Miss Collins' literacy group were so keen to write for me and invite me back to read it. Two Year 4 boys proudly showed me their sport reports of an Ipswich game, worthy of entry in the local paper. This News on the Ninth continues to show the pride children feel in the range of learning that they undertake. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

Mr Tapscott

Otter Tongue Twister



This week, the Otters set out to write a tongue twister. The whole class contributed words with similar sounds and then helped Mr Davies to draft it. There were lots of giggles as we took it in turn to say it. See if you can do any better!

The Otters' Tongue Twister

Lotty Potter was a shopper.
Lotty the shopper bought a lotta trotters
Until a hotter otter shot Lotty in the trotter.
What a lotta otter nonsense!

Mr Davies

After School Activities - New

We are pleased to announce that we are offering some new, exciting after school activities, starting after half term. Please keep a look out for further information via parentmail or your class teacher. The plans so far are as follows:

Art club – for year 1 and 2.

Drama club – for years 1 and 2.

Also, we are hoping to offer recorder club and choir for years 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the near future!

Ms Pecce

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Parentview

By the time you get to the end of this edition of News on the Ninth I am sure it will remind you of all of the good things that go on at Gusford. Children in our recent curriculum survey commented overwhelmingly on how they enjoy the new curriculum and the things that they do at Gusford. One way that we can celebrate that is to complete a short survey on Parentview. This is Ofsted's way of gauging how parents feel about Gusford. Ofsted arrive with very little notice now and so this is their way of gauging parents' views. Please visit parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and register your view on how Gusford is doing. It will really help the school.



Inspiration

Y3 Colchester Castle



On Wednesday 1st January, year 3 went on exciting trip to Colchester Castle to support their learning in their topic work. Here are some extracts from the children's recounts of the day.

Last Wednesday, we went to the amazing Colchester Castle. We went to learn more about our history topic: the rotten Romans and the cut-throat Celts. This recount will tell you about the adventure of year three at Colchester Castle. I was so excited. Thomas Porter, 3C

When we got there, we hung our coats up on the yellow pegs. We had to put our lunch in a trolley. A man called Mike told us what we were going to do in chronological order.

Jack Taylor, 3GM

As soon as we got there, Miss Collins' group went upstairs to look around. We saw Roman statues and weapons, cups, bowls, plates and ornaments. I felt amazed looking around at all the different things. Miss Collins' group went to look at the roundhouse. There was a question that said, "Tell me three things that the Celts did." So we had to do role-play and find three things that they did like jobs and work.

Maddie Pirie, 3C



Next, we went to build a Roman villa. 3S had a race: one side of the class built a roundhouse and the other side built a Roman villa. The people building the Roman villa won! I felt cheerful because we won, but they had something which took about 25 minutes. I really enjoyed building the Roman villa.

Isabelle Jarrett, 3S

Eventually a man called John took us into the vault really, really low underground. Every step was one hundred years back (in time). All you could see was stone. We listened to loads of amazing stories.

Joshua Moore, 3S

We crawled through some arches to get different rooms. It was nippy! Before we knew it, lunch was ready.

Lia Blake, 3GM



Finally, at the end of the day, we got back to the coach. Then I was upset because we were leaving. I was really unhappy and everyone else was exhausted after our busy day. Some people were really sleepy. I was. Eventually we got back to school and then we went home.

Rhys Evans, 3S



Inspiration

Partnership with Ipswich Town



Ipswich Town are supporting schools with learning projects by donating a season ticket for winners.

As a result of their excellent effort in lessons and improvement in their writing, two hard working pupils have been able to make use of the season

tickets to watch an Ipswich Town

game; **Taylor Nevens (year 6) and Bradley Sharland (year 4)** been selected to attend the games. Well done to those two boys, and keep a look out for the next winner for the next home match.

Netball

Well done to the Netball team who have won their first two matches.

Broke Hall - 3	Gusford - 7
Player of the match Abbie Griggs	Scorers Imogen-2 Abbie G-1 Bethan-2 Evie-1 Abbie H-1

The girls played extremely well and Miss Collins was very impressed with the way they moved around the court. They also showed very good determination to win the ball every time.

Springfield - 2	Gusford - 3
Player of the match Abbie Hammond	Scorers Bethan - 1 Abbie H - 2

A tough second game, but the Gusford girls fought hard in defence, showing great determination! Miss Collins felt the girls played extremely well and she was particularly impressed with the way the girls took control over all their shots despite the game being so close.

6H Take Control



Over the year, pupils from 6H have been learning to organise and referee their own matches in P.E. In both handball and basketball they have learned various refereeing signals to indicate where an offence has taken place. After each goal they swap over so everyone takes a turn at refereeing. They even have red and yellow cards (which have rarely been used!). As a result, the children have a better understanding of the game and are more sympathetic towards refereeing decisions. This term they are also planning and taking the warm-up sections of the lessons.





Inspiration

Sports Promotion

This term has seen an increased focus on promoting sport and healthy living with the children across the school. A number of new initiatives have been put in place to help children be more active across their school day.

Active Breakfast Club

Mr Webber is currently trialling running an active session at our breakfast club. Children have the chance to have some breakfast together and take part in a range of taster sessions for unusual sports and activities such as sit down volleyball, benchball, dodgeball and playground games. The children have loved working with Mr Webber and tell us that it has helped them have a positive start to the day.

Sports coaching and Play Leaders at lunchtimes

Some of you will have noticed the addition of two Premier Sport coaches to the Gusford team. Mr Hammond and Mr Cutts have been, amongst other things, promoting positive play through sport at lunchtimes. We have a number of Year 6 children who are giving up part of their lunchtimes to be trained as Play Leaders to lead active play sessions for Key Stage One children. This helps them to learn new skills, feel confident and safe in the playground as well as helping the Year 6 Play Leaders develop mentoring and coaching skills for later life. Thanks to those children who volunteered for the role this term: Alfie Penny, Owen Farr, Connor Munro, Charly Davison, Daisy Mann, Charlotte Edwards, Jayla Moss, Olivia Hart, Isaac Challen, Hayden Wise, Igli Zeqo, Ellouise Evans, Evie Andrews, Fynley Hack, Taylor Nevens.

Multi Use Games Area

I'm sure you will have all seen the new MUGA facility which we have had built on the Key Stage 2 Playground. This has been a great addition to our school grounds and will offer children lots of opportunities to try new sports. Mr Webber is currently running taster sessions of different sports for the Key Stage 2 children at lunchtimes including Basketball, Handball, Netball and Football. The number of children accessing this facility is increasing every week and over the next fortnight, girls and boys will be going head to head to see who has the greatest number of participants each day!

Extra-curricular clubs

Our thanks to a number of parents who have fed back, positively, through the Parent Council, that they are pleased with the increase in the number of clubs that we are offering. This term we have been able to offer a huge number of after school clubs to allow children to try out new sports and activities. Premier Sport coaches ensure a really high quality service and the children have loved having the chance to try something new. We currently offer Multisports, Basketball (Year 3/4), Netball, Gymnastics (Year 1/2), Football and Streetdance (Year 5/6) and will be adding more new clubs to this list after half term including Ultimate Frisbee! Ms Pecce has been working really hard to ensure that we offer creative arts clubs too and in addition to Ms Gray's hugely popular sewing club, will be offering an Arts and Craft club after half term. Watch this space for more details!

Gusford's New Year Resolution

Ms Headlam set the Gusford New Year Resolution this year, for everyone to be more active. The children now have small tracking cards to record their levels of activity each week and have been challenging Mrs Urquhart to be more active than them. She is exhausted! In addition to this, we have begun the 'Gusford Primary School 100 Sport Challenge', where children (and staff) are asked to bring in a photo of them trying an unusual sport or activity. The first photo for each sport will go on display outside the hall. We currently have photos of Ballroom Dancing (Hayden Wise, Year 6), Skiing (Jamie Foreman, Year 6), Gymnastics (Lia Blake, Year 3), Ice Hockey (Yvie Ralston, Year 4) as well as staff entries from Mrs Urquhart (Sailing and Wakeboarding), Mrs Clayton (Cheerleading and Cycling), Mrs Woodward (Horse riding) and Ms Headlam (Running). Our aim is 100 different sports – please send in your photos with your child or email them to mrs.urquhart@gusfordprimary.net.



Inspiration

Nursery



Have you ever been Humpty Dumpty? In Nursery in January we have been learning the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty, we used the construction bricks to build a wall to role play the nursery rhyme.



We also thought about how we could prevent this happening again, using a variety of materials we talked about different ways we could protect Humpty Dumpty's shell.

We have also been using scales to measure the weight of two different objects; we discussed this in our talk partners.



We were using the climbing equipment to practise our balancing and jumping skills we really enjoyed this and are very good at jumping and landing safely.

Cupcake Literacy



In 5S literacy group, on the 21st January, we concluded our topic, instructions, by decorating cupcakes.

We started our topic by reading and trying out different sets and types, in order to see what feature make clear, easy to follow instructions. We found out that numbered bullet points, step-by-step pictures, prepositions, time conjunctions and imperative verbs were all essential, as well as many other features. We then planned and wrote our own instructions, based on how to decorate a cupcake. Once our instructions were finished, we swapped books, read the our partners instructions and, finally, decorated the cakes.

After that, we evaluated each others instructions to say what bits were easy to follow and which bits confused us. We then edited our instructions, based on our partners feedback, to make them the best they could be.

I think this is a really fun, cool, clever way to end our topic, and we obviously learnt a lot as mainly all the cakes went perfectly (the others were still great)!"

Emilie Kennell 5S



Inspiration

Year 5&6 Fab 5 Award winners

Fabulous 5 certificates were awarded to children at the end of last term for having an excellent attitude to learning and school life, being helpful and polite or being a good role model to their peers. Well done to the children who received Autumn term reading achievement certificates, for making good progress with their reading or reading a wide range of books at home.





Inspiration

Reception Pirates



Over the past few weeks the reception children have been exploring and learning about pirates in a cross curricular way. Learning in this way is so important to our young four and five year olds. The children have role played their ways across the seven seas seeking out treasure on their many quests to islands. They have learnt to count treasure and shared their booty out in maths with 'real' gold coins. They have written information about pirate lives, comparing their own life



to that of a pirate. They have learnt how to make their own swords and hats and have designed their own treasure

maps. They have labelled these maps so other pirates could use them on their quests. In science they discovered which items would sink or float.



Amazingly they were able to find ways to keep the treasure so it wouldn't be lost at the bottom of the ocean. They even built their own pirate ships in the garden to act out their stories. They are finishing their topic with a special pirate themed day so watch out all you land lubbers at Gusford and take care of your gold next Friday when the reception pirates will be taking over the school.





Inspiration

Y4 Improving figurative poetry

As part of developing our writing, in particular focusing on the use of similes and metaphors we had a very special visitor. Speedy the tortoise came into the classroom and provided a stimulus for writing as a group we collaboratively wrote a poem. Then the children were encouraged to choose their own animal and use a simile and metaphor in their poetry writing.



Tortoise

Symmetrical hexagons dance across my chequered home.

As anxious as a child on their first day of school.

Slowly trotting as the whole day passes.

Claws like thorns dragging my scaly legs.

My arms like prickly branches are part of my armour.

Home is a hiding place that no one can see.

By Year 4 Miss Hughes's Literacy group.

The Rhino

Its black beady eyes silence the place.

A rhino is a killing machine.

It's a mass of destruction.

Eating brown tree bark.

Worse than murder.

Hard silky, grey armoured skin covers its bony body.

The brawny rhino is the king of strength.

Oliver Warner –Howe 4C

Alpaca

Swiftly alpacas stride beyond emerald grass.

Their mouth is a dripping tap.

They have pointed ears like an elf.

They are camels wearing a woolly jumper that hides the hump.

Imogen Robinson 4W

Gorilla

Our deep, black eyes shine in the moonlight.

We are a weighty rock swinging from tree to tree in the jungle.

Our silver backs can be as grey as a storm cloud.

We have ebony eyes which are as threatening as a murky beach.

We are brawny mountains of steel.

Alex Morphew 4H.

Alpaca

Swiftly alpacas stride beyond emerald grass.

Their mouth is a dripping tap.

They have pointed ears like an elf.

They are camels wearing a woolly jumper that hides the hump.

Imogen Robinson 4W

Guinea pigs.

Curved claws like fishing hooks.

A patchwork quilt of brown and beige.

Their eyes are as dark as a gloomy, dark cellar.

Their nose moves like a roller coaster racing side to side.

Their teeth are little needles that chomp up food.

Caitlin Alderton-Green 4H

The Cobra

I am green and scaly.

My teeth are like scissors cutting a piece of rope.

I slither and slide about.

When you hunt me down I will ferociously attack.

When people see me they quiver with fear.

I live in the Indian jungle and camouflage in the tree.

Josef Hurd 4W

Elephant.

Colossal leaves are elephants ears.

It is a brick wall.

The long trunk sways when the elephants move.

Elephants are as heavy as a boulder.

Joyfully the elephants squirt water.

The elephants travel in an immense herd.

Ella Karkosa 4W



Collaboration

Parent Council meeting - January 2015

The 5th parent council meeting took place on 29th January. Those present were: Aileen Davison, Shelley Ingram, Debbie Mackenzie-Thorpe, Julie Mills, Emma Fothergill, Sarah Ingram, Tracey Evans, Colin Tapscott, Richard Marlow

We discussed

Ideas for new toilets.

The school is going to try to get a grant to fund improvements in toilets and the parent council looked at the plans.

Parentview Clubs

We discussed how to get more parents to complete the survey on Parentview for Ofsted. Parents were pleased with the increase in clubs and how well Sewing Club was going. There had been an occasion where notice to parents about a club starting was short notice.

Swimming

There had been a delay with the bus one week for Y6 swimming and parents were concerned at the waiting for this and the reduction in swimming time.

Rewards & consequences

A parent shared a concern that some children were getting more recognition in star of the week assemblies when some quieter well behaved children did not. We discussed children's behaviour when supply teachers are used and ensuring those who don't misbehave are recognised positively.

Charities

The parent council recognised the good work that the school council do to raise money. They raised confirming the charities of the year and the events planned at the start of the year, helped to ensure we do not ask too much of families and made sure parents could support it better and plan for it.

Gate

There are signs on some of the wooden gates reminding people to close them during the school day. We need to have some on the main side gates. The school will be looking into coded locks to allow the nursery to enter but to keep children safer during the day.

Next meeting: Thursday 5th March 2.00pm

If anyone is interested in joining the Parent Council then please let us know. The purpose of the council is to raise general issues, not your child specific, that will help the school celebrate what it is doing well and develop things that need improving. Please email us at parents@gusfordprimary.net if you would like to join the council.



Parentview

You've reached the end of this edition of News on the Ninth. Has it reminded you of all of the good things that go on at Gusford? How about celebrating what you value at Gusford by completing a short survey on Parentview? Please visit parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and register your view on how Gusford is doing. It will really help the school. Our aim is to achieve 100 entries by the start of next term. Can you help us meet that?