



Gooderstone Gazette

Gooderstone Adventures!



COLLECTIVE
WORSHIP THEME:

CHANGES

OWLS!

This week in Owls & Goslings, we have been reading and singing The Gingerbread Man! We went on a hunt to find him, making posters and maps with our geography and sentence skills. Today we used our maths skills to measure and weigh the ingredients then decorated them with yummy treats.



TEAM POINTS

1st Einstein- 103
2nd Newton - 98
3rd Curie - 89

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

SKYLARKS!

This week in Skylarks, we had a great No Plan Day where we selected the topic of 'cats'. We found out about Egyptians and how they worshipped their cats. We even discovered that if a cat passed away the owner would shave off their eyebrows and mourn until they grew back! We wrote fact files about cats and some of us chose to do this on purple mash. We then used our sculpting skills to make sphinx clay models. In the afternoon we listened to songs from the musical Cats and discussed which ones we liked and why using words like pitch and dynamics. Finally we visited the library and learnt how to search in the different sections for non fiction books about cats. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying their reading and sharing what they had learnt!

KESTRELS!

This week in Kestrels, we had our No Plan Day where the children chose to look at Marvel. We looked at characters from the Marvel Universe, designed our own characters, made some animations and trailers for films. Then for P.E. we made a 'concrete jungle' from the equipment and then the children practised their best superhero poses and acrobatic moves. We had a wonderful day where the children demonstrated kindness, creativity and respect towards each other.



Exciting Writing!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR LEAD TEACHER-MRS KEEBLE

So far this year, we have been focussing on improving writing in all classes across the federation. We have introduced a Big Write Book which will go up with the children each year to show their progress with their creative writing. We have also slowed down our teaching of sentence structure to ensure that the children have a solid foundation of sentence skills to build upon through their time at primary school. In addition to this, we have had a crackdown on presentation and correct punctuation use, specifically full stops and capital letters. End of year expectations for writing can be found on the school's website.

In order to measure the success of this focus, the staff have completed a sentence construction assessment where the children were given a percentage for how many of their sentences were correctly constructed. In most classes across the federation we have seen an improvement in their percentages with some children improving up to 80%! We will continue to assess the children's writing in this way to review the impact of our teaching.

How you can help at home

As always, it would be brilliant if we could have your support with improving the children's writing when they are completing work at home, including ensuring that the children use their neatest handwriting (joined from Year 2) and that sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop.

Useful websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary#>

<https://www.literacyshed.com/>

<https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMhWKrdwzFr994ZhwqG4nlA/videos>

(Grammarsaurus YouTube channel with songs)

<https://literacyapps.literacytrust.org.uk/category/writing/>

(List of apps recommended by the Literacy Trust)

Upcoming Events

RESCHEDULED: Skylarks Showcase will now be after half term
- New date will be released soon.

9th February: Owls Showcase - 2.45pm

13th February: Half Term

23rd February: Aspens Rainbow Food Day

1st March: Class Group Photos

Every effort is made to stick to the planned dates, but occasionally circumstances beyond our control may affect in-school events.

We will always inform you as soon as possible of any changes.

Thank you for understanding.

Meet our new Caretaker!

We would like to warmly welcome, Mr Terry Moore to our Churchside Federation team as our new Caretaker for Gooderstone & Mundford!

Terry has written a piece about himself, 'I have now got the perfect opportunity (I'm not going to call it a job because it is much more than that), to do what I do best and that's to help others and put something back to the community. There's no point doing something that you're not going to enjoy and to always put 100% into anything that helps our school and pupils.

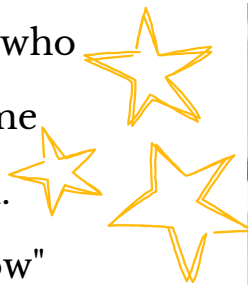
So my philosophy in life is, give it your best shot, be honest, be fair and understanding. And make at least one person laugh every day! My daughter has said

"He is a selfless, caring human who always puts others first.

His work ethic is what taught me to work hard in my career, an inspirational career he has had.

My dad has a massive heart!

One of the biggest hearts I know"



We are thrilled to have Terry as a member of the team and look forward the future!

Illness / Sickness

We are experiencing high volumes of sickness & diarrhoea within the school.

Please encourage and remind all children to wash their hands regularly, with warm - hot water and soap. You can use the Happy Birthday tune as the length of time to scrub their hands and make sure the germs disappear!

If your child(ren) is poorly and cannot attend school/ nursery, please notify the office as soon as possible, via the Iris App, email or phone call. Please note a sickness or diarrhoea bug, must be 48 hours since last sickness before your child / ren returns to school

Coughs & Colds

The usual winter bugs i.e coughs and colds are making their way through the school.

Please encourage and politely remind all children to wash their hands regularly, cough or sneeze into their elbow/ tissue and dispose of any used tissues in the bin.

If your child(ren) is poorly and cannot attend school/ nursery, please notify the office as soon as possible, via the Iris App, email or phone call.



Notes

Reminder- Head Lice

Headlice – We politely remind and encourage all parents to check for headlice.

An email has been sent to all parents / carers 19/1/23.
Headlice Remover guidance can be found in a hard copy in the front office or the NHS website.

After School Clubs & Music Lessons

There are spaces available in our After School Clubs and Music Lessons available with Mrs Whistler.

If you would like further information or a hard copy of letters, please speak with Mrs O'Rourke at the office.

Stars & Wows of the Week

will resume Friday 10th February 2023, for sharing assembly.

What are we Reading?

Reading is the key to unlocking all curriculum subjects for children.

As with last year, we are using the Power of Reading to encourage the children to love books and to broaden their reading horizon.

We want every child to be a confident reader with a passion for books.

Alongside our Power of Reading books, we also have a class reader which is a shared class book which is read to the children every day.

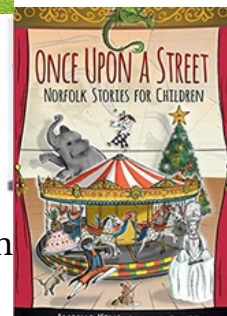
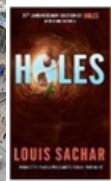
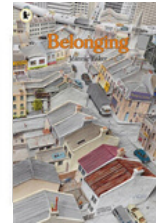
Current books:

Power of Reading:

Owls: The Lonely Beast

Skylarks: Belonging

Kestrels: Holes



Class Reader:

Owls: Rabbit & Bear

Skylarks: Once Upon a Street - Norfolk Stories for Children

Kestrels: Alex Neptune- Dragon Thief

Let Every Light Shine