

Friday 22 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a week! Science to the absolute maximum, the children have had so many experiences and opportunities this week - we must say an enormous thank you to Mrs. Liddiard for organising it all, the school staff for facilitating and the children for giving everything their all! Dave Hickory got us starting and enthused on Monday with incredible STEM shows. Tuesday an amazing day at Monkton Farleigh taking part in a range of workshops (a mass hill rolling!), Wednesday and Thursday activities galore. All culminating in mega marble runs (yet to be seen at the time of writing but surely a sight to be seen).

On top of this we have had parents'evenings and I know how much the teaching team have enjoyed speaking with all of you about the brilliant children we have here at Churchfields. If you didn't manage to book an appointment please do speak to your class team as these meetings are important to ensuring clear communication and making sure we are all working together.

Of course, next week is our Easter celebrations with visits to the churches, concerts and whole school Church service at St Michaels, Atworth to look forward to on Tuesday. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Have a wonderful weekend Mrs Harper



Another very healthy crop of mathletics certificates and a particular mention to our diamond mathletes. These children have earned at least 25 certificates this year to reach this level and it is fantastic

to see how many keen mathletes we have - and they represent every single class in the school, proving that mathletics is good for every age group. Well done everyone!

As an additional note, we do not automatically print every certificate earned in the school as this would result in a lot of paper for all those hard-working mathletes! Once children reach gold level they will receive the first certificate from that and every subsequent level in Gem Learner. Additional certificates can be printed if teachers feel it is appropriate - please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like any particular certificates.

Bronze: Henry B, Jazmyne, Felix

Silver: Scarlett, Isla, Freddie S, Finlay, Harry S, Olivia S,

Otto

Gold: Henry H, Bodhi C, Iris, Ted E

Platinum: Isabella S, George R, Ted E, Vinnie, Hattie D,

Christina, Jude

Emerald: Oliver H, Josiah, Quita, Joseph, Leighton,

Emily J, Henry J

Diamond: William J, Alexis G, Rufus, Maddox, Alexis M,

Harry L, Oscar BH, Jasper



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Friday 15 March 2024

#### Science Week

On Monday, it was science week and Dave Hickory came to do a science workshop.

Balloons have lots of positive and negatives inside them everything does and so when you rub a balloon on your hair all the negatives from your hair stick on the balloon and then if you put the balloon on a wall all the extra negatives on the balloon stick to the positives on the wall and you can let go of the balloon without it falling off.

The first experiment he showed us was with a little tube. First he filled up the tube with water, nothing happened. He poured the water out of the tube and put a little tablet in called alka seltzer. Nothing happened. Then he put the water and the alka seltzer in together. We counted down from five and then it popped the lid off and flew up into the sky and hit the roof. The second experiment was with lycopodium powder and a firelighter. He poured some lycopodium powder out of the tube and lit it on fire and a massive ball of fire went up in the air. Then he poured some lycopodium into a cup with water in and it floated on top of the water. When Heidi stuck her finger in it stuck to her finger. He said this was because it is hydrophobic.

Dave also did a maths workshop and taught us about shapes. He told us about a variety of 3D and 3D shapes, he made a huge cube out of balloons and made more and showed us a circle but it wasn't a circle it was called a torus because it was like a doughnut but with a big hole. We got to go in groups of 3 with an blown up balloons tied together, with those we had to make different types of triangles: equilateral, isosceles, right angle. At the end he was talking about how many counters would fit in the whole of Trowbridge and then somehow we got into talking about googolplex and that even a really tiny amount (the size of an atom) could not fit in the known universe.

Everyone enjoyed Dave like always and we hope he comes again.

Theo, William and Scarlett



On Tuesday the whole school were at Monkton Farleigh for our day of science workshops. All children were able to complete four of the six workshops on this year's theme of time and enjoyed a wide variety of learning activities as Kestrels report: For the skittle workshop you made a rainbow in the shape of a circle then when they were touching we squirted a bit of water with a pipette in the middle then waited for a few minutes; some of them went quicker than others. Then the water washes the colour away from the skittle and in the middle it forms a rainbow, and it looks really cool.

Another activity was a reaction timer where you found out how long it takes your brain to send messages to your fingers telling them when to pinch together to catch the piece of paper. We found out that sometimes your age affects how fast you catch it because adults seemed to catch it slower than younger children. My best score was 0.08 seconds but there was a year 2 who got less than 0.02 seconds!

My favourite was lego dominoes – it was where you had 4 types of lego (the 8 stud brick, the 4 stud brick, the long brick and any brick) and you had to lay them out and knock them over.

In the signs of spring workshop we looked at trees. You can tell how old a tree is by how many rings are inside. We played spring bingo looking for signs of spring. We found some daffodils and some blossoms. There were some other purple flowers and lots of ladybirds. We wanted to see some butterflies but sadly it's too early.

My favourite activity was the pendulums. Pendulums were used on old grandfather clocks and sway from one side of the other. We were put into groups of three. Mrs Liddiard set us a challenge to try and make the pendulum stop at 30 seconds. Our team got 31 seconds! After that, Mrs Liddiard had prefilled a bottle with sand, and put out some black paper on the floor. The bottle of sand moved over the paper and made a pattern on the paper out of sand.

My favourite was the sand timer. We had to make a sand timer for 20 seconds measuring a certain amount of sand in groups. First we got 12 seconds so we added a lot and got up to 23 seconds so we took a bit away and got 20.74 and then finally we got 19.91 and earned a certificate and a sparkly sticker.

Oliver, Freddie, Florence, Jazmyne, Gracie, Henry, Ted

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#### **Term dates for 2023/2024**

Term 3: Thursday 04 January – Friday 09 February	Term 5: Monday 15 April – Friday 24 May  • Monday 06 May Bank holiday (school closed)
Term 4: 19 February – Friday 28 March  • INSET DAY Monday 11 March	Term 6: Monday 03 June – Wednesday 24 July  • Wednesday 24 July - INSET DAY (school closed)

Term 4		
Tuesday 26 March	Easter Service St Michael's Church 1:15pm	
Thursday 28 March	Monkton Farleigh Easter Concert 2:30 -3pm	
Thursday 28 March	End of term 4	
Term 5		
Saturday 11 April	Churchfields The Village school Fun Run Atworth Recreation ground	
Monday 15 April	Term 5 begins	
Friday 19 April	WOW Day	
Wednesday 24 April	Atworth Open Day (10am-2pm)	
Friday 26 April	Class photos with Tempest Photography	
Friday 26 April	MF Open Day (10am-2pm)	
Friday 26 April	Atworth Easter Concert 2:15-3:15	
Monday 13 May – Thursday 16 May	KS2 SATs week	
Friday 24 May	End of Term 5	

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Term 6		
Monday 03 June	Start of Term 6	
Tuesday 04 June	Music Cluster event	
Wednesday 06 June	R24 Meet the Teacher 5pm Atworth; 5:30pm MF	
Monday 10 June	NSPCC visit	
Tuesday 11 June	R24 Induction afternoon	
Wednesday 12 June	Rotary club concert	
Monday 17 June	Yr 6 leavers service Salisbury Cathedral	
Tuesday 18 June	R24 induction afternoon	
Wednesday 19 June	St Laurence Summer Festival	
Tuesday 25 June	R24 Induction afternoon	
Wednesday 26 June	Year 5 Cluster day St Laurence	
01 July-05 July	Sports week	
Tuesday 02 July	Melksham Oak transition day	
Tuesday 02 July	R24 Teddy Bear's picnic	
Wednesday 03 July	Melksham Oak transition day	
Thursday 04 July	Yr 6 induction day (1 of 2) St Laurence School	

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Friday 05 July	Sports Day afternoon
Thursday 11 July	Yr 6 induction day (2 of 2) St Laurence School
Tuesday 16 July	Move up morning
Tuesday 16 July	Leavers service St Michaels Church 1:15pm
Friday 19 July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 19 July	Pupil Reports go home
Tuesday 23 July	Last day term 6
Wednesday 24 July	INSET DAY



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