



NEWSLETTER

Term 3, Week 4 2020

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Through our assemblies this week, we have thought about 'keeping going against the odds'. Children have heard about the **Holocaust**, listened to a personal account of a child who managed to flee to safety to England, and learnt about how Corrie Ten Boom risked her own life by helping Jews to hide between the brickwork in her house.

In assembly today, we congratulated **Jenny Prentice** who has achieved a brown belt in karate and **Evelyn Reading-Parkes** who has achieved a Level 6 Gymnastics award.

Using ideas from the school council to increase home reading, we are now running a '**Regular Reader**' class competition. The aim is still to read 5 times per week to an adult (evidenced by the adult signing each time in the reading record). Children will be working as a class to try to achieve the highest percentage over a number of weeks. The winning classes will be able to choose something to be purchased from a 'wish list' they have created with their teacher.

The results for this week are:

Reception 48%, Year 1 28%, Year 2 30%

Year 3 31%, Year 4 25%, **Year 5 47%**, Year 6 22%

We teach reading in school through phonics and English lessons, as well as hearing children read individually and in groups but I cannot stress enough the impact that daily reading will have on a child's progress and this is where your support is vital.

Year 6 parents were invited to an '**Open Reading Session**' on Monday to see how reading is taught in year 6 and how to support reading development and enjoyment of reading at home. Thank you to parents who were able to attend and we hope you found it helpful.

This week Year 3 had a visit Amy Marsden who is a physiotherapist. This is part of our curriculum development to include opportunities for Careers Related Learning and it linked to the children's science topic on skeletons and muscles. Later in the week, Miss Taylor hosted a very well attended Reading Workshop to demonstrate some of the skills needed to develop reading comprehension, along with some activities and refreshments. Thank you to families who were able to attend and/or contribute to the refreshments.

Children in Years 4&5 have participated in **food workshops**, run by Chartwells (our school meals provider). They learnt about the importance of a balanced diet and consideration for the amount of sugar in our foods, including healthier things we could 'swop' higher sugar treats for.

Year 2 visited Tesco in Meads and looked for different food types in the store. Then they spent £1 each on different fruits and vegetables. Year 1 have been learning to 'edit' their writing. A very technical skill which apparently requires special glasses...

Enjoy the photos!



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1**

Enthusiasm

Responsibility

Attitude

Perseverance

Collaboration

Focus

Independence

Katherin Weeks

Term Dates and Coming Events

Wednesday 5th February 9am – Family Communion (all welcome)

Friday 7th February NSPCC Number Day (all children may wear a top with a number on and bring in £1 for charity)

Tuesday 11th February Year 5/6 Swimming Gala

Friday 14th February Last Day of Term 3

Monday 24th February School Open—Term 4

Thursday 5th March World Book Day

Rainbow Awards:

Reception: Eden Loveday-Ockhuisen

Year 1: Matthew Hatton

Year 2: Emerson Birley

Year 3: Nina Chruslinksa

Year 4: Kaiya Woodroffe

Year 5: Sapphire Byrne

Year 6: Chloe Kelly

Who's Who?

Miss Emily Teager **Deputy Headteacher**



Originally from Sussex, I moved to London in 2009 to train to be a teacher (something I'd known I wanted to be from around age 7!). I worked in London for 6 years and enjoyed opportunities to teach across all age groups, from Early Years up to Year 6. After teaching in Year 2 for a number of years, I became phase leader for Key Stage 1.

I've been at St John's Meads for almost two years now and feel privileged to work in a school with such a strong sense of community. It is a pleasure to be teaching children in Year 6 in their final year of primary school and I love seeing their pride when they realise how much they've achieved during their time at St John's Meads.

I am delighted to lead Maths across the school (most children know this is my favourite subject) and love sharing my enjoyment and enthusiasm for this subject with staff and pupils. I feel passionate about making learning accessible and enjoyable for all pupils and am determined to instil the confidence and belief in every child that they can succeed in anything they set their mind to.

In my spare time, I play netball regularly and compete in a local league. I enjoy running and have completed a number of half marathons. I also enjoy sailing, although mostly in the summer months!

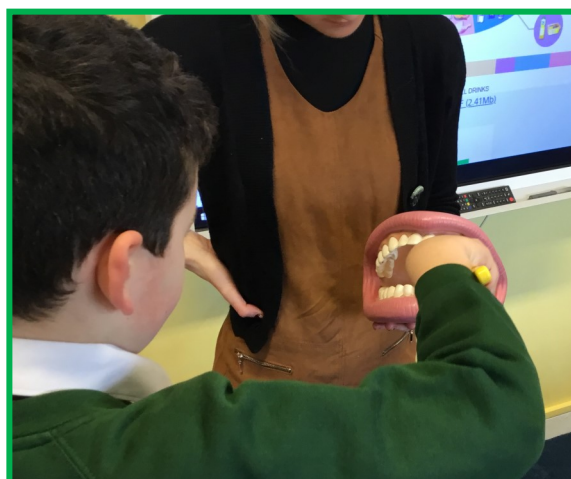
I am looking forward to getting to know more families across the school as part of my new role as Deputy Headteacher.

Year 1 'Editing'



Sugar Swaps

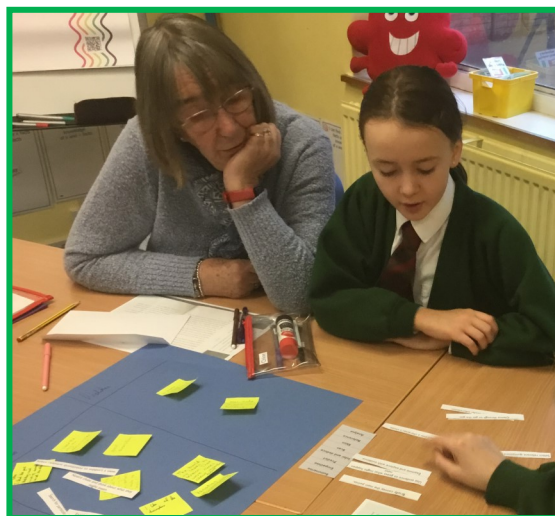
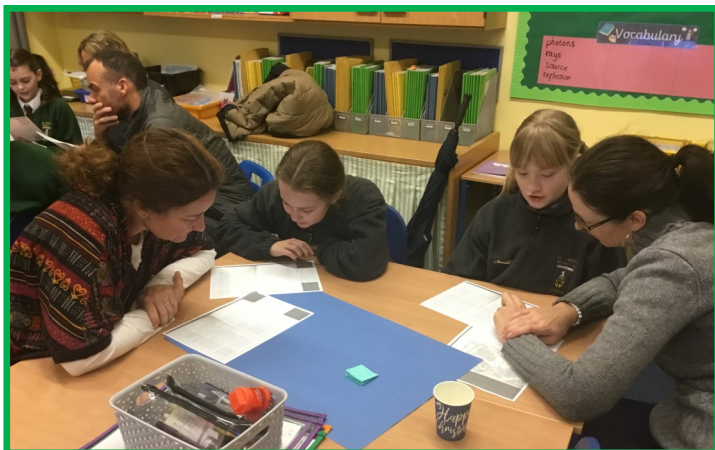
Year 5 had a fantastic time meeting Fiona, a nutritionist from Chartwells. The children learnt about how much sugar is in popular cereals, snacks and drinks. They learnt about the Eatwell Guide and how to ensure they have a healthy, balanced diet.



Year 3 Reading Workshop



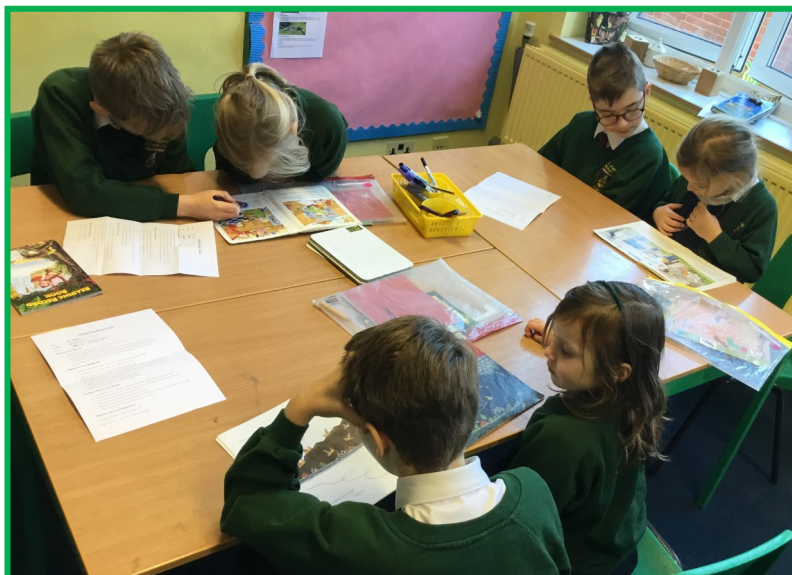
Year 6 Open Reading Session



Year 1 and Year 5 Buddy Reading

Year 1 and Year 5 have been enjoying Buddy Reading.

The Year 5 children are listening to their Year 1 Buddy read and then reading them a story. We have been so impressed by the kindness and enthusiasm shown by the Year 5 children. They are developing nurturing relationships and taking great pride in their role.



Year 3 Visit from a Physiotherapist

