



Stonegate C of E Primary School

Love of Learning for Life

Wow what a term! There has been a wonderful buzz of learning throughout the school, with children fully engaged in the exciting learning opportunities available to them. This week, as part of Parent Consultations, it has been wonderful to discuss all of your children's successes from Term 1.

Harvest

We had a wonderful Harvest celebration service and I would like to thank you all for your generous donations for our local charities. It was fantastic that there was standing room only in the Church and that so many members of our school community could enjoy sharing this important festival.

Forest School in Term 1

We are delighted to offer every child the opportunity to learn in our Forest School. Thank you to all of our wonderful team who make these activities possible. Below is a flavor of what they have been doing.

Little Acorns - Autumn is a lovely season for exploring Forest School. Leaves, mud, acorns, conkers and pine cones make fantastic ingredients for soup and cakes in the mud kitchen! An ongoing interest in worms inspired us to make our own by threading conkers together. Little Acorns have also been observing how one of the trees is changing over time - different colours and leaves falling. It is lovely to watch the children's confidence and knowledge grow as they play, explore and discuss their findings.

Acorns - Acorns class have been using palm drills to make their own acorn and conker jewellery. They have also explored their creativity using clay and investigated autumn leaves, petals and berries to create Hapa Zome art - the Japanese technique of smashing flowers and leaves into fabric.



Seedlings – Thinking of our topic of London, we recreated the silhouettes of iconic London landmarks, including St.Paul's Cathedral and The Houses of Parliament, using things we found on the field forest floor. We have also made crowns using coloured card and decorated these with leaves, acorns, conkers, sticks and other natural items. Each week we've used clay to design imaginative masterpieces.

Saplings – Have linked their learning of the Romans to a number of wonderful Forest School activities. These have included making coins from clay, creating whistles from elderflower, a reenactment of Roman military procedures, a Roman Bake Off and they have also developed a Thermopolium selling salads, moretum and flavoured stews.

Mighty Oaks- Thinking of the term topic of WWII the class have made shelters using para cord and tarps and successfully made a fire on which pancakes were cooked and flavoured with jam in the full spirit of rationing. The class topic for science has been sound, so the children were given the challenge of making musical instruments - these have included carrot recorders and wind chimes.

During the War

This week, as part of their wonderful learning based on WW2, the children of Mighty Oaks Class visited Newhaven Fort. The children explored the exhibits within the museum, toured the battlements and even experienced a simulated air raid. The children made clear links from their learning in the classroom to the real life artefacts and displays they saw during the visit.



A 'day of discovery' at Marlborough House

This enrichment day focused on the theme of energy. The children from Year 6 were able to design and build rockets in DT (well done to Aggie for propelling her rocket the greatest distance), explore seed heads and seeds using the medium of clay in art, ignite crisps to evaluate the energy content in science and they ended with a fast paced game of rugby. Our pupils had a fantastic day and their focus and dedication during the different tasks was noted by all the teachers at Marlborough House.



Fantastic Footballers

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 boys football team who finished 3rd in this week's Uplands Festival.

Safeguarding and Keeping Safe

I am sure that over the next few weeks many families will be have bonfire and firework parties. Please can I refer you all to this website which provides a number of top tips to support families in staying safe. <https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety>

Final Thought

Have a good half term break and remember - "Sometimes doing nothing makes way for everything."

Upcoming Events

Term 2 2022 – 2023

Monday 31st October
Inset Day for Pre-School and School

Tuesday 1st November
Term 2 Begins

Wednesdays throughout Term 2
KS2 Swimming

Thursday 3rd November
Sponsored Walk – 1pm

Thursday 3rd November & Monday 5th December
Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Thursday 8th December
Reception and Year 1/2 Nativity - 9.30am

Monday 12th December
Key Stage 2 Choir Performance - 6.00pm

Tuesday 13th December
Pre-School Christmas Performance – 9.00am

Thursday 15th December
School Visit to the Pantomime (Not PS)

Friday 16th December
Crib Service in the Church – 7.00pm

Friday 16th December
Term 2 Ends

Term 3 2022 – 2023

Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Inset Day for Pre-School and School

Wednesday 4th January 2023
First Day of Term 3

PTA News

Can you help?



The School are supporting our community by clearing up after the Wadhurst Fireworks on **Sunday 6th November** from 9.30am. We would appreciate a few hours of your time and hopefully many hands make light work – this was great fun last year and many families enjoyed the fresh air and family time.

Please let any member of the PTA / or the School Office know if you are available to help. Thank you in advance.

Save the Date

On **Saturday 19th November** from 7pm (Tbc) – the PTA will be hosting a Music themed Quiz Night.

I am reliably informed that it won't just be for music buffs and will be lots of fun. As always there will be hot food and a bar. More details to follow shortly.