



Chilham St. Mary's Church Of England Primary School

# Newsletter 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## What we are learning about in class...

### Wrens

Through our theme on bikes this week the children have learnt so much! We learnt about 2D shapes and used them to create shape bikes. We read the wonderfully mad story by Quentin Blake called Mrs Armitage on Wheels. Ask your child to tell you this story! Thank you for adding the photos of your children's bikes to Tapestry. The children were delighted to show them off to their friends and used some amazing language to describe them.

The Wrens have also been very interested in the snow and ice so we created a snowy small world using sugar sugar cubes and arctic animals.

We went down to sports hall for Gymnastics for the **first time** this week. They had a lovely time exploring the apparatus and thinking up different ways of travelling over, under and even through it!

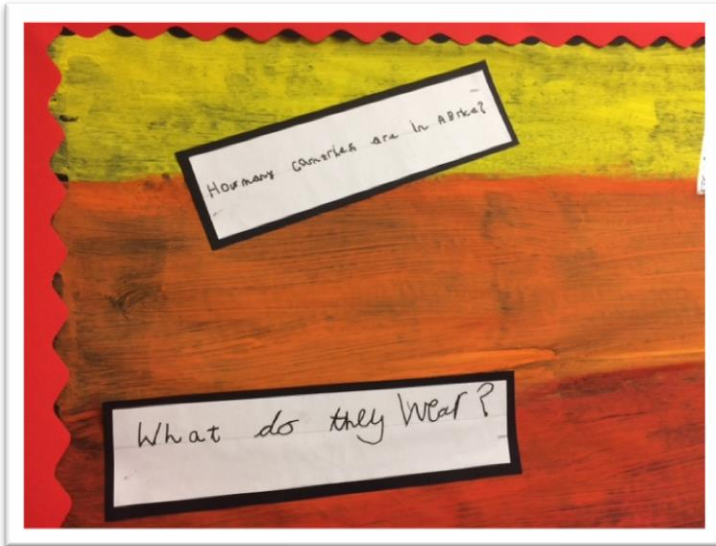


### Hérons



The Herons have got off to a flying start with their Africa topic. They have posed questions about what they would like to find out and are going to be researching the answers in their weekly topic lessons. Look at our fantastic display below, which you can come and visit anytime in the classroom. It has their questions on it.

In English they have been looking at books by Mary Hoffman, the characters are African and the children have produced some amazing writing from



reading the texts. In maths they have worked really hard to develop an understanding of fractions, particularly halves and quarters. They have amazed us with their enthusiasm, so please encourage them at home to show you what they have learnt. On Friday we visited St Mary's Church to find out about all the jobs that need doing in a church we even performed a pretend Baptism with the help of the church warden. Ask your child what is used to Baptise a baby?

## **Martins**

In the Martins class this week we have been learning how to tell and write the time on an analogue and a 24 hour digital clock. In Literacy we have been designing our own dragons and writing commands to train them. In our topic we have been locating China and its cities and also learning about the Shang Dynasty and when it started. Last week we visited St Mary's Church to find out about the similarities and differences between different denominations.

In Gymnastics this week we created 'counter balances' with a partner firstly on the floor and then moved onto apparatus. Ask your child what a 'counter balance' is and get them to show you what they did.

## **Peacocks**

This week has been an incredibly busy week learning about equivalent fractions and factors in maths (see if your child can explain to you what a 'perfect number' is). We have been also delighted to welcome Mrs Showler (former deputy head from Lady Joanna Thornhill in Wye) who has begun taking a weekly maths enrichment group. This is a brilliant opportunity for those children in her group to secure their maths knowledge further.

English this week has been focused on enhancing children's descriptive writing skills and to compliment this we have been looking at closely rules related to using inverted commas in direct speech. Some of the class then acted out conversations that they had written.

Our topic this term is South America. Can your children name any of the 12 countries in South America, or any of the species living in the Amazon Rain forest? Although I have met many of you on the playground, I hope I will have the opportunity to say hello to the rest of you as the term progresses.

## **Certificates Awarded**

Samuel D - behaviour award

Alfie O, Josh R, Daisy-May W - excellent spelling progress

Katie and Eleanor N - continuing good behaviour and attitude around school

Fynn T - for a superb, descriptive piece of writing

Lilylou W - for using feedback to improve her writing



## **Farewell...**

We were sorry to say goodbye to Ms Bevan as she moves onto a new challenge. We wish her all the best ☺

## **Parent View Questionnaire**

Thank you to all of you who completed the parent questionnaire we sent home before Christmas, we found your answers and comments really useful. We are sure that you will have noticed lots of changes recently and would love to hear your views about school now.

The questionnaire is very short and will only take a few minutes to complete. Thank you. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

## **Please see attached flyer for Buster's Book Club!**

We are very excited to have joined Buster's Book Club. Please look out for the special bookmark in your child's reading record.