



# Newsletter

Friday 4 April 2025

## Staffing Update

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to **Miss Fran Greenhow**, who leaves us to take up an exciting training opportunity, and **Mrs Becky Brown**, who is going on maternity leave. We wish both Miss Greenhow and Mrs Brown all the best in their new adventures!



I am delighted that **Mrs Sam Bradley** will be returning as a Teaching Assistant and that **Ms Alex Harris** will be joining us to teach 3RB for the Summer Term. In addition, we have recruited **Miss Niamh Farrell** and **Miss Lily-Rose Bennett** as class teachers for September although we hope they will be able to join us in July for transition week. I know you will welcome them to the school.

## Year 6 – Building a Village

As part of our 'Building a Village' topic, we have been looking at the impact of climate change on coastal areas of the United Kingdom. In Design and Technology, we created



plans for our own flood-proof houses and built models in order to test and evaluate them. The children had lots of fun - especially with the testing part! It seems there are some budding architects in Year 5 and 6.

*(Picture attached is Arya, Shaurya, Iliyan and Hayden).*

## Lexicon Easter Egg Competition

We have had so much fun decorating our school egg! Every child and member of staff in our school has been involved in making it vibrant and colourful and all have placed their painted fingerprints onto it. We wanted to get the whole school community involved, and decided each year group could have a stripe of a rainbow (representing neurodiversity within the community) encircling the egg to claim as their own with their fingerprints.



The egg will be one of ten displayed in shop windows at the Lexicon as part of their Easter Egg Hunt activities -please go along to view them and vote for us! We are in with the chance of winning a share of incredible prizes worth £1,250 for the school! We hope you love it as much as we do!

*Miss Church & Mrs Cowell (Art & Design Leaders)*

## Year 5 – Building a Village

Year 5 have had a very busy half term! We have been to Brakenhale to watch their Dress Rehearsal performance of



Mary Poppins, which all children enjoyed (especially the interval ice lolly!). In our Wider Curriculum topic, 'Building a Village', we have learnt about the history of Reading and Bracknell, how to read maps, what materials are used for

building and designed flood-proof houses to deal with the threat of climate change. In English, to complement our Wider Curriculum learning, we have been writing about properties of rocks. We started our writing journey by being geologists and making sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rocks out of chocolate! We



have also written our own 'Fear' poems and studied The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes in our Guided Reading lessons.

### Crown Wood Sporting Success!

Congratulations to our sports teams who took part in the Bracknell Forest Football, Tag-Rugby and Hockey tournaments this term. Our Year 3 & 4 Team were crowned champions in Football while Year 4s won gold in Tag Rugby with 6 wins out of 6! The Year 5 & 6 Hockey team finished just outside the top three, but played very well with a series of wins and draws. A huge well done to all three teams and to Mr Tillman for his coaching efforts!



As well as playing well, all three teams demonstrated our values, including determination, mutual respect and responsibility and it was great to receive this message about our football team from a grandparent watching the games: "To win the tournament was a great achievement, but watching the conduct of the Crown Wood team was just as satisfying!" Similar comments were made about our Hockey and Tag-Rugby teams too!



A huge 'well done' to all the children involved for representing Crown Wood and 'Daring to Dream'!

### Celebrating Neurodiversity



Students celebrated Neurodiversity Week with an inspiring assembly, Talk Tuesday and other opportunities to discuss and celebrate our differences and to understand neurodiversity. Classes also crafted 2D umbrellas which have been displayed in the school hall. Children not only enjoyed the activities but also wore a brightly coloured item on Friday to mark the celebration. It was great to see so many children take part and to demonstrate our value of 'everyone together'.

Miss Stocker and Miss Chamberlain



### Year 4 – Explorers and Adventurers

As part of our Wider Curriculum unit, Explorers and Adventurers, Year 4 have been learning about the artist Margaret Mee who explored parts of the Amazon Basin - sketching and painting the plants she saw (some of which were new to science). We developed our sketching skills by



practising a range of techniques before sketching different plants. Next, we learnt about the colour wheel and how to use watercolour paints effectively before creating colour wheel lions. Finally we used our sketching and painting techniques to create our own original artwork based on the paintings that Margaret Mee created. We really enjoyed our art lessons and we were able to give feedback to our peers, detailing what we liked about their own artwork.

### Reception

We had an eggciting start to the beginning of term with the arrival of 10 eggs. We practiced our number bonds as

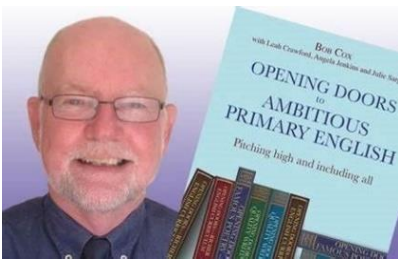


they started to hatch whilst keeping a diary. We had great fun watching them hatch, grow and we had lots of cuddles! We then had dinosaurs invade our playground and lay some eggs. This inspired us to write about what might

hatch and think about other facts we would like to know about dinosaurs. We also made some Herbivore pots in our cooking sessions along with some other dinosaur inspired treats. We then became scientists looking at fossils and watching volcanos erupt. We even did an experiment in class creating a volcanic eruption! We celebrated the end of our topic with our Dinosaur party!

### All children as writers

As a school our aim is to develop all of the children into being competent and enthusiastic writers. The teachers have been working with Bob Cox, an award-winning author, to develop writing by using high level texts and have inspired the children to be writers. These include *The Snow Queen* by Hans Christian Anderson in Year 1 and *Zero at the Bone* by the poet Emily Dickinson in Year 5. The aim is for all children to experience higher level writing and be inspired to write using a range of vocabulary.



Bob is keen to promote young writers and offers schools the opportunity to select writing to be published on his website: [www.crownhouse.co.uk](http://www.crownhouse.co.uk); our first pieces of writing will be published very soon. Here are some examples of lines from some of the poetry produced by Year 4 and 5 children:

Patently lurking in the depth of shadows.  
He likes the pitch black  
The sea can't be shallow  
And the dark is where he likes to attack.  
*Ethan W Year 5*

He has four spikes upon his back,  
And on his tail, he has a crack.  
He has one green and snotty wing,  
With this one wing he scares the King.  
*Maja S Year 4*

### World Book Day

This year to celebrate World Book Day the children were invited to come to school dressed up with a clue to their favourite book. This provoked discussion and a buzz across the school. Children were also invited to decorate a spoon to promote their favourite book.



We had an amazing day and a love of reading was definitely celebrated by all.



### Year 1 - Writing

In English Year 1 have been learning how to write instructions. We had a blast writing instructions to make our own sock puppet. We then followed the instructions to make our designs and perform a puppet show.



Year 1 have also been looking at water, including investigating what happens if we cool it and where we might find ice around the world. In *Super Humans*, the children have enjoyed being scientists and learning about how our bones, muscles, senses and nerves all connect to make us human.

### Year 2 – Roots to Food



Year 2 were lucky enough to experience an interactive cooking lesson with Roots to Food! The children were all taught how to safely prepare, cut and cook ingredients to make Singapore noodles! The children all participated and were able to taste their

delicious meal when they had finished. Lots of the children expressed they couldn't wait to make it with their parents.



### Dates for Your Diary:

04 APR 25	Last Day of Spring Term (3.15pm)
21 APR 25	Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)
22 APR 25	School Re-opens for Summer 1
23 APR 25	St. George's Day*
23 April 25	Parent Consultations (FtF)
24 April 25	Parent Consultations (Virtual)
05 May 25	Bank Holiday
12 May 25	KS2 SATs Week
23 May 25	Last day of Summer 1 (3.15pm)

\*Cub, Brownie etc uniforms may be worn.

We use MCAS as our primary means of communicating with parents. We also post news and photos on the school website.



### Dare to DREAM

**Determination – Responsibility – Everyone Together – Aspiration & Achievement – Mutual Respect**

