



Anstey First School

22nd March 2019 Newsletter 1

Messages from the Classrooms

The kids, including Owlets, have all been having their very own Anstey science week this week – and very successful and fun it has been too! The picture below shows some of the comments from kids two days into the week – apparently Mrs Modeste has never seen people so excited about ice cubes! (More about that below..). The main school have also been undertaking art work on Friday afternoons instead of golden time for a few weeks. They have been split into 3 mixed age groups and are spending two weeks on a particular activity before moving to the next. Mrs Modeste has been doing clay modelling, Mr Corden has been teaching them sketching and Mrs Jocelyn has been leading weaving classes. The art workshops have been very successful and popular and the teachers are planning the activities for next half term.

Owlets: Owlets took part in science week and are doing a wider topic around the weather. They have made rainmakers and a windsock and will be continuing this theme.

Fledglings: Reception children have been doing well coming into school independently in their quest for independence and preparation for transitioning into KS1.

We would also like to announce Mrs Entwistle had a beautiful little baby girl, Welcome to Thea Grace!

The children have been learning about Space – about the planet we live on and the differences with other planets. They have been making rockets and launching them.

We will be focussing on dragons, knights and maidens for the last few weeks of term as well as starting to look at Spring and growth.

We will continue this after Easter by planting tomato and flower seeds.



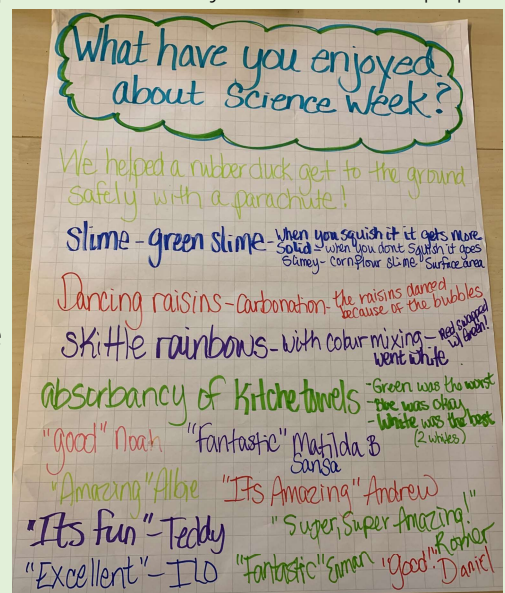
Little Owls:

Please can parents send in shoe boxes with independent lids and two pint clean, empty milk cartons which we will be making into vehicles for our toy project. Little owls have been undertaking lots of scientific experiments for Anstey Science Week. They have also been writing their own rhyming couplets poetry. Year 1 are making fabulous, huge, moving puppets based on Japanese Bunraku

Wise Owls: As well as participating in the mixed age activities described above, wise owls have been learning about famous inventors and inventions. They are making a fact book about inventions which have changed the world.

Next week is Dragon Week!

The children will be learning dragon related songs, undertaking crafts and learning the St George's Day story



SCIENCE WEEK

This week the kids all did science experiments:

- Chemical Reactions – vinegar on eggs and coins and ice cubes on string hung in the trees to show reversible Vs irreversible changes
- Building constructions with cubes and paper to test strength of different shapes. They had a team bridge building task
- Ducks on parachutes!



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A Note from Mrs Myers



Welcome to our new newsletter!

We have been planning this format for a while and are excited to finally be bringing this to you. We are trialling this as a fortnightly newsletter telling you what your kids have been up to. We hope that by formalising our communication with you regarding what your children are up to in school it will help you to feel more informed and help us to support the kids better together. All feedback is welcome – is there something you want to see covered? Too much detail? Not enough pictures? Let us know!

I must emphasise that we still encourage parents to check emails as official notices and office information will still come via email from the office. Also, the nature of a busy, small school means that sometimes things happen at the last minute as I'm sure you can all appreciate. We are having some problems with emails as the school is growing and gaining new families. In particular Gmail is not working well with the school email provider. We appreciate your patience with these issues.

Mother's Day Tea

We would like to invite all mums, grandmas and aunts to a mother's day tea Next Friday 29th May 2.30-3.15 in the village hall

Dates and Events to Note

- 18th March – Anstey Science Week
- 28th March – Y1 going to Royston Tesco for 'Farm to Fork' workshop
- 29th March – Mother's Afternoon Tea (2.30-3.15pm)
- 2nd April – Parent Consultations 1.30-6pm (sign up in office for a slot)
- 4th April – The PTA will be setting up an Easter Egg hunt for the children at lunchtime
- 5th April – End of Term Assembly 1pm in the Village Hall (School will close at 2pm)
- 23rd April – Return to School and St George's Day Celebration. Kids are invited to dress as maidens, knights, princesses and dragons! The children will be marching from the school to St George's churchyard to parade their classroom dragons, sing songs and recite poetry
- 25th April – Swimming starts for years 1-4

Message from the Office

Please note that official notices and office information will still come out from Mrs Vinton via email so please do keep checking your emails!

- Swimming will start on Thursdays after the Easter holidays for years 1-4. The first session will be Thursday 25th April.
- On 1st May our governor, Mr Wilfred Dimsdale will be coming in to speak to the children about Australia
- In May the annual Outdoor Classrooms day happens across the country and we are hoping to celebrate this with a family learning day on Friday 24th May. We are currently looking at what format the day will take but do save the date in your diaries so that you are able to join us.