

Quality

“The standard of something as measured against other things of a similar kind; the degree of excellence of something”

Value of the month | Quality

Does it matter how you start something – colouring in, a football match, school work? This is a question I asked the children this month as we learnt about **Quality**, and the answers were surprisingly varied from ‘No, because you can always put it right later’ to ‘Yes, because you should always give your best.’ However, the children were very clear about which quality they preferred as I showed them comparative pictures of burgers, holidays and handwriting! The children understand that giving your best quality is important and were most discerning in identifying what they need to do to have a ‘quality’ start to the year.

Our value of the month for October is **Thoughtfulness** and we will also be doing work which ties in with Black History Month.

Martin Smith

Headteacher

Attendance Winners!

Well done to all the children who managed to achieve 100% attendance for the whole year. We gave out certificates on the final day of last term and one lucky winner (pictured) had her name drawn out of a hat and won a Kindle Fire tablet and a blue case.



Improving attendance is our primary target which the Ofsted Inspector tasked us with last March. This year, we are trying to encourage the children to think about their time in school by having a weekly raffle for a £5 Amazon voucher for children who have achieved 100% attendance in that week. If money permits, we may do a Kindle Fire draw again at the end of the year.

Please support us with improving attendance by avoiding booking holidays during term time. We cannot authorise this. Attendance is improving and we have only applied for the issuing of one fine since the summer term.



Visit from Team GB Athlete

We had planned for the visit of a GB athlete this month and were mightily disappointed when Inspired Through Sport who facilitate the visits needed to postpone the visit at very short notice.

The good news is we have now rescheduled the event to Wednesday 10th October. We are still waiting on details to be confirmed on which athlete will be visit the school so hopefully more news on this soon.

Upcoming events

Thurs 4th Oct | 9.15am
Year 5 Class Assembly

Mon 8th Oct
KS1 9.15am & KS2 10.45am
Harvest Celebration at St George's Church

Tues 9th Oct
Pupil Progress Meetings

Wed 10th Oct
Rescheduled GB Athlete Visit

Thurs 11th Oct | 5.30pm
Parent Forum

Mon 15th Oct | 7pm
Governor Resources Committee

Tues 16th Oct | 5-7.30pm
Parent Consultations

Wed 17th Oct | 3.30-6pm
Parent Consultations

Thurs 18th Oct | 9.15am
Year 2 Class Assembly

Thurs 18th Oct | 4pm
Governor SIC Committee

Fri 26th Oct
Year 4 trip to Verulamium Museum

Mon 29th Oct - Fri 2nd Nov
Half Term

Harvest Celebration

Just a reminder that our Harvest Celebration is taking place on Monday 8th Oct. KS1 will start us off at 9.15am and KS2 at 10.45am with the FOPHS AGM sandwiched in the middle at 10.15am till 10.45am.

We only do two formal acts of worship in a school year, Harvest and the Christmas Service, so we were very pleased to be invited by local children's worker, Andrew Masters, to use the facilities at St George's church across the road.

We hope you can join us!



What's new over the summer?

You may have noticed a few changes over the summer holidays. You can think of the picture of the hall on the right as a work in progress! Mr Woods has been busy cleaning the stage lights so they shine brighter. He has also undertaken the mammoth task of painting the hall which now looks much fresher and installing new LED lights which work on a fraction of the energy of the old lights. Once the window walling in the hall has been completed, we will order new curtains that don't look so...well....60s!



Also changed over the summer, we have purchased two further interactive screens for the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms. We are steadily replacing our interactive whiteboards with this new technology which has a sharper picture, is less prone to problems with sunlight and is a lot more reliable in terms of their interactivity meaning no more tracking issues with a pen. The screens are also extremely robust and will apparently remain intact if stricken by a cricket bat – we're not going to be testing this theory!



Crafty Crusaders

The new Art Club, Crafty Crusaders, has got off to a fine start thanks to the expertise of Mrs Timms and Mrs Krausova. The children are focusing on a different theme each week and so far have had the opportunity to do some decoupage (the art of decorating 3D objects with paper cut offs, in this case, the first letter of their name).



They have also done some oil painting using imaginative stimuli and most recently, the children have been learning about cross hatching. All this wonderful work will help us in the longer term to not only inspire the children but will also provide a piece of evidence to add to our portfolio as we begin work on attaining The Arts Mark Award.

News in Brief

- A reminder that Miss Best (half term) and Mrs Packard (beginning of October) will be starting their maternity leave. We welcome Miss Shaw who will be covering the Reception class for the remainder of the year and are delighted to be welcoming back Miss Baker who will be covering Mrs Packard's PPA duties.
- Thank you to all who attended the phonics workshop. We appreciate all the positive feedback and hope everyone who attended could see the benefits of our new phonics scheme.
- Just a reminder that building works on the window walling will start soon. I have a meeting on Wed 3rd October which will formally begin the project. One parent did express concerns about potential asbestos. Just to give reassurance, we have had a pre-build report done which has identified there is no asbestos present in the wall panelling. In fact, we have no asbestos throughout the building; the little that existed was professionally removed before the boiler was installed a few years ago. Mr Woods and I are also fully trained in the management of asbestos and this training is refreshed every few years.

Stars of the week



Top job everyone!

Week of 07/09/18

- Rec ★ *Not present*
Y1 ★ Edalene Bruner
Y2 ★ Geet Patel
Y3 ★ Megan Campbell
Y4 ★ Harry Fidler
Y5 ★ Bella Bruce
Y6 ★ Callum Christie

Week of 14/09/18

- Rec ★ Whole Class
Y1 ★ Jude Jefferson
Y2 ★ Frankie Marsh
Y3 ★ Jack Steel
Y4 ★ Abigail Hook
Y5 ★ Lizzie Brinklow
Y6 ★ Ciaran Grey

Week of 21/09/18

- Rec ★ Leo Cordara
Y1 ★ Amelia Lucas
Y2 ★ Mason Frimley
Y3 ★ Georgia Harris
Y4 ★ William Deane
Y5 ★ Isla Alderman
Y6 ★ Emma Lewis

Week of 28/09/18

- Rec ★ Cassia Cattigan
Y1 ★ Leo Marrin
Y2 ★ Olivia Blackburn
Y3 ★ Aiden Hardiman
Y4 ★ Lauren Duvall
Y5 ★ Harley Morgan
Y6 ★ Alex Driver & Freya Derham

School Website

Just a reminder that we work very hard to try and keep the school website as up-to-date as possible. The FOPHS and Governor pages have been revised along with a number of refreshed policies. We are working on the clubs page which needs a bit of work behind the scenes to make updating it easier.

