



Pixies news

Welcome back!

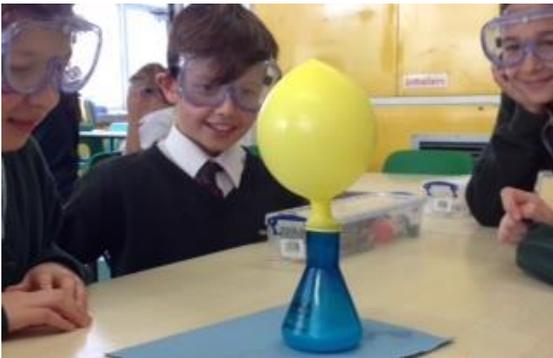
What does it mean to take on responsibility?

Value of the month

A warm welcome back to a new term and what better way to start out than thinking about the value of **Responsibility**. The children have had time to think about the contrasting ideas of 'life happening to them' or 'making life happen' themselves. From this starting point, we thought about what responsible people do and how they can take greater responsibility in school and at home. It might be useful to know that a number of children promised to take more responsibility for tidying their rooms! Our value of the month for October is **Inclusion/Tolerance** as we turn our attention to Harvest and Black History Month.

Martin Smith, Headteacher

Mad Science



Year 5 and 6 wasted no time in engaging with a fun and inspiring curriculum as Mad Science joined the children for a day of fun on the first day back!

Amongst the highlights of the day was inflating a balloon without exhaling or using a pump and making gooey putty.

Website Updates

The google calendar has been updated on the school website and now includes all key prospective dates for this academic year and also the FOPHS events. Please treat the calendar as a guide as we occasionally may need to move a date or time, though this is rare.

Also updated is our results page under the 'Parent Info' tab and we are delighted to share with you the amazing outcomes in what was a challenging year for all schools with the new national assessment systems which are still in flux. The biggest headline figure is that 20% more children achieved the new expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths than the national figure which is an enormous gap.

The Pupil Premium page has also been update with a better explanation of what Pupil Premium is and a link to a very detailed document on how we spend the money and what the impact was over last year. Pupil Premium is a Department of Education initiative and all schools are under strict accountability measures so it is pleasing to be able to demonstrate the highly positive impact.

Upcoming events

- Mon 3rd Oct**
Start of Black History Month
- Tues 4th Oct**
Pupil Progress Meetings
- Thurs 6th Oct | 9.15am**
Year 5 Class Assembly
- Mon 10th Oct | 5pm**
Governors Resources Committee
- Thurs 13th Oct | 9.15am**
KS1 Harvest Assembly
- Thurs 13th Oct | 2pm**
FOPHS AGM
- Thurs 13th Oct | 2.30pm**
KS2 Harvest Assembly
- Mon 17th Oct | 3.30pm**
Governors School Improvement Committee
- Tues 18th Oct | 5-7.30pm**
Parent Consultation Evening
- Wed 19th Oct | 3.30-6.30pm**
Parent Consultation Evening
- Thurs 20th Oct | 9.15am**
Year 2 Class Assembly
- Mon 24th Oct – Fri 28th Oct**
Half term

Child protection

At this time of year, we update our Child Protection Policy and a whole host of other documents relating to this. The DFE has updated requirements to consider the prevention of children being involved in terrorism and has requested we share this information with you. Our new policy is already available on the school website.

Should you ever have concerns about any children then please do speak to any of our designated senior child protection leads – Mr Smith, Mrs Axford and Mrs Fitzgerald. In the meantime, please be assured that all staff at the school are highly qualified in keeping children safe and are heavily certified with thoroughly checked credentials.

Greek Day

What an eventful day our Year 3 and Year 4 children had as the hall was transformed into a Greek village for the day. The children had the opportunity to make and look at a whole range of artefacts including mosaics and pottery. After lunch, the Greeks enjoyed a bit of relaxation watching Greek theatre followed by a fine feast and finishing with a hearty celebration and congratulation for winning a war. I thought I saw a lot of smiley faces at the end of the day!

A big thank you to all our helpers and volunteers who made the day fun and accessible to all.



News in Brief

- Dates for your diaries: Parent Consultation evening will be taking place on Tuesday 18th 9th Oct 5-7.30pm and Wednesday 19th Oct 3.30-6.30pm.
- A big thank you to FOPHS who are providing each class with £100 to boost their class funds. FOPHS have been frantically saving for the past couple of years and we hope to combine their efforts with money set aside in the school accounts to purchase a new building which will give the school much needed additional space. We are busy collating quotes and seeing contractors and hope to have some news to tell you soon.
- A reminder that Year 1, 2 and 3 are having flu vaccinations on 16th Nov unless you have opted out. We sent out forms provided by the NHS schools service which requested various details on their behalf. The forms are confidential and go straight to the NHS and the school holds no data about this on site.
- The staff have been working very hard to re-energise the Harvest Festival assemblies taking place on 13th October. We hope to offer something a bit different this year but there will still be space for some traditional songs to make an appearance. We very much hope you can join us for the event.
- I have been asked to publicise the HAND (Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database) newsletter which is packed full of news and information and is available from www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/handnews

Stars of the week



Week of 09/09/16

Reception: **Not Present**
 Year 1: **Connor Tomlinson**
 Year 2: **Daniel Lewis**
 Year 3: **Harley Morgan**
 Year 4: **Lois White**
 Year 5: **Bhavan Walia**
 Year 6: **Matthew Conlon**

Week of 16/09/16

Reception: **Whole Class**
 Year 1: **Summer Walker**
 Year 2: **Louis Smart**
 Year 3: **Ryan Hardiman**
 Year 4: **Alessandro De Sousa**
 Year 5: **Lucy Fidler**
 Year 6: **William Koukoulomatis & Connie Rafferty**

Week of 23/09/16

Reception: **Frederick Runkin**
 Year 1: **Lexi Hyland**
 Year 2: **Lauren Duvall**
 Year 3: **Lizzy Brinklow**
 Year 4: **Oscar Walkley-Broad**
 Year 5: **Lewis Welfare**
 Year 6: **Rio Moore**

Week of 30/09/16

Reception: **Rosie Olsanik**
 Year 1: **Aiden Hardiman**
 Year 2: **Ferrell McNulty**
 Year 3: **Leah Kain**
 Year 4: **Katie Beaumont**
 Year 5: **Amelie Driver**
 Year 6: **Louie White**

Well done
to everyone!

