

# Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 10

Friday 5 March 2021

This week marks the end of this period of school closure and we are delighted to be able to welcome back all children and families to Girton Glebe from Monday 8 March. Please read on for a round-up of the last fortnight's news...

## Homework from Monday 8 March

From Monday, all homework and instructions set by class teachers will be sent via Class Dojo.

Parents have the facility to connect with Dojo via their own accounts and some parents have already done this. Parent login details will be recirculated next week and will come home with children.

## School Development

During the last fortnight, class teachers have been making preparations for school reopening and adjusting curriculum planning to support wellbeing on our pupils' return to school.

## Library Revamp

This week, staff from Norfolk Library Service have been in school recataloguing books in the school library and adding additional titles to our shelves for our pupils to enjoy. The library revamp is supported by funding from FOGG and the Co-op, and, from reopening, children will have access to the school library on a strict timetabled basis to allow for quarantining and social distancing. We look forward to seeing our library back in use again!



## Oak Class

Oak news courtesy of Mr Austin:

We're nearly there! Just one more weekend until the wonderful children of Oak Class are back in the classroom, after two months' absence. Before writing this piece for the newsletter, I was reflecting on how I would summarise the children's attitude over the time that they have been away and, to be honest, I found finding the right words quite difficult. They have been simply extraordinary, remaining engaged with their studies, making me smile, laugh and gasp on a regular basis and producing work of a consistently (and sometimes, staggeringly) high standard. I have also heard countless tales of the children supporting and looking out for each other remotely, which has been heart-warming, to say the very least.

In the two weeks since we returned from half-term, the children have continued to display their well-honed historical skills. I have received an array of varied presentations on the purpose, design and structure of the Norman motte and bailey castle, as well as commentaries on its wider role as a means of rewarding followers and suppressing English resistance. As usual, the media chosen for these presentations have been both imaginative and wholly fit-for-purpose. I have received compelling PowerPoints, excellent verbal presentations, superb Minecraft depictions, wonderfully narrated videos and much, much more besides. It has also been wonderful to see rigorous scrutiny of Norman historical primary sources during the children's investigations of how King Harold died at the Battle of Hastings.



Bubble 3 key worker children have also, as always, engaged with their work wonderfully and, like their remotely-schooled classmates, have produced some simply excellent work.

I really can't wait to see everybody on Monday and I would also like to thank all of those Oak parents and carers who have been so fantastically supportive of their children over the last two months.

## Willow Class

Willow news from Miss Jolly:

Over the last two weeks, Willow Class children (both in school and at home) have been learning all about Norman Motte and Bailey Castles. As well as researching the advantages and disadvantages of these, and planning where in the UK they would build their own Motte and Bailey Castle, the children have created some fantastic models out of cardboard, clay, natural materials and even cake! Here are just a few examples of the wonderful DT work that has been going on at home:



In English, as part of Tell A Fairy Tale Day and World Book Day, we have been writing newspaper reports about our favourite fairy tales. All of the children have worked exceptionally hard to make their final pieces of writing at home and in the school bubble both entertaining and accurately written and I remain impressed by their determination.

I am really looking forward to having everyone back together next week, when we will carry on with our Maths work on Roman Numerals and improving our mental calculations and arithmetic skills. We will also be concluding our Normans project and doing lots of work on our mental wellbeing and showing kindness to ourselves and others. It's been a challenging few months for everyone, but I couldn't be any more proud of the resilience the wonderful Willow Class children have shown. You are all amazing and I cannot wait to see you all again on Monday.

## Cherry Class

Cherry news from Miss Pyle:

Cherry Class have had a busy and successful couple of weeks. As usual, the children have not disappointed and have thrown themselves into their work with their usual dedication and enthusiasm! In English, we have been working hard to organise our writing in paragraphs whilst writing letters to characters in Kensuke's Kingdom. In maths, we have been converting between different measures of time and working out how old we are in minutes!

I have really enjoyed seeing their creative side in art, where they have used cool colours and warm colours when painting to create mood and effect. The highlights of our weeks have been our story sessions and the quiz we did as part of our virtual picnic.

I think I speak for everyone when I say Cherry Class are very excited to be back together next week!

## Lime Class

Lime news from Mrs Barber and Mrs Knowler:

Lime class children have done an amazing job of continuing their work under all the difficult conditions and learning things set from school but also following their own interests in ever more creative ways. It has been great to start spending a bit more time in the forest and we are looking forward to welcoming our wider Lime class children to the joys of playing and learning outdoors. Mr Smart has done a fantastic job of revamping the outdoor area in many ways for us to enjoy.

Our maths curriculum has focused on learning about money; adding subtracting and finding change, watch out parents your children will be demanding more pocket money to practise with! The children have done really well at following the class videos and working through the exercises. On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> it was National Read a Fairy Tale Day so we looked at the story of The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig writing piggy diaries and making some beautifully descriptive estate agents details for the perfect house or in Michael's case the perfect den! On Thursday it is World Book Day 2021 so lots of book have been read and activities to do with reading are ongoing

We have started thinking about our new topic 'Through the Ages' and have seen some lovely examples of Beaker pottery as well as some great research and models of Stonehenge.

Here's a mega Roman shield from Emily!



## Birch Class

Birch news from Miss Evans:

Once again, Birch class have well and truly astounded me with their enormous enthusiasm and hard work both at home and in school. We have been learning about significant historic people who have made a difference in the world.

Children have learned about David Attenborough (one Birch child had the amazing idea a few weeks ago to write David Attenborough a letter, and she received a very exciting reply in the post!), Isambard Kingdom Brunel and Rosa Parkes.

Children have been making great progress in all their learning and I am especially impressed with all of the creativity shown throughout activities. Very well done, Birch Class. I'm so proud of you and really excited to see you all again in school next week!



## Maple Class

Maple news courtesy of Mrs Cawley and Mrs Daw:

A huge shout out to Maple Class for their perseverance and overall excellence in their home learning. The amount of effort and care they put into their learning, during such a difficult time, has been inspiring. All of Maple Class should be very proud of themselves and we are very excited to be welcoming them back into the class on Monday.

During the last two weeks, we have been focusing on measuring length and height in maths. Maple Class have gone on some scavenger hunts around their homes to find objects taller than them, shorter than them, and longer than their arms.

In English, Maple Class have been learning all about fairy tales. We have been reading Jack and the Beanstalk and using our descriptive language to describe the setting and characters. Some fairy tale favourites have been Rumpelstiltskin, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Three Little Pigs.

World Book Day was a huge hit, with dressing-up and sharing our favourite stories. Maple Class have been enjoying some fun World Book Day activities, such as making bookmarks, and partaking in some book quizzes.

For a treat, Maple Class have been eating chocolate in science, to test their sense of taste. Brooklyn looked like he was thoroughly enjoying this experiment.



## Ash Class

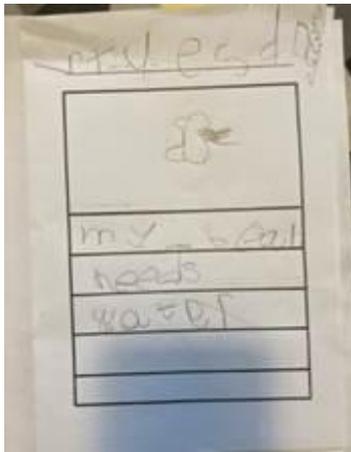
An Ash update from Miss King:

Ash Class have embraced our new spring learning theme, 'Glorious Growing!', with impressive enthusiasm! They have been labelling the parts of a flower, creating their own Garden Centre areas, and birdwatching on their daily walks!



The Bubble 1 children have also enjoyed creating their very own Bubble Garden Centre, as well as designing a bird and squirrel watching station, whilst recording the results.

This week, Ash Class have been focusing on the Jasper's Beanstalk story, which includes planting their very own broad beans and writing some diary entries as they begin to grow! They have also been learning about standard and non-standard measuring methods, including rulers, hands, feet and cubes.



I look forward to welcoming you all back to Girton Glebe next week! Have a safe and restful weekend!

Thank you for your continued support,

*Mr Andrew Spencer*

Headteacher