



Dear Families

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy two weeks even with our previously shorter one. Last week we ended with a Coronation Celebration in the playground which was just wonderful. With an outdoor disco and bubbles the children danced the afternoon away with Sweet Caroline being a favourite for everyone. Children leaving said can we do that every Friday! Although a disco may not be plausible every Friday, we have just had an external electrical point fitted so that as part of OPAL playtimes we can play music.

I want to say a huge well done to all our Y6 children who have sat the tests this week. They have worked incredibly hard with some very tricky tests. Now they can look forward some great things, not least PGL! We had a long conversation today about what the SATs are for and what they don't measure, the artists, musicians, sports, geographers etc. Attaining their best is important but what is equally important is that they are kind, empathetic, resilient young people with good friendships and a love of learning – of which they all are.

We have just had the most inspirational afternoon with Cressida Cowell. Shared her life story of how she used to visit a small island from an early age, and this is what inspired How to train your Dragon. She shared pictures of her early writing as a child where she had even spelt her name wrong – some powerful messages about not worrying about being a good speller, just have beautiful ideas. She spoke for an hour and the children hung on her every word – so did the adults!

Please read the important information below about our new KS2 reading books that we have invested in – we are very excited to finally have a whole new reading scheme for our children to run alongside their reading for pleasure books.

Have a lovely weekend, hopefully some sunshine tomorrow.

Mrs Fletcher

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School News

New Reading Books for KS2

Over the past few months we have been auditing the Key Stage 2 levelled reading books. This auditing has involved bringing the books from individual class libraries into the main KS2 library; sorting, labelling and assessing; and discarding the old and out-of-date.

After significant investment, we have purchased more than 1,000 new books which have re-invigorated our KS2 reading scheme. Now we are thrilled to let you know that, following this process, the new books are ready to be enjoyed by the children.

After much research and discussion, we have streamlined our KS2 reading books and purchased books exclusively from one scheme, Oxford University Press (OUP). This will now allow children to follow their reading journey seamlessly from KS1 through KS2.

As part of our normal assessment process, each child has a Reading Fluency Age and a Reading Comprehension Age (they are re-assessed throughout the year as part of our normal assessment policy). Using their Reading Comprehension Age, class teachers have matched each child with their OUP Reading Level. It is important to stress that this level is a 'stage' and not an 'age' as children develop fluency and comprehension skills at different rates. Where a child is reading above Level 18 with a Comprehension Age of 11 years +, we consider that they are full 'free readers' and will not be coming home with an OUP reader.

Children will read their way through each level and move to the next level when teachers assess that their vocabulary, fluency and comprehension skills are ready for the next stage. This is not about racing through a scheme but developing strong reading skills, including developing a wider vocabulary which will help with spellings.

As part of this KS2 Reading overhaul, we have also started to audit the KS2 class fiction libraries with lots of wonderful new books (fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels, on request!) being added to each class's book shelves. These will eventually be known as the 'Richer Read' books as they are there to develop in your children a love of reading and reading for pleasure.

In the months to come, we hope to ensure that each child will bring home a 'Richer Read' book as well as their OUP levelled book. (Obviously those 'free' readers will just bring home the 'Richer Read' books.) The point of this, following in step with KS1, is that children will choose this book (rather than teachers ascribing a certain level) and it will be purely a reading for pleasure text. Please ensure that your child's OUP book is the reading priority as this is there to ensure progression with vocabulary acquisition and comprehension skills.

The intention is that the 'richer read' book should be read with an adult or a more-accomplished reader who can model reading fluency; discuss vocabulary; and ask relevant comprehension questions. Obviously, the OUP books should also be read with an adult but the children should be 'leading' the reading with these books.

So, what does this mean to you as parents and carers? In the coming weeks you may start to notice that your child/children begin to bring home lovely new levelled books that we hope they will cherish and enjoy. Please ensure that your child continues to use their Reading Diary on a daily basis to note what they are reading and when this is happening. These diaries should still be brought into school every Monday morning to be looked at by class teachers. Reading Diaries are still only for home reading and reading in school time should not be recorded.

If you are concerned that your child's OUP reading book is not being changed frequently enough, please encourage re-reading of the book. Research shows that re-reading a known book will improve a child's overall fluency and comprehension as, once the higher-order brain skills of decoding words and grammar have been accomplished, the arguably more enjoyable task of reading for sense and understanding begins to come to the forefront. Therefore, we encourage re-reading as part of our fluency teaching. If you have any questions regarding the frequency of changing reading books, please ask your class teacher.

If you have any other questions about the new system, please don't hesitate to see your class teacher or Mrs Morrish (from the English Team), who will be happy to discuss this further.

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PTA

The PTA are an essential part of this school and provide our community with magnificent events which raise money for both the school and charity. Nevermore have we needed extra funds to support children's learning and key experiences.

NPPTA Update

As summer approaches, the PTA committee is excitedly planning several fundraisers:

- Jumble Trail - Sunday 11th June, 2-4pm
- Drinks & sweets sale @ Sir Geoff Hurst Football Tournament - Fri 23 June
- Summer Fair, 2023 - Saturday 1st July, stalls 3-5pm (bar open until 6pm!)
- Bag2School - Tuesday 4th July

Jumble Trail: Sunday 11 June 2-4pm

Please support our new initiative, the first Naunton Park PTA Jumble Trail. Get involved by hosting your own car-boot/garage sale style stall at your house and/or by taking a walk out to browse the stalls around the local community.

If you would like to join the trail as a stall-holder you can register [here](#) and will be added to the Live Jumble Map. Registration costs £10 per household. Please follow the link for more information (no obligation to take part if you click on the above link!)

Browsers are invited to make a donation (of any value, minimum £1), and in doing so will receive a link to the live map. Donations are to be made [here](#) and the map link will be included in the thank you note.

This is a great way to clear out, make (or spend!) a few quid, and let someone else make use of your unwanted goodies. Please tell your neighbours and friends, all are welcome to join.

Summer Fair

Full details of this event, donations and more volunteer opportunities out shortly. To get us started...

Save the date - Sat 1st July, 3pm-5pm (Bar open until 6pm!)

Volunteers needed asap:

Raffle helpers - To run our awesomely prized raffle (one of our biggest fundraisers!), we desperately need:

- A volunteer or a couple of volunteers to distribute letters to local businesses - largely on Bath Road and the Suffolks - and to collect subsequent prize donations. This is best done as soon as possible.

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- A volunteer to contact businesses further afield (list of who to contact given). This is also best done as soon as possible.

If anyone is able to donate a prize, please email pta@nauntonpark.gloucs.sch.uk We will spotlight any businesses that provide donations on our Facebook page.

Bake-off judges - We are looking for two Bake-off judges. Perhaps you, or someone you know, is a member of the royal family, a celebrity, a baker, a patissier or, perhaps you simply love cake...this could be for you!

Bar team - We will need a bar team for this event. No experience necessary. Would be fun for a group of friends to take on together or for an individual wanting to get involved. The bar truly adds to the atmosphere of the event so you'd be contributing massively to the success of the day.

Sweets lead - We are looking for a volunteer to lead on the sweets stall - involves checking current stock levels, restocking (full instructions given) and setting up the stall on the day.

Sir Geoff Hurst Football Tournament - Friday 23rd June

We will be running a cold drinks and sweet stall from 1300 (set-up from 1230) in Naunton Park. If you could help run the stall during the afternoon, please get in touch by emailing pta@nauntonpark.gloucs.sch.uk. Many thanks in advance!

Bag2School - Tues 4th July

We are holding a Bag2School collection on Tuesday 4th July. Opportunity for a good ol' declutter before the holidays! Bring your donations to the school playground at drop off on morning of Tuesday 4th July.

Remember "If everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot"

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Class News

Thames - Year 4

Thames have been fortunate enough to receive weekly clarinet lessons every Wednesday and this week our photo shows us in our third lesson! So far we have learnt the notes D and E, doing our best to sit up, vibrate the reed and not blow too much! We can now play a few different tunes and read music.

Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz

On Wednesday afternoon, our Naunton Park Primary quiz team battled it out with Gotherington Primary and Glenfall Primary in the Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz 2023. Our team of 4 (Raffy Betts, Delilah Roylance, Aadvika Ardash & Ruby Crossley) did us proud knowing all sorts of incredible facts about flowers, trees, animals and wildlife. Chris, who ran the quiz was very impressed with all of the children knowing and being able to identify specimens in containers (some alive and moving!). We didn't manage to win but with the scores being Naunton Park Primary 25 points, Gotherington 26 points and Glenfall 27 points, you can see it was a close competition! Well done team Naunton Park.

Mrs Windsor and Mrs Staniland



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Year 6 PSHE

This term's PSHE in Year 6 is all about Relationships - with particular emphasis on our Mental Health. We have been thinking about what Mental Health actually means and writing definitions of this phrase and what it means to us.

We have also thought about the mental challenges children can face in life and we have been working on ideas to support children through these challenges. Our examples of supporting ideas included: talking to someone; enjoying time with family and friends; and doing something we enjoy to calm ourselves down.

This week we played the 'Relationships Web' game. Standing in a circle and using string to form connections, we each had to make a link to someone else in the class (eg 'I am choosing X because we are in the same House') and then pass the ball of string to them whilst still holding on to the string – sounds more complicated than it was! See our pictures.

After we did this we discussed the question: 'What was the point of this game?'

These are some of our answers:

"It was to show how everyone is connected in some way."

"By doing this we made everyone feel included."

"We worked together to make everyone feel part of the game."



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This week in year 3 we had a very exciting visitor – an expert in Ancient Egypt came to spend the whole day with us, complete with a trunk of artefacts and cleverly made props to help make us feel we were in Ancient Egypt for the day. We learnt how mummies were made – with one volunteer bravely daring to put their hand inside the body and another kindly putting the ‘organs’ into Canopic jars.



Being Egyptologists for the day, we learnt about different Egyptian Gods and Pharaohs and learnt how archaeologists piece their ideas together from the evidence and artefacts left behind.

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Some of us were so impressive with our ideas and questions, we got to wear a Howard Carter hat.



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We learnt about hieroglyphics, had a go at translating some and played a game to help us remember them. We also learnt about Egyptian numbers.



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A good day was had by all.

Orange class have been looking at how homes have changed over time. We have been finding out about early dwellings and how long, long ago people used caves as shelter. Caves protected them from the cold, rain, and wild animals. We went to forest school and had great fun making caves and pretending to be hunters and gatherers.

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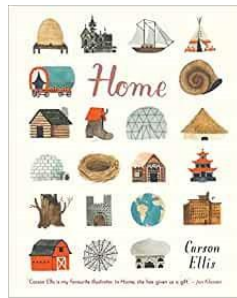
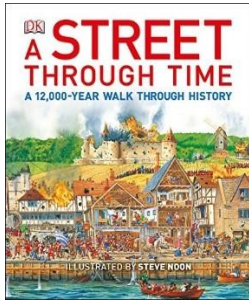


Purple class are really enjoying their whole class reader this term. We are currently reading “The Polar Bear Explorers’ Club” by Alex Bell. It’s the first book in a series of 6 about a character called Stella Starflake Pearl and her 3 intrepid explorer friends. Stella and her three fellow explorers trek across the snowy Iceland and come face-to-face with frost fairies, snow queens, outlaw hideouts, unicorns, pygmy dinosaurs and carnivorous cabbages . . . As part of our daily whole class reading sessions we are trying to read a chapter a day and are determined to finish this text before the end of term!



Our challenge curriculum has literature at the heart of it so each term we have a super selection of quality texts designed to spark the children’s interest and to enhance their knowledge. Over the last couple of weeks in Yellow Class we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring and discussing these two books to support our leading question ‘How have our homes changed over time?’

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We are continuing to enjoy the story of The Pig in the Pond. Red Class had so much fun creating their King Charles pictures last week by cutting and joining different shapes and colours that we have created pig pictures this week! Some of us chose to make our pig using one colour and some of us chose to use different shades of pink. Some of us made the tails flat and some of us made curly tails. Every pig is different and we are very proud of our creations.

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This week, Year 5 had an exciting visit from a Viking warrior! He told them all sorts of tales about the weaponry, travel and battles with the children asking all sorts of interesting questions.



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Dates

Monday 15 th May	Walk to School Week
Friday 19 th May	Year 5 swimming
Friday 19 th May	Reception Forest School
Monday 22 nd May	Year 6 School Beat workshops
Friday 26 th May	Year 5 swimming
Friday 26 th May	Year 4 Forest School
Friday 26 th May	End of Term 5
Monday 29 th May-Friday 2 nd June	Half Term
Monday 5 th June	Start of Term 6
Thursday 8 th June	Year 5 Science Festival trip
Friday 9 th June	Year 6 Forest School (each Friday of Term 6)
Friday 9 th June	Year 4 Science Festival trip
Friday 9 th June	Year 5 swimming
Friday 16 th June	Year 5 swimming
Wednesday 21 st June	Year 6 School Beat workshops
Friday 23 rd June	Year 5 swimming
Thursday 29 th June	Year 6 School Beat workshops
Friday 30 th June	Year 5 swimming
Monday 10 th -Friday 14 th July	Year 6 residential to PGL
Friday 21 st July	Last day of academic year
Monday 24 th July	School closed (INSET)
Tuesday 25 th July	School closed (INSET)

Term dates and events in the diary can be found here: [Naunton Park Primary School - Calendar](#)

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