

They Shoot, They Score!

Thursday, February 14th



I can't let this half term end without celebrating the hard work of our sports teams and their coaches.

Not only did we do well in the swimming gala, as reported in the last news letter, but we were delighted to come second in our group for a recent inter-schools Hockey competition, and joint third overall!

Joey Kettle, one of our sports coaches, who supervised the children describes the event as follows:

`Eight children travelled to Haverhill for the Under low Primary School on 11 Kwiksticks hockey competition. They were all nervous— we have not played hockey as a competitive sport before so we were unsure how we would get on...

We were scheduled to play the first game against New Cangle and from the kick-off we dominated, putting to bed all fears of not being competitive!! We ran out comfortable 3-0 winners and went on to win 4 out of 5 games, only losing to Wickhambrook who had four players who

play for clubs outside of school.

This was a fantastic achievement considering our lack of experience. The team displayed a brilliant attitude, showing determination and plenty of effort. Well done!`

I'm sure it's not coincidental that the older children are loving the hockey on the lower playgrounds at lunchtimes!

Then, this week, Miss Walker accompanied our Year 5/6 Football squad as they took part in the Haverhill Schools Football Fixtures and played Thur-Tuesday.

She said that: `With the knowledge that Thurlow were top of the table we were prepared for a tough game. First half Clare played fantastically and scored two brillant goals thanks to Alfie and Toby

Our footballers came in very positively at half time and were given a great team talk by Grae and Oliver before going out to try and keep it up for the second half. This half lead to 5 more goals scored by Alfie, Oliver and Zach with

a couple of close calls cleared confidently by

Macey, therefore ending with a 7-0 win!`

We now are joint third out of eleven schools, on the leader board. and have another three games to play.

Fostering these talents and giving the children opportunities to experience working collaboratively as a team and enjoying friendly competition encapsulates what learning is all about.

We continue to feel very proud of our youngsters who are such a credit to our school when representing it in the wider community.

I would also like to give a big thank you to our School Council who were brilliant last week when interviewing visitors to the school and also our House Captains for showing them round. The visitors praised the confidence of our pupils and also politeness and friendliness as they moved around the building. We couldn't ask for more.



We are using the Onelife team to deliver a 6-week healthy lifestyle programme for our EYFS an KS1 children beginning after half-term. Last year, this programme was delivered in KS2 to an enthusiastic response from the children. It is already part of our Science and PSHE curriculum and the children respond very well to some new faces giving a fresh approach to this subject. This is part of the Government's Education Programme to help families make sensible decisions about diet and lifestyle, and I am happy to support positive changes through education and discussion with our pupils.

A Stour Valley Educational Trust Academy

School Dinners

Many thanks to Julie and Donna in the school kitchen for their hard work in introducing and managing the greater variance in our school dinner choices.

Children are loving the baked potatoes option, and I think we will particularly appreciate the packed lunches as the weather gets warmer.

Thanks for supporting these adaptions – it's really important we get things right for our school; Julie puts great thought into menu choices, and it's really encouraging to see that numbers have gone up over the last couple of weeks.

NETHERGATE ARE THE MID-YEAR VICTORS!!

STOP PRESS! AS PROM-ISED, THE WINNING TEAM CAN CLAIM THEIR MID-YEAR REWARD – WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEE-ING THEM ON FRIDAY MINUS THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORMS!



DRESS UP BUT WITH A TWIST

Try and use a scientific theme— it could be a sci-fi book or have a non-fiction link!

WORLD BOOK DAY BOOK SWAP!!

Bring in a book you have finished and you would like to swap with someone else in your class— adults, why don't you do the same! Bring your books to the lower playground where we will be collecting and swapping!

BUILD & BOOK!

We will also be collecting a joke from each child throughout the day to publish our own Clare Joke/ Fascinating Fact Book by the end of the day! Parents, please don't forget any recipes you would like to see published in our Farmers' Market Club Recipe Book.



You will have received a letter this week about the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe programme. Assemblies and a parent workshop will be held after half-term. You can find out more information about this on at nspcc.org.uk/schools.

We will also be running our Sex and Relationships lessons after half-term in line with our PSHE theme of Respecting Ourself and Others.

MEDICINE IN SCHOOL

Just a few reminders regarding our position in school:

- If your child takes long-term prescriptions, please take the half-term to ensure that we have an adequate supply, which are all in date.
- If your child has finished taking the medicine, please collect it from the school office or it will be destroyed.
- Remember that we need written permission forms if we are to administer medicine in school

 these are available on the school website.



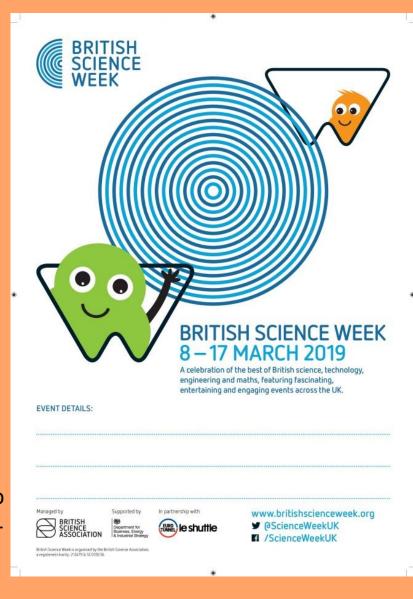
BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

We are looking forward to joining in with British Science Week throughout the school. This runs from Friday, 8th March to Sunday, 17th March, and we will kick off the fun by having our World Book Day on Thursday, 7th March, with a bit of a twist...This year, we would like children to link

their costumes to a Science theme— think outside the box...it could be a science-fiction book or an actual science subject. There will be prizes in each year group for the best costumes!

Whole-school Science Challenges running throughout the week, as well as visiting scientists, and we hope to be doing some joint experimentation with Stour Valley Community School.

In addition to this, instead of the Parentshare later on in the term, we would like you to be part of our Science experimentation too—joining us in viewing your children's learn-



ing on the Friday afternoon of that week (15th March).

Community Orchard project

Davina Neale Clare Town councillor

At 11am on the 22nd February our MP, James Cartlidge, will be in Clare to plant a ceremonial apple tree in the cemetery and we would love it if parents and children would like to come along and watch or even help us plant the remaining 19 trees! (Photo's will be taken for the local press and if you would prefer your children not appear in these, please let us know in advance). Volunteers will be getting there from 10am to help plant the trees, and parents and children are welcome from then onwards too.

Our idea is to get the whole Clare community involved with these trees and then picking and eating the fresh, free local produce!

The trees have been kindly donated by Orchards East, a new project funded by the National Lottery and based in the School of History at the University of East Anglia. The project is devoted to discovering, and understanding, the past, present and future of orchards in Eastern England. The project is funded for three years and its aim is to get a new generation of volunteers interested in setting up and maintaining orchards.

As part of the same project, there will also be a small orchard planted in Clare Castle Country Park by their volunteers. Trees there will include pear, damson, greengage, quince, plum and medlar.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day.

Important Dates

Important Dates (including Christmas Events)

18TH – 22ND Feb HALF TERM

26th February Parents Evening 3:30 – 5:30 28th February Parents Evening 5:00 – 7:30

13th March Maths Workshop Acorn class 9:00-10:00

15th March Cedar Class Café after school

7th March World Book Day (Science themed dress up)

8th March Science Week

13th March NSPCC Pupil Workshop19th March NSPCC Parent Workshop

27th March Crucial Crew Yr6

28th March Farmers Market after school

29th March Greek Day Yr 3/4

1st April Year 3 -4 play to school 1:30

 3^{rd} April Year 3 – 4 play to parents (1:30pm) 4^{th} April Year 3 – 4 play to parents (6-7pm)

5th April Easter Assembley 2:00-3:00

15th April Parent Share 1:30-3:00

8th - 22nd April EASTER BREAK (BACK TO SCHOOL Tuesday 23rd APRIL)

24th April Netball Castle Manor TBC

6th May BANK HOLIDAY

13th—16th May Yr 6 SAT's

17th May Beech & Acorn Café after school

23rd May KWIK Cricket Mixed, Cavendish - by invitation

27th May BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – HALF TERM WEEK – BACK TO SCHOOL 4th June

3rd June PD DAY (No pupils in school)

5th June Mini Tennis Haverhill TBC

12th- 14th June Holt Hall Year 6

20th June Quad kids Athletics Castle Manor - by invitation

12th July SPORTS DAY (Change of Day)

15th July Induction Day / Open evening 4:00-6:00

16th July Year 5-6 play to school 1:30-2:30
17th July Year 5-6 play to parents 1:30-2:30
18th July Year 5-6 play to parents 6:00-7:00

18th &19th July Bikeability Yr 5

22nd July Provisional Year 6 leavers assembly & Tea Party 2:00 TBC

22nd July (Leavers Barbeque and Disco KS2) 6:00-7:00

23rd July LAST DAY OF TERM

24th July PD DAY (No pupils in school)