

• Hello everyone •

We started the week well, with sunshine and warmth and then the wind and RAIN came. I'm sad to tell the Y6 children that the gazebo has taken quite a battering and may not be operational next week. ☹️ **Good news**, our dinner supervisors are back and staff are getting better at using Zoom and Teams for meetings with their classes online. Hopefully we will have more children join us online next week.

Our new outdoor sinks in the peace garden and toilet in KS1 courtyard are nearly finished and hopefully we will be able to start using them sometime next week. Decoration of the **KS1 toilet** will need to wait until our maintenance day, sometime in the future.

We are hoping for more guidance from the government and LA about safely opening to more children. As the rules stand we have little or no space left in our 'bubbles' to safely take in more pupils and cannot open more bubbles because of staffing capacity. I will be sending out a letter next week, when hopefully we will have more information.

Have a good weekend everyone and say a prayer for the sun to return next week.

• Wagtail •

This week we have been finding out about the **animals that live around the school** and near where we live. We found some interesting minibests in the courtyard, including a thick-legged flower beetle, some Mullein moth and Vapourer moth caterpillars. We also went looking for bugs in the Wild Woods and talked about how to be careful with them. **Kaylen** is now looking after some caterpillars at home that he got through the post. Apparently they are growing fast! **Archie's** runner beans have grown so big that he has now kindly given them to an elderly neighbour to grow in his garden. In school we wrote letters to **Mrs Baker** and she sent us an email back and some photos of her allotment which is full of plants.

We have been reading the story "The Storm Whale" by **Benji Davies** and talked about why Noi wanted to keep the whale. He put it in his bath and didn't tell his Dad! We wrote some instructions together about how to look after a whale and we have started to write some instructions about how to look after other animals. **Jessica** has done some fantastic writing about how she looks after her cats. She has also made a great poster reminding us how to protect animals like whales by taking our rubbish home. Lots of children have been **making Under the Sea pictures** on Purple Mash and **Jack** used it to draw his Mud Island.

Matthew created his own island and **Joseph** invented an animal that lives on his island. **Joseph** and **Matthew** have both been exploring gravity with marble runs. **Amiyah** has been really busy with lots of Paint Projects on Purple Mash. **Stanley** has been working really hard on his handwriting.

We had another **Zoom story time** on Thursday and shared the sequel to the Storm Whale called **The Storm Whale in Winter**. I hope you all enjoyed the story and it was good to see that Noi met up with his whale friend again.

Ace stamps this week have gone to Jessica, Mia, Joseph, Brooke, Daisy, Rory, Lilly, Arthur, Matthew, Kaylen, Archie, Amiyah and Jack.

• Kestrel •

It was wonderful to have so many kestrels back together in our virtual **zoom meeting** on Wednesday afternoon. It was lovely to see all of your smiley faces and to hear what you've been up to. It was also great to hear you chatting and catching up with each other. We're already looking forward to next week and catching up with others who weren't able to join this weeks. Those of you at home are still working incredibly hard and we're so pleased with you.

William has been having lots of fun learning about forces and magnets by building with his gravtax. If you watch his video on the google classroom it looks like lots of fun. **Jessica** has been having lots more cuddles from her nanny's new puppies and loved the opportunity to show the class a photo of the puppies and her new horse Trevor. **Elena** baked a delicious sponge cake and was kind enough to bring me a slice up to school - it was very yummy! **Florence** has created a beautiful 'Flo' island which she based on Playmobil and is full of lots of lovely Florence type things such as fairies. **Rory** has made his own magnificent marble run with his brother. You should watch the video on the google classroom to see which one won. He has also made a fabulous PowerPoint about the **animal evidence** he found on a walk. Have a look at his PowerPoint on the google classroom if you want to see lots of pictures of animal poo! Also on the google classroom you will find a PowerPoint about **Gabriel's** magnificent new creature. Gabriel has also designed a T-shirt which is apparently a compulsory uniform on his island!

Archie, Isabelle, Amelia and Elsie have been busy working **in school** this week. They have designed a new creature for their islands and written a fact-file each about them. They have also entered the **Gabi Jimenez art competition**

and I'm sure you will agree that they all definitely deserve to win!

Well done to all of the Kestrels that have entered the **sports competition**. Mrs Bonner is very pleased with you. Another great week of work by you all!

• Peregrine •

This week I thought I would hand the writing of the newsletter over to the year 6s. So here it is...

We have had **loads of fun** back at school. It is a bit weird social distancing and learning all the new rules in school but it is much better being here than being stuck at home during lockdown.

The weather has been mostly lovely; meaning we have **spent a lot of our time outside**. We have done many activities like: Driving the Goblin car, Rock painting, PE with Jazz and Wild Woods activities like creating our own perfume, den building and whittling utensils.

... but we have also done lots of English, developing our **Islands** and Island life. We have enjoyed inventing our own animals this week. **Maths** is much more fun at school. We are allowed to listen to the radio and having a teacher there to help when we get stuck is useful, not having to wait for a reply on the virtual classroom. We have been doing a lot of talking about secondary school. It is called **Transition** work. We have talked about our fears, worries and what will be the same/different about moving schools. This has really boosted our confidence.

Meanwhile the **year 5s** have been busy at home with their learning and have also been developing their Island work. **Viola** has been making candied, edible flowers – which sounds fantastic and I am still hoping we will see some photos of this soon.

Gloucestershire Virtual Games

Well done all those who took part in the **rebound ball** activity this week. Many people in the school community got involved in this task and we managed to throw a whopping total of 518 balls in a minute. Thank you to all those who got throwing.

The new challenge for this week is to **Cycle, Walk, or Run** as many miles as you can. Try to measure the distance you travel and let your teacher or Mrs Bonner know how far you have travelled by **Wednesday 25th**.