

Year 2 Update – 3.5.24

The children have had a great week at school this week and have all been working very hard. Please can you check if you have any **school library books** at home, if you do please can these be returned.

We are also running very low on tissues in school and would really appreciate any donations of tissue boxes. Thank you.

Forest School

Here is an update from the Forest School teachers about what the children got up to this week:

“Today we were celebrating Hedgehog Awareness Week.

After our welcome routine, we introduced the children to several British woodland mammals: the fox, the rabbit, the squirrel, the deer, the badger and the hedgehog. The children have been very interested in the tracks and signs that have been left behind by the mammals that share our site and so it was great to find out more about them today. We discussed the different places where they lived, their diet and other features as well as identifying what makes them mammals. We learnt that mammals are warm blooded, have fur or hair on their bodies, give birth to live young and feed their young milk. Once we had got to know the animals, we sent the children off on their hunt activity. This involved them using clues to identify which animal each footprint belonged to.

Next we introduced a new game called Hibernating Hedgehogs. This is an observation game where the children had to move around and then when Emma said 'Hibernating Hedgehog' they crouched down and closed their eyes. One child was then covered with a tarp and the others had to guess who was the hibernating hedgehog. They really enjoyed this game and some children were great at checking through the group to work out who was missing.

We gathered at the log circle to hear the story of Helga the Hedgehog. This book comes from Tiggywinkles Hedgehog Rescue Centre. We found out lots of amazing facts.

For the rest of the session some children learnt how to use tripod lashing to secure sticks together to make a den. Some children made big dens which they covered with tarps, whilst others used it on small sticks to make mini homes for hedgehogs. They also had the opportunity to use clay to make hedgehogs. They had the option of using teasels for the spines or using bits of pine cones to make the spines. We also had a group busy in the digging area, collecting earth to plant the willow fence. There was great teamwork involved as they supported one another digging and transporting the earth.”

RE

This week the children have been learning about the Holy Spirit and the Ascension. The children thought about the gifts the Holy Spirit brings us e.g. wisdom, understanding, courage, knowledge and reverence and how these gifts can help us today – to be a better friend, to be brave, to work hard at school and to tell people about Jesus.

Next week: we will be looking at Pentecost.

Vocabulary: Holy Spirit, Ascension, understanding, courage, knowledge, reverence

English

This week we have started our topic on Persuasion. The children have looked at different examples of persuasive writing and identified the features. They have then completed some research about India as they are going to be writing a persuasive leaflet encouraging people to visit India.

Next week, we will be continuing our persuasive leaflet.

Vocabulary: rhetorical question, persuasion, expanded noun phrases, tourism

Maths

This week in maths the children have been looking at measuring length and height. We have been measuring in centimetres using rulers and looking at meter sticks for longer lengths and heights. The children have also been using the < > and = symbols to compare measurements.

Next week: we will be learning about mass. The children will be using balance scales and looking at measuring in grams and kilograms.

Vocabulary: length, height, long, short, tall, centimetres, metres, measure

Art

Our Art topic this term is called 'Exploring the World Through Mono Print'. This week the children will be learning about artists associated with this type of Art. We will be looking at the work of Xgaoc'o X'are and Leonardo Di Vinci.

RHE

Over the next few weeks the children will be completing a series of RHE lessons (Relationship and Health Education for Catholic Schools). During these lessons the children will be covering a range of topics, including keeping their bodies clean and healthy, their likes and dislikes, feelings that they have and how to manage these feelings and thinking about the cycle of life.

Extra information:

- PE days this term are **Wednesday and Friday for Lisbon** and **Monday and Wednesday for Padua**.
- Forest school dates for this half term are: **Monday 13th May and Monday 20th May**.
- **Thursday 9th May** is Ascension day – parents welcome at 9.15 for our celebration. Please can children bring in a single flower for this event, see the April newsletter for more details.
- Here are links to some online learning tools relevant for Year 2 children:
[1-minute maths app | White Rose Maths \(whiteroseeducation.com\)](#)
[Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds \(topmarks.co.uk\)](#)
[ictgames](#) || [html5 Home Page](#)

Thank you for all your support,

Bella, Eleay and Aimie



BE ACTIVE / KEEP LEARNING

May is the month of Mary. At home and / or in your class, say a prayer to Our Lady every day to help us think about May being her special month and to thank all our mums for everything they do for us.

Weekly Misson

Queen of May

Mission

May is the Month of Our Lady. We particularly ask for her help and prayers this month.

Your Mission is to honour Mary by crowning her statues with flowers. You can also hold a May procession to celebrate Mary together as a school or class.

