



Newsletter No. 13

Pride in ourselves, pride in our school, pride in our community.

Friday 9th December 2022



Duke this week

An exciting week for Duke pupils this week from more eco challenges, to traditional board games and how to cook an egg five ways!



Christmas Performances

A huge well done to all of our children who took part in their amazing Christmas performances this week. Our pupils sang beautifully, were clear with their words and acted the stories out so wonderfully. You certainly put us in the Christmas mood!



Movie Night

Thank you to our PFGM for arranging a great movie night. The hall was full of pupils, their cushions and their bears! The children had a wonderful time watching Arthur Christmas and eating popcorn!



2D Shapes

This week Year 1 have been furthering their understanding of shape by exploring 2D shapes in the playground. There were so many shapes to find! The best spot was a semi-circle. The next time you are in the playground, why not try to find it?



Book Wizards

This week was the last week of Book Wizards club but what a lot of fun we have had! The Book Wizards have created characters, mapped out their plotlines and settings and in the final session, written the beginning of their stories based around a significant event. Watch out JK Rowling – the next generation of authors are on their way!



Year 4 Sports Event

Some of our Year 4 pupils attended an athletics event at Etonbury this week. They did amazingly well in both track and field events. They worked well with each other for a lot of events including the relay.



Mrs Holland even had a go in the adult race and did GMA proud!



Winter Canvases

We've had so many wonderful entries for our Winter Wonderland art competition. These will be judged later today and we will let you know our winners next week.

Here are just two of our 100 entries.



Book Corner

Book recommendations this week come from some of our Book Wizards.

Football Scorebook "I like this book because it tells you lots of silly things about football." (Tristan)

Sea Quest by Adam Blade. "This series is really great - it's about a boy who tracks down bad animals." (Harry)

Boy by Roald Dahl. "I like Roald Dahl because he always puts in funny characters. I like all his books but this is my favourite." (Molly)

The Secret Kitten by Holly Web. "This is a story about a girl called Lucy who finds a kitten in the front garden of her grandma's house. I like the black and white illustrations in the book." (Lily)

A Child of Books by Oliver Jeffers "I like this book because the words make up the story - like when they go into a cave the cave is made up of words" (Florrie)

Thanks Book Wizards - keep the recommendations coming!

Tea with Mr Clarke

Our Values Ambassadors from last half term had tea and cake with Mr Clarke this week (they all preferred hot chocolate). The children all received Value Ambassador badges to wear with pride.



Arriving at school

Our school gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:55am. This is the 15 minute period during which your child can be dropped off at school.

We are aware that some families are arriving before 8:40am, creating a queue outside of school. As this goes alongside the road leading up to the MUGA car park, this is not always a very safe place for children to be waiting around. Not all of our children wait in line without moving, jumping or running around!

To keep your children safe, please can you not arrive at school until 8:40am when the gates are open?

Golden Book

Children are nominated by Teaching Assistants and Teachers for a Principal's award which is entered in the Golden Book. The award can be for living one of our Values or special achievement. Sporting awards/achievements gained through a regular commitment to a club or group are also celebrated.

Ash	Jake	for his fantastic singing and dancing during our Christmas performance rehearsals.
Oak	Esme	for being an excellent role model during our play and for always remembering to lead the stars on and off the stage.
Elm	Tristan	for showing pride and for taking great care in our handwriting lesson. Beautiful writing Tristan, well done!
Beech	Bobby	for his amazing effort with his spellings. Bobby is thinking really carefully about the sounds he hears in a word and learning his spellings every week.
Maple	Arthur	for showing great concentration in maths and working hard to use the strategies taught to solve the maths problems.
Willow	Albie	for writing independently in his Great Fire of London diary and using his phonics knowledge to spell unfamiliar words.
Sycamore	Evie	for her excellent self-reflection during our pupil conferencing.
Chestnut	Harry	for his hard work in maths and excellent contributions to discussions when problem solving in lessons.
Hazel	Lottie	for her use of a thesaurus and descriptasaurus to create vivid imagery in her magical story.
Birch	Freddie	for his dedication to his learning, creating ideas at home for his story and using these to improve his work in class.



Tidy Ted

Well done to Beech Class for keeping the floor and desks nice and tidy

Other Awards to Mention

Kitchen Awards

Thalia Ash class
Charlie Maple class

Teddy from Chestnut Top Laser Tag player
Nephin from Maple Gymnastics - Level 7

Pen Licences

Birch Class

Florence
Elodie
Laurie
Ella
Siyana
Darcie
Lilly C
ArchieLily
Jessica

Hazel Class

Rhozie
Rowan
Levi
Lacey
Molly
Evie
Elizabeth
Huey