



Newsletter No. 7

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

Friday 9th June 2023



Arts Around the World Week

We have had a wonderful week experiencing music, dance and art from different continents and countries around the world. We were lucky enough to have trained dancers come and lead dance workshops for each year group. Here is some more information about what some of the year groups got up to!

Year 2 - Greece

Year 2 having been learning about Greece this week. This is what some of the children in Maple had to say about it:

We have been looking at instructions and recipes and have explored how to make a Greek Salad. We followed the instructions to make our own Greek salad. We then ate it.

"It was very yummy and delicious"

"The red onion tasted a bit hot, but the whole meal was delicious"

After this, we then wrote our own recipe of how to make a Greek salad. We thought very carefully about what was needed to write a recipe. From this, we then completed a tally chart to record which ingredient was the most popular - Maple class enjoyed the Feta cheese the most. There was a joint vote for the least popular of red onion and olive oil.

As part of Arts Around the World Week, we have also designed our own Greek vases and have learnt a Greek dance with Don. We are also learning a few songs and we have learnt about the country Greece and a bit about the history and Greek gods. We have had a lovely time.

Please ask a member of Year 2 to teach you how to make a Greek salad!



Year 1 - Australia

Year 1 have had a great time finding out about Australia in Arts Around the World Week. We have made pictures of the Sydney Opera House, found out about the Great Barrier Reef, read Dreamtime stories, played cricket, and created some amazing Aboriginal dot paintings (to name but a few activities!).

Year 4 - Africa

Year 4 kicked off Arts Around the World Week with an African dance workshop and singing some traditional and popular African songs. They used their skills of symmetry and plotting points on a graph to create some spectacularly symmetrical African masks. The children learned about the influential figure of Nelson Mandela; considered the impact that he had on his country of South Africa and the world; and drew a portrait of him from a secondary source.



Plant Care

These are the children in Willow class who took home the bean plants we started to grow in our science lessons over half term. We are so proud of the effort they made to follow the care instructions. What a magnificent outcome!



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.

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| Ash | Grace | for the effort and enthusiasm she gives to her writing and for her engagement and participation in phonics lessons. |
| Oak | Spencer | for showing so much passion for reading at home and being able to retell stories that he has enjoyed. |
| Elm | Alice | for demonstrating strength, flexibility and balance in her amazing yoga poses in PE. |
| Beech | Yumi | for showing independence in computing when creating a fun background and moving objects. |
| Willow | Ethan | for learning to tell the time quickly and for helping others with this new information. |
| Maple | Oakley | for consistently living the values of respect and responsibility and for his concentration in maths when learning to tell the time. |
| Chestnut | Layla | for increased effort and enthusiasm to her work, particularly maths. |
| Sycamore | Zach | for his greatly increased confidence in mathematics and his enthusiasm for sharing his learning. |
| Hazel | William | for sharing knowledge and skills during animation computing lessons to help his classmates. |
| Birch | Darcie | for always sharing kind words of encouragement with those around her. |



Other awards to mention

Well done to Harper from Chestnut Class. Harper spends a lot of his weekends doing Motorcross. Harper received a trophy for second place in The Masters 2023.

Tidy Ted

Ash Class for keeping the classroom nice and tidy.

Author Visit

We are really excited to be welcoming local children's author, Laura Noakes, to Gothic Mede on 22nd June. Laura will be talking to children about her new book *Cosima Unfortunate Steals a Star*. Laura will be signing copies of her book on the day. Orders can be made through Parentmail.

Centre of Excellence

We are extremely proud to be a Centre of excellence for inclusion. On Wednesday we welcomed visitors from 16 other schools who also have centre of excellence or flagship for inclusion status. The aim of the meeting was to share our practice so that the other schools could take some learning back. Some of the children were tour guides and others shared how they have benefited from the many opportunities they have at GMA e.g. the exceptional offer of extra-curricular activities on offer. We were so proud of them! We have been overwhelmed with the positive feedback we have received from the schools. We are so proud of what we do every day to ensure that our offer is inclusive.

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