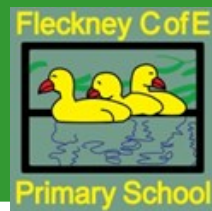


Fleckney School Newsletter

May 2023



Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the summer term. It always seems strange working within Leicestershire with its earlier July finish, to see the end of the summer term and the end of this academic year already in sight. The autumn term is a very long climb in contrast.

This term has been as busy as ever and has been further disjointed by the extra bank holiday for the Coronation and strike days. The children sitting their national tests in year 6 and in year 2 have worked extremely hard, and have coped brilliantly with the pressures of these exams.

It has been great to see the children getting out on more educational visits this term. These trips really do enrich their learning and they are often the activities that the children will remember most clearly when they have left primary school. On this subject, you will have seen my letter in conjunction with the FSA earlier this month. We really do need more volunteers to keep the organisation going. Without their fundraising many of these lovely trips may not go ahead in the future. Please look out for the summer fete after school on the 15th June.

Year 6 children will be visiting their new secondary schools next half term. At the moment we have 52 children set to go to Kibworth Mead Academy and 6 children set to go to Robert Smyth. Other children are going to Welland Park Academy, Wigston Academy, Brockington College, and 2 other schools out of the area. The application process begins early in the Autumn Term for year six children and ends on the 1st March with the offer of a place. If you are a year 5 parent, the opportunity to visit local secondary schools will begin early in the Autumn term. We are also hoping to have a visit from some of the local secondary heads in the months to come.

I hope you and your families enjoy a happy and relaxing half term break.

Best wishes

Mr. Leah

Author Visit—Steve Cole

We were delighted to welcome Steve Cole into school on Monday 22nd May. Steve is a best-selling author who has written over 200 books for children, including *Astrosaurs*, *Young Bond* and *Z. Rex*. As a writer-editor he has worked with the families of Enid Blyton, Agatha Christie and Ian Fleming, and at the BBC was in charge of Doctor Who publishing.

Steve ran three sessions throughout the day to classes in year 2 to year 6, inspiring children about the love of literature. To the older children, Steve shared his books *Swarm Rising* and *Swarm Enemy* which he wrote with Tim Peake. To the younger children, Steve shared stories from his childhood which inspired the writing of his bestselling books. The sessions left the children (and the adults!) spellbound. What a fabulous, uplifting experience. Thank you so much to Steve for sharing his talents, energy and love of literature. Thank you to the FSA for making this day happen for the children. A truly unforgettable day was had by all!



Mrs. Galpin

King's Coronation Celebrations

The flags were flying and the bunting was up, ready for our Coronation celebration. Across the whole school, the children have been taking part in this special moment in our nation's history.

From the St Edward's crown, that was first worn by Charles II, to the history of previous coronations at Westminster Abbey and not forgetting the magnificent gold state coach, the children have had

lots of fun learning about the coronation.



During the afternoon, we had our very own royal garden party with jam and scones and fun games on the field. Year 4, with the help of Mrs

Goode, treated us to a display of traditional maypole dancing. They also demonstrated their baking skills, making their own scones under Mrs Martin's culinary guidance.



Mrs. Pullen



Year 2 Update

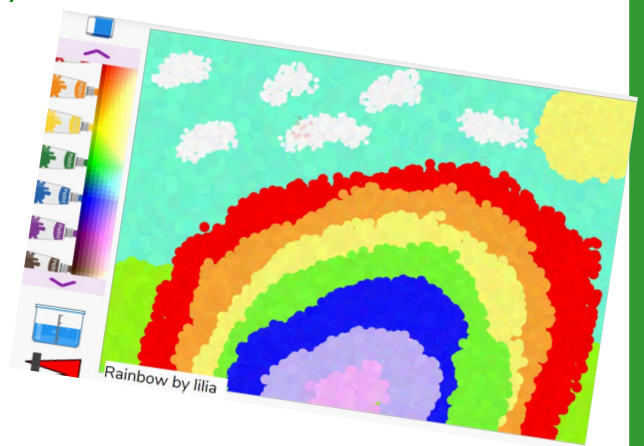
We have had a very busy few weeks in Year 2. The children have been working incredibly hard with reading, writing and Maths and trying their very best to complete the quizzes we are working through at the moment.

In particular, the children enjoyed reading 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Drew Daywalt. They wrote their own persuasive letters to Blue Crayon to convince him not to quit and got very involved when reading the letters from the crayons!

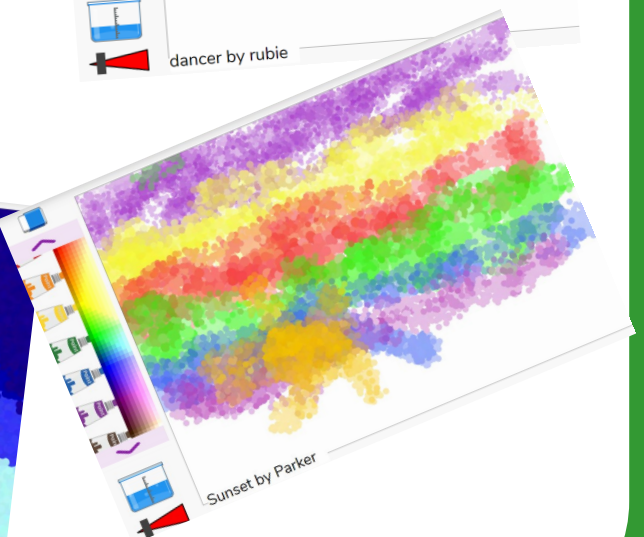
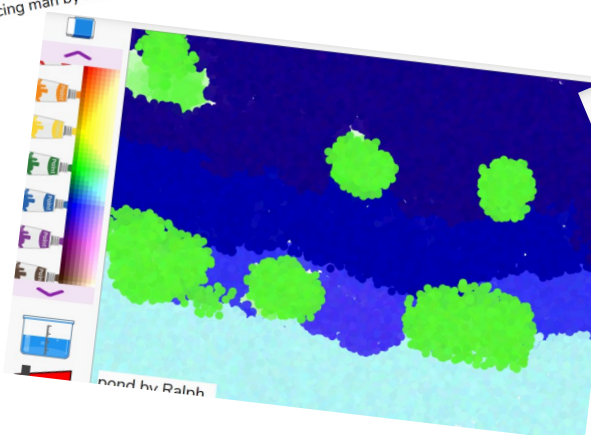
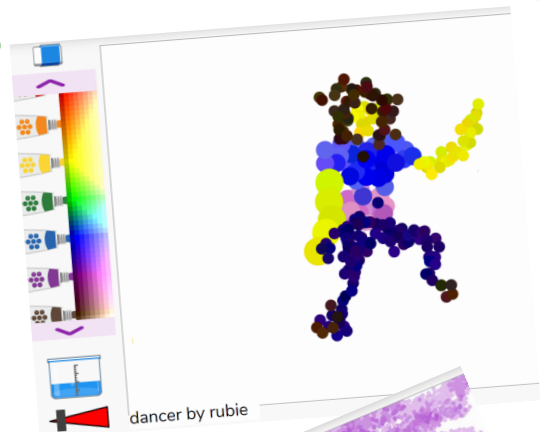
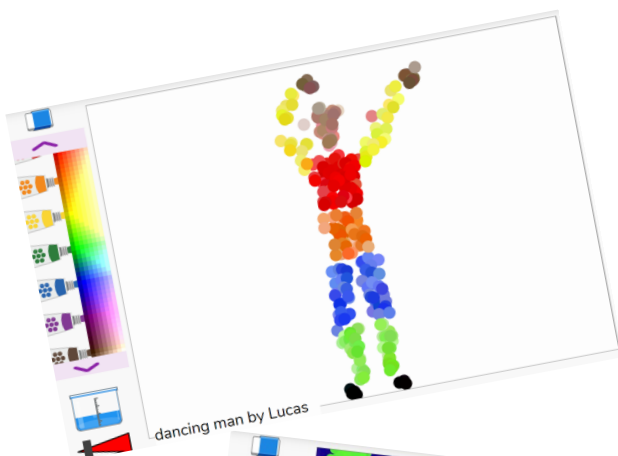
We have just completed a Science topic learning about Habitats and Microhabitats. The children explored the school field and playground, identifying plants and animals and considering the life processes animals and plants need to show they are alive. We are just beginning a topic all about where our food comes from. The children are learning about dairy farms including why Devon has so many dairy farms.

In Computing, the children have enjoyed creating Art in styles including Pointillism and Impressionism, and focused on the work of Piet Mondrian.

Over the next few weeks the children will be starting to learn to play the ocarina and completing two Design and Technology topics, designing and making their own vehicles and their own salads. We are also excited about our upcoming residential trip to Beaudesert at the end of June.



Miss Baum and Mrs. Webb



Year 1 Update

Our science topic this half term is 'Plants'.

The children have been very busy planting and growing. We started with our amazing strawberry plants that are in the planters by the Key Stage one classrooms. We have been watching them grow each week and observing the flowers. We are very excited that we now have fruit



forming. We are hoping they will ripen soon so we can have strawberries and ice cream before the end of term!



We have learnt about potatoes and the many different ways in which we eat them. The children planted some seed potatoes in the school garden and they are now shooting through the soil so hopefully we will have a good

crop to dig up too. We have also been sowing some marigolds seeds in pots so that the children can bring them home and plant them in their own gardens, keeping our fingers green!

Mrs. Pullen

Year 6 Update

The children have worked really hard over the last half term. In English, they have written fantastic argument texts about whether or not children should be allowed to have mobile phones. They put forward some excellent viewpoints on both sides of the debate. In Maths, we have looked at the different vocabulary to do with circles and practised drawing some with a pair of compasses. We also drew, cut out and assembled the nets of 3D shapes. It has been a very hands-on and practical couple of weeks.

A Humanist speaker came in to talk to the children about her beliefs during our RE lesson recently. The children were really engaged in the session, listened well and asked lots of fantastic questions. In Science, we have been learning about evolution and inheritance. We have talked about how we inherit characteristics from previous generations, how different kinds of twins are created and how different species of animals and plants evolve over time.

We are very proud of how the year 6 children conducted themselves during SATS week. They were calm, sensible, focused and everyone tried their hardest. I am sure that some of the children would even say that they enjoyed the experience. Now that the tests are out of the way, we enjoyed our field trip to Derbyshire and rehearsing for our end of year production. More details will follow soon.

Mrs. Koria and Mr. O'Connell

Year 5 Update

Year 5 has had another busy half term. Mrs Headley has joined us in the mornings and we have enjoyed working in three classes for Maths and English. We had a wonderful four weeks reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo, using this as a stimulus for our own work. We then studied and wrote our own 'sea' poems and have just had some fun studying 'The British' by Benjamin Zephaniah. We've worked on 'all things shape' in maths, including angles, co-ordinates, direction and translation. We made some fantastic St Edward's crowns for the Coronation and had fun eating scones and playing English garden games to celebrate.



In our History lessons we have been finding out about the reign of the Plantagenets and, in particular, King Richard III. We had a great trip to Bosworth Battlefield on 18th May where we were able to walk in Richard III's footsteps (not literally!).



We finally managed to make our visit to the Leicester Hebrew Synagogue this half term (delayed because of the snow day) and found out lots of interesting things which complimented last half term's learning in R.E. We are now learning about the Christian celebration of Pentecost and are preparing to lead a whole-school Collective Worship at the end of term to which our parents and carers will be invited. We have managed to fit in so much learning this term, we will certainly be ready for the half term break!

Mrs. Fremmer

Uniform Orders

We have arranged with the uniform supplier for orders to be placed between Monday 5th & Wednesday 21st June without any delivery charge.

These orders will be delivered to the school before the end of the Summer term and will be handed to your child to bring home. Please see the letter sent via Parentmail for full details.



Mrs. Jones

Year 3 Update

Konnichiwa (hello) from Year 3! The children are having such fun learning Japanese this term with our Japanese teacher Kaori Sensei. They have learnt how to greet each other and also count. We have been super impressed at their Japanese writing too. The children have all had a go at writing in Hiragana and Katakana. We are now all looking forward to celebrating Japanese culture on our 'Japan Day' which is taking place before half term. Children will be involved in: preparing Japanese food, using soroban (Japanese abacus), Japanese Taiko Drumming as well as learning more about Japanese kanji and calligraphy.

In English, we are being super creative thinking about what could be in our own 'Cave of Curiosity' inspired by the wonderful Pie Corbett poem. The children have explored using alliterative techniques as well as abstract nouns to add effect.

Homework this term has included preparing for a Mayan showcase. The children all shared their tremendous work with their peers, displaying confidence in their verbal presentation skills.

As the summer term progresses, we look forward to learning about Florida tourism and the Magic Kingdom in Geography, Pop art in Art lessons and investigating forces in Science. Next half term, we will also work towards our special assembly/collective worship on Refugees.

We look forward to another successful and fun half term!



The Year 3 Team

Year 2 End of Universal Free School Meals

The end of the Summer term will see the end of free meals for children that are currently in Year 2.

We will automatically make your child eligible for **paid** school meals on their return after the summer break.

We will continue with your child's current meal pattern in the new school year, unless we hear from you prior to the summer holidays.

Payment for meals is due in advance via Parentmail.

Please look out for a Parentmail with more information later in the term.



Mrs. Jones

Year 4 Update

We are buzzing with science knowledge this term. Our current topic is 'Electricity' and the children have been learning all about what electricity is and how it is made. The children are starting to have fun in carrying out investigations and building circuits. The children worked in teams to see how circuits can conduct electricity. We will be introducing this into our design and technology for next term.

We are excited about learning recorders in Year 4. The children are using newly bought recorders purchased with the help of Leicestershire Music Hub and a very kind donation from Mrs. Marshall. They are blown away!

We are loving our new history topic all about the Anglo-Saxon invasion of Britain and have enjoyed writing stories of dragons and dragon slayers!

We all had an amazing time, in year 4, celebrating the King's Coronation day. We made scones, and had fun with games, buntings and songs. A good time was had by all!

Mrs. Wright

Girl's Football

I had the pleasure of taking some year 3 and 4 girls to a girl's football festival this term. What super talented girls we have! They were a credit to the school and had a superb attitude. They took part in several football training activities involving passing, shooting and dribbling. In the afternoon they played a mini tournament and won

several games. I look forward to seeing them next year in the girl's football club.

Mrs. Thurman



Sports Update

Dance Workshop

Four children from Year 5 took part in a Dance workshop at Robert Smyth Academy in Market Harborough on Thursday 30th March. They had to learn a series of routines, each one being run by a group of young leaders from Robert Smyth Academy. All four said that they really enjoyed it, particularly as they got to work with the young leaders.

Quicksticks Hockey Competition

Also on the 30th March, a group of Year 5 children represented the school in a Quicksticks hockey tournament at Robert Smyth Academy. They played against teams from other local schools. All of our players benefited from the training sessions delivered by Leicester Hockey club at our school. They played with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm and enjoyed putting their new skills into action.



Tag Rugby Festival

On Thursday 23rd March children from Year 3 travelled to Market Harborough Rugby Club to take part in the Tag Rugby festival.

It began with a series of training sessions. They took part in a variety of drills, games and activities to develop their passing, try scoring and tag taking skills. Following this, they took part in some friendly matches against teams from local primary schools.

The festival was a really enjoyable event and had a positive atmosphere throughout. The children all played well and demonstrated great teamwork.



Mr. Pullen

Foundation Stage Update

This term the Foundation Stage children have been very busy having fun and learning.

We have had a visit from PC Butler. He brought police uniforms for us to try on, we climbed in the police van, and used the shields to protect us from throwing bean bags!

Beep Beep Day was also a valuable lesson for the children to learn about Road Safety. The children had to walk safely across the zebra crossing role play set and also drive across, waiting for the pedestrians. Children were also given the role of the lollipop man or lady, holding the lollipop stick.



Our Forest School week was a great experience for all the children. We made dens, lit a fire using flint and steel, used cutting tools and climbed trees.

Last week we visited Windmill Farm Park. The children learnt all about baby animals, milked a goat and fed the sheep, goats, alpacas and pigs.

Our first chicks have hatched that we have been incubating for 21 days. We are currently choosing a names for them. We are hoping over the next few days that more chicks will hatch-fingers crossed!



Mrs. Teear

Car Parking

As you will be aware car parking outside of our school is an ongoing issue for local residents.

We kindly ask everyone who parks outside of school at collection or drop off times to respect the wishes and rights of our neighbours.

Cars should never be left blocking drive ways, mounted on kerbs, or blocking the crossing point to the alley way.

Officers from our local police force hope to be patrolling at busier times in the near future.

We would encourage all of you who drive to school to leave slightly earlier and park slightly further away from the school site.

We will be working again with the local authority and aim to resurrect the Park and Stride programme which was launched at the sports centre car park last summer.

Mr. Leah

Diary Dates

May

Thurs 25th Final Yr6 Touch Typing club
Yr3 Japanese culture day
Fri 26th Last day of half term
9.15am Yr5 Pentecost collective
worship/assembly to parents
Mon 29th to Half term
Friday 2nd

June

Mon 5th Final KS1 Super Scientists
club
Tues 6th Pre-school starters to visit
FS —afternoon
Weds 7th Class photos
Thurs 8th Pre-school starters to visit
FS —afternoon
Mon 12th KS2 Area Sports at Corby
Triangle
Tues 13th Pre-school starters to visit
FS —afternoon
Thurs 15th Pre-school starters to visit
FS —afternoon
Fri 16th Global art day
Weds 21st 6.00-7.00pm FS new starters
parents meeting
9.15am Yr3 Refugee collective
worship/assembly
Thurs 22nd- Yr2 Beaudesert residential
Fri 23rd

Tues 27th FS Teddy Bears Picnic
Weds 28th 10.30-11.30 FS Sports Day
2.00-3.00 Yr1/2 Sports Day
Thurs 29th PM Yr3-6 Sports Day
Final French club session

July

Mon 3rd to Yr6 Welland Park induction
Tues 4th days
Mon 3rd 1.45pm Yr6 performance to
parents
Weds 5th Yr2 to Fleckney Recreation
Ground
Thurs 6th 6.30pm Yr6 performance to
parents
Mon 10th to Wigston Academy induction
Tues 11th days
Tues 11th Kibworth Mead Academy
induction day
Thurs 13th Last day of term—school
closes at 1.30pm

School Terms and Holidays 2022–2023

Dates 2022-2023

Summer Term 2023

Mid Term Break

Mon 29th May—Fri 2nd June

School Closes

Thurs 13th July **1.30pm**

Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term 2023

School Opens

Tues 29th August

Mid Term Break

Mon 16th—Fri 20th October

School Closes

Fri 22nd December **1.30pm**

Spring Term 2024

School Opens

Mon 8th January

Mid Term Break

Mon 19th—Fri 23rd February

School Closes

Fri 22nd March

Summer Term 2024

School opens

Mon 8th April

May Day Bank Holiday

Mon 6th May

Mid Term Break

Mon 27th — Fri 31st May

School Closes

Tues 9th July **1.30pm**