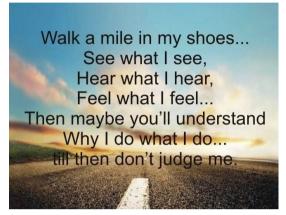


# SPRING GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

CLASS NEWSLETTER
Spring 2



This half term in school we have been thinking about our school value of empathy and we started of by thinking what is meant by the proverb: walk a mile in my shoes.

The ability to understand and share the feelings of another is not only a life skill, but an important factor to make our world a more loving and kinder place to live. We read the story *Hey, Little Ant by Phillip and Hannah Hoose* which explored the dilemma whether it was right to squash an ant. We soon discovered that the ant and the boy in the story shared very similar experiences and the only difference between the two was their physical appearance. We also watched the pixar animation

*Umbrella*, which helped us to reflect on why it was important that one takes the time to think about others before acting in haste, as often we may be unaware of the experience of others. In the animation we saw how ones past experiences can affect our feelings and interaction.

Time was spent being introduced to *Dr Martin Luther King Jr* as he was an excellent role model that demonstrated empathy. Even in the face of hardship and when others showed unkindness to him he continued to preach about kindness and encouraged others to consider others. He said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?"

So I ask, What are you doing for others?

Mr Malin, Deputy Headteacher





#### **Spring Grove Sport News**

This half term has been quite busy with a variety of Sport events going on.

- 1. The Year Five and Six Girls football team competed at the Hounslow Borough Competition at Gunnersbury, they had some very close matches against other schools.
- 2. On March 15th, a team of **Year Six** children had an opportunity to take part in a new sport called **NFL** which is **American football**. They had great fun, learnt new sporting skills and had a few close scoring games.
- 3. On March 25th, a team of Year Six children took part in a Tag Rugby Hounslow Borough Competition at the Grasshoppers Rugby Football Ground. There were some really closely fought matches and we narrowly missed reaching the quarter finals. The main thing is that the children enjoyed participating and having fun.



## Spring Grove Primary Gardening Club Our future is SUSTAINABILITY



Our school gardening club is available to children in Key Stage 2, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn Terms, and provides an opportunity for children to learn about growing plants, recycling and wildlife. We grow all of our plants organically from seed allowing children to experience the life cycle of a plant first-hand. The club allows children to learn about the world and seasons around them while gaining a greater understanding of the jouney their food takes before it reaches their plates. We

have discussions about the environment and the importance of biodiversity and sustainability.

There are many other benefits to gardening; it is a social activity where children can learn to work in teams, take turns and share resources needed to build our garden. They are also able to develop their communication skills through listening and following instructions. Their hard work equates to reward as they see the fruits of their labour, as they feel proud and truly enjoy selling our vegetables to parents at harvest time. Most importantly there are huge health benefits of gardening, it can help improve physical and mental wellbeing. It has been known to reduce anxiety and improve social functioning. It can help build life skills such as confidence and resilience.

#### **Pupil Voice News**

## JUNIOR TRAVEL AMBASSADORS (J.T.A)

We have been busy setting competitions both internally and externally.

We have a Road Safety Comic Strip for the children to do over the break, just check your google classroom.

We would like to remind everyone that the Star Road is still in use during the day and would like to keep you safe by asking you to walk on the pavement and not the road and that when you are riding scooter or bike, that you are extremely careful at the different junctions down Star Road.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding road safety please put it in writing and give it to your child to bring into school. Keep safe and have a good

#### SCHOOL COUNCIL

As school councillors, we have the power to listen to pupils' voices and speak for everyone. We have been creating behaviour playground posters and games with rules for all the children to use during their playtime, as we want vour time at Spring Grove to be enjoyable and fun, if there is anything we can do please come and let us know. We have been busy thinking of ways to raise money to help support our time at Spring Grove.

If you have any ideas, concerns or suggestions come and talk to us!

#### **ECO WARRIORS**

Hello, we have been busy looking at how we can take care of our environment as well as reduce waste. We are currently looking at ways to reduce single use plastics, there will be more to come on this. We are going to be making signs to remind everyone to turn off lights to help with reducing waste. If you have any ideas please come and speak to us, we would love your thoughts. We are jointly working in partnership with the gardening club on how to be more sustainable and create a pleasant environment around the school grounds and they will be sharing ideas of home projects like growing vegetables/herbs at home by using recycled materials (egg boxes). The aim is to show how easy it is to grow your vegetables without having to buy expensive pots and which takes minimal time.

On behalf of the Gardening club and the Eco Team, we would like to ask for donations of various seeds and bulbs for our wild garden that we are jointly working on. This will hopefully encourage various insects to visit and show us how important these minibeasts are to the ecosystem, even a small one like ours. We would also appreciate donations of peat free soil for the raised beds for our vegetables that the gardening club grows.



#### **READING NEWS**





The Week Junior is a children's magazine about topical issues in the world. You are able to receive 6 issues for FREE and further

discounts after this, as well as FREE delivery to your home. Use this link for further information:

https://theweekjunior.co.uk/riona-ny-24

Lego Life Magazine is FREE for children aged 5-9 years old and can be delivered to your home four times a year. The next issue is in July 2024. For more information or to sign up, use this link: <a href="https://www.lego.com/en-gb/life">https://www.lego.com/en-gb/life</a>

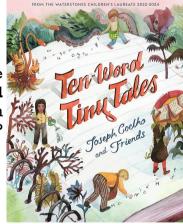


#### **Book Inspiration**



The '100 things to know about' series of non-fiction books might inspire you to learn new facts!

Joseph Coelho is the current Poet Laureate and he has written a new book 'Ten **Word Tiny Tales'**. Can you write a tiny tale in ten words?







### **NURSERY—INKPEN**

In **Nursery** this half term we have continued learning about different Traditional Tales. We have enjoyed learning, retelling and taking part in activities around Jack and the Beanstalk, The Gingerbread Man and the Three Billy Goats Gruff.



We have also enjoyed taking part in some celebrations, in particular: Chinese New Year, Mothers Day, Eid and Easter.

The children particularly enjoyed inviting their mothers into school for a special Mothers' Day stay and play. Together we played, made crafts and sang them a song. We even enjoyed eating a homemade cake together with some squash. We loved having



our mummy's come and play - thank you to everyone who supported this event.

More recently, we have learnt about Easter and have taken part in some Springtime activities as well as finding out why Easter is celebrated by Christian.

We have enjoyed talking about Ramadan and have explored the different ways in which some of us are counting down the days to the Eid celebration. Nursery will



enjoy finding out more about Eid when we return after the holidays.

It has been a fabulous half term and we look forward to more fun and learning in the Summer term!

## RECEPTION—MCKEE

This half term Reception have been busy learning about new life through the story of the Hungry Caterpillar and Handa's surprise. We have enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar and other well known animals.

We have explored Spring and particularly enjoyed our springtime walk where we found many different examples of new growth and life waking up from its long winter's sleep. We saw some blossoms on the trees, daffodils growing and buds on the bushes. We talked about how Easter is a festival that symbolises new life for Christian people and enjoyed taking part in different activities around the festival.

We are looking forward to celebrating Eid on our return to school.

### YEAR 1—DONALDSON







We have had an eggcellent Spring term in **Year One!** The children have made amazing progress and enjoyed all of their learning. In History, we have been learning all about the Victorians and discovering what life was like in the Victorian Era. We have also learnt about castles and have found out who lives within them. In Science, we have continued with our materials topic and have learnt about what happens to materials when they are heated or cooled. We grouped materials based on their physical properties and learnt some new scientific vocabulary such as: rough, smooth, waterproof, not waterproof and bendy and not bendy.

In Art, we have been inspired by Paul Klee and Emma Burleigh to create our own artwork using watercolours. We ended the term with a Victorian Day experience and a Mediaeval Banquet, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.









## YEAR 2—GREY

Wow! We have had an amazing Spring Term in Year Two. In English, we have been finding out information about David Attenborough and polar bears and learnt how to present this information as a non-chronological report. The children have learnt lots of amazing facts: did you know that polar bears have black skin and that their fur is actually hollow and transparent? We have also used this information with our descriptive writing of Leaf,who was a polar bear lost on a forest island.



In Science, we have been learning about plants and what they need to grow. We have planted some bean seeds and are observing them grow. In Art, we have been looking at expressive painting from a variety of artists and have used a variety of materials whilst mark making.

We were able to show off in assembly all the fantastic things we have been learning in geography about the Caribbean. We talked about the amazing sights to see and the fun things you can do there. In class, we have then compared life in the Caribbean to life in the UK, looking at the similarities and differences between the two.





#### YEAR 3—ZEPHANIAH

What a fantastic spring term **Year Three** has had! It has been a very busy half term and I am extremely proud of all the children's hard work, especially the Greek stories that the children have written in Literacy lessons.

In art, we and have been exploring exaggerated pictures. We started with exaggerating the author **Rolad Dahl**, and then did the same during book week with author **Nina Peanut** characters.



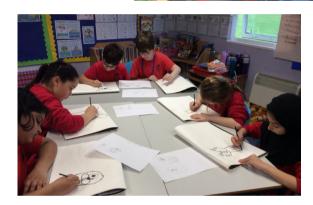
The children have really developed their tennis skills over the half term. I think that **Serena Williams** and **John McEnore** need to watch out as they may have some competition from the children!

In Geography, the children have been learning about **Greece**. We spent some time looking at traditional clothing, which led to us deciding to show and talk about our own traditional clothing. The children have also been learning about the five major lines of the world and this has raised lots of

questions. It has been great to see the enthusiasm from the children.

Have a great break and I hope that you are looking forward to the summer term:)





## YEAR 4—RAUF

This half term, we have been doing a variety of interesting things. In Science, we have been learning about how to keep our teeth clean and healthy. We did a fun experiment, which taught us what would happen if we did not keep our teeth clean using eggshells!

In Gymnastics, we have been doing individual or paired work on the mats and apparatus. It was fun working together to create a sequence of movements using balances, ways of travelling and turning.

In PSHE, we have been learning how to keep our body and friendships healthy. In English, we have been developing our imagination and story writing skills using the book, *Journey*.

During Book Week, we had a lot of fun dressing up and learning how illustrators create their drawings for children's books. It was really fascinating.











The Spring Grove Way; personal and academic excellence; everyone, every day.

#### YEAR 5—MORPURGO

In English, Year Five have continued t o studv Macbeth and we have really enjoyed writing in the roles of different characters and writing crime reports. A highlight was the class debate, where we debated whether the witches were mischief makers or harmless truth tellers. It was fantastic to see how the debate teams worked together and how eloquently everyone spoke.

In Maths, we have focused much of the half term on fractions, decimals and percentages and converting between them. We have used our times tables facts to help us with calculating area and perimeter. We recently began our statistics topic

through drawing and analysing line graphs.

In Science, we have continued our work learning about Materials and their Properties. We had lots of fun making slime - an irreversible change - and have undertaken some experiments involving separating mixtures. We have thought about the properties of

plastic and how we can encourage people to use less plastic as it is damaging to the environment.

In Art, we have created poetry zines by mixing paint effectively and using ink to add detail and typography.









#### YEAR 6—THOMAS

This half term has been very busy in Year Six and we have continued to demonstrate excellent learning behaviours.

We have enjoyed working in teams in P.E. to develop our skills in dodgeball and volleyball. *Ms King and Miss Kaur* have been very impressed with the focus and dedication shown to learn some new sports, such as volleyball. We have worked hard to support and encourage each other when learning the rules of the game and the different skills involved.

Year 6 enjoyed participating in the *Bikeability* course and they all enhanced their bike handling skills and developed their road safety awareness. We are now road ready and understand how to be safe when riding our bikes on the roads.

As well as this, we have enjoyed starting our new topic in History on 'The Vikings' and are looking forward to learning more about how they travelled to the United Kingdom on longships.

In Computing, we have enjoyed working in groups to create our own adverts for healthy living and have created posters to demonstrate our learning of different continents and natural disasters in Geography.

We look forward to the next half term topics, and we will be working hard to consolidate all our learning to prepare for the SATs which will take place in the month of May.