



Dear Parents

Friday 30th April 2021

As we reach the end of April, a reminder that there is no school on Monday due to the May Day Bank Holiday. Last weekend saw our first school trips since lockdown, with Year 6 ASA members having a fabulous morning of adventure at Hautbois and the Year 8 F24 team travelling to Bedford Autodrome for the first race of the season. In an extremely close finish, Town Close was first in our category (kit cars) and sixth overall, following morning practice where gear ratios, battery management and driving techniques were optimised. This [brief clip](#) shows what a brilliant start our car had (it is the one with the orange wheels) and Mr Buck came to Headmaster's assembly this morning to present the trophy and congratulate the whole team. This week also saw the start of sports fixtures against other schools with some fabulous girls' and boys' cricket matches against Framlingham, Gresham's and the High School, with lots of close competition and a particularly impressive innings by Thomas for the Colts and Hollie for the Firsts.



The week has been full of assemblies! Bird families explored liberty and rules and the children enjoyed the story *Peace at Last*, while the Pre Prep celebration assembly awarded badges to Top Birds alongside our usual collection of other awards. Each Year 2 class recorded a special assembly to parents, friends and the whole world, filmed in front of a small audience of one other Year 2 class. [Cherry Tree Class](#) retold the story of the Elves and the Shoemaker, [Rowan Tree Class](#) taught us about some of the significant people they have been studying and [Silver Birch Class](#) explored positive attitudes through the story of the Tortoise and the Hare.



Meanwhile, [3H](#) reflected on a unique year of learning before re-telling the Greek Myth of Pandora. Headmaster's assembly for Prep children was about our School Royal Society Project, seeds and what ingredients we need to grow well and we also enjoyed a lovely violin performance from Sebastian of *Concertino* by Kuchler Op. 5. On Monday, Mrs Sims led an assembly to celebrate World Pretzel Day, linked to the importance of tackling food waste.



Little Acorns have had a busy week studying mini-beasts, making cocoons and measuring worms, while Pre Prep children have been starting rehearsals for sports day dances. Our younger pupils were very patient for their class photos, which all classes in the School had on Tuesday. I saw Reception working hard on their phonics, while Year 1 were learning about the lifecycle of a frog as well as studying in our Japanese themed garden and re-telling the traditional Japanese tale, *The Two Frogs*. Year 2 showed me some fantastic examples of their independent writing and I also saw them working hard in art to design their vases and flowers. Year 3 were experimenting on rock and working with partners to develop their understanding of punctuation, while Year 4 made glitter jars and also enjoyed some tranquil reading in the library. I took one of the Year 5 classes for their PE lesson developing hurdling technique in athletics and also worked with a Year 8 French set on their Common Entrance oral presentations. Year 7 completed some impressive animations to explain plant reproduction in biology, as shared on FaceBook earlier in the week.



This weekend the School is refraining from sharing any posts on social media to support calls to tackle unacceptable language and behaviour on various platforms. Next week, we really look forward to recording our Prep Prizegiving guest speaker, Tim Krul's, address, which was postponed from last year, as commitments this year will prevent him attending on the day itself. The exact format of this final day of term for Pre Pupils, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July, will be finalised in the coming weeks. We also look forward to 3SP's assembly, further sports fixtures and the Year 6 soloists' concert, while Year 5 ASA members anticipate their trip to Eaton Vale on Friday and Saturday.



I wish everyone a very enjoyable Bank Holiday Weekend.

*Nick Kerrington*