

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and Perseverance	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	



Newsletter

Friday 22nd November 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This week's newsletter is jam-packed with information about what is going on in classes and in specific subjects this term. It is a clear indicator of the amount of learning that is going on and how the children enthuse for this. There are some lovely pictures to accompany this too so please do take the time to read this even if the classes are not relevant to you as it will give you a clear picture of what comes both before and after your child's current learning.

My Star Chat this morning was all about History and as I went around the classes to deliver the star cards yesterday afternoon, I was really impressed with the subject specific vocabulary pupils were using to describe what they had learnt and some even impressed me with new facts that I was not aware of - every day really is a school day!

Next Thursday we welcome grandparents in for breakfast and then into classrooms to help make decorations that will be put up around school. This kicks off the start of our festive activities and I am looking forward to sharing updates on these in the coming weeks!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

BBC Children in Need

A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated recently to our non-uniform day in aid of BBC Children in Need. We raised a whopping £240—which will make a real difference to children and their families all over the UK. Raising money for good causes is just one of the ways we teach our children values and how we can help those who are less fortunate than ourselves. If you want to find out more about what your money does, follow this link: <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/children-in-need/what-we-do/>



Upcoming Book Fair Wednesday 27th November – Tuesday 3rd December

On Wednesday 27th November, our Book Fair arrives and will be located in the school library.

Your children will be invited down to browse the books that day and then the book fair will be open to parents and carers afterschool everyday from then until Tuesday 3rd December. To find the library, head down the right side of the front of the school after school where staff will be waiting to greet you. You will be able to pay via cash or on your phone via a QR code. We will also be selling books during Grandparents' breakfast (28th November).



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A week in Aspen Class

In **English** we have been focusing on using contractions and expanded contractions. The class

as

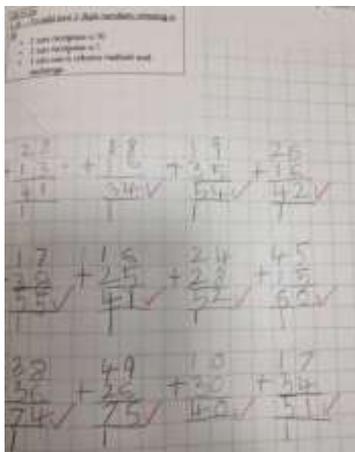
would have	→	would've
might have	→	might've
must have	→	must've
he is	→	he's
she is	→	she's
it is	→	it's
that is	→	that's

 have been busy recognising as many they can and have been using them in their writing.

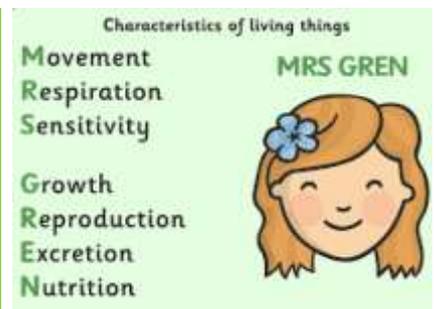
Our **English** text for the next couple of weeks is the book 'A Meerkat Christmas'. The story follows a Meerkat on his way to find the importance of Christmas and sends cards home to his family. We are planning the card that we will be sending to Father Christmas. We have been selecting greetings and introductions.



In **maths** we have been working on 2 digit and 2 digit addition. We have used a column method and also been crossing a 10, meaning that the children have had to make an exchange to find the answers. We have done this practically using base 10 and moved on to writing columns into our books. It has been a challenge but everyone has achieved very well.



In **science** we have begun looking at living things. We have discussed humans, animals and plants and how we know that they are living. We have sorted out images of a variety of objects and beings to decide whether they are living, dead or have never been alive. We certainly had some interesting thoughts.

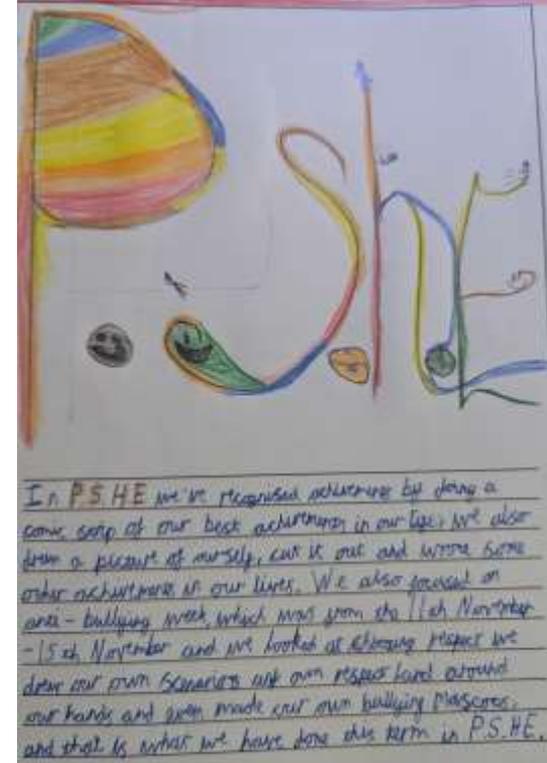


Fire Service Visit

Last week Aspen Class were very lucky to have a visit from 5 members of Sandy Fire Service. They came to discuss fire safety and how we respond in the rare case of a fire at home. The children were encouraged to GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL THE FIRE BRIGADE OUT! They reminded the children to call the emergency number of 999. They were informed about the various roles that they have and what their job really entails. A fire fighter entered the room in full gear and the class had the opportunity to name all the parts. Once we had learned a lot inside we went out to look around the fire engine. The children were shown the ladders, cutting equipment and hoses. To finish off a lovely afternoon the class were able to have a go at spraying the hoses. This was a huge delight to them. Finally they were taught the rhyme—

Matches, lighters, never touch ,they can hurt you very much!





In P.S.H.E we've recognised achievement by doing a comic strip of our best achievements in our lives. We also drew a picture of ourselves, cut it out and wrote some other achievements in our lives. We also focused on anti-bullying week, which was from the 14th November - 15th November and we looked at choosing proper we draw our own scenarios and our respect card around our hands and even made our own bullying messages and that is what we have done this term in P.S.H.E.

Computing

SPAM

Hallo you sock

MAIL

FROM: L.P.H.M.S. <mailto:lpms@lpms.com>

TO: SPAM

OH NO SPAM

S	O	A	M	I
I	S	,	h	o

In Junior class computing we have learnt about Spams and junkmail and being safe online. Whenever you get a spam email you should not click on any links or if you get one in the post just throw it away. You can also report it when you get a spam email in your post box or if you get a junk mail email they could get your address on it they could get money out of your bank account. Always be careful online.

D.T

In D.T we have been learning about types of bridges. So far, we made a spaghetti knife bridge and soon... we will be making a wooden truss bridge. When we did our spaghetti truss bridge it took us days to complete. I wonder how long it will take us to complete our wooden bridge?

In French we were learning about the different family members French names and how to say them. In the next term, we were being taught about how to say different classroom objects, such as a pencil ruler or back pack. Now, we are currently learning how to say the 7 days of the week and 12 months of the year.

GEOGRAPHY

In Geography we have learnt about the Alps. For example we learnt about Innsbruck, a city in the Austrian Alps. The population is 136,335 and some of the vegetation is birch forest trees, Himalayan balsam and various mushrooms. The Alps are spread across 8 countries: Austria, Switzerland, France, Germany and Italy.

Year 5 and the wider curriculum

In football P.E we have learnt football and in our first lesson we had the ball we had to dribble past the defender then get to the end and give it to the next person. Then there was two attackers and one defender. We then tried to get past the defender and stop it on the goal. One day, we were played a football match then we did a tournament with 3 Bikes and 6 teams we played against ourselves all the time.

History

In history Junior class have been learning about the Mayan civilisation and we were also comparing the Mayan civilisation to the Aztecs. We looked at the difficulties of living in the rainforest and living in the angle-sloped times. We also learnt about how the Mayan people built their houses. We also drew a birds eye view of a Mayan city ready to make a 3D model of a Mayan city.

Fir Class

In music we are learning about celebration music. We joined in with some African drumming when learning about Kwanzaa.



We are continuing to make our hibernation boxes for DT this term. We painted them first before decorating with paper leaves, cutting a hole and then filling with the dried leaves and natural materials that we collected during Forest Schools.



We were lucky enough to have a visit from Rolo the miniature dachshund puppy! All the children showed our values as they were very responsible, respectful and calm around the puppy. We then drew pictures for Rolo.



In maths we have been learning about the composition of numbers 1-5, as well as practising our subitising!

Geography at Maple Tree



Reception

Geography in reception is taught through hands on activities in the classroom and outside. They children have been observing the weather and seasonal changes and changes in nature. Enjoying weekly Forest School activities, navigating around our school environment, searching for materials and making their own art.

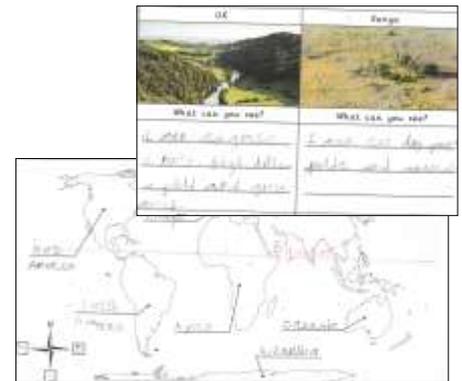


Year 1

The children in Yew have been focusing on 'What is it like here?' The learning has not just been the classroom, the whole school grounds have been explored as well as looking at aerial photos of the local area, identifying key locations. They have started to focus on the school playground and consider what they think of the current layout...could it be improved?

Year 2

Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold climate? Aspen have been doing a lot of map work to try and answer this question. They started by locating a naming the seven continents and then looking at where the hottest and coldest parts of the globe are. They have been focusing on the features of hot and cold climates as to whether they would have a preference to where in the world they would live and be able to justify why.



Year 3

Rowan have been learning all about the geology of the earth and how volcanoes are made through the movement of tectonic plates. The children are able to explain some of the negative and positive reasons why people live near volcanoes such as the benefits of the warm water but the risk of poisoning from the minerals.



Year 4

In year 4, the children have been learning about why rainforests are so important to the world. They have been learning a lot about rainforests, explaining the different layers and what impact humans have had on the Amazon rainforest. They were fortunate to have visited the rainforest biome at Shuttleworth Zoological Centre, where they learnt about the animals and plants found in the South American rainforests.



Year 5

Year 5 have been considering the climate of mountain ranges and why people choose to visit the Alps. They have been focusing on Innsbruck and looking at the human and physical features that attract tourists to the mountains. Juniper will be investigating and comparing the activities that occur locally to those that happen in the mountains.



Why do people visit the Alps?

Location City: Innsbruck Country: Austria Continent: Europe	Population 130,000	Climate High altitude Short summer Long winter Temperate
Vegetation - very important Pine, spruce Firs, larch Birch	Transport car train bus	Leisure Skiing, snowboarding, winter sports Hiking, mountain biking, mountain climbing, paragliding

Year 6

Elder have been detectives to find out why the population changes over time. They have been learning why some parts of the world are more populated than other parts and how birth and death rates may influence this. They have also been considering other factors that may be a push or pull on population such as social, economic and environmental and impacts they have.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

27th November-3rd December Book Fair

Thursday 28th November Grandparent's Breakfast

Monday 2nd December Year 6 trip to Bletchley Park

Monday 2nd December FoMT Craft Fair 6-8:30pm

Wednesday 4th December Year 3 and 4 Faith Tour trip

Wednesday 11th December School Pantomime

Thursday 12th December at 2.30pm Parent Forum

Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December FoMT Elfridges shop

Friday 13th December UKS2 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

Friday 13th December Mulberries Christmas songs and stay – 11am-12pm

Friday 13th December Carols on the playground- 3:40pm

Monday 16th December LKS2 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

Monday 16th December Mulberries Christmas songs and stay – 2:30-3:30pm

Tuesday 17th December Rock Steady Concert

Tuesday 17th December KS1 Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

Wednesday 18th December Reception Christmas assembly – 9:15-9:45am

Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for... ..showing good manners!



Fir: Effie	Yew: Georgia	Aspen: Ava
Rowan: Briar-Rose	Poplar: Hazel	Juniper: Veer
Elder: Evan	Well done to you all!	★

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

Weekly totals:

Buzzards 302	Robins 185
Doves 147	Ravens 232
Kingfishers 179	Swallows 303

Celebrations and Weekly Wins!

stars of the Week!

For amazing history this week!

Yew: Malachi
Aspen: Alfie
Rowan: Tommy
Poplar: Parker
Juniper: Toby
Elder: Niamh

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 18th November 2024

The best attendance award is presented to:
class this week!

Mulberries 91%	Fir (YR) 94%
Yew (Y1) 95%	Aspen (Y2) 96%
Rowan (Y3) 97%	Poplar (Y4) 97%
Juniper (Y5) 98% ★	Elder (Y6) 95%

grand theft auto

An Online Safety Shareable by INEQE Safeguarding Group

While most games focus on beating the 'baddies', this action-adventure game is all about acting out a life of crime yourself. But while playing high-speed chases and heists in a virtual city obviously has a lot less consequences than doing the same offline, many safeguarding experts question if it's truly 'risk free' for young players.

What is GTA?

Within the current series of games, users play characters completing criminal missions across cities, from stealing cars to drug smuggling. Players can also choose from a range of side quests or just explore without a set purpose.

! Potential Risks

GRAPHIC GAMEPLAY

GTA is known for its violent themes, sexual content, adult language and references to drugs and alcohol. And, of course, there is also the game's main storyline, criminality.

MISOGYNY AND SEXISM

The creators of Grand Theft Auto have previously come under criticism for the game's depiction of women, including how they're dressed and giving health 'boosts' to players who sleep with female characters and murder them to receive their money back.

SCREENTIME

Games like Grand Theft Auto can be immersive, and users may find it difficult to limit their screen time, particularly if they are free playing/exploring, rather than following storyline tasks and completing missions.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Although players earn 'cash' through completing tasks in the game, virtual cash cards can also be purchased online for real money. This option may be tempting for young people so they can quickly buy their character in-game purchases, like vehicles and property.

TOP TIPS!

TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Half the appeal of playing GTA may be because their friends are! Talk to the young person in your care about what peer pressure is and what to do if they're being pressured or bullied.

TRUSTED ADULTS

Make sure they know who their trusted adults are so they know who to turn to if something is worrying or upsetting them.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Have a conversation about what age ratings are and why they matter. Talk about how some content may be harmful to underage players. But remember, this isn't a lecture, it's a discussion!

FIND FUN GAMES

Research alternative, age-appropriate games together. Find out what type of game appeals to them and go from there!

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Hype around GTA

Before the release of a new Grand Theft Auto game, there is usually much excitement and online speculation. This type of hype and anticipation can catch the attention of young people and make them eager to play both the new version and existing versions so it's important to be aware of previous and new content within the game.

Already played it?

If you find out the young person in your care has already played GTA or similar, it's important you stay calm. Getting angry or very upset brings the risk they won't come talk to you about their online experiences in the future. Instead, ask them what they thought of the game and if anything upset or shocked them. Give them plenty of space and time to talk!



**OPEN 12TH & 13TH
DECEMBER**

ELFRIDGES' *Gift Shop*

£3.50 PER PRESENT

Scan here to pre-order!



**PRE-ORDERING CLOSSES ON
6TH DECEMBER!**



Christmas Craft Market

Come along to our fun filled festive evening, with amazing gift ideas and help show your support to small local businesses.

From bows to books, candles to colouring, we have a fab range of stall holders waiting to make your Christmas magical.

There will also be a raffle & refreshments available

Monday 2nd December 2024 6-8:30pm

**Maple Tree Primary School, Hawk Drive,
Sandy, SG19 2WA**



**FREE
ENTRY**

