



Dear families,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. Covid is still a huge challenge for everyone especially those of you who are ill at home. I hope you are soon on the mend. At school it's been a time when everyone has come together, as a team, to keep things as normal as possible for the children. I know many children have not had their class teacher and some classes have been split, this is not ideal but it is a true testament to your children how well they have coped and helped each other. And despite this situation there has still been lots of fantastic learning. This has all been made easier by our amazing parent volunteers.

At school we've been thinking about the value 'ambitious' and what being ambitious really means. In our assembly this week Mr Rosewell spoke about the link between the values: ambitious, self aware and persevere. In order to be ambitious it is important that we are self aware and able to persevere. If we know our strengths and weaknesses then we will be able to focus on what we are good at and try to improve areas that we are not so good at. We need to persevere on the things we are not so good at so we can reach our ambitious goals. Mr Rosewell read the story 'The Lion Inside' to demonstrate these values.

Hopefully you have all read the letter, that was sent out this week, about launching The Vineyard orchestra. This is going to start after half term. We are inviting any children, who are being taught a musical instrument and working towards grade 1, as a minimum, to join. We would really like any parents who are musically minded to be part of this if they can. A huge thank you to the PTA who have bought us some new music stands and are paying for the time of our conductor. Please keep an eye out for the date of our first performance.

It has been lovely watching year 2 arrive in the mornings clutching their scooters ready for their scooter training sessions which have taken place this week. These are free workshops where the children learn about safe scooting.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Bracegirdle

Upcoming Events

Fri 4 Feb	Half Term Extra-Curricular bookings go live, 7pm
Mon 7 Feb - Fri 11 Feb	Mental Health Week
Tue 8 Feb	Safer Internet Day
Fri 11 Feb	'Dress to Express' Non-uniform Day
Mon 14 Feb - Fri 18 Feb	HALF TERM
Thu 3 Mar	World Book Day
Fri 18 Mar	Red Nose Day
Fri 1 Apr	Last Day of Term - Half Day
Mon 4 Apr - Fri 15 Apr	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Mon 18 Apr	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Tue 19 Apr	First Day of Summer Term

What are we doing to get the community back into school:

- Lunch with your children - restarting after half term
- Class assemblies for families to watch - restarting in the Summer term
- Family library time - up and running again every Thursday
- Parent volunteers - please let us know if you have a free hour or two each week to come and listen to children read

[***Koosa Kids Half Term Holiday Club***](#)

Useful links

Please see below some links to our website that parents may find useful:

[Calendar](#) [Absence and Attendance](#) [Koosa](#)

[Kids](#) [Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

[Library](#) [Report and Absence](#) [FAQs](#)

[Website](#) [PTA](#)



Get the latest updates and photos by following the school on Twitter
[@Vineyard_School](#)

Class News

Reception

In Reception, the children have been very excited to learn about Space. They have worked together as a team in our Creation Station to make the 8 planets using a range of materials. In maths, they have been learning the names of 3D shapes and using 3D shapes to make their own rockets. The children have also enjoyed going on 3D shape hunts around the different learning spaces in Reception. The children have learnt some fascinating facts about famous astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake. The children found it funny that even animals have been to space! We have been so impressed with the children's writing this week. The children have worked hard to remember their finger spaces, full stops and to use Fred fingers to help them to spell words. The children have also been busy using the junk modelling to make their own space suits and rockets. It has been lots of fun!

Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been continuing our History learning on Captain Scott and Captain Amundsen's race to The South Pole. We were so excited to find out that Captain Amundsen's team won! They took 100 Husky dogs to pull their sledges. In Art we have created polka dot paintings in the style of the artist Yayoi Kusama, we used cotton buds to paint our pictures. In English we did some fantastic writing and used our Story Mountains to write our own versions of the book 'Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish'.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been continuing with learning our 2-, 5- and 10-times tables. We have also started learning about odd and even numbers. The children have worked so hard this week and we have all been so impressed with their continued focus! We also have been planning our own versions of the story 'The Bear and The Piano' by David Lichfield. The children had to create their own animal, setting and planning their stories. In Computing, we have been learning how to use Microsoft PowerPoint and Google Slides, in order to make our own presentation on our science topic – herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. We have been so impressed with their work! Keep it up!

Year 3

In Year 3 this week, the children have been tasting ingredients for the sandwiches that they will be making next week in their D&T lesson - well done to those children who tried something new. In Science, we explored how fossils are made and examined a collection of fossils that we have in school. Our new book, "Flotsam" has transported us on a journey under the sea through its colourful and thought-provoking pictures. To end the week, the children can be seen improving their dodging and passing techniques in our invasion games lessons which are currently focused on Tag Rugby.

Year 4

Year 4 have been thinking a lot about opposites over the past two weeks! Last week in English, they were weighing up the positives and negatives for a young boy who was leaving his home in Italy to travel to New York, in the hope of finding a better life. In science this week, we have been continuing our exploration into sound, with high and low pitch, and loud and quiet volume. The children were able to create their own flutes to experiment with these properties of sound. We have also had lots of fun creating positive and negative prints as we continue to experiment with printing techniques. The children created some fabulous designs using leaves and, with other mark-making devices, included some additional creative flourishes of swirls, patterns and shape designs to their final prints.

Year 5 & 6

Year 6 impressed us with their attitudes towards 'Year 6 Mock SATS'-all the children should be very proud of themselves! In English, we have been developing our skills to write a suspenseful piece of writing. We have revised sensory sentences, onomatopoeia, similes and metaphors and strategies of upscaling our language choice. They have also been learning about different camera shots in Computing and also developing their bird boxes in DT. Year 5 have been working hard across the board, using remainders when dividing as well as understanding how streamlining something can affect the forces it experiences. During their science lessons, Year 5 worked on creating the most effective parachute, through class observations and class experiments. They enjoyed watching the different size parachutes 'save our pen' at different rates. A highlight for some children has been delving into Act Two of Shakespeare's The Tempest where we met Caliban, Stephano and Trinculo and plotted Prospero's disappearance... In Geography they have been learning about the impacts of Hurricane Irma on the Caribbean as well!

Photos



YR



Y1



Y4



Y5



Y6

Sports News



Physical Education



Tag Rugby Team V St Stephens

The Extra Curricular Timetable opens for bookings on Friday 4 Feb 7pm for next half term.

Below Girls Multi Activity Club
Y4-6 Tuesdays 5.15-6.15pm



Balance