

# Newsletter



## Small Schools' Bike Ride

Pupils from six local village schools came together this month to raise over £6,000 for their Parents Teachers Associations (PTAs), cycling and scooting their way round The Old Airfield at Down Ampney.

Down Ampney and our PTA invited children from Meysey Hampton, Kempford, Siddington, Ampney Crucis, and Rodmarton Primary Schools to join them on the sponsored ride, which was possible thanks to the kind permission of Farmcare Trading Ltd. and the support of other local businesses.

With the help of generous donations from Hills Quarry Products Ltd, CIA Fire and Security, Immobilise.com, and Farmcare, each child was given a commemorative t-shirt and certificate to mark the event, whilst refreshments for all those taking part were generously provided by Tesco.

Children from each year group cycled or scooted for an hour around the tracks, with the longest lap coming in at over a kilometre, with a pit stop on course to keep the children refreshed and hydrated in the heat. The track was marked with cones kindly lent by Cotswold Driving Experiences, providing the children with a safe place to ride.



**World Music Day**  
Wed 21st June

**School Photo Day**



Tuesday June 20th

**Non-Uniform Day**



Please donate a teddy bear for the school tombola.

## Maths Puzzle Day

Each class took part in a Maths Problem Solving workshop using giant maths puzzles. The children had to use all of the maths skills that we work hard on at Down Ampney; being resourceful, curious, collaborative and resilient.



The children had great fun solving the different puzzles!

## Caring for God's Acre

We have really enjoyed being part of the Church's Count on Nature campaign, which is part of Love Your Burial Ground Week, focusing on the brilliant wildlife to be found in churchyards and chapel yards.



It is a joint initiative promoted by Caring for God's Acre, the Church of England, the Church in

Wales and A Rocha UK. Class 2 and 3 enjoyed a fascinating morning in the churchyard of the parish church where Professor Vujakovic led an ecology and wildflower session. We used quadrats to sample wildflower distribution in different areas of the churchyard. We also mapped habitat areas in the churchyard and estimated the age of trees based on halving their circumference.



## Year of Reading

Class 1 launched our year of reading by visiting the library and then enjoying a story session in the Abbey grounds. The class followed an aerial map to find the library and enjoyed a talk from the librarian before drawing a scale floor plan of the library. They then walked to the bandstand to listen to stories read by the children's librarian.



## Eco Club

Eco club have been very busy in June . At the start of the month the children weeded the Community



Garden and planted tomato plants and shallots kindly donated by a parent.

We looked at what was already growing and tried to identify them by their leaves! We all spotted the strawberries and planted sunflowers in the EYFS area.

At the end of the month Eco Club were thrilled that their sunflowers and veg had grown well since we were last here! We harvested peas and lettuce and enjoyed eating them. We watered the allotment using the water trough then headed back for some willow weaving!

The children have also been committed to promoting biodiversity in our school grounds. They



made bug houses and decided where best to put them in our forest school area.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 1st July - Family Fun Day 12-8pm at the football club.
- Monday 3rd July - Girls Active Sports Festival.
- Tuesday 4th July - Bishop Robert visiting.
- Wednesday 5th July - Whole School trip to Slimbridge.
- Friday 7th July - INSeT day.
- Monday 10th July - Y5 author visit.
- Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July, Farmor's induction day.
- Friday 14th July - King's Hill induction day.
- Thursday 20th July - Cricket day.
- Friday 21st July - Mrs Mills' farewell picnic.
- Tuesday 25th July - End of term.



# Geography

Year 4 and 5 spent an afternoon practising their map skills. Professor Peter came to work with them on using evidence from maps to locate ancient woodlands. The children became landscape



detectives and used grid references on OS maps to locate woodlands, then presented their evidence on why they thought it might be ancient woodland based on name, shape, contour lines, rivers in



woodland and types of tree present.

We also talked about the importance of ancient woodland to biodiversity.

# Sports Day

June is always a busy time of year with sports. We held our annual sports day, followed by district then had 3 children get through to area sports! We also took part in a rounders tournament and the year 6 enjoyed an afternoon at ninja warrior.

