



# Newsletter



## Experience Lent

On 5<sup>th</sup> March we hosted 5 local schools for Experience Lent. It was a lovely sunny day and all of the children started off by walking from the school up to the church spotting signs of spring as they went. When they got to the church they worked their way through 6 different stations that looked at the important parts of Lent. They learnt about Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday and considered the themes of lengthening, listening, following and keeping going. There were lots of practical activities including making passports, an experiment with pepper and washing up liquid, and dressing up. The final station included everyone trying a hot cross bun which lots of the children were very excited about! It was lovely to see the children from the different schools all mixing together as they discovered what happens during Lent and why it is such an important time for Christians.

## Term 4 Clubs

### Monday

Recorder  
Computing.

### Tuesday

Drawing  
Outdoor

### Wednesday

SATs

### Thursday

Games  
Netball

### Friday

Swimming

## Senior School Allocations

We are delighted to announce that this year all of the children in Year 6 received their first choice school allocation. Our children this year will be moving on to Farmors, Kingshill and Bradon Forest. If your child is currently in Year 5, many schools will have open events in the Summer term. These are a great opportunity to see our wonderful local schools in action. If you are considering your child doing their 11+ in September, the opening date to register is May 19th.

## Panathlon

Some children from KS2 participated in the Panathlon challenge at Cirencester College on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. They took part in games such as Boccia, Bowling and Table Cricket. We are very proud that the children came in 1<sup>st</sup> place! We are very proud of all the children for showing great teamwork and determination. A big thanks to the students at Cirencester College for leading the stations and to our School Games Organiser for providing us with this great opportunity. The final is taking place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Oxtalls Sports Park, more information will be sent to the individuals on the team.



## World Book Day

All children at Down Ampney celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Each class spent some time sharing their favourite books with their peers. At the end of the day, all children were able to visit the school bookstore, where they choose one of the free World Book Day Books.

Some children from the school were lucky to be invited to join another school this World Book Day, where Tweedy the clown was sharing his new book. Tweedy started off by showing us some of his tricks and telling us jokes, which we found particularly funny. He then went on to share his new book 'The Clown Who Lost it's Nose'. It was a great morning full of laughter and we were super excited that Tweedy signed our books for us!



## Science Week

Class 1 took part in 'Science Farm Live: Change Champions!'

They met Farmers Ruby and Lutfi, their family of change champions and their cheeky gang of chickens, goats and sheep! They joined the family on a farm walk to help look after all their animals and learnt about all the ways they fight climate change on the farm. They then followed as they took some of the produce from their vegetable garden to join Tom the

food-waste fighting chef in his kitchen to whip up a delicious, seasonal, zero-waste delight! During the live lesson, the children worked to earn badges to become Change Champions and learn about what they can do to help make a change:



Class 3 took part in a live lesson on Earth and Space hosted by Grace Webb and Greg Foot to find out what it takes to become an astronaut. British Astronaut Tim Peake, who spent 173 days living on the ISS, joined as the mission commander, who set tasks throughout the lesson. From understanding the effects of space on our bones to learning how astronauts manage food and hydration, the children explored the challenges of living in space. They also completed an 'astronaut training plan', preparing them for life in space and inspiring them to blast off into the world of science and space exploration. One of the most important things they took from the lesson is the importance in staying hydrated and checking on the colour of your wee.



## Class 1 Science

Class 1 have been learning about microhabitats. They enjoyed pond dipping in the school's forest school area. The children enjoyed exploring and identifying the different wildlife that can be found in pond. Many different specimens were found.





## Beep Beep Day - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Class 1 took part in 'Beep Beep Day', an initiative to make children more aware of road safety. We focused on holding hands to be safe when crossing the road and practiced looking after our teddies by holding their hands to keep them safe. After this, we looked at zebra and pelican crossings and when it is safe to cross. We thought about the slogan 'stop, look, listen'.

Finally, we went outside to design our own roads in chalk, adding safe places for Paddington to cross our road!



## Moon talk

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, the children in class 3 joined the Moon and Mars: Mars Day Special Live Interactive Space Show webinar. They found out about the engineers and scientists working on the international Artemis program and joined in with activities to learn about launching a rocket, navigating a spacecraft, exploring a space station, and walking on the moon. They learned lots of interesting facts about how spaceships travel to and from the moon, and were particularly interested to find out about the many different animals that have travelled into space. The children were very excited to discuss what they had learned about in the webinar as well as sharing questions that they had about space travel and exploration.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st April - Historical figures oracy competition

2nd April - Swimming gala

4th April - Class 3 De Vere biodiversity trip

4th April - Last swimming session

5th April - Easter Egg Trail starts

6th April - Rev. Swanton last service at All Saints at 10am

7th April - School photos

11th April - Make the rules day

11th April - Rev. Swanton afternoon tea 1:30pm

11th April - End of term 4

27th April - Last day for the Easter Egg Trail

28th April - Digging for Victory webinar

29th April - Mini Olympics

30th April - Drumba

