

## News from the Deputy Head

As my first news from the Deputy Head this academic year I would like to say a very warm welcome back to everyone. It has been lovely having all classes back to school and seeing the children laughing and enjoying being back with their teachers and friends. I would also like to say a very big hello to our littlest Heathcotians who started in Butterflies and Hedgehogs this week. I am incredibly impressed at how well they have settled in their classrooms, adapting to their new routines, working with their teachers and busy learning and playing with their friends. Every time I have popped into the classrooms to see them they all have a big smile on their faces eager to say hello and share what they are doing – building houses in the construction area, looking at their feelings with The Colour Monster story, seeing which items will slide does a watery pipe, filling peg boards with numicom pieces or playing house in their role play corners. You should feel very proud of how quickly they have settled. We also welcome Mrs Duffy to our team as our school business manager.

Otters and Kingfishers have enjoyed their different busy learning activities. They are now experts at identifying different parts of the body and looking at the different continents around the world. Foxes have enjoyed exploring their outdoor area, using it to inspire their art work and have also started planting bulbs...you'll need to wait next year to see what these will be! Hazel have been researching about different birds of prey and creating collages ready for their falconry visit next week! Maple have been making great use of their outdoor area, linking activities to their class text and Cherry have started their Rivers topic, using atlases to identify the different rivers around the world, they are very much looking forward to their river trip in a couple of weeks.

I would like to thank you for continuing to support us at drop-off and pick-up, hopefully today's changes will help reduce queueing. Please remember to maintain a social distance between each other and not to crowd in groups. We will continue to monitor the situation and make any further changes in relation to Government guidelines. This is a tricky and unusual time for us all and we want to make sure that everyone coming to school feels safe. To help support families where children may struggle with these new routines or families who have health concerns, there may be alternative arrangements in place to support them. Please be kind and supportive to one-another, if you feel that a family is not following our guidelines it is always best to speak with a member of staff who can support and offer the correct response. The children are doing a fantastic job organising themselves in the morning, to continue to develop the children's independence, we are happy for you to drop-off children from Year 3 onwards at the gate where Mr Forrest stands for them to walk themselves round to their classroom where the teachers and teaching assistants will be watching them walk around. This will also help to have fewer people on the school grounds.

Next week we will be starting our Meet the Teacher sessions. This is a great way for you to meet your child's teacher and find out the curriculum, routines and expectations for that year group. We understand that not everyone will be able to attend these sessions, the information shared will be available on the school website on the class pages. Remember to use the "Me to You" sheets if you need to ask the class teacher any questions.

After such a busy second week back, I'm sure the children are looking forward to a restful weekend! See you all next week.

*"Every day is a chance given to better your yesterday and brighten your tomorrow"*

Mrs Abernethy



## Spot Light on our Children

### News from Reception

What a fantastic week we have had in Reception! The Hedgehogs and Butterflies have done so well in their first week of school. We've been so busy making new friends and exploring our classrooms. This week we've read the story 'The Colour Monster' and have been talking about different feelings, we've decorated our own Hedgehog and Butterfly pictures and group 1 have had a fantastic first session at Forest School! We can't wait for the fun to continue next week!



# Spot Light on our Children

## News from Otters

Otters have had a great week showing me how good they are at maths! We have been counting using tens frames and sorting objects into groups. We have been getting to know the maths resources and really enjoy using the Numicon shapes to support our mathematical understanding.



## News from Foxes



The fantastic Foxes have been bright-eyed, bushy tailed and hungry for learning this week! Well done to you all. We are super impressed with you. This week we have continued with our learning linked to the fabulous book 'Here We Are'.

Thankfully, the warm September days we have had has enabled us to take our learning outside. The Foxes really enjoyed being 'Environmental Explorers' using all of their senses to find and identify as many signs of life in our wonderful school environment. They really are showing excellent powers of observation, great team work and brilliant listening skills and focus inside and outside of the classroom. The grown-up Foxes were so pleased with the way in which the 'explorers' showed care and respect towards our fragile environment. This is a very strong theme running through the 'Here We Are' text and one which should be close to all our hearts.

Finally...

We have two new class members in the Foxes this week.



On the left we have Bravosaurus. She is hungry for house points and we have kept her very well fed this week!

Bravosaurus' friend is called Worrysaurus. You can guess what he likes to eat! We are very pleased to report that Worrysaurus' has not been overfed this week. He has had a very empty tummy!

## News from Kingfishers

This week in Kingfishers we have been busy getting used to our new environment. We've worked hard to name and label parts of our body in Science.

In Maths we have been learning to represent numbers and objects.

We've been exploring the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers and writing new lyrics for "What a Wonderful World".



I'm so proud of how well all the children have settled in to their new class.

Well Done Kingfishers

## News from Hazel

We've been using different materials to create textured golden eagle collages. We've been learning a lot about birds of prey this week as part of our topic work. Did you know that a golden eagle has a wingspan of 2.1 meters? That's taller than a door!



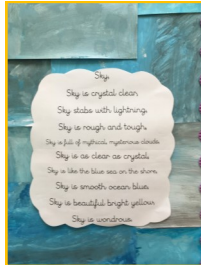
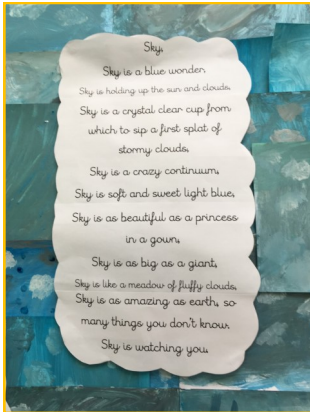
## Spot Light on our Children

### News from Maple

Maple have made us really proud this week with their hard work, concentration and excellent language choices. Linked to our class text, "Here we are" we decided to go and look at the sky. We realised how relaxing it can be to stop and enjoy nature. The class then painted the sky and created some wonderful poems. We have also enjoyed having the outdoor space outside our classroom and have made a mini circuit that



provides a brilliant brain break between lessons. It has been great seeing some parents joining in the fun too on their way through!



### News from Cherry

This week in Cherry Class we have started their topic on rivers. The children have learned to identify the different features which can be found from the source to mouth. Using atlases, the class have been locating the rivers in the UK and recording these on their own maps. In response to the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers, children have been writing list poems which include some excellent examples of similes, personification and alliteration. In their Maths lessons, children have been refreshing their knowledge of Place Value and rounding.



### MEET THE TEACHER



Year 2—Tuesday 15th September 2:30pm

Year 4—Wednesday 16th September 2:30pm

Year 1—Kingfishers—Thursday 17th September 2:30pm

Year 3—Monday 21st September 2:30pm

Year 1—Otters—Tuesday 22nd September 2:30pm

Year 5—Wednesday 23rd September 2:30pm

All sessions will be held in the school hall with social distancing rules in place.

### CHANGE TO SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICES

With effect from Friday 11th September, the cost of a jumper or cardigan will increase by 50p to £10.50. This is due to our suppliers increasing their prices.

Please order via the school website or your ParentPay Account.

### Year 3 (Hazel) - Paid School Meals



Please ensure all school meals are paid for in advance via the ParentPay portal. Meals are £2.25 per day.

### New Reception Parents

Letters have been sent home to the families of Hedgehogs and Butterflies containing the log in details for ParentPay (Payment for uniform, trips etc) and eschools. (a platform for communication, letters home, emails etc)

Please log into these portals to activate your accounts as soon as possible. Any questions please contact the school office:

01926 290330

admin2056@welearn365.com