

Orford CEVA Primary School

Sowing faith, Growing Learners, Inspiring Futures



Half Term Newsletter - Summer 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear all,

Firstly a tremendous THANK YOU to the entire school community: pupils, staff, governors and you as parents for your support this week in our two day OFSTED inspection. It was incredibly humbling to hear your comments and experiences that you value, and I am so immensely proud of both our team for all they do to make Orford such a wonderful school; but also of our children for how hard they strive to be the best they can. Our children were articulate, passionate and above all, kind. We cannot ask for more than that. We are unable to disclose any details at this point whilst the final report is written. As soon as the report is available we will inform you of the outcome and share the findings.

Another huge well done particularly to our Year 6s who had their SATs examinations earlier in May - we are extremely proud of all they have achieved both this year and throughout their time at Orford school, but this particular week they approached the whole situation with maturity and diligence and embodied all of our values. Well done Year 6!!

We've had a number of other successes this term including the Sandwell Mental Health charter mark and celebrating the King's coronation together - please take some time to read through all that has been going on.

The Arts Award Club will be performing with Rust and Stardust Productions in the 'Knucker of Knodishall' in June at Orford Town Hall. You may have seen the posters around the village! We are very lucky that the Thomas Marshall Education fund have kindly offered **discounted tickets for Orford School families** - please see information at the back of this newsletter of how to book as it is different to what is on the leaflets

Finally, I would like to wish you a restful half term and look forward to seeing you after the break - we have a number of exciting events coming up over the next few weeks from Sports Day, to trips to the Class 3 play. Please remember to read the notices email each Friday for the most recent list of upcoming dates.

With very best wishes,
Miss Cannon

Values Cup Award Winners

- **Miss Phillips** - Generosity, service and peace
- **Uma** - Creativity, perseverance and peace
- **Teddy** - Courage, responsibility and thankfulness
- **Miss Davis** - Generosity, humility and service



Our whole school value next half term will be: **service.**

Whole School News

Well done to Mrs Reeve for working so hard over the past year to help us achieve the Sandwell Mental Health Charter Mark. It recognises the commitments we've made to support well-being in the school and we're praised particularly for our use of the teaching kitchen, forest schools and nurture groups to support our pupil's development. Thank you to the families who were able to attend the celebration assembly where we were presented the award by Kay Breton from Suffolk County Council.

It was lovely to celebrate the King's coronation together earlier in the month. Everyone looked fantastic in their regal red, white and blue outfits. We held a special collective worship to learn about the new monarch and what was planned for the coronation, then each class spent the week creating their own pieces of work to mark the celebration. Class 1 read "The King's Underpants" and created their own pants for the King (!), Class 2 made crowns with words and phrases linked to the coronation, whilst Class 3 created their own bunting. All of the work is displayed in the front entrance - please do come in to see it before it gets taken down at the end of term.





The Just42 after school club took off this term and is well attended. This week the children had a crafting session where they made these super paper plate stories. The club runs every Thursday 3-4pm, with a snack and glass of juice. 50p per child. Please email Mrs Scarce if you would like your child to take part.

Our new 'Wonderwall' is growing nicely with a number of achievements displayed, many of them swimming! It would be fantastic to share and showcase the wide range of hobbies and achievements our children have. If they receive an award, achieve something, or just have a really special experience, please share it with us.

Today, we hosted our first 'Book Buddies and Biscuits' event. It was so lovely to see older/younger pupils pair up so amicably to share a book and love of reading together. We would like to hear your views on this so as many of you can attend as possible in future events - please email admin@orfordcvap.org with what you enjoyed, and perhaps a good time/place/frequency or any other suggestions to help us turn this into a regular event! All the photos from the day will be added to the school website over half term.



Finally, thanks to the fantastic support of the local community, and the tireless counting by Mrs Scarce, we have won the Lego Voucher competition in the EADT! This is fantastic news, as it will allow us to purchase some more of the specialist Lego WeDo kits which we use for Lego club, D&T, computing and Science! Thank you everyone for your support with this, it makes a huge difference!



Class 1 News

Class 1 has thoroughly enjoyed learning all about our school and local area. We have been looking at maps and identifying places of interest and their uses and purposes for the wider community.

We used a map (and the local expertise of Miss Phillips!) to plan a route around our village. It was a particularly cold and windy (Summer) day but nevertheless we put on our coats, grabbed our maps and set off on our tour of the village. First stop was the Rec, next we walked along the path and could see Orford castle, we turned left then right and walked past the pump then through the alleyway to the shop. At the shop our Year 1 children developed their money skills by selecting and paying for a postcard to send to our friend Aurelia in London. They had to decide which coins to pay with and then had to wait for their change. After the shop we visited the bakery, the church and finished our tour at the fire station. All of these places we managed to tick off our list as we recognised them.

It was a busy walk for little legs but everyone managed really well. Next we will be turning our knowledge of the local area into symbols for our own maps of Orford.



Class 2 News

We have had an extremely busy term but the children have risen to the challenge and have worked extremely hard, we are very proud of Class 2. As part of our settlement topic, we enjoyed a walk around Orford, looking at land use, particularly around the Castle, to begin introducing this new topic. We have begun to construct our own Castles out of papier mache, noting different types of Castles such as motte and bailey, concentric castles and

castles with keeps. We have also begun to write labels describing parts of a Castle and have been attempting to add details using connectives, adjectives and enhanced sentence construction. We will look forward to completing these and sharing them with you.

We have had a big vocabulary drive this half term, making more conscious choices and considering the meaning of our writing. We LOVED making crowns for the King's coronation using regal vocabulary - they are all hanging up as part of the front entrance display. In Literacy we also "read" the wordless book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker and chose an aspect of the story to bring to life in words. Our writing was thoughtful and exciting and many of the

descriptions helped the rest of the teachers imagine exactly what happened in the story!!



Class 3 News



In class 3 we finished our class text 'When the Mountains Roared'. We really enjoyed the book, and concluded by creating a leaflet to promote the lead character's hotel in the Himalayan Mountains. The children have worked fabulously hard writing them and they look amazing! In maths we have revised work on the topics of area, perimeter, measurements, all 4 operations in a problem solving context, studied timetables and time, and worked on maths puzzles and investigations. In science, we have learned lots about adaptations and evolution, and the children have studied Charles Darwin's contribution towards the theory of 'Survival of the Fittest'. As an experiment, we used different tool to pick up different types of foods, to demonstrate how birds beaks have adapted to their diets, like the Galapagos finches. We learnt about Mary Anning's contribution to fossil hunting and studied the evidence fossils show of evolution on our planet.

We are continuing our study on Ancient Greece, and the children have studied where and when this civilisation lived and some of their more famous historical figures, including Aristotle and Alexander the Great. The children researched what it was like to live in the city states of Athens and Sparta, and then selected in which they would like to have lived! In art, the children have made observational drawings of Ancient Greek pots, and drew and painted their own designs, featuring figures competing in the historical Olympic Games. We are now in the process of their construction from clay and the final decoration of our pottery! Year 5 and 6 have also been fortunate to have some Financial Education sessions delivered by a volunteer from CAP (Christians Against Poverty) – they have enjoyed taking part in these sessions, exploring wants and needs, ways of earning an income and practiced the skill of budgeting.

Governors' Message

Dear parents & carers

Please may I start by thanking you all for your wonderful support of the school during the Ofsted inspection in the last week of term. An Ofsted inspection is always a tough experience for those involved, but it showed Orford CEVA Primary School at its very best, with staff, pupils, governors and parents all working together for the benefit of the school which we all love and care about. Miss Cannon and her team deserve our thanks for the long hours they put in over the inspection.

On Friday 26th May the Full Governing Body voted formally to apply to join the Tilian Partnership Multi Academy Trust after conducting a robust due-diligence process. As Governors we strongly believe that this is in the best long term interests of Orford School, as Tilian MAT have a good track record of supporting and working with small rural primary schools, and respecting their individuality. We are looking to join Tilian Partnership MAT some time in the autumn term and will keep you up to date on progress.

May I wish you all a happy and restful half term break, with hopefully some sunshine!

With all blessings

Revd Giles

Chair of Governors

Arts Award Update

Tickets now available for the *KNUCKER OF KNODISHALL*

Friday 16th June 1:30pm

Saturday 17th June 7pm

(the show will run for approximately 90mins including a short interval)

Families of all Orford School children (not just those in Arts Award club) can **buy tickets at a discounted price**

Adults £5 per ticket
Children £1 per ticket

To purchase tickets:

- Please email or visit Mrs Scarce
- Have the number of adult and children ticket(s) required, and for which performance(s) ready
- Full payment will need to be made upfront
- Payment will need to be in cash, or via cheque made payable to the Thomas Marshall Education Fund.

The whole school will attend the dress rehearsal on the Friday morning to see their friends in action, but it would be lovely to have as much support as possible at the "real" performances!

