

'The Lion Inside'

We've made it to the end of term 1! It's been 8 weeks of challenges and adjusting to new routines but also a term of extraordinary success.

A particular highlight for me has been the return of collective worship, and although we have had to return to digital assemblies this week, it's been delightful to meet together as one school family; parents included! The theme for our collective worships has been 'courage', a value which we feel is so pertinent for us as a community. Children shared many of their own stories of courage and we read stories such as 'The Lion Inside' which help us to learn the true meaning of being brave. More than any generation of children have they needed to show courage and we have seen countless examples of children facing their own fears this term, too many to mention here.

One fear which I conquered was the fear of a bird eating from my hand! Luckily, a young man in year 3 was there to encourage me that it wasn't really that bad! The whole school trip was a real milestone in our school journey; a shared experience for the whole of Staverton for us to learn and enjoy together. Thank you to all of our parents who supported us on this fantastic trip and to the staff who made it happen.

I wish you a peaceful half term and a well-deserved break. I hope this newsletter serves as a window into our world.



Mr Powe
Head Teacher



Herons Class enjoying their Slimbridge workshop



You can almost hear the concentration from Goldfinches!



Some showed no fear feeding the birds!

Shoebox and Harvest Appeal

Thank you so much for everyone who made donations to our shoebox appeal and our Harvest collection. We managed to fill a total of 15 shoeboxes with essential items, ready for Christmas, but there was also a wonderful variety of gifts. Mrs Gurr delivered these to Dawn and Marilyn from the church this evening and they were very pleased as we were the only school taking part!

The photos here show just what an impressive haul that we had for our harvest collection for the Storehouse

Trowbridge Foodbank:

<https://communityactionwestwilts.org/storehouse-foodbank>

I know that both of these worthy causes will make families and children far and wide very happy indeed.



Prefects and 'head pupils'

This term, we gave our year 6 pupils the opportunity to apply to be a 'head pupil' or deputy head pupil, a long-standing tradition at Staverton. Congratulations to Ruben, Mati, Nerys and Amelie! We also wanted to give year 6 the opportunity to become prefects. We received some wonderful letters of application and it was heartening to read just how passionate our pupils are to serve and represent our school. We will give all of our prefects and head pupils lots of additional responsibilities and roles over the course of the year and I would like to thank them all personally for their contribution to the life of Staverton. We're very proud of you!

Staverton Falcons

We have had the privilege of taking part in after-school football tournaments for the first time in 2 years! A massive thank you to Miss Jefferys who has co-ordinated this and to Mr Knight for providing us with a school kit! We have had over 40 year 5 and 6 children taking part in a series of 'round robin' games, with mixed results! They have all done us immensely well. In the spirit of our new 'bird theme', I've decided to call them the Staverton Falcons, no doubt you'll be seeing more of them soon. We even had some of our very helpful year 5's create banners to cheer our team on!



Clean Air Campaign

It is really positive to see how environmentally conscious our children are! We have several concerned citizens coming up to us to say that there are a number of people who are leaving their engines running during pick up and drop off. Please can I politely ask that we all make the effort to switch off our engines when cars are stationary? Thank you in advance.

Kita Returns!

Our visiting author

I'm very excited to announce that children's author, Kita Mitchell, is visiting us on the 12th November. Kita joined us virtually back in March but I'm pleased to say that she will be with us in person this time. There will be an opportunity for all children to meet her, as well as the chance to buy her books and get them signed. Find out more about her on her website.

<https://www.kitamitchell.com/>



Lantern Festival!



Some of our Year 3 and year 4 pupils had the opportunity to make lanterns this term. This was part of the Trowbridge lantern festival which is taking place on the 21st November. Local artist Jennie Quigley joined us for the day and I'm sure you'll agree that the children did an excellent job!

New reception places

Thank you to those who have already joined us for tours of the school for reception. Do you have a child due to start school in September 2022? Then we would love to hear from you! Further tour dates are planned for:

1st Nov– 2pm and 6pm

2nd Nov– 2pm and 6pm

Please contact the school office if you are interested in signing up for one of these dates.

Also, please get in touch if you would like to visit us at a different time of talk to one of the team.

Hall of Fame!

Celebrating all your achievements at school and at home

Wonderful writing!

We had some fabulous descriptions from Sienna and Ava from Eagles class:

“The boat had everything we needed: a rusty, metallic helm, a fluttery, old-fashioned sail, a neon-orange, puffy lifejacket and a cosy, blackberry-coloured sleeping bag.”

“I was always kept busy: mopping the creaky, mouldy deck and emptying the rotten; pungent toilets whilst gagging indiscriminately.”

Matilda in Herons produced an amazing description:

“In the muddle middle of the city, the arcade is as bright as the multi-coloured sun. Music blaring out of the super-sonic speakers. At first, James thought it was a palace.”

Ava produced some excellent sentence starters to describe her alien:

“Star was a grumpy, sad alien. He crashed on Earth and he was lost, he wanted his mummy and daddy...suddenly, he was floating!”

Youth Parliament

Well done to Reuben, who is our new representative for youth Parliament! We know that you will do an excellent job for us, congratulations!

Awesome Martial Arts!

Oliver (Kites) has achieved his Blue belt in Choi Kwang do martial arts recently. This is Oliver's 11th belt he has earned and started at white belt. We're very proud of his dedication to his classes! Well

