LLEWELLYN SCHOOL

Term 2 Newsletter

December 2022

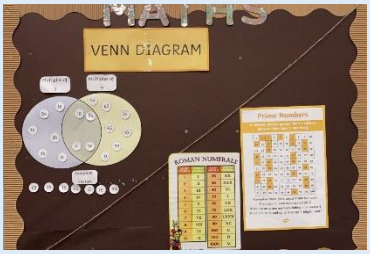
This term pupils have been fully immersed in a huge variety of engaging activities, producing some fabulous work about Hannukah and more.

This term the whole school have been focusing on Hannukah as their termly topic. There has been some excellent work produced, and we were even lucky enough to visit the synagogue in Ramsgate.

Next term: our topic will be Emperors and Empires, where we will be looking at the history and structure of ancient Rome and the Roman Empire, including a detailed exploration of the Romanisation of Britain.

Birch Class:

Birch Class have been reading Kensuke's Island as their class book this term, the children thoroughly enjoyed this book and even shed a tear at the sad but happy ending. Birch Class have looked closely at Hannukah and how/why it is celebrated. In literacy, they have learnt how to use fronted adverbials, similes and expanded noun phrases. They have used their newly learnt skills within their assessed writing and produced some wonderful pieces of work recreating the story of Hannukah. Birch class also visited Down House – they learnt more about his life, explored his house and took part in some wonderful experiments.



Silver Birch Class:

Silver Birch have worked extremely hard this term. They have researched different types of traditional made Jewish food and had a go at making them. Pupils have made their very own version of the dreidel game out of clay and paper. In preparation for the visit to the Synagogue they have also learnt all about the different things that they may see and spoken about the different traditions that may take place during Hannukah. In Literacy they have been doing some fabulous work on similes and visited the library too. Pupils have also had the opportunity to make some Christmas arts and crafts.

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Chestnut Class:

This term we have had a bit of a move around with our classes at school so there has been time having to adjust to our new surroundings. Pupils were encouraged to help make their new rooms to their liking leading to some excellent work about things that we like/don't like. We have also looked at Winter, and what this means – and of course there has been some great Christmas arts & crafts 😊

This term we have also been looking at our community around us. We have focused on transport, looking at cars, buses etc. and we went to visit a train station to look at trains. We have looked at why we use different modes of transport – e.g., to go to a shop, library or garden centre and then did that activity.

Pupils have learnt about using money to pay for items that we buy, and working on their communication e.g., saying please/thank you etc.

Remembrance Day

Our pupils took part in the Llewellyn Memorial to pay their respect on the 11th of November, led by a member of Birch Class who delivered a lovely speech.

Pupils coloured in some poppies, which were put outside and there were some lovely displays created. Even the school animals came to inspect – Did you know that the purple poppy is for the animals who have taken part?

Reading/Phonics:

We have introduced accelerated reader in our school to help boost the love of reading.

Accelerated Reader

Book Donations:

If you are able to donate a book, please find our amazon book wish list on our Facebook page – the pupils have loved the new variety of books that have become available. We are very thankful for all donations.

If you are having a clear out in the new year or have unwanted/duplicate books, please consider donating them to us. Thank You 😊

Halloween

Pupils and Staff all dressed up in their best spookiest attire. The costumes were absolutely amazing to see – who knew we would have a dinosaur skeleton join school for the day?! Pupils enjoyed a whole day of themed activities, including pumpkin carving, we had a whole school Halloween disco and lots of games were played.

Spotlight on Staff: An interview with Kirsty Harris

This interview was performed by two students from Birch Class.
They created the questions, then sat and interviewed the staff member.

1. **How long have you been a Teaching Assistant for?**
   5 and ½ years.

2. **How many children do you have?**
   I have two boys – Harry and Archie.

3. **Who is the best pupil in your class?**
   Luke (because I work with him!)

4. **What has been your favourite holiday?**
   The best holiday I have been on is when I went to Ibiza, but in future I would really like to go to Jamaica.

5. **Where is your favourite place in the UK?**
   I love going to London.

6. **Tell us something funny...**
   I am a bad Jokester – I cannot think of anything...

7. **What's your magic superpower?**
   Invisibility – I am good at sneaking up on people.

8. **Have you ever lied to your parents?**
   Yes, I have, I lied about going to a friend's house, but I actually went out.

9. **Have you ever met anyone famous?**
   Yes, I have met a garage singer called DJ Ezed.

10. **What do you want to do when you are older?**
    I would love to travel the world.

Don't forget to put your suggestions for who should be interviewed next to the pupil council.

If you have any ideas of questions, you would like asked too – feel free to send those in too 😊

Bikers

We were fortunate to be visited by the bikers from the Invicta Chapter UK of the Harley Davison Owners Group and the 69 Motorcycle Club on their Santa run on Wednesday 7th December. This brought lots of smiles and laughter to our pupils and staff – and a huge thank you as they also brought gifts for the children. The Invicta Chapter donated £430 and have also chosen to be their charity for the next year. We also received a £500 donation from the 69MCC Club.
We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support, and we cannot wait to see you all again soon!

New Staff: Please join us in giving a big Llewellyn welcome to:

Polly

Cheryll

Corrina

Polly will be the Class Leader for Chestnut/Oak/Willow.
Cheryll and Corrina are both teaching assistants who will be based in those classes also.

Staff Leaving: We have a few members of staff who are leaving at the end of this term.

Natalie Child

Sue Maudlin

Sarah Wells

ISS Football Tournament

We were lucky enough to be involved in our first football tournament in Aylesham with other local SEN schools. We are incredibly proud of our team who absolutely gave it their all – They spent the whole day engaged in several games of football, and there were several amazing goals scored by our pupils.

We are already looking forward to the next football tournament – and hopefully there will be many more sporting activities planned with the other schools. We received lots of lovely comments on how well behaved our pupils were, and they all received a certificate/trophy for taking part.

A big thank you also needs to be said to Louie's Helping Hands who funded our wonderful new Llewellyn Football Kit – our footballers really looked the part!

Forest School

It may have got colder but that has not stopped our pupils enjoying their forest school sessions. This term they have thrown themselves into all sorts of projects.

They have made their own natural wreaths using locally gathered materials off the school site. We have decorated plant pots and planted some bulbs ready for the spring.

They have looked at the story of Stickman and made their very own stick people and used them to create their own stories, we even had a stick boyband!

They have used clay to make their very own menorahs – and thought about how they are made.

Our pupils have also worked together to improve our local wildlife area; they designed and built their own hedgehog homes which have been installed in our forest school area.

Animal Care

This term, pupils have really got involved with taking care of our animals, they have been prepping the hay, feeding all of the animals, taking part in ensuring their pens/houses are clean and tidy, and grooming them all.

Pupils have even got in involved with helping Tia to try their festive outfits on for Christmas!

Clip 'n Climb

This term, some of our pupils have been attending weekly Clip 'n climb sessions up at Westwood Cross as part of their physical therapy program. Our pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions, and have improved their core strength, their confidence, and stamina massively. A big thank must be said to all of the staff there who have been so accommodating and have been a great encouragement to our pupils.

Therapy/Medical Appointments

Please can we ask that if your child has a medical appointment – please let us know.

Please also update school if there have been any changes or if there is any new relevant information once you have been to an appointment too. This will ensure that we keep our school records and care plan up to date too – which is also useful information for annual reviews/EHCP's.

Reminder of School Nurse/EHCP Co-ordinator E-mail:

clairekeehner@thellewellyn.school

Reminder of Term Dates

Term 3: 3rd January 2023 – 10th February 2023

Term 4: 20th February 2023 – 31st March 2023

Term 5: 17th April 2023 – 26th May 2023
(1st May is a Bank Holiday)

Term 6: *12th June 2023 – 21st July 2023
*(Please note there are inset Days – 5th to 9th June. which is why pupils start term on the 12th of June.)

Key Dates for Term 3
Kent Life School Trip: 30th January 2023.
This is for the whole school.

Music with Zoe – Inspirations

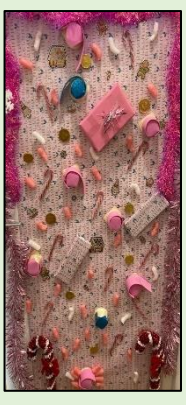
This term in Silver Birch and Birch Class - we have been composing our very own music, we have learnt about different types of music notes and beats. We have been using a variety of instruments such as bells, xylophones, and drums to play our songs that we composed to each other too. Pupils have also taken it in turns to read music and instruct their peers on what notes to play.

In Chestnut we have been using objects of reference to sing songs together and used instruments to play along to the beat of the songs. Pupils have worked on their communication skills to choose their favourite songs.

To finish the term off we have also been learning how to play and sing some Christmas songs on the ukuleles too.

Christmas Door Competition

We have been running a competition in school for Christmas. Each class has had the opportunity to decorate their classroom door (and the medical room and library too!). They have come up with some amazing creations - a big thank you to those who have got involved and helped to make the school feel extra Christmassy!



The winning door was: Silver Birch's Gingerbread house. Well done! 😊

Christmas Jumper Day

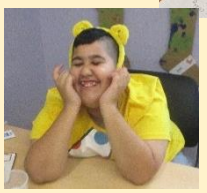
What a lovely array of Christmas jumpers that were worn by pupils and staff.

Thank you everyone for the donations –

we raised a total of: **£33.50**

Children in Need

Lots of spots and bright colours were worn by all at Llewellyn School. There were also lots of Pudsey ears!



Thank you for your donations. We managed to raise a grand total of: **£29.82.**

Update on the Wheelchair Accessible Roundabout

We are pleased to announce that we have **reached** our target needed for the new accessible roundabout for our Llewellyn Playground.

We are hopefully aiming for this to be installed at school by Spring/Summer.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased sent in prizes/ bought raffle tickets, shared events, and sent donations – it has really made a difference! We know our pupils will love it!

Fundraising

In the new year we would like to hold some bigger events to help raise funds to keep improving the resources available for our pupils here at the Llewellyn School.

If you have any ideas or would like to get involved with some fundraising for the school/Louie's Helping Hands, then please get in touch!

Class Dojo's

Our pupils earn dojos at school for their excellent work and in showing the school values.

Each week there is the opportunity to earn a first place certificate in each class – we have been extremely impressed by how hard pupils have persevered to try and earn points. At the end of the term the top 3 highest scoring have the opportunity to earn a gift voucher. It is always extremely close each week between pupils.

Reading with the small animals

Most of our pupils love to sit and read with our small animals. This is a daily occurrence in our school, and the animals love it just as much.

We were kindly donated some wonderful lap mats that were sewn up by a staff members mum – they are used daily, and we are so grateful as it helps to prevent animal hair/dirt on our students' clothes.

Down House Trip

On the 5th of December, pupils from Birch Class were able to go on their trip to Charles Darwin's House. This sadly was delayed from last term due to the Queen's Death. Pupils took part in the Darwin Daring Discoveries' interactive session. They explored his house which gave a greater insight to his life. There was a room dedicated to HMS Beagle which was great to explore. Our pupils took part in a quiz as they explored the house, and their impressive knowledge shone through to those hosting us.

Charles Darwin was a family man, and his children were home schooled – we learnt a lot about how they participated in Darwin's experiments. Our pupils also had the opportunity to do one of Charles' Darwin's experiments on the adaptation of a bird's beak.

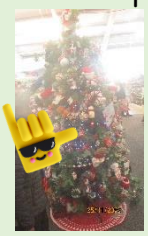
Artwork available to purchase

You may remember that we had the topic 'Bright Lights, Big City' previously. All of our pupils worked together with Sandra from Art4all to create a wonderful picture of the London Landscape.

We have been given the opportunity to have prints that are available to buy. You can buy a printed framed copy for £25 or without a frame it is £10. Any money raised from these sales will go towards to Louie's Helping Hands.

Ramsgate Garden Centre

Some of our pupils took a trip out to Ramsgate to see the lovely lights and Christmas displays at the Garden Centre. They got some inspirations for the Christmas decorations that they were going to make at school for their display.



Pupils also had the opportunity to apply their life skills, in ordering their own lunch – remembering their manners and using money to pay for it.

We hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas break!

Unfortunately this term has not ended quite how we hoped due to several confirmed cases of covid-19 within our school.

However, we do hope that you all have a very happy and healthy Christmas break. We cannot wait to welcome you back in the new year!

On a personal note, this will be the last newsletter from me. I wish the best of luck to Llewellyn School and its pupils in all you do. Pupils, please remember you are all awesome, and don't ever let your disabilities define you or stop you from pursuing your dreams. *Sarah Wells x*