

Thank you to everyone who responded to the recent parent survey. We received 21 completed questionnaires in total. These are currently being analysed by the leadership team and governors alongside the responses to the pupil survey. We'll provide feedback shortly.

Louise Cornell



Dates for the Diary:

Surlingham

12th March rescheduled World Book Day

Day

28th March – 10am Easter Church Service

29th March - Last Payment/ Full payment due for Holt Hall

April 18th – PM Tempest Class Photos

Rockland St Mary

15th March rescheduled World Book Day

Day

27th March – Easter Service at the church at 10am

29th March Final Holt Hall payment due

11th June – class photos

If you know someone who has some spare time or if you would like to help, we are looking for adults to support the children with their reading at Rockland St Mary. Please contact Mrs Brown in the office if you are able to offer us some regular time.



World Book Day

has been rescheduled to

12th March at Surlingham

15th March at Rockland

The BIG SING. – Hawthorn and Birnam Oaks

Audience tickets now available!

Parents and families are invited to come and watch the event. There is a limited number of audience tickets available at £5 per ticket. Upon selecting your seats, please be aware that participating pupils will be seated in the South Stand to give you context for sight lines. Please share this information with your parents/families, governors and wider school community. Tickets can be found here:

<https://tickets.canaries.co.uk/PagesPublic/ProductBrowse/ProductHome.aspx?ProductSubType=play&soalready=hUmbexp4V8qdBmJT Xz6C7hlqeGZANmdo5ioellbZc4E=>

*Wanted

Maple class would like 1 litre clear water bottles with lids please for their rainforest project

Current News from the classes at Surlingham

Chestnut

This half term Chestnuts have begun a brand new topic called 'Jungles and Rainforests'. Already we have been on a virtual trip to the amazon rainforest where we learnt to note take in a variety of ways learning about a vast range of the animals that live there. The children are using this information to make a large A3 poster filled with fantastic, fun filled facts. Also this week Reception continued their theme of Fairytales to introduce two last books 'the gingerbread man' and 'Pinocchio'. The children discussed healthy options to create their own gingerbread sandwich and enjoyed telling silly tales with me to discuss the difference between fibs and the truth. Reception will also now be moving onto the rainforests theme. All the children are extremely excited about our trip to the Amazona Zoo. Thank you for all you quick responses.

Hawthorn

Over the past few weeks, Hawthorns have been looking closely at poetry. Our focus poem 'A Garden at Night' by James Reeves explores the idea that even familiar places can feel strange and unusual when there is no light. Mentioned within the poem is the spirit of a woman wandering amongst the flowers and trees, what she is looking for we are never quite sure. We also looked at other poems from Longfellow and Thomas Hardy that discuss changed places and the lasting impact that people have on them when they are no longer inhabited. We have now written our own poems along this theme, which links well with our current science topic of flowering plants. To start off our science topic we looked closely at the construction of flowers and took inspiration from famous botanists to draw and paint our own detailed presentations of a range of different flowers. We will soon be putting our poems and botanical paintings of flowers on display. Please come in and have a look!

Willow

Following our unexpected break due to the 'Beast from the East', we will return to our rainforest topic and continue to examine Earth and Space in Science. In literacy, we have had a slight diversion from rainforests, in order to continue our narrative writing. We have watched the animation, 'El Caminante', as a stimulus for a piece of story-telling, with some great examples of writing throughout the class. We are revisiting the grammar that is required in Year 5 and 6 and continuing to look at the importance of learning spellings. In maths, we have been learning to convert between metric units and imperial measures. We will move on to look at volume and then ratio. Meanwhile, during our computing sessions, we will explore spreadsheets and produce graphs linked to climate change. Hopefully, we will now feel the benefits of warmer weather, but in the meantime, could you ensure the children have warm clothes for PE. Due to weather disruption, we will continue playing hockey in PE and also football sessions with Pro-Coach.

Current News from the classes at Rockland St Mary

Maple

In Maple Class we have been making a 3D model of a rain forest to help us learn about its different layers; the forest floor, the understory, the canopy and the emergent layer. This has helped us identify many of the animals that live there. We are also using the animals as a basis for poetry, writing acrostics and cinquains., as we think about adjectives and synonyms.

We have been using maps, globes and atlases to discover where in the world the rain forests and jungles are, while also labelling continents and oceans.

Birnam Oaks

We have continued to enjoy the Stone Age inquiry topic. After drama sessions and describing settings using their senses, the children are writing their own stories based on the book the 'Stone Age Boy'. We have also looked at the history of Stonehenge and created our own mystical paintings of this important Neolithic site - do come and see their artwork displayed in the classroom.. In maths the children have been tackling fractions. They have been using fraction walls, images and their times table knowledge to identify equivalent fractions - the children are becoming more confident with this. Times Tables Rockstars is really helping so encourage your child to keep accessing this at home. The children have also been adding and subtracting fractions with greater accuracy and the next step is finding fractions of amounts and comparing and ordering fractions. Our new Science topic this half term is plants. The children really enjoyed dissecting tulips to find and label its different parts. Well done Birnam Oaks on your hard work so far this half term and you have hopefully enjoyed getting out in the snow.

Redwood

Despite the adverse weather, Redwood class have been working hard on all subjects across the curriculum. During Inquiry, the children have been learning about the deepest depths of the oceans and the kinds of life that have adapted to live there. They investigated how deep the deepest part of the ocean is by measuring objects and working out how many of them it would take to fill the Mariana Trench. For example, one group worked out that it would take 32.5 Eiffel Towers on top of each other to reach the bottom! In Science lessons, the children have been asking questions about what life might be like on the International Space Station and are using the experiences of Tim Peake as a stimulus for writing in English. The children have been focusing on the emotions, thoughts and feelings of Tim - using drama to imagine how he may have felt to help them create descriptive phases to describe his morning as he was launched into space! Redwood class would also like to say a huge 'Thank you' to Gemma (the yoga lady) who came to visit them on Tuesday morning. The children really enjoyed their mindfulness and yoga session and felt extremely relaxed, calm and in control as a result of her visit.

Governors Corner

Over the last month governors have focused on:

Monitoring the use of PE and Sports Premium Grant. Speaking with teachers and children to understand the impact of activities offered to children at both schools.

E-safety - attending an event for parents. Thank you to the teachers for the informative presentation and useful links to help parents understand what their children are accessing online. Usefully O2 stores can help anyone, O2 customer or not, set up parental settings on devices used by children and net-aware.org.uk lists apps and give information on age ratings and online risks.

Reviewing school policies, including Safeguarding and the Attendance Policy

A big thank you from Surlingham. We had a good number of fabulous quality books brought in to boost our library after the wanted poster in last month's Newsletter. The children are delighted with all the new books, especially as FOSS bought them another two big boxes of new library books as well.

FOSS NEWS!

'This month we have been able to help School out with a KS2 library refresh. FOSS funds have helped to provide over 100 fabulous new books in time for World Book Week! The titles were suggested by the teachers and FOSS used their excellent shopping skills to get the best value for money. Thanks to everyone who helped raise money by supporting FOSS events. We hope the children in Hawthorn and Willow classes enjoy the new reading material!



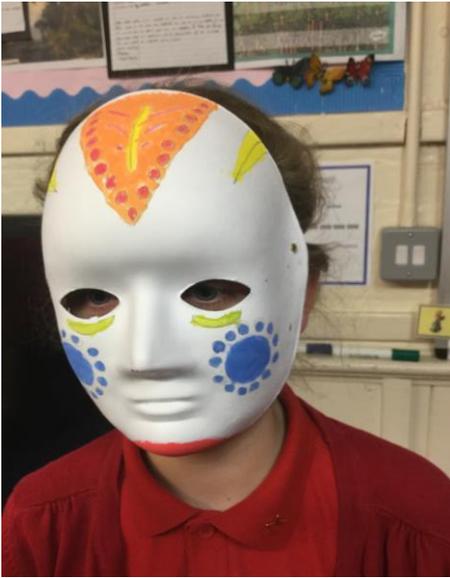
EASTER BONNET PARADE ON THE 28TH MARCH

Rockland will be creating their masterpiece at school and Surlingham at home please.

Surlingham Church Service 10am on the 28th March

Rockland St Mary Church Service 10am on the 27th



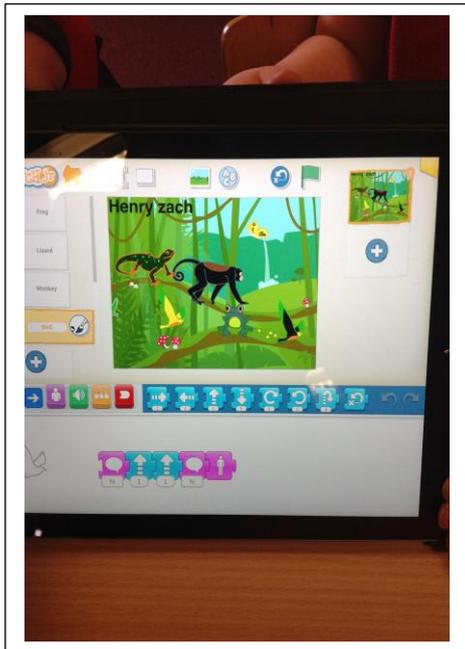


Willow class - In art, the children have painted some fantastic tribal masks – which had patterns and colours influenced by Amazonian tribes. Each child decided what their colours represented and the meaning behind each mask.

Willow Class - In science we have looked at the phases of the moon, which the children expressed in the form of oreo biscuits!



SURLINGHAM PUPILS ENJOYING THE SNOW



Chestnuts have been learning to program (using the IPADS). They used a series of instructions to create their own rainforest scene with moving and jumping animals.

After School Activity Clubs

Surlingham Primary School:

AEM HAI Martial Arts – Every Tuesday between 3:30pm-4:30pm

Pro Coach – Monday KS2 and Friday KS1 3:30pm-4:30pm

Spanish Club – Will restart in the summer term

Rockland St Mary Primary School:

Hip Hop Dance Club – Mondays 3.30 - 4.20pm starting 19th Feb MMR

AEM HAI Martial Arts – Every Tuesday between 3:30pm-4:30pm

Multi Sports- Thursdays starts 22nd Feb 3.30 to 4.30pm

Spanish Club – Will restart in the summer term

Federation Dates for the Diary:
 Swimming every Wednesday 1.30-2.30pm from 18th April year 5.

13th March Tag Rugby selected 4/5/6
21st March – Amazona trip Rec/1 and 2
28th March – Easter Celebration Day. Easter Bonnet parade
3rd May – BIG SING years 3 and 4
May 14th SATS Week
21st May 2018, - 4th June 2018, 22nd June 2018 - 2nd July 2018, 9th July 2018. Whitlingham Water Sports for years 5 and 6
13th/15th June – Year 5/6 residential Holt Hall

The School safeguarding policy has been updates and is now available on the website and in the school foyers. The new Science Policy is also now on the website.

Our Safeguarding Statement

Each individual child's welfare is of paramount importance. Our Federation will establish and maintain an ethos where pupils feel secure, are encouraged to talk, are listened to and are safe. Children at both our schools in the Federation will be able to talk freely to any member of staff at either school if they are worried or concerned about something.

There is a copy of the safeguarding policy on the school websites.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please do speak to the Safeguarding designated professionals and these are:

Mrs Humphrey, Executive Head Teacher.

Mrs Bayliss, Senior Teacher, Surlingham Primary based.

Thank you for working together with us towards this, and striving to ensure a safe environment for all members of our school communities.



Attendance for both schools for (8/2/2018 to 7/3/2018)



Surlingham

Chestnut:	96.97%
Hawthorn:	95.34%
Willow:	97.4%
School Total	96.59%

Rockland

Maple:	94.58%
Birnam Oak:	85.42%
Redwood:	96.99%
School Total	92.41%

May 29th 1953 Rev Bramston conducted a short Coronation Service when the New Testaments were distributed. School closed for the Coronation until June 3rd.