



FIVE ACRE WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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DIARY DATES

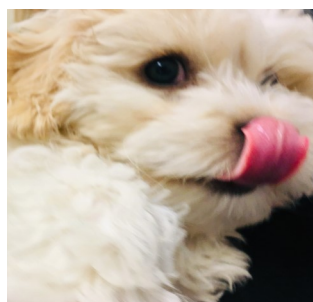
Mon 6th May	Bank holiday
Tues 7th May— 2pm	Parent group (behaviour)
Weds 8th May— 9.30am-12.30pm	Parent group (foetal alcohol spectrum disorder)
Tues 14th May— 2pm	Parent group (SCERTS)
Weds 15th May	Danceathon
Weds 22nd May—10am	Secondary performance
Monday 3rd June	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Weds 26th June	Primary sports day
Thurs 27th June	Secondary Sports day
Fri 5th July	Transition day
Mon 8th July— 3.45pm	Parents evening
Thurs 11th July—9.30am	Parent group (online safety)
Thurs 18th July—10.30am	Secondary prize-giving

SPRING 2019

A MESSAGE FROM PEGGY...

Welcome to the Spring 2019 newsletter. I hope you are all looking forward to the Easter break.

We were all very excited to welcome Snowy and Sandy to Five Acre Wood School this term. They are our new school dogs and you can read all about them and see some more photos of them on page 2.



As you are all aware, we had our Ofsted inspection this term and we should receive the inspectors' report in a few weeks' time once it has been written and quality assured.

In this newsletter you can read about some of the events that have taken place

this term, including signing choir updates, Comic Relief and the Easter Fair, as well as updates from Five Acre Wood Snodland and Fundraising.

We have had some new pupils join us this term — welcome to Riley and Toby. We hope that they will be very happy at Five Acre Wood School.

In addition, Sam and Zane have joined us as Teaching Assistants and Lisa has joined us as Receptionist/Administrator. We would like to wish them good luck in their new roles.

I am pleased to announce that Scott Greathead will be joining us after the Easter break as an Assistant Head based at the Loose site. We are really looking forward to welcoming Scott to Five Acre Wood School.

Our parent support groups have been well attended so far this year. The next sessions will be held during May and July. Reminders regarding these will be sent out a couple of weeks in advance.

If you have not already



done so, would you please register with ParentMail using the form which was sent home. ParentMail is an effective way for the school to notify you of information and events.

I would like to remind parents/carers to inform us of any changes of address, mobile numbers etc. and in the interest of your child's health and safety, it is your responsibility to ensure all information on Healthcare Plans is kept up to date.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Easter break and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Peggy

WELCOME TO SNOWY AND SANDY

We were delighted to welcome our new additions to the school in March. Snowy and Sandy, our school puppies, will grow to become therapy dogs. Sandy is a mini Labradoodle and Snowy is a Cavapoo.

Both dogs were carefully chosen for their temperament and suitability for school life. They have reduced or non-moulting coats, which means that they are ideal for those with allergies. Our School Council met to choose their names.

Snowy and Sandy are local celebrities already and have featured on Kent Online and have also been trending on social media. They have reached television fame and appeared on an interview at the school with KMTV!

The dogs were introduced to the school environment as soon as we got them, to enable them to become familiar with pupils, staff and the school site. They have settled in really quickly and have been warmly welcomed by both pupils and staff.

Both dogs will be trained from puppies and will be fully insured for their working life at school.



This will be a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to spend time with the dogs, to have the dogs visit classes and to be able to walk with the dogs to support wellbeing. Children can often relate to animals when they are anxious and sad in a way that they can't always with humans. Some of our pupils have already experienced the benefits of having the dogs in school.

A letter was sent home to parents and carers in March, which included a consent form regarding interaction with the dogs. If you have not already done so, would you kindly return it as soon as possible. Further copies are available from reception, if required.

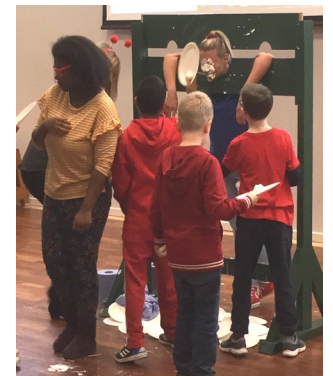
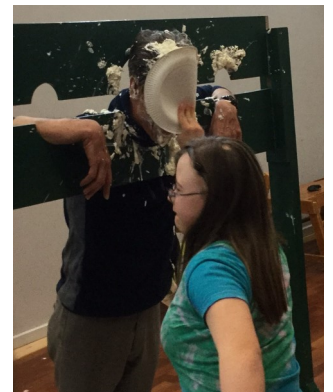


COMIC RELIEF

Friday 15th March was Comic Relief Day and to support the cause we held a non-school uniform day in return for a £1 donation.

Sarah and Maxine from TEAM hosted a 'Splat the teacher' event in the school hall. They would like to thank Tim, Michael, Ben and Gemma for being such willing volunteers and bravely going into the stocks for pupils to 'splat' them with cream pies. Suffice to say they ended up rather sticky but our pupils had lots of fun!

Some of our pupils entertained us by sharing their favourite jokes. During the afternoon there was a mini Disco in the hall. We raised £141.82 For Comic Relief.



SIGNING CHOIR



Signing Choir have been busy this term! We are currently working on singing and signing 'This is Me' from The Greatest Showman, which everyone is finding really fun. We will also be starting our entry into the WellChild charity choir competition shortly, singing and signing the song 'Lean On Me'. Watch this space!



EASTER FAIR

This year's Easter Fair was held on Tuesday 2nd April in the school hall. Lots of parents and carers came along to the event.

Staff and pupils have worked hard making Easter gifts to sell. These included knitted Easter chicks, pen pots, fridge magnets, wooden Easter decorations, Easter baskets, cakes and cards. There were also games and competitions, including raffles, Easter jars and a 'guess the baby photo' competition.

Pupils were able to have their

photo taken with our very own Easter bunny.

We would like to thank the staff and pupils who organised the Easter Fair for all their hard work, and also thank those of you who came to support the event. It was nice to see those of you who joined us and your support at these events is always appreciated.

The Easter Fair has raised an amazing £701.42. Thank you!



EASTER FAIR



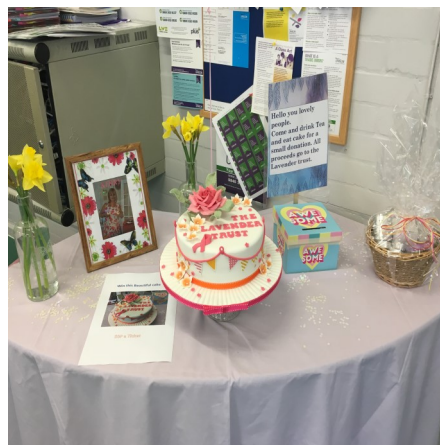
KERRY'S CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISER

On 13th March, three members of staff at Five Acre Wood decided to host an afternoon tea in memory of Kerry O'Connell who sadly passed away last summer. Kerry worked at Five Acre Wood School for many years.

Every year, Kerry held a Macmillan coffee morning to raise funds for the

charity. Some of our staff thought it would be fitting to hold an afternoon tea in her memory and to raise money for another deserving charity; The Lavender Trust. The Lavender Trust raises money specifically to fund information and support for younger women with breast cancer.

Many staff and friends came to enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake in return for a donation to the chosen charity. In addition there was a raffle to help raise funds with some great prizes. Lisa, Paula and Sean were very grateful to everyone who donated cakes and were delighted to announce that with everyone's help they have managed to raise an impressive £1100!



CLASS UPDATES

OTTER CLASS

Otter class is within the secondary structured phase and has six pupils ranging from ages 11-14.

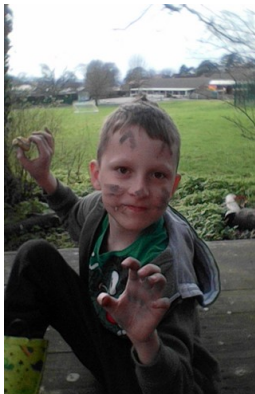
We are enjoying a range of different activities throughout the week from English and Maths to road safety.

This term we have been working really hard on our life skills and have been cooking some

fabulous dinners for our lunches including pizzas, pasta bake and fish fingers. Our favourite pudding so far has been mini trifles!



MAPLE WREN CLASS



This year we have been learning about dinosaurs and space. We have done measuring - we've measured some objects and time. We learnt about the planets and their different sizes and made papier mache planets. We learnt how to label dinosaurs and what categories dinosaurs go in. We have really enjoyed our art activities. In P.E we have been doing football skills.



Some of us have gone to Forest school – built fires and cooked smores and hot dogs. Horse riding has been fun as some of us have learnt how to ride horses carefully and how to trot on a horse.



We have had lots of visitors from Palace Wood to help us learn about the new school our class is going to move to.

Tyrese and Jason

ASPEN CLASS



Pictured above is one of Aspen class pupils sporting her lanyard after winning the weekly raffle prize for good behaviour.



Aspen Class held a raffle to raise money on Red Nose Day. You can see one of the pupils above, displaying all the prizes which were on offer.

FIVE ACRE WOOD SNODLAND UPDATES

BUTLIN'S RESIDENTIAL TRIP

Butlin's

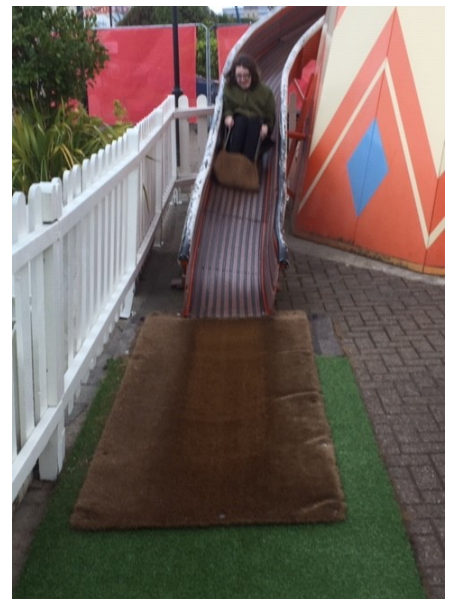
Matt Jones (Oakwood class teacher) had a birthday during the week and the pupils were very happy to help him celebrate, as you can see in the photos below.

This has been a week full of fun-packed activities and a great time has been had by all. I would like to thank all the staff who were involved with the trip for all their hard work to ensure that it was an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone.

On 1st April, eighteen year 13 and 14 pupils attended a 5 day residential trip to Butlin's.

The trip provided opportunities to participate in a wide and exciting

range of activities including: swimming/ spa, bowling, archery, go-karting, bingo and high ropes. There was also a visit to the beach and an opportunity to have some fun visiting arcades and going on rides.



FIVE ACRE WOOD SNODLAND UPDATES

ALDER CLASS – EXPERIMENTS



Alder class pupils were asked to find an experiment that they wanted to carry out. They had to purchase the resources which they needed for it and then show their experiment to the rest of the class.



Pupils worked together in groups and made elephant toothpaste, volcanos, crystalized dice and a rainbow in a glass.



Everyone worked hard in their groups and had lots of fun learning!



SCHOOL OF ROCK TRIP



39 pupils from our Snodland Satellite visited the Gillian Lynne Theatre in London to see School of Rock the Musical.

All of the pupils had a fantastic time and were

brilliantly behaved. It was a great opportunity to apply our skills from our learning in the community as we experienced busy streets and roads in the city centre. Well done everyone!

BOCCIA CHAMPIONS

Huge congratulations to Cain, Kai, Summer, Catherine, Nicky, Luke, Max, Anthony and Beth who became County Boccia champions again.



FAW will be representing Kent at the regional finals in London! We achieved Gold

and Silver medals in the under 19s and bronze in the under 14s. Well done!!

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

WHITE COLLAR BOXING EVENT

Our fundraising for the Hydrotherapy pool received some great boosts this term.

The White Collar Boxing Event which was held in March and was organised by Nicola Toms and Terry Hadaway raised over £8,500.00.

They came into school and handed a cheque to us, accompanied by their lovely children.



FAW CLUB

Thank you to all who bought a number in FAW Club! Just under £1,000.00 has been raised through this very simple “lottery” style club. So far we have had three lucky winners .

Please contact me if you want to play! There’s a £30 per month draw and as we increase the number of people playing, we will increase the prize payout!



HOT OFF THE PRESS...

We have a wonderful new patron! Introducing Adrian Webster....Adrian came to school for a random visit – he had been told about us by one of our good friends from Senacre Cycles and decided to see what all the fuss was about. After his first visit, he tweeted this:-



Adrian returned for a second visit, with his son, on Friday 15 March to bring some of his books in to school. He was greeted by the excitement of Red Nose Day capers – resulting in this picture with Head of Primary Tim Williams.....was present at our puppy naming meeting of the Student Council and indeed DECIDED the names as

there had been a tie on votes...and was then blown away to be asked to be our patron! More about him to come in the future. We will introduce you to Adrian via our social media – there will be a page about him on our fundraising website www.FoFAWS.co.uk and you will hopefully see him around and about at various school events.

We are really excited about working together over the coming years. Watch out for his hashtag emerging everywhere #TNTs – Tiny Noticeable Things!

CREATE A RIPPLE...MAKE A SPLASH

“Create a ripple...MAKE A SPLASH!” is all about our community – getting them involved in doing what they can to raise whatever they can towards the pool. Everyone will have a bit of ownership of it! There are so many people who are doing such fabulous things for us. Please ensure you keep up to speed with what is going on by watching our website www.FoFAWS.co.uk and follow us on Facebook (@Fiveacre) and Twitter (@Five_acre)



FUNDRAISING UPDATE

WORKSHOPS AND DONATIONS



As well as getting money in – we continue to seek and receive donations in kind. Many of our students will be going off to Domino's over the coming weeks for pizza making workshops!



Warburtons came in to school at the end of January and ran a day of workshops, promoting healthy eating and sandwich making skills.

B&Q are constantly dropping off paint and plants and wallpaper and wood and lights....we make use of every single thing around our school.



VOLUNTEERS



Our volunteers continue to stream in to help us. At the time of writing, a team from Santander are working in the sensory garden for the day. They started the "hub" project nearly a year ago

and they are delighted to see how their work has been developed.

(We also have a huge team of volunteers coming in from Lloyds to help with a really exciting proposed project...but more of that in our summer newsletter)



RUN AWAY....!

We say a huge thank you to all who have run a half marathon for us already this year or who are planning to run a half or full marathon in the coming weeks and months. Rob Mason (pictured) raised over £600 at Brighton Half Marathon a few weeks back. Undertaking this kind of challenge shows a vast amount of commitment and dedication. Good luck to everyone. Remember – race day is your victory lap, you've already done the hard work!



SAINSBURY'S

Our local charity partnership with Sainsbury's Loose Road and Larkfield has raised in excess of £3,500.00 over the past few months.

Although the Charity Bike Ride is not going ahead right now, the charity weekend in Sainsbury's stores where we had various volunteers cycling right through the day raised plenty of money for and awareness of our school.



It is the greatest pleasure to work in this school with your children. I am proud and privileged to be the fundraiser here. Happy Easter!

Alex

