



Considering it has been a shorter week we've had lots of amazing learning happening across the school from exploring Egyptian caves to playing the ukulele and worm hunting!

We welcomed the Life Education team into school this week to lead SCARF workshops with all classes as part of our PHSE curriculum offer. I received the following message from the workshop leader *"The children were really amazing and showed so much enthusiasm for their learning and were keen to share their knowledge and learn more. They answered questions really thoughtfully and there were some really good discussions. All the children were a real credit to the school. I hope they enjoyed the sessions and seeing the real Harold"*.

Today Hedgehogs children showcased some of their learning from the last few weeks in our Achievement Assembly. They shared their work and spoke with huge confidence. Next week is the turn of Squirrels.

As the weather is improving the children need to bring in sunhats, named water bottles and also could we ask everyone to check all jumpers are named – it took quite a while yesterday to rehome un-named jumpers after a sunny lunchtime.

Have a lovely weekend.

Good Luck Year 6

We would like to wish all our Year 6 children "Good Luck" for next week as they will be taking their end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests for Maths, Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation. They have all been working really hard both in school and at home and we know they will try their very best to shine. The SATs tests do not assess all of what makes each and every one of them special and unique. We are all incredibly proud of each of them.

They have been asked to have a relaxing weekend and are invited into school for a SATs Breakfast each morning next week!



Warm Weather

Please make sure your child's school jumper is named.

Sun cream can be brought into school but your child will need to apply it themselves. Teachers will be able to remind them to put it on and assist them if needed. When it is really hot, we always ensure the children are given plenty of opportunities to drink water and stay in the shade.

Please make sure your child has a named hat and water bottle in school every day.

Finally, please make sure your child has their PE kit in school every day.

Parking Near School

Please think about the safety of the children if you come by car at the beginning and end of the school day. This is especially important at the moment with the road closures in place around the school site. Please avoid parking in a way that creates problems for the community: for example, on the main road on the brow of the hill next to the Church. Parking here forces other road users over the solid white line on the brow of the hill and could cause an accident. Please also be respectful of our neighbours by not blocking their driveways.

Head Teacher's Award



Week ending: 06/05/2022

(Hedgehogs) – for having an amazing first week back! For being a fantastic friend, sharing with others and following our classroom rules! Well done Luke!

Ben (Squirrels) –for amazing reading, phonics and writing this week. Very impressive!

Ernest (Badgers) – for amazing enthusiasm during the Life Education visit.

Charlotte (Foxes) – for challenging herself in lessons and working outside her comfort zone.

WELL DONE!

Learnimal Awards



Week ending: 06/05/2022

Maddie for being a Noticing Newt

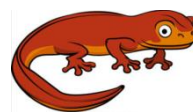
Oliver for being a Concentrating Camel

Dolly for being a Teamwork Tiger

Rory for being a Persevering Penguin



Well Done



Pupil of the week

Week ending: 06/05/2022

Hedgehogs: **Charlotte**

Squirrels: **Dulcie**

Badgers: **Ralph**

Foxes: **Elliot**

Well done

Silver Star Awards

Week ending: 06/05/22



Georgia-May (Y1)

Alice B (Y2)

Alex (Y5)

Connie (Y6)

Florence (Y6)

Honie-May (Y6)

Maisie-Grace (Y6)

Ollie (Y6)

Sam (Y6)

Well done

Birthdays

Georgia-May (6)

Charlotte (6)

Milly (9)



Many Happy Returns

Bronze Star Awards

Week ending: 06/05/22



Elsie (Y6)

Congratulations

Achievements Out of School

If your child has achieved something special outside of school let us know, so we can celebrate your child's achievement. If possible a photo of them and their award would be great for our "Look how we shine" board.

Attendance

Week ending 06/05/22

Hedgehogs – 97.0%

Squirrels – 94.0%

Badgers – 99.2%

Foxes – 97.8%

This week the winners are

Badgers



House Point Scores

Sandways

447

Chaffeymoor

440

Queen Oak

475

Hedgehogs News

Hedgehogs have had fabulous maths brains on this week. Reception have been looking at one more and one less in teen numbers, while year 1s were amazing at remembering their comparing symbols for objects and numbers. In science we got very excited to be planting our very own bean! We are doing really well at remembering to water them. In English, we finished off Jack and the beanstalk and have now been trying to conquer a different monster, the troll from billy goats gruff. We have been writing about the characters for reception, and year 1 have been focusing on the structure of a sentence, remembering very important capital letters and full stops. This week in PE we started athletics, being able to use the new track was so much fun. We were able to practice small step running and long steps, it's a lot trickier than it seems! Lastly, we have been very lucky to have Life Ed come in to visit and met Tricia and Harold the giraffe. We talked all about us and our bodies, we even got to have a mini disco to burn off some energy!

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ramage and Mrs Nicholls



Squirrels News

Another incredibly busy week in Squirrels! On Wednesday we had the Life Education Lady join us for a session where we learnt all about being healthy and healthy foods. The children were very excited to see Harold the Giraffe and learnt lots about their bodies using an interactive programme on the whiteboard. In English, we looked at another 'Overcoming the monster' Tale... The 3 Billy Goats Gruff. We rewrote the story, looking at how to use question marks and exclamation marks in stories, without forgetting our full-stops and capital letters! In Maths we have been revising addition using a number square as well as tens and ones. The year 2s have also started to look at the more formal ways of laying out the calculation. We continued our DT project about healthy eating by taste testing different vegetables, describing their look, smell and taste. Lots of children tried all of the vegetables on offer. In Science the children planted a bean and are going to watch them grow over this term, making detailed observations. In PSHE we have been looking at changes in seasons as well as how plants change as they grow. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Mrs Toy & Mrs Milsom



Badgers News

We've had a super busy week in Badgers this week with a visit from Life Education Scarf on Wednesday and our first Ukulele lesson on Thursday. However, our week started on Tuesday with an exploration of Ancient Egyptian tombs. Our classroom was transformed into tunnels. We took it in turns to crawl down the tunnels and at the end we discovered the sarcophagus of Tutankhamun surrounded by treasure. We were archaeologist trying to learn more about his life. We found four Canopic jars, a scarab beetle, hunting sticks, a golden fan and heaps of gold including edible golden coins! We then wrote a diary extract of one of the Egyptologists writing about their experience. In the afternoon, we followed an instructional text to mummify tomatoes. We have left these in the teacher's cupboard and are looking forward to checking on them in a few weeks' time. We then had great fun having a go at covering someone in our house with bandages (or toilet roll!) like a mummy. Finally we investigated how many cubes of stone would be used to make pyramids of different heights. This is the closest we were going to get to a field trip for our topic and the children had a wonderful day.

Mrs Shears & Mrs Welshman



Foxes News

In Foxes, on Wednesday, we had a visit from the Life Education Van and the children took part in a "Friends" workshop. They learnt how to be assertive when friends put pressure on you by: keeping eye contact, being friendly and relaxed, smiling and giving reasons why. The children played out situations when these skills might be needed in mini role-plays.

In Forest School with Ms Rankin, the children decided to survey the school site for worms in different places. They dug 20cm pits, and then using mustard water, tried to coax out the deeper burrowing worms. Lots of mature and immature worms were discovered and then looked closely at with magnifying glasses. Finally, they discussed how important worms are to our world.

Finally, I want to say good luck to all of year six children who complete their SATs next week. They have all worked extremely hard to prepare over the past few weeks and I know they are going to be amazing. They have all been super stars!! Have a relaxing weekend.

Mr Abbott



Key Assessment Dates for the term ahead:

Monday 9 May - Friday 13 May KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) - Year 6

Monday 9th May English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1: Short answer Questions

Monday 9th May English Grammar Punctuation and Spelling Paper 2: Spelling

Tuesday 10th May English Reading Paper

Wednesday 11th May Mathematics Paper 1: Arithmetic

Wednesday 11th May Mathematics Paper 2: Reasoning

Thursday 12th May Mathematics Paper 3: Reasoning

Monday 16th May - Friday 19th May KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) - Year 2

Tuesday 7th June - Friday 10th June KS1 Statutory Phonics Screening - Year 1

Tuesday 7th June – Friday 10th June KS2 Statutory Times Tables Screening - Year 4

If you have any questions, please contact your class teacher.

Dates for your Diary

w/c 9 th May	KS2 SATs ~ Yr6
9 th May	Governors Meeting
13 th May	2.40pm Squirrels Assembly
w/c 16 th May	KS1 SATs ~ Yr2
17 th May	Yr3/4 Tennis Festival @ Port Regis School
19 th May	Class Photographs
23 rd –27 th May	Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

30th May – 3rd June – Summer Half Term

6 th June	School Closed
w/c 7 th June	KS1 Phonics Screening ~ Yr1 KS2 Times Table Screening ~ Yr4
14 th June	6pm New Parents Meeting
20 th -24 th June	Sports Week
23 rd June	Sports Day
29 th June	Yr6 to Okehampton
5 th July	Yr6 Leavers Service @ Salisbury Cathedral
6 th July	Yr4/5 to Leeson House Gillingham School Yr6 Transition Day St George's Transition Day
21 st July	Yr6 Leavers Service Last day of Summer Term - 1.30pm finish

New Parents Meeting

It's that time of year again where we are looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children and their parents into school. More information will follow about this year's transition after the half term holiday. We are holding a meeting on Tuesday 14th June at 6pm for the parents of our new Reception Children. This is a great opportunity to meet the staff, find out about the transition visits and look at the classroom.

Contact Details: it is really important for us to be able to contact you in the case of an emergency, so please inform school office staff if you have changed your contact details. The school also regularly uses texts to send out information and needs your mobile phone number to include you in this service.



Medical Information: If your child's medical needs have changed, please inform the school office so that their records can be updated. This includes information about any allergies.

Covid Update

Thank you once again for everything you have done so far over the last two years to keep us all safe. It really is very much appreciated. The latest Government advice for schools, and the NHS, states that should you test positive for Covid, then:

Adults should: stay at home and avoid contact with others for 5 days and avoid meeting people at higher risk of Covid for 10 days.

Children should: stay at home and avoid contact with others for 3 days.

If they are well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there is a much lower risk that they will pass on Covid to others.

As testing is not as readily available, then please continue to be extra vigilant. Thank you so much for all your support.



Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



During the week of the 23rd May we are holding a themed week in school to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne.

There will be a Playground tea party on Wednesday 25th May and we are looking for volunteers to come and help us serve afternoon tea to the children.

Also on Wednesday 25th May the children are invited to come to school dressed as royalty: Kings, Queens, Jesters, Knights, it's up to you or they could wear red, white and blue.

Throughout the week the children will be carrying out cooking activities – we need 120 scones, cucumber sandwiches and fruit kebabs making ready for the tea party along with learning about the Queen.

We are also holding a Home House Competition: Create a portrait of the Queen to celebrate her 70-year reign. These portraits need to be brought into school on Monday 23rd May and every entry will be awarded 5 house points. We will also have a winner from each class with a prize given.

On Tuesday 24th May the children will all be taking part in a fencing lesson (thank you to Bert and Charlie's Mum for winning us this free taster day).

Our meal supplier, Chartwells, are providing a special 'Jubilee' lunch on Thursday 26th May. Don't forget School Meals are free for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

The meal ordering website will be updated with this themed day and previous bookings made by parents will automatically transfer to the themed menu items.

The cut-off point for ordering meals for Thursday 26th May is **Sunday 15th May 2022**, please find the website link: www.dorset.mealselector.co.uk

JUBILEE DAY!

Chartwells
So much more than Fantastic Food

£ 2.40

What a party! It's time to celebrate with your favourite party food!
Join us on
26/05/22

DON'T FORGET! SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL PUPILS IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2.

JUBILEE DAY!

Chartwells
So much more than Fantastic Food

MAINS

Chilled Cheese and Tomato Pizza
Mini Sausage Roll
Mini Vegetable Quiche
Cucumber and Tomatoes

DESSERTS

Jubilee Cup Cake
Or
Fresh Fruit

DON'T FORGET! SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL PUPILS IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2.

Digital Exploration Morning

Come along and discover our digital activities! Test out Coderpillars, programmable mice and more on this exciting morning! No booking required, just you and your enthusiasm.



Gillingham Library

Saturday 7 May
10.00am - 12.00 midday

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

For more information ☎ **01747 822180**

[@DorsetLibraries](https://twitter.com/DorsetLibraries) [f DorsetLibraries](https://www.facebook.com/DorsetLibraries)



dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries

ASC Portland: Osprey Quay, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1SA

SATURDAY 7th MAY
FREE activities
10AM - 4PM

ASC Portland Open Day

Andrew Simpson Centres

All activities are completely FREE. Come along if you would like to try:

- Sailing
- Kayaking
- Paddle-boarding on our Mega-SUPS
- Bouncy castle and inflatable obstacle course
- Take part in our FAMOUS cardboard boat race (2PM)

andrewsimpsoncentres.org
01305 457400 / portland@andrewsimpsoncentres.org

© Andrew Simpson Centres Limited. Registered in England. No. 10388803. Registered Office: Osprey Quay, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1SA.

ASC Portland: Osprey Quay, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1SA

Fun and FREE activity for the whole family Sat 7th May

ASC Portland Cardboard Boat Race

Andrew Simpson Centres

- Free to enter
- Race starts @ 2PM
- Bring your own pre-made boat (must be made out of cardboard)
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
- Boat must carry at least 1 person
- Buoyancy Aids and Paddles provided

andrewsimpsoncentres.org
01305 457400 / portland@andrewsimpsoncentres.org

© Andrew Simpson Centres Limited. Registered in England. No. 10388803. Registered Office: Osprey Quay, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1SA.

COMMUNITY BADMINTON **Dorset Badminton**

BADMINTON TRIALS

Dorset Badminton Association and Community Badminton are holding **BADMINTON TRIALS** for County Squads & Community Sessions on:

SATURDAY 21st MAY

Where:
LeAF Academy, Duck Lane Bournemouth (use entrance marked AFC Bournemouth)

Time:
11am-12pm - Ages 7-10
12pm-1pm - Ages 11-13
1pm-2pm - Ages 14-16

ALL LEVELS WELCOME

Book your place online today:
<https://bookwhen.com/cb-dorset>

For information please contact us at:
hello@communitybadminton.org
dorset.communitybadminton.org

Big Moments of summer fun!

ALL STARS

Mere CC and Kilmington & Stourton CC are excited to announce that the All Stars Programme is open for registration.

A fun 8-week summer activity programme for children aged 5-8 years old! A place to learn new skills and meet new friends playing a fun new sport and activities! Every child that registers receives a great personalised kit bundle when signing up! Including a bat, ball, bag and t-shirt!

Join us at: Mere Cricket Club, Duchy Manor Field, Springfield Road, Mere, BA12 6EW
Session dates: Every Saturday from May 14th - July 2nd, 10-11am

For more information or to register please contact your Lead Activator: Brida Skipworth
Email: merccwills@gmail.com Phone: 07500 938686

Register online at:
<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Course/83152eec-a6e7-44a0-8ead-3b42e0657171>

Artwork to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, Gillingham Library is calling for local children to submit artwork depicting events during her reign for display in the Library. There will be a book prize awarded.

Gillingham Library

Deadline for entries:
6.00pm on Friday 27 May

Please put your name, age and guardian's telephone/mobile number

For more information ☎ **01747 822180**

[@DorsetLibraries](https://twitter.com/DorsetLibraries) [f DorsetLibraries](https://www.facebook.com/DorsetLibraries)

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries

Bunting and Glorious Crowns

Join us to make Bunting to decorate Gillingham Library to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Gillingham Library

Tuesday 31 May
10.30am - 11.30am

Limited places, booking essential phone:
For more information ☎ **01747 822180**

[@DorsetLibraries](https://twitter.com/DorsetLibraries) [f DorsetLibraries](https://www.facebook.com/DorsetLibraries)

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries