



Derwentwater Primary School | Friday 21st May 2021

Message from Mrs Nicholas

We are rebranding our school website and redeveloping our school's marketing strategy. Please email parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk if you are interested in getting involved in a focus group. We want to hear what you think we do well and what made you choose us as your child's primary school. I am holding the focus group on Thursday 10th June at 2:30 pm. Places are limited.

Reading continues to be a school priority. The children have been participating in the Pixl live streamed podcasts with authors and illustrators. Please have a look at our Twitter and Facebook pages to see their illustrations.

Our annual Year 4 Shakespearian production has returned! It was fantastic to see the energy of our Year 4 pupils workshopping their new play, Romeo and Juliet.

Do you want to know what is happening in school throughout the week? Then please follow us on Twitter and Facebook to keep in the loop.

 @Dwaterw3

 Derwentwater Primary School

Have you completed our Two-Year-Old Provision survey? We will be emailing it out to you today, so it is easier for you to click on the link to complete it.

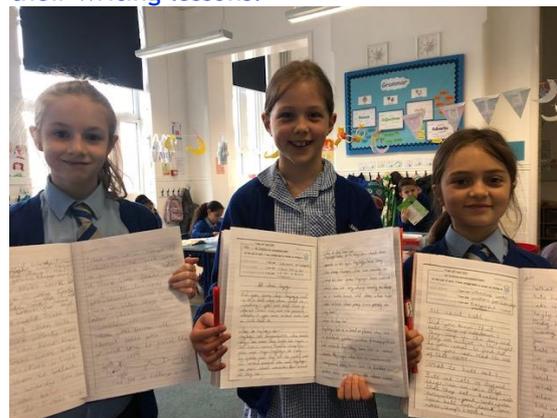
Please can you support us in keeping our school safe? Please do not allow your children to ride their bicycles and scooters on the school's site.

Year 1

As another display of returning to normal, Year 1 have started going to the school library this term. Here the children have an opportunity to choose from a greater range of book than is available in the classroom and read for pleasure. Children can choose to read on their own in a quiet space, share a book with a partner or listen to the teacher read a story.



features to write their letters and popped them in an envelope. Did you know that Mother and Father Owls may live in oak trees in Acton Park? The children wrote their letters using their best handwriting and applied joins which they have learnt in handwriting lessons. Some children have already been awarded a pen licence for neat and joined writing. These children have been proudly using pens in all their writing lessons.



Year 2

In English this week, the children concluded their work on writing informal letters. They imagined they were a baby owl who was afraid of the dark and wrote letters to mother or father owls who encouraged him to find out more about it. They applied letter writing

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www.derwentwaterschool.com 020 8992 9196

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Year 3

In Year 3 this week we have been working hard on our retelling of the traditional tale 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin'. There is lots of imaginative creative writing happening! In maths, we have spent the week looking at fraction amounts and how to find equivalent fractions. We even got to spend time outside in the Edible Garden planting our seeds for summer- we have sunflowers, chives and tomatoes in our patch. The children are very excited to see how fast our plants will grow- last week we managed to make (and try) a pea shoot salad, using plants harvested from the spring term.

Year 4

This week we welcomed the Primary Shakespeare Company into our school. This is the start of a wonderful journey where Year 4 will centre their work around the story of Romeo and Juliet.

This will culminate in a dramatic performance which will be filmed and shared with the other participating schools in the borough.

This experience allows the children to have an immersive drama experience and aids their engagement in learning across the curriculum. We would encourage you to explore their website for more information.

www.primaryshakespearecompany.org



Year 5

This week, we took part in a fun live-streamed podcast with author and illustrator, Alex T. Smith. We discovered what inspired him to become an illustrator and we learnt how to



draw his main character, Claude the dog. Next, we created our own illustrations for a new book character. These will be judged in an exciting drawing competition!

Year 6

This week, Year 6 took part in a mental health assembly with Helen over Zoom. They enjoyed a really insightful discussion and asked some great questions of their own. They have also been engaging with Walk to School week, with some children being responsible for tracking which children walk in every day. Elsewhere, some children also took part in a Netball competition at Ealing Trailfinders.



Student Engagement Certificate

We have been very lucky to receive a Student Engagement Certificate from the Metropolitan Police Service. During lockdown, we encouraged children to engage in a competition: 2021 Turn your Hero into a Superhero poster competition. Our very special certificate will be on display in the school foyer. Well done to all the pupils who entered the competition.



Reading Buddy

A reminder that Reading Buddy is set for homework every week and we would like you to encourage your child to login, read books and complete the quizzes. These online books are linked to the Oxford Reading Books that your child takes home once a week and they can make progress from level to level as they improve their reading comprehension. If you have any questions on Reading Buddy or would like to know how to further support your child, please email parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk



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Prefects (Merle and Milos) have been busy this week following up on Derwentwater’s effort for **Walk to School Week**. They spoke to some children from across the school on this special event:

Rron in Year 5 said “I think it is a really good idea and it’s more exercise.”

Lyra in Year 4 said, “Walking to school helps the environment and it’s fun.” Yasmine in Year 4 walks to school every day as she lives close by. “Cars are not good for the planet.” Well done to all the pupils who took part in Walk to School Week. Our prefects enjoyed speaking to their peers about this very important event.

Reading Festival:

Most classes took part in a Reading Festival this week where children engaged in a very exciting online event: a Podcast by Alex T. Smith, author of Primrose, Egg, Ella, and the Claude book series.



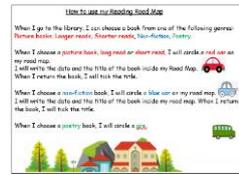
Alex spoke about what inspired him to become an illustrator, his sketchbook and demonstrated to pupils how to draw Claude the dog step by step. He then launched our exciting drawing competition. We will announce our winners very soon.



KS1 children continue to visit our Library once a fortnight to foster their love of reading and learn new library skills. Teachers are modelling to the children how to choose a book and where to find it on the shelf. They then have an opportunity to share their book choices with their peers and their families at home. You will notice there is a road map on the inside cover of your child’s reading record. Could you please talk about this with your child and enjoy sharing the chosen book with them. Please be aware that



their chosen book may be a challenging read for them and exceed their reading ability so it would be great if an adult or older sibling could read it with them or to them as models of good reading.



Maths

This week I have had the absolute pleasure of meeting with students from each year group to discuss the different strategies and equipment that help them learn maths. All students spoke eloquently about their learning and were able to identify areas where they have improved, opportunities for reasoning and times when they have used either concrete or manipulatives to help them better understand a topic. One of our aims this year was to provide more opportunities for students to use concrete materials or pictorial representations in numeracy lessons so they are able to understand a concept before moving onto a more abstract approach. Here are some year 5 students using the bar model to help develop their understanding of improper fractions and mixed numbers.



Thank you to all students that logged on to TTRS or Numbots this week. Mastering fluency skills is so crucial to accessing and succeeding in more difficult topics of maths. Congratulations to 4 Maple for the highest engagement this week. Well-done to 5 Earth and 2 Emerald that noticeably improved their engagement levels over the last week. A big congratulations to Sule Ghaffer in 4 Maple for the highest engagement this week across the entire school.

Assembly Story:

Project Sing2G7! Children from the choir at Truro cathedral will sing, Gee Seven, a song



about climate change written by Sir Tim Rice, to world leaders at the G7 Summit in Cornwall next month.

Question: Does music have the power to change our behaviour?

VirtualAssembly:

<https://vimeo.com/channels/picturenews>

This week's British Value



Counselling support The Space



Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet with Helen for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Tuesdays 9 - 10am.

All meetings with adults will currently take place online or over the phone due to COVID19. Call, text or email Helen on 07429 654584 or email hthorp4.307@lgflmail.org.

Inclusion

Watch less, talk more!!!

Children under 2 years = 30 mins/day max
Children 2-5 years = 1 hour a day max
Turn TV off when not watching it!



Watch together!

Talk about it, repeat words, and sing along. Pick programmes that are suited to the child's age.

Advice for Parents

TV watching can be beneficial when:

A selected programme is watched together with the adult commenting on the content

The adult helps the child join in or talk about the programme. (iCan 2010)

High quality programmes designed for children aged 2-5 can enhance language development (National Literacy Trust 2004).

SAFEGUARDING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE:

If you need to get hold of the Designated Safeguarding Officer, please contact Mrs Nicholas via email Parentcomms. If you are concerned about a child, please call Social Care on 0208 825 8000

Childline

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Childline are there for you all day and all night. You can talk to them about anything. No problem is too big or too small.



Covid Test Site

Michael Flanders
Church Lane
Acton, W3 8PP
7 days a week
8am-8pm

Call 119 to book a test if you have symptoms.

Date for your diary

Half term:

31st May-4th June

Last day of term

Friday 23rd July at 2pm



Street Scheme

Please take the time to give feedback on the trial Street Scheme. The barrier was placed at the start of Shakespeare road to prevent cars driving into the road at peak times of the day. Preventing cars parking and driving in the limited space at drop off and pick up has ensured our families are safer when entering

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and leaving the main gate. Complete the survey attached to share your views.



Survey link:

www.ealing.gov.uk/schoolstreetsfeedback

Punctuality

Being on time for school allows children to start the day feeling settled and ready to learn. We had several children arrive after 9 o'clock this week. Punctuality and attendance is important in improving outcomes for children. Please help us by ensuring your child arrives at school before 9 o'clock.

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