



#### Our Tree of Values

Welcome back and a Happy New Year!

This week has been our annual **Growth Mindset week**—an opportunity to remind ourselves how important our attitudes to learning are in determining how successful we are in school (and in life!). I am sure that your children will be able to tell you all about it—please ask them what they have been up to and what they understand by ‘Growth Mindset’. If you would like further information, this website gives a great introduction to the concept from a parental viewpoint: [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-try-new-things](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-try-new-things)

Although our children demonstrate a strong Growth Mindset every day of the school year, today we have all been celebrating and developing this by taking part in a whole school ‘Learn Something New’ event, which has been fantastic.

It began with our Year 6 children doing a marvelous job at presenting their own **Cultural Festival**, in which they set up different stalls to share information (some of which was edible) about different countries around the world. All of our other classes visited the festival and loved learning new things. On my visit I learned, among other things, that there are only 13 letters in the Hawaiian language, prison escape is not punishable by law in Germany, and Albany, not New York City, is the capital of New York state.



Later on this morning we were joined by visitors from **Wrotham School**. Mrs Stockwell, Wrotham’s Head of MFL, led an assembly on how learning languages had changed her life and enabled her to travel the world. We learned about her experiences in different countries, including ‘sock glue’ (like Pritt stick, for socks), bullet trains and amazing toilets in Japan.

Wrotham’s Year 9 Spanish students then led in-class Spanish workshops in which they shared their learning in this language. The students had prepared these sessions themselves and we were all impressed with their Spanish skills and teaching skills!

Finally, this afternoon, our children worked together in eight mixed-aged groups for specialist **languages workshops**, covering Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, German, sign language and French. A huge thank you to the staff, parents and children who gave their time to share their language expertise. We hope that all of our children will have enjoyed the experience of learning something brand new and that they will be inspired to learn different languages in the future.

### Diary Dates

**Thurs 18 Jan**  
Open morning and parent workshops

**Fri 2 Feb**  
PTFA discos

**Tues 6 Feb**  
Safer Internet Day

**Wed 7 Feb**  
Koala class assembly 9.05

**Fri 9 Feb**  
End of Term 3

**Mon 19th Feb**  
INSET day

**Tues 20 Feb**  
Start of Term 4

**Wed 28 Feb**  
Parents’ Evening

**Thurs 1 March**  
Parents’ Evening

**Wed 21 March**  
Dolphin class assembly  
9.05

Complete dates are at  
[www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk](http://www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk)

### Superstar Corner

Congratulations

**Holly (Y3)**  
Black belt  
in Kung Fu

