



Our Tree of Values

Welcome back to school for the start of the second half of this academic year! This week we have been pleased to welcome Mrs Morris to teach Seahorse class and Mrs Burbidge back in the school office. Sadly, one further change is ahead at Easter as we will be saying goodbye to Miss Carden, who is moving on to the next stage of her teaching career at a larger school. Having taught in Reception for the past 5 years, almost all of our children's first school days were spent in her care, so I know that everyone will be sorry to see her go. In our recruitment for a new teacher we have been delighted to have appointed Stephanie Batchelor. Miss Batchelor will be spending time with us this term for transition and joining us at parents' evenings next week, before taking responsibility for the class at Easter.

School Council charity - Our school council have the important job of selecting the three charities that we support as a school each year, as well as organising the fund-raising events. This week, our councillors carried out a whole school vote to select this term's charity, with the children choosing the NSPCC. An NSPCC representative will come into school for an assembly and workshops to explain this charity's important work and we will hold our charity day on the last day of term—details to follow.

Book Week - We launched our focus on books today with a visit from the children's author Alan Durant, who had the whole school laughing and joining in with his poetry. (Ask your child about his poems on Spring.) Alan also led workshops for groups of children through the day with the aim of inspiring our children in their writing. Next week in book week, we are looking forward to working from the book 'The Journey' and dressing up as our favourite characters on Friday.

Finally, we were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Sutehall today, who has been part of the Ryarsh school family for over 20 years. Having worked in the school kitchen for much of that time, prepared thousands of school dinners and washed up many thousands of times, we would like to thank her for her dedication and wish her all the best for the future.

Enjoy your weekend. *Ruth Austin* ruth.austin@ryarsh.kent.sch.uk



Dolphin class—our favourite learning

The children have really enjoyed our forest school sessions which have been running for the past 6 weeks. There will be one more 'catch up' session (to replace the one cancelled for high winds) which is **next Tuesday**. Forest school has really allowed the children to develop their confidence, self belief, communication and problem solving skills. They have participated in a lot of hands on learning including learning how to climb a tree safely, build a den with huge logs safely, use a palm drill to make a log necklace, to name but a few activities!

Kiataro—I loved building with my friends.

Toby—I liked making mud pies and using the pine cones.



Lottie, Sam, Will, Amelie—We loved making a den, it was so much fun. Three people need to hold a big log.



Diary Dates

Wed 28 Feb
Parents' Evening

Thurs 1 March
Parents' Evening

Fri 2 March
Dressing up for
Book Week

Wed 21 March
Dolphin class assembly
9.05am

Tues 27 March
Koala class production
2.00 & 6.00pm

Wed 28 March
Easter service at Ryarsh
Church

Thurs 29 March
NSPCC charity day
End of term 4

Complete dates are at
www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk

Superstar Corner

Congratulations

Frankie (Y3)
Overall player of the week
at MUFC coaching centre

Amy (Y5)
Two first place medals
from South Essex Dance &
Performing Arts Festival



Attendance this week

Dolphin	Seahorse	Penguin	Lion	Koala	Leopard	Orang-utan
96.3%	91.7%	99.2%	95.8%	97.1%	100.0%	99.6%

Congratulations to Leopard class for their 100% attendance this week.

Whole school attendance is currently 97.6%

Learning update

	What have we been learning this week?	What will we be learning next week?	Ask your child
Dolphin	Take a look in our Learning Journals!	Next week we will be continuing to talk about Goldilocks and the Three Bears. In Maths we will continue to explore 3D shapes, and we will begin to talk about time and the concept of time by using sand timers.	Can you find a cylinder, sphere, cube, cone or cuboid at home?
Seahorse	This week in maths we have been learning all about time. We have learned how to tell the time to half past and o'clock. In English we have been learning about using the past tense and writing recounts of our favourite day of the holidays. Our writing is even going on display!	Next week we will be learning all about addition and subtraction within 20, finding the difference and solving problems. In English we will be reading and enjoying 'The Strom Whale' and our whole school World Book Day text, 'The Journey.'	What is the time? How many things at home tell the time?
Penguin	We have enjoyed listening to the story of The Lorax and coming up with different adjectives to describe the main characters. In Maths we have been linking repeated addition and arrays to develop our understanding of multiplication. We thought about what makes people famous to start our new topic.	We will continue with work on The Lorax and looking at how to use adverbs to enhance description. In Maths we will be further developing our understanding of multiplication. We will be developing our topic work to look at some famous historical figures.	Do you know any famous people? What makes them famous?
Lion	We have been problem solving and reasoning using place value, our growth mindset was amazing! We have also started to add amounts of money and find the change. In English we have debated and planned letters to KCC expressing our concerns regarding the sand extraction. We have tried to persuade and put our point across. In Science we have learnt the different parts of a flower.	In English, we will be looking at The Journey by Aaron Becker. We will use this picture book to create a diary entry. In Maths we will continue to learn about money and finding the change from given amounts. In Science we will begin our topic on light and dark. This term we are going to make floor books.	What were your main points in your letter? How did you persuade KCC?
Koala	We have been very busy making torches in our DT days this week. We used our DT and science skills along with our growth mindsets to create some brilliant torches. In English, we have started to read many of our new books in guided reading. Please ask us about our new books to see what we think! In maths we have been exploring equivalent fractions and developing our skills of making equivalent fractions, as well as looking at fractions greater than one.	In English, we will begin to explore 'The Journey' by Aaron Becker as we will be turning this into a script for a year 4 production. Next week we will continue looking at fractions but this time with a focus of adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.	How can we recognise a fraction that is greater than 1? What is the rule for finding fractions which are equivalent?
Leopard	This week, we have continued reading Street Child. We have written a recount of Jim's experiences with Grimy Nick so far. In maths, we have revisited methods of multiplication, square and cube numbers and scaling amounts up/ down.	In English, we will be looking at The Journey by Aaron Becker. We will use this picture book to create a narrative. In maths, we will be looking at shape and angles.	What is a cube number?
Orang-utan	In English we have been writing informal letters based on the mystery around the disappearance of Salim in The London Eye Mystery. In maths we have been working on problems involving the duration of time.	Next week is book week and as a whole school we will be using the book The Journey by Aaron Becker as a focus; we will be using it to inspire our narrative writing. In maths we will be working on measures—including money.	Who was Charles Darwin?