

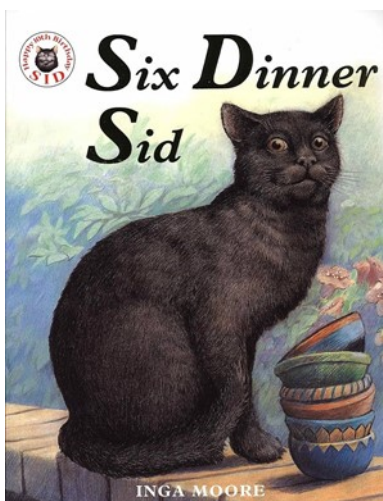


# SPRING GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## CLASS NEWSLETTER Autumn 2

Friday 20th October 2023

This half term in school we have been thinking about our school value of **Truthfulness**.



We began by reading the story **Six Dinner Sid** by **Inga Moore**, which features a cat who lives with six different owners! At the end of the story Sid the cat is feeling unwell and is taken to the vet not once but six times. We discussed that even though Sid liked having six owners and having six different dinners each day there was a consequence of his choice.

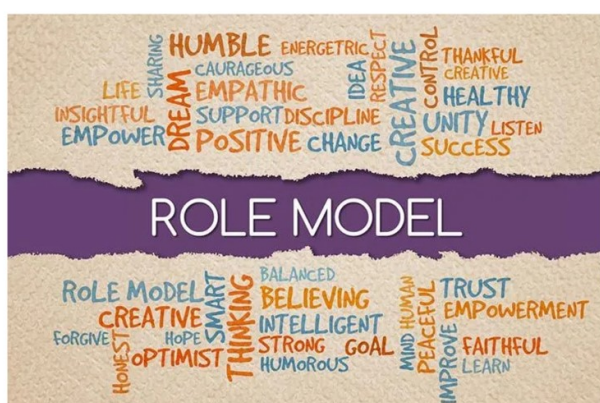
We then watched a short clip from the story of **Pinocchio** to help unpick what it is meant by the term consequence. We discussed that if you were to be dishonest, the lie can often have a negative effect and may even be noticed by others which can lead to others doubting your character.

We finished off our assembly theme by watching a clip of **Mr. Wormwood** from **Roald Dahl's story Matilda** and thought about the type of character he is and how his actions affect others and his own life!



Being honest even when the consequences may be difficult is a hard choice, and we have discussed how hard it was for **Malala Yousafzai** to speak out- for her display of honesty and bravery she is our honest role model!

**Mr Malin, Deputy Headteacher**



*The Spring Grove Way; personal and academic excellence; everyone, every day.*



**The staff in Elephant ward at Great Ormond Street Hospital are so very thankful for the gifts that have been donated as part of the House Captains Secret Santa Christmas Gift appeal.**

**A huge thank you for all the donations.**

## **Pupil Voice**

**Following children were not included in our previous newsletter.**



Hello, my name is Musa and I am 10 years old and I was elected JTA. I wanted to be a JTA ever since my brother was an ECO warrior Chief in Year 4. I also want to host competitions.



I am Iksha and I am in Year 3. I want to be a school councillor because I like the jobs that the school councillors do.

## NURSERY—INKPEN

We have had another eventful and exciting half term in Nursery. Such a lot has happened! We have continued learning about Nursery rhymes whilst also celebrating Being Kind Week, Diwali, Remembrance Day, Fireworks night and Christmas. We have enjoyed learning about Van Gogh and the Starry night picture whilst we learnt the Nursery Rhyme Twinkle Twinkle. We enjoyed the book *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* as it linked to our whole school value for this half term kindness - Was the tiger kind?

**Communication** - The children have enjoyed learning the stories behind these key festivals, staff have acted some of them out and encouraged children to retell them using a range of stimuli. Those children that have celebrated have enjoyed talking about their celebrations and why and how they celebrate at home.



**Mary and Joseph receiving a visit from the Angel.**

We ended the term with a festive stay and play where our parents came to play with us and make some crafts to take home. We then had storytime with Santa - it was such fun.



**Storytime with Santa!**

**Maths** - we have been counting to three. We have learnt that the last number we say when counting is how many there are in the group. We counted the 3 sheep in *Baa Baa Black Sheep*, 3 speckled frogs and 3 mince pies in the bakers shop. Can you guess what Nursery Rhymes we learnt? The children have enjoyed taking these songs home for their poetry books and sharing them with their parents.



**Selling Mince pies**

We wish all our children a fantastic holiday time and look forward to another productive term in January.

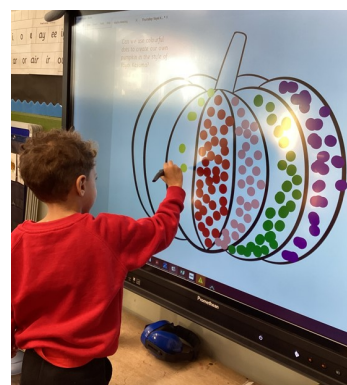


# RECEPTION—MCKEE

Reception have been working hard and having fun this term!



We have used a range of texts which the children have enjoyed using as a stimulus to their learning. Some of the children's favourites have included '**Gruffalo's Child**', '**Pattan's Pumpkin**' and '**Room on the Broom**'. The children have also explored a range of non fiction texts about different festivals, such as Diwali and Christmas, as well as using Atlases to look at significant places around the world. The children have loved getting creative using different materials and using their bodies to travel safely in different ways during PE lessons.



A highlight of our Autumn term was definitely the children's fantastic performance of 'Little Blue Star' which they performed to the school, parents and teachers. They were clear, confident and sang beautifully and everyone who watched was so proud of them!

In Maths, the children have been using comparative language such as longer than, shorter than, greater than, less than and equal to to talk about amounts and lengths. They have also created different types of repeating patterns and spoken about 1 more and 1 less than numbers to 10. We have been encouraging the children to think about different ways to make amounts and the children have been making fantastic progress with this!



## YEAR 1—DONALDSON



What a brilliant Autumn Term in Year One! The children have had a busy and exciting start to Key Stage One and have settled in very well.

**In English**, the children have done extremely well, and have enjoyed all of the stimulus books we have used for our writing. We have read the books: 'The Everywhere Bear', 'Dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures' and 'The Jolly Postman' and written a variety of different genres of writing.

**In Maths**, the children have learnt about number and place value, addition and subtraction and shape. The children have enjoyed using manipulatives to support their learning.

**In DT**, the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about sliders and movements and have created their own moving story book.



**In Art**, we have been learning about printmaking and have created simple prints. We have been learning about rubbings and used charcoal and crayons to create simple rubbings of things in our environment.

Well done, to all of you and you are all doing very well! You have had an excellent start to Year One and we look forward to the rest of the year with you all. Finally, the Everywhere Bear has enjoyed visiting your homes, and looks forward to going home with the rest of you.

## YEAR 2—GREY

We've been really impressed with the start Grey class has had to Year Two.

**In English**, the children worked hard over the weeks looking at alliteration, prepositions and noun phrases in preparation for their own version of our class book, '**The Black Hat**'. We have also looked at an alternative storytelling of Rapunzel and thought about how we can defeat the wicked witch and what potions we could create. What imaginative writers we have in Year Two!

**In Maths**, we have been learning about 2-D and 3-D shapes. We have learnt about faces, edges and vertices and are using this vocabulary in our explanations. We have also been learning about the difference between regular and irregular shapes.

This half term in **Geography**, we have been exploring the United Kingdom. We found out about the four countries that make up the UK, their capital cities, the waters that surround the UK as well as our place in the world. We also created collages of different physical features that you would find in the UK, such as rivers, mountains and cliffs.

**In Art**, we have been learning to print and we have produced our own mon-prints using carbon paper.

**In DT**, that has been linked to our Science learning, we have looked at different materials we could use to bend and twist to create our own chairs for **Baby Bear**. We had lots of fun experimenting with what shapes to use to make sure the chair was strong and stable. Look at our brilliant creations!





## YEAR 3—ZEPHANIAH

**Stone Age** has finally come to an end and what a long time period it has been! However, the children have enjoyed learning about the three time periods within the Stone Age before we moved on to the Bronze and Iron Age. Many of the things we take for granted today, all originate from the Stone Age! We finished our Autumn topic leaning all about Stonehenge and the children had to give their own ideas of what Stonehenge was used for.

We have also completed our **Science** topic all about rocks and soils and the children have created their own fossils. The children were fascinated to learn that a new fossil had recently been discovered in Dorset- it was a great way to end our topic.



It was lovely to see all the children taking part in **Christmas Jumper Day** and the children had fun wearing them too. They had a wonderful time talking to each other about their tops.

Well done to all the children who took part in the **Autumn Showcase**, as an audience, we really enjoyed it and the children had lots to say about it when they went back to class.

Celebrating differences has been the theme of our **PSHE** sessions and the children have role-played various scenarios over the term- I think we might have some buddy actors and actresses in the class! Our topic has opened up lots of discussion about who we are as people, things we like and dislike and how we can make the world a better place. Learning to respect ourselves and each other, as well as showing kindness to all.

**In PE**, we have been dancing and both myself and Mrs King have been very impressed by the creativity of the children's dances! They have tried hard to keep in time with the beat and only last week performed their own dance whilst working within the parameters of the criteria given. The children have worked

## YEAR 3—ZEPHANIAH

individually, in pairs and groups and each time they have risen to the challenges and succeed!

**Our Art** topic has come to an end for this half term and we have begun our **Design Technology Unit**. The children are in the process of designing and selecting materials for a cushion, which they are going to sew using cross-stitches, running stitches and appliqué. The children have across the word appliqué whilst completing some dictionary work and found out that it is a french word meaning put on.

It has been a great start to Year Three, thank you for all your support. If you are celebrating **Christmas, Merry Christmas** to you.

***Have yourselves a wonderful Christmas, a restful break and Happy New Year....see you all on the 9th January 2024!***

## YEAR 4—RAUF

Another very action packed half term, which started with a bang when we had the fantastic History Man in to inspire Year Four Rauf with our **History** topic, **The Ancient Egyptians**. We also had a lot of fun learning how to mummify a body, we even had a competition to find the best group that can mummify a body!





## YEAR 4—RAUF



The children enjoyed learning about how to cross the road safely during The Year Four **Pedestrian Training** sessions.

**In Science**, we have been learning how to measure temperature using a thermometer.

**In Art**, the children have been improving their sketching and drawing skills, in particular their eye for shape and detail.

Year Four Rauf also had a lot of fun making lanterns for the **Hounslow Lights** parade back in November.

**In PE**, we have been learning how to make up our own Spy dances and evaluating each other's dances to advise any improvements.

**In PSHE**, during anti-bullying week, we discussed what is the difference between bullying and falling in and falling out.



*The Spring Grove Way; personal and academic excellence; everyone, every day.*

## YEAR 5—MORPURGO

What a busy half term it has been in Year Five!

**In English**, we have been reading 'Journey to Jo'burg'. We have found it to be inspiring, as well as emotional, to learn what life was like for people living in South Africa during Apartheid.

In Geography, we have been learning about where South Africa is in the world and the geography within South Africa, through its physical and human features. We have learnt how the land is used in South Africa and how that differs in rural and urban areas. We have learnt about how the land is used in a city and how it changes. We have also learnt how Fairtrade supports farmers and has increased the amount of productive farm land there is in South Africa.

**In PSHE**, we have embraced the theme of 'Celebrating Difference' as this links with our English learning. We have discussed how wonderful it is that we are so different and how we have different cultures to each other.

**In Maths**, we have focused much of the half term's learning on Fractions. We have learnt how to find equivalent fractions, which has helped us to add and subtract fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions. It has been amazing to see so much progress in Maths!

**In PE**, we have been learning how to play Tag Rugby and we have learnt how to attack and defend using the tags. We have been focused on one of the key

rugby rules - run forwards, pass backwards. At the end of the half term, we had a house tournament to earn extra house points for our houses!



Year Five have worked really hard this half term and we look forward to all our new learning in Spring!

## YEAR 6—THOMAS

This half term has been fantastic.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about **World War Two** and the effect it had and has had on people's lives. We had an amazing trip to the **RAF museum in Hendon**, and the children were so enthusiastic to get involved with all the activities as part of the workshop we attended. They were able to experience what it was like to be in an Anderson Shelter during an air raid. They also met an actor dressed as a warden from World War Two and were able to ask her questions about what life was like. The children have remembered lots of interesting facts and information which they were able to apply to their learning. The children have enjoyed listening and singing **Remembrance Day and Christmas songs with Mr Grundy**.

**In P.E.**, the children have been creating their own gymnastics sequences with their classmates and were confident to share their work with their peers. They have also enjoyed taking part in basketball competitions in small groups to enhance their skills further and they showed such support for each other- well done!

They have also been working hard in **Science** and have been busy planning and carrying out a range of investigations to test how the distance between an object and light source affects the size of a shadow.

It has been a very successful half term and I look forward to what the new year will bring!





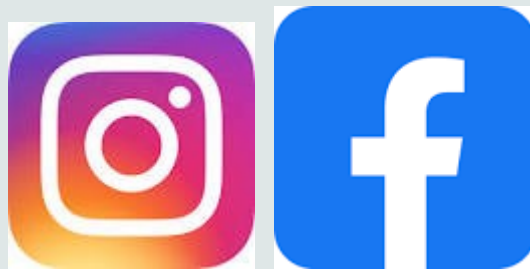
## ***Hello all book lovers!***



In spring 2024, date to be confirmed, we will be holding a second hand book sale as part of book week at school and to help raise money for our school library! We would like you to donate any unwanted books for the sale. We kindly ask that the books donated are in good condition.

Please start to bring the books in after the Christmas break and give them to the class teacher.

**Keep up to date and see what we get up to.  
Make sure you join and like our  
Insta and Facebook page.**



# Parent Workshops

**This term we hosted two Parent Workshops.**

## **Workshop 1: Safeguarding workshop for parents**

In November, as part of our 'Caught Being Kind' Week PC Matt led a safeguarding workshop for parents.

Despite, 50 parents confirming their attendance 22 parents managed to attend, during the event PC Matt shared a range of current safeguarding concerns that are affecting primary age children and shared some possible solutions and resources to help parents keep their children safe whilst they are on-line and whilst they socialise with their friends in public without your supervision. It was a very informative workshop and we wish to thank PC Matt for his support hosting this workshop.

Please see the workshop feedback below:

Please Tick	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The workshop helped me to support my child/children.	14	6			
The workshop was useful and informative.	16	4			
The materials used were helpful.	16	3			
The information provided was relevant and useful.	14	5			
I enjoyed the workshop.	13	5		1	
This workshop helped me to support my child/ children.	14	5			

## **What have you gained from this workshop and how will support your child?**

- ⇒ *The children watch so many things when they are young and I always talk to them and explain if they need support.*
- ⇒ *Reinforcing message that you don't know who you are talking to online, if you don't know in person. Showing how to use google family and sharing organisations that can be contacted for support.*
- ⇒ *The workshop was very informative and will help guard my child against bullying.*
- ⇒ *I learnt about internet safety- how I can keep an eye on what my child is watching and how I can control it.*

# Parent Workshops

## How do you think the workshop could have been made more effective?

### What was said

More examples to bring possible threats to life. More examples of issues at secondary school, and what can be done to prevent measures at a younger age at primary.

Maybe something for kids too.

This is the workshop on anti-bullying for parents only. I think it should be more helpful if we organise workshops for children knowledge as well.

### What we do

More examples to bring possible threats to life. More examples of issues at secondary school, and what can be done to prevent measures at a younger age at primary.

Maybe something for kids too.

This is the workshop on anti-bullying for parents only. I think it should be more helpful if we organise workshops for children knowledge as well. Did you know- at Spring Grove we have a number of events that we take part in to support our children.

\*Throughout the year, to educate our children about our local safeguarding concerns (railroad safety, gang and knife crime) we plan a number of different events. In Autumn One we had a special assembly led by two members of staff about railroad safety, this was followed up with children taking part in a number of safety themed activities back in the classroom as well as a parent friendly website shared via our social medias.

\*In school we have a number of Junior Safety Officers that plan a range of road safety events. This term the JTAs hosted an assembly .... Last year the JTAs organised a road safety campaign and a bike safety campaign.

\*As part of our PSHE and Computing curriculum teachers discuss a range of themes associated with online safety, bullying and celebrating difference in a child appropriate way.

\*Children in Years Four, Five and Six throughout the year will have a visit from PC Matt who will share information, in an age appropriate way, about online safety and street safety.

\*To support children in Year Six during the Summer Term will attend a day event themed around street safety in preparation for Year Seven.



# Parent Workshops

## Any other comments about the workshop:

- ⇒ *Very informative, glad I attended.*
- ⇒ *Thank you for the workshop. I think more parents could have attended and they would have benefited.*
- ⇒ *Really appreciate that this session was organised as it is such an important topic. Thank you!*
- ⇒ *The person giving information were really informative. It should be planned every year.*

## What do you think we could do to increase the number of parents

What was said	School action
Consider having this as a webinar to access .	We have begun to research the possibility of how events can be filmed and shared via our school google classrooms. This will enable parents to access a recording off event outside of the workshop time.
Maybe having an evening session .	
More advance notice	For this event: Parents were informed via letter about the purpose and timings of the event at the start of Autumn One term.
Giving more awareness about the workshop	
Most of the parents was not aware that we are going to learn in this workshop. The information in the newsletter was not very clear.	All parents received notification of event on parent pay.  A reminder text was sent out a week before event.  At the start of Caught Being Kind Week event was advertised via our social sites.

## What would you like workshops/information on in the future?

What was said	School action
How to help kids manage challenging relationships with other kids in school	*In school children have the opportunity to share and write a worry to post into a class worry box or school leaders worry monster. Children are then spoken with.  *As part of our PSHE curriculum children are taught in detail about situations that make them unhappy or dangerous and learn appropriate ways and strategies to help solve the problem.  *Children are able to have 1:1 support in school during agreed ELSA sessions that focus on developing the

# Parent Workshops

## What was said

Dealing with transition to secondary school- anxiety in children, child and parent information workshops

## School action

Dealing with transition to secondary school- anxiety in children, child and parent information workshops

\*Currently, to support Year Six to Seven transition during the Summer Term the children will have the opportunity to visit their secondary school as supported by Hounslow Council.

\*At the end of Year Six, the school will attend a transition meeting to handover children with SEND needs and also all schools will receive handover information from our Year Six teacher to support our children's transition into Year Seven.

\*Year Six will also attend a day's workshop themed around street safety.

\*During the Summer Term, Year Six will attend a sporting event to participate in a range of fun sporting events with other Year Six children providing the opportunity to form early friendships, participate in events alongside secondary teachers and also to visit a Secondary School.

## Workshop 2: Reading Stay and Learn

In December, parents in Nursery were invited to a **Reading Stay and Learn Workshop** that was offered on two different days.

Despite, 19 parents confirming their attendance 12 parents managed to attend one of the workshops led by Mrs Gratton our EYFS and Early Reading Lead. During the Workshop the parents who attended had the opportunity to find out what our expectations of the children are for the end of the year and how can parents support their children further on this journey. The parents and their children were then able to spend some quality time in the library reading and enjoying books together.

Please see the workshop feedback below:

# Parent Workshops

Please Tick	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The workshop helped me to support my child/children.	12				
The workshop was useful and informative.	12				
The materials used were helpful.	12				
The information provided was relevant and useful.	12				
I enjoyed the workshop.	12				
This workshop helped me to support my child/ children.	11	1			

## What have you gained from this workshop and how will support your child?

- ◇ *Some useful tips for making reading more exciting*
- ◇ *The importance of religiously following bedtime reading*
- ◇ *The importance of reading again and again*
- ◇ *I understand how important reading is and will support my child reading at home*
- ◇ *Importance of reading to my child. Encouraged me to be more consistent*
- ◇ *Importance of reading, even when a parent is tired*
- ◇ *New techniques for reading stories*
- ◇ *The importance of reading, why we should read a book again. The effect on children how they absorbs the words and helps in their imagination*

## How do you think the workshop could have been made more effective?

### What was said

It was really informative and already effective.

It was perfect.

Maybe some tips on how to limit screen time for children and rather encourage reading or enjoying books. Otherwise, workshop was very effective.

### What we do

We invite parents to attend a Reading Stay and Learn Workshop so school staff can share ideas of how to support reading at home and also to discuss the importance of parents modelling reading.

“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents”.Emilie Buchwald.



# Parent Workshops

## What do you think we could do to increase the number of parents who attend workshops?

What was said	School action
<p>Encourage them to come and see themselves these workshops</p> <p>May need more time to sign up or availability on dates</p>	<p>For this event: To enable more parents to attend event was offered on two different days and timings.</p> <p>All Nursery parents were informed via parent pay.</p>
<p>Make it a mandatory workshop</p>	<p>To support parents, we have a programme of events that are delivered at specific times of the year to support your child's learning. It is hoped that parents do attend these workshops to enable them to have a fuller understanding of what is being taught, why it is taught that way and ideas how to support your child are shared.</p>
<p>Different timings</p>	<p>We have begun to research the possibility of how events can be filmed and shared via our school google classrooms. This will enable parents to access a recording off event outside of the workshop time.</p>

## What would you like workshops/information on in the future?

What was said	School action
<p>Speaking and listening</p> <p>Phonics</p> <p>Writing</p>	<p>To support parents, we have a programme of events that are delivered at specific times of the year to support your child's learning, these sessions may be delivered to specific year groups or key stages. These events will be advertised in good time.</p>
<p>Focusing through a game</p>	<p>We have begun to plan for our popular Stay and Play session that was trialled last year. Nursery parents will be informed in good time when we will run these sessions.</p>