

Headteacher News



Term : Summer 1 2015

Whole School Topic: The Living Rainforest

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of this academic year. This has been an incredibly short term, but you would not have thought this with all the wonderful things that have been achieved by our students in that time.

Students from Windsor and Bamburgh Classes went to Mary Hare school for a celebration day for The Agricultural Challenge. Several schools displayed the work that they had produced. Windsor Class got a first prize for their Rushall Farm diaries, which were very interesting and informative. Bamburgh students got first prize for their very tasty muffins. Bamburgh also came third overall. We are very proud of our students, especially their impeccable behaviour and the eloquent way that they spoke to the judges.

Over recent weeks we have been privileged to have volunteers from 3 major organisations visit the school to help with key projects. Vodafone painted our KS1 and 2 playgrounds, SSE constructed a series of large wooden steps for secondary house and Intel cleared out Beaumaris Class' outside area and gave it a lick of paint. We are extremely grateful to these organisations and the individuals who gave up their precious time to help. It makes an enormous difference.

In the first week of this term we celebrated getting our new fully accessible trike at our Nursery. The trike is a technical marvel and is very expensive, but thanks to the lovely people at The Spring Charity and their financial support

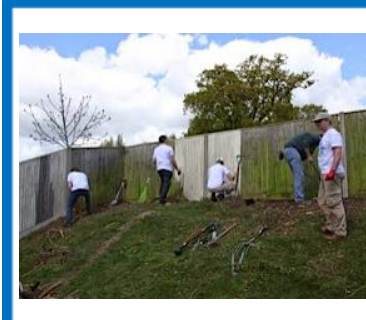
Some photos of our learning



Vodafone working hard



SSE's completed steps



Intel doing a great job



Our new trike!

we have been able to get one. This amazing piece of equipment will enable all our young learners to experience the benefits of cycling whatever their abilities.

For much more news, pictures and information remember to check out our website. Visit

www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk

Have a wonderful half-term and we will see all our students back at school on **Monday 1st June 2015**

Thanks, Jon Hewitt (Headteacher)

A word from our governors: The Governing Body is changing – sort of!

Last year the Government published requirements for all Governing Bodies of maintained schools to review the way in which they were constituted. As a result the Governors at The Castle School were required to identify what skills they have to contribute to their role as Governors and to find out what skills might be required when looking for any new Governors.

In addition to looking at Governors skills, some of the categories of Governors (such as Community Governors) were changed and we had the opportunity to reduce the overall number of Governors.

After a great deal of thought and discussion, the Governors agreed to keep the same number of Governors as before - albeit with slightly different titles for some. After all, the recent Ofsted report had described the Governing Body as 'excellent' and we felt that we needed to retain the Governors we have in order to continue their good work. In particular we wanted to have a strong representation for parents and so, although the number might have been reduced, we agreed that the number of Parent Governors should be kept at four. We now have 13 Governors in total – four parent Governors, one Local Authority Governor, one staff Governor, one Head teacher and five co-opted Governors, all of whom are very committed to carrying on their responsibilities to the end of their terms of office.

Ola White (Co-opted Governor)

Find out more about the governors by visiting www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk