



# Forward March!

UN CONVENTION ARTICLE 17:

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*With God's help  
we will  
live kindly,  
love each other,  
learn and  
laugh together!*

## November 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term is always one of my favourites in school as we will be busily preparing for all of the lovely Christmas activities, Xmas Fayre, Nativity shows and church services. This year we will be looking forward to seeing all of the children's hard work with their Christmas Nativity, which will soon start in EYFS and Key stage 1. We will also be having our Christingle services, at St Peters led this year by Rev Rachel and our talented choir will be singing at the Nursing Homes and School Christmas Fair.

As the time of advent approaches we will be discussing the meaning of this with the children in worship and RE Lessons. Advent involves spending time in spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. In Western Christianity, the season of Advent begins on the fourth Sunday prior to Christmas Day, or the Sunday which falls closest to November 30, and lasts through to Christmas Eve, or December 24. Our worships this term focus on Peace and Advent and the lead up to Christmas.

**On Remembrance day** last Friday, we had a very special worship where the children were reflective and thoughtful about 100 years since WW1. They shared songs and prayers together in the morning and were spent time thinking about the learning that had taken place in the school and what was given up from the past to protect our futures. Well done Children you did so well.



### Remembrance at St Peters

On Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November the classes in key stage two visited St. Peter's Church to learn about the importance of Remembrance Day. In preparation for the visit, Year 3,4,5 and 6 researched soldiers from the First World War who sadly lost their lives during the war. St. Peter's took part in the *There But Not There* commemorative project that honoured those who lost their lives in the war. St. Peter's displayed Perspex silhouettes of members of the parish who died during the conflict. Jane and Reverend Rachel



presented information about the war and Reverend Rachel shared her story about her grandfather who fought in the WWI. The teachers and children were grateful for such a moving and informative afternoon.

At school on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November we had our own Remembrance Service to think about all the Armed Forces who we remember on Remembrance Day. Each class sat around poppies with a lit candle in the centre. We watched a video that showed footage of conflicts from the First World War up to the present day, we were able to see the men and women who work on behalf of our country.



### **Discovery under the dome for Year 1 and Year 5 !**

Peter, from the Astronomy Roadshow, visited The March and entertained us with a fascinating insight into Space. We learned about different Constellations, planets and the Milky Way. We found out about Leap Years, possible life on Mars in the future and that there are thousands of Dwarf Planets like Pluto. We also looked at proof that the Earth is actually spherical by looking at the shadow on the moon



### **Year 1 and Alien Invaders**

There was much excitement in Year One at the start of this half-term when we found out that a space ship had crashed in our environmental area. We have been very busy trying to find its pilot, an alien called Splack. Despite designing 'wanted' posters and talking to an expert on aliens called

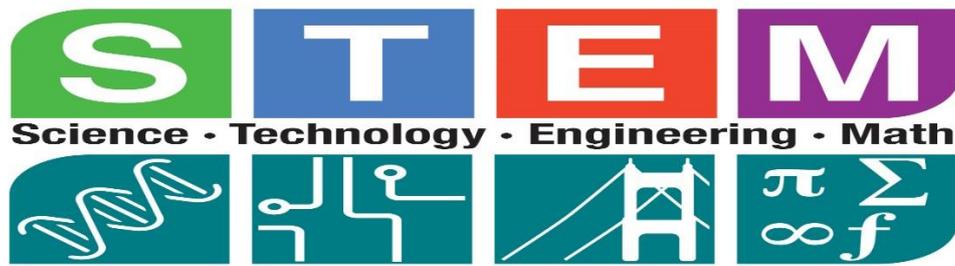
Professor Albert Pong, we still haven't been able to find him. We do know that he has been into our classroom though, as we arrived last week to find alien slime and footprints all over the place! We had a fantastic time in the space dome that came to school. We looked at different planets, learned about the different constellations and then travelled into the Milky Way. We have also been learning about the history of space travel and have studied the lives of two great astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake.



#### **Class 4**

It's been a wonderful half term so far in Year 4. We began our Misty Mountain Sierra topic by creating our own mountain range display. In groups we worked together to make mountains, a lake, a river, a forest and a volcano. We have so much fun collaging different materials to create our display. In English we began our work based on *The Bogey Men and the Trolls Next Door*, we had a few giggles especially after we learned the Bogey's dog is called Snot! In RE we became detectives to answer the Big Question – What is the Bible? We found out the Bible is one book that contains history, poems, songs, laws and stories. Using atlases and maps we found out where the famous mountains and mountain ranges are located around the world as well as learning about the equator and the northern and southern hemispheres. In preparation for Remembrance Day we learned about the First World War and two soldiers from Westhampnett who sadly lost their lives in the war. Our afternoon at St. Peter's was very thought provoking and informative. We also had a super fun afternoon learning about science with teachers from the University of Chichester. The children greatly enjoyed turning Miss Coyne into a mummy with toilet paper! It's been a very busy half term so far and there are still so many fun learning opportunities to come and of course Christmas!





Key Stage 2 took part in a fantastic workshop, on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, with Ali and Chris from the STEM outreach team at the University of Chichester. We had the chance to have a go at a home-made vortex cannon which consisted of firing smoke rings across the hall using a large dustbin and a smoke-machine! We were amazed to see how far the smoke ring travelled and how powerful it was. We had to build towers that the vortex cannon tried to knock down! Ali and Chris let us use a leaf blower firing ping-pong balls to knock down our towers. We topped all of this fun off, by using a leaf blower, a paint roller and loo roll to turn our teachers into mummies. Lots of fun while we were being little engineers



Forest School on the field is a very different



Forest School at Seeley Copse; this was one of the only wet days we have had a Forest school so we put up a tarp but the children are so hardy and weather resistant that they preferred to play in the woods and experience the damp conditions. We still managed to light a fire and cook the children's favourite. One of the new activities that the children tried is a blindfold string walk. This

exercise helps children to use their other senses such as touch and hearing. They became aware of sounds that many of us miss because we're so focused on visual information.



Of course, it's not all about Forest school, the children are very excited about numbers; counting, estimating and measuring, beginning to recognise coins and their value, making multiples of numbers and working with their partners. Later on this week we are looking forward to meeting one of The Magi aka Paul Ullson who will enthral us with the Nativity story from the shadows of the woods, He will burn frankincense and myrrh and make food (unleavened bread dipped in warmed honey) that the Magi would have eaten on their long journey.



### **Year 1 & 2 Football Tournament - Chichester College**

Congratulations to our wonderful Year 1 and 2 footballers who took part in the Chichester area tournament at Chichester College. They were an excellent example of sportsmanship and wonderful ambassadors of The March. Wonderful goals, super saves and excellent passing saw us come Runners up. I couldn't have been prouder.

Well done to Beau, Owen, Harry, Hugo, Kaila, Maddie, Gethan, Joshua, Basil and Jake.

Mrs Bird



### Year 3's favourite topic – food!

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, as part of our Scrumdiddlyumptios topic on healthy eating, Year 3 visited Sainsbury's.

The children were shown all the fruits and vegetables on offer, discussing where they come from and how they are grown. We also got to speak to Alan the fish monger who introduced us to his fish. The children participated beautifully, asking many questions along the way and showing a wonderful knowledge of the foods they eat. We were then taken upstairs to sample some of the produce and they were lucky enough to take away a goody bag. A huge thank you to Sainsbury's for an informative and exciting morning. Next stop, the chocolate factory!



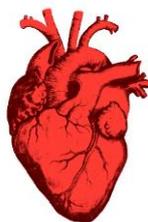
### **Chartwells Festive meal 14<sup>th</sup> DEC 2018 – Remember to Book!!**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> Dec Chartwells will be providing their Festive Menu for all the school to take part in and order. If your children is in Yr R – 2 your meals are already provided as part of the Government Scheme and you do not need to book this.

If your child is in Yr 3-6 and would like to have a Festive Christmas meal you need to book this online through the link below by Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. You will not be able to book this after this date or through the school office.

<https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/>

If you child does not wish to have this, they will still take part in the fun but with their packed lunch as normal.



### **Beating Hearts in Year 6**

It has been a busy few weeks. We had a very interesting visit from Dr Tania Walters. She explained about the function of the heart and how oxygen is collected from the lungs and pumped through the aorta around the body.

Lots of questions were asked including the difference between a heart attack and a heart failure and how to reduce the risks of heart disease. Dr Tania discussed the strength of the heart and how it pumps oxygenated blood from the stronger left-side of the heart, through the aorta to the capillaries. Did you know that the pumping action of the heart over a 24 hour period, has the energy to power a truck for 20 miles?

Mrs Bastable donated two pigs' hearts with internal organs for the children to dissect. It was fascinating to see the direct connection of the blood vessels from the heart to the lungs. We thank Dr Walters, and Mrs Bastable for donating the hearts.

Our visit to Pallant House was a great exercise in learning new sketching skills and identifying line and form in the paintings inspired by the paintings of Julian Trevelyan and Mary Fedden. We had a fabulous morning and are very pleased that we have retained our established relationship with the gallery.

**Year 6 are brilliant ambassadors for the school!**



### **Ahoy there Pirates !!**

Year 2 have been busy learning about pirates and the difference between real and fictional pirates. The children all dressed up as a pirate for the day. They had a pirate workshop and learnt about what pirates did. They also learnt about what a smuggler is.

Year 2 learnt how to make pizza dough and weighed and measured all their ingredients to make the dough. They then put their own choice of toppings on their pizzas. They said they were delicious!





# *Christmas fair countdown*



It is our wonderful Christmas Fair on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> DEC 4.30 – 6.30pm** ! We have many exciting stalls, a festive food market for you to enjoy, mulled wine, crafts for the children to make and buy, a spectacular grotto where Father Christmas will read your child a story and many other stalls for you to visit.

## Christmas Fair count down things to remember

1. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Non Uniform in return for hamper prizes
2. 30<sup>th</sup> Nov - Non uniform day in return for Jingle jars ( same as jolly jars but Christmassy)
3. Have you let your class rep know when you can help on a stall OR help at the end clear away.
4. The more people that help at the end the quicker this will be!

**Please do offer some of your time to volunteer it would be much appreciated!**

## Xmas Jumper Day 14<sup>th</sup> DEC

On **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> DEC** **The March CE Primary School** will be taking part in **Xmas Jumper Day** to help create a brighter future for children less fortunate. **By donating £2** each we will be giving these children the chance to build a better future. All children are able to come to school in a Christmas jumper or top. No need to wear school clothes, but sensible shoes please!



### Important dates for your diary.

Xmas Fair 4.30-6.30pm	7 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Nativity performance to Year R 1 2 parents 1.30pm- 2.30pm	11 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Nativity Performance to Year R 1 2 parents 1.30pm- 2.30pm	13 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Chartwells Festive meal book online by 2 <sup>nd</sup> DEC	14 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Xmas Jumper Day	14 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Christingle Service for school only @9.30am	18 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Whole School Surprise – <b>Shhhhhh don't tell the children !!</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Carols round the Tree @ 2.30pm – Parents welcome	19 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Term ends	19 <sup>th</sup> DEC
Return to school	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2019

Finally ...

If you would like to talk to me about anything, please do stop and chat or make an appointment if you would like more privacy or a longer length of time. I am here to help and support you all.

Thanks for taking the time to read this month's newsletter. If you would like to discuss any items from the newsletter in more detail, please do not hesitate to come and see me, my door is always 'Open'.

*Mrs Nicky Metcalfe*

Head Teacher

