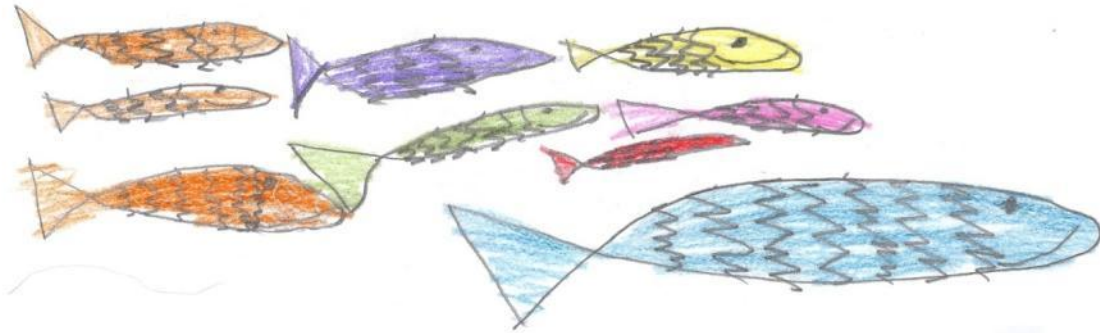


DUNANNIE THURSDAY LETTER Issue 7

21st October 2010



Dear Parents

The first half of the term has come to an end and what a busy one it has been! This week alone has seen visits to Winchester for Year 3 children to study the chocolates of the Aztec people, Reception popping to the 'Stomp' shoe shop in Petersfield and a mathematical clay workshop for all the children.

After the holiday Parent Evenings will be taking place. If you would like to leave your child with me in the Library on Monday 8 November whilst you meet your child's teacher, I will be very happy to supervise.

On the 1 November there will be a Badley Foundation presentation in the Library at 8.50am by Charles Watson and I hope many of you will be able to come. This means, however, that the children must go straight to their classrooms through the cloakroom and not enter the Library when they arrive in the morning.

Following the successful sewing workshop at the Badley weekend, Dorota and Fiona are going to start a sewing group after school in the New Year. I am sure that many children will sign up for this new activity so please look out for further details after half term.

It is a frightening thought but Christmas will soon be upon us! I thought I would give you some forewarning of Dunannie events in addition to those in the calendar:

- ❖ Monday 29th November – The Christmas tree lights will be switched on with carols and mince pies to follow.
- ❖ Monday 6th December – Christmas activities day with parents and children working together to make magical Christmas decorations etc.
- ❖ Friday 3rd December - Friends of Dunannie Christmas Drinks Party 6 – 8pm.



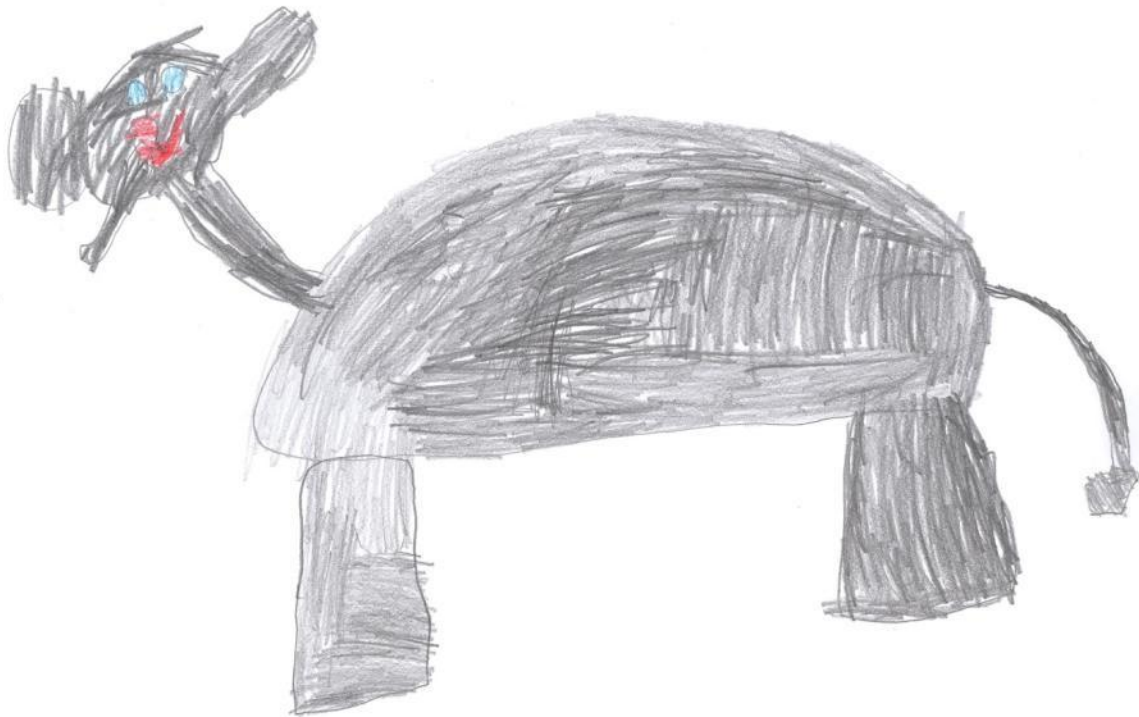
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The children are very tired after an extremely busy beginning to the new school year and I do hope that they benefit from a good rest over the next week (and you too!) I know you are most resourceful when it comes to places to visit but I have noticed that the Winchester Discovery Centre has the Wessex Children's Book Festival taking place which will be attended by exciting authors such as Lauren Child and Axel Scheffler. More details available from the centre itself.






Have a very good week.
Best wishes

J



REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

-  **Address book:** We are still awaiting the signed Annual data checksheets from two parents. If your child's name is written below, please can you return the form by Friday 22nd October. We need these signed and returned in any event, but it helps with checking all your contact details. Thank you.

-  **Emergency telephone tree:** Now that we have had the first frost, we are prompted to remind you that there is a telephone tree in place. However, please remember to check the website for up-to-date information.
-  **Finish times:** tomorrow we finish at the usual time: 3.30pm. Tennis club and 1st Swallow Club will finish at 4.30pm and 2nd Swallow Club at 5.25pm. Please remember to cancel any Swallow Club place with Marian so the kitchen does not provide an unnecessary supper.
-  **Sports shop:** is closed on Friday 22nd October.
-  **Save The Children Gift Fair:** Could you please bring in unwanted books as mentioned two weeks ago and leave them with Marian? Please also note that the Gift Fair will stay open until 8.00pm this year.
-  **Winter clothing:** Please can your child/ren bring in NAMED hats and gloves after half term.



Congratulations to the following children for their great efforts in Mathletics :-

James (1 bronze)
Florence (1 bronze)
Charlie (1 bronze)
Tiger (1 bronze and 1 silver)
Shanklin (1 bronze)
Ben (1 silver)

SCIENCE CHALLENGE

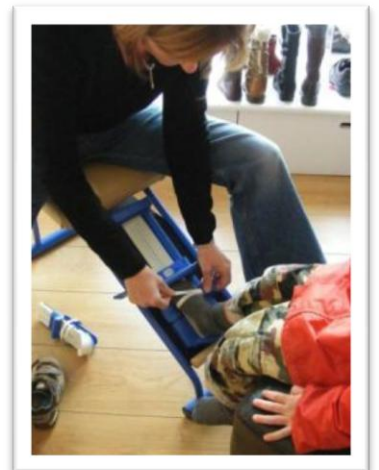
We had a few interesting observations about this week's science challenge. Many children thought that the spelling on the wooden notice board was wrong and that it should have said safari. It does actually say 'Welcome to Serengeti National Park Africa'. Molly wrote 'tigers eat zebras' and questioned why they were walking alongside each other. Rowena and Giselle wrote 'the zebra is eating the sand' - they should be eating the grass – a very clever observation. Finally Lorenzo, Olly and Issy answered correctly saying that tigers are not from Africa.

Well done!
David

RECEPTION CLASS NEWS



We have had an exciting few weeks in Reception: a visit to the market, Harvest Festival, a visiting beekeeper and a trip to the shoe shop have meant that we have been very busy! Our shoe shop visit has prompted some very good imaginative play in our class shop, with a lot of measuring, 'shoe shop' talk and collaborative play. Claire, the shoe shop



owner showed us how feet were measured and the children were able to go up into the stockroom to find the right-sized shoes. She also showed us how the customer pays and receives a receipt – this has led to play 'receipt writing' at school. Thank you very much to Fiona Gibbon for accompanying us on this trip.

The children have enjoyed beginning their sock puppets this week and they have been imaginative in their choice of

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characters to make. Thank you to Phoebe, who brought in a sock puppet she had made at home and showed everyone how to make one.

The children are making good progress with learning their letter sounds and many are starting to 'sound out' simple three or four letter words, using the sounds that they know. A short practice of these each night is really beneficial, so that the sounds become automatic.

Our maths activities in the last week have been focused on the early stages of addition (combining groups of objects to find the total for instance). The children have been making up their own number stories eg 'There were two fish in the sea and four more came along...' They are beginning to make the connection between 'adding' and 'more'/'taking away' and 'less'.



Finally, do come and see the maps that some children made after the visit to the market and also their writing (now up on the classroom wall). After half term we will be finding out about bakeries and will be looking at the story of 'The Gingerbread Man'.

Have a lovely half term holiday,
Julia, Nicola, Bryony and Georgina

YEAR 2 NEWS

Last week, Year 2 had a very enjoyable visit to the Bedales Gallery to see the Design exhibition. The absolute highlight of the visit was of course the McLaren racing car driven by Jenson Button. We were all very surprised to see what a simple construction it was. The steering wheel was very small covered with an array of interesting looking buttons. The boys marvelled at the size of the tyres and how small the driving seat was. The fan made by Dyson was also a favourite because of its straightforward design. Nobody could work out how it worked or where the air was coming from.



The girls loved the dress designs and everyone enjoyed watching the films to show how they were made. Elspeth, Shanklin and Esme were so inspired, they designed their own dresses. This was a great opportunity to stretch their thinking and



take them to the next step of the design process. On Friday the girls went to "House of Fabric", in Lavant Street, and chose the fabric and haberdashery they might need. They then made a design board to show off their designs. Who knows, one day

we might see their names alongside Gaultier and Westwood.



After our Harvest celebration last week, Year 2 have been learning about the celebrations of other religions at this time of year. In Judaism, it is a tradition to build tents or Sukkah for the Festival of Sukhot. These remind Jewish people of the time their ancestors wandered in the wilderness and had no permanent dwelling. The simply made tents are decorated in flower and harvest produce and children's artwork. It is important the stars can still be seen and the rain felt if it decides to rain. In recent times, the harvest could be collected by farmers who built tents near their crops in order to prevent time wasted travelling. Year 2 certainly enjoyed making their celebration tents and feasting.

Jacqui, Jo and Gemma

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