



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

PEGASUS NEWS

SUMMER TERM

ISSUE 4

FRIDAY 19 MAY 2017

THE HEADMASTER WRITES...



I am currently writing this sitting in a short lunch break at Ashridge Education Centre near Berkhamstead where I have spent the last two days reviewing leadership theories as well as carrying out some practical activities to help me reflect upon my own practice. I am here with 20 other Cognita Heads and we have all been pushed well outside of our comfort zones as we have explored areas of our personalities that we would probably rather not visit and examined the impact that these might have on other around us. I have written previously about the about the challenge of spending time away from school but taking a step back and being given the opportunity to reflect on what we are doing on a daily basis is an interesting and invaluable experience. Something as simple as answering the question 'why do I get out of bed in the morning' can lead to some stimulating conversations. It is great to work as part of an organisation that gives their heads' the chance to come together and recognise that we all, without exception, want the best for young people today and want to give them the best possible opportunities for the future. The shared learning and pooled resources around the room during the last couple of days are aspects of working within Cognita that I value enormously (and is one of the key reasons I am delighted that I am able to be staying within the company next year). And whilst I may not have been in school for the last couple of days it is clear from this newsletter that we have had another very busy week, both inside and outside the classroom. I hope you enjoy reading all about it!

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THE NURSERY STAY & PLAY SESSION WAS A HUGE SUCCESS...!

THANKYOU TO THE EY'S TEAM!

AFTER SCHOOL CARE MOBILE NUMBERS

ASC team members can be contacted on the following numbers between 3.30pm and 6.00pm each day.

If you are running late to collect your child from ASC, please give the staff on duty a quick call to let them know. Thank you!

Nursery, Reception,

Yrs. 1 & 2:

07783 198 998

Years 3-11:

07986 316 132

EARLY YEARS UPDATE BY MRS HARRIS

Rain certainly didn't stop play in the Early Years this week! I have observed some amazing achievements by staff and children on my early years 'learning walk'. It was super to see so many of you at the 'Meet Reception' information evening. If you were not able to attend, and would like to see some of the information we shared Mrs. Bailey is adding the power point to our Firefly noticeboard. Please can you make sure your children are wearing full Long Close School summer uniform from next week and please make sure all uniform is labelled clearly.

YELLOW ROOM

We had fun in the jungle in the Yellow room this week as the children listened to the story 'Rumble in the Jungle' and 'Dear Zoo' during our carpet times. We also sang jungle songs the children's favourite song was 'Leo the Lion', we certainly roaring like tigers and lions! we 'snapped' like crocodiles and 'hissed' like slithering snakes. We looked closely at the patterns on our small world jungle animals, learning some new words 'stripy and spotty' as we explored the resources. Mrs Dhariwal encouraged the children to make their own stripy and spotty patterns using rollers, toothbrushes and sponges using paint. Mrs Palmer guided the children by using pasta and pipe cleaners as the children developed their fine motor skills by threading pasta tubes onto pipe cleaners to make their own long and short snakes.



GREEN ROOM



This week we have discovered dinosaurs! The children have had lots of fun making a giant dinosaur egg using a balloon and paper mache. The children helped to tear up the newspaper into long strips, soak it in glue and then began wrapping it around the balloon. We are patiently waiting for our egg to dry over the weekend so we can paint it next week. I wonder what dinosaur will hatch out of the egg! The children were very curious when investigating the sand tray this week, as they started to dig in the sand they found little eggs along with big dinosaurs. We discussed the different sizes of the eggs and which dinosaur they may belong to. The children have also been exploring colour by mixing shaving foam and food colouring together. They have been waiting for the food colouring to sink into the shaving foam and then using their hands to mix them together watching excitedly as different colours appeared. We also discussed the soft and creamy texture of the shaving foam.

THIS WEEK IN EARLY YEARS

RED AND BLUE ROOMS

This week the children in the Red and Blue rooms have continued to explore the paintings of Vincent Van Gogh. After discussing at carpet time the material and techniques they had employed to create their very own 'Sunflowers' over the weekend, Mrs Bailey set up our very own Vincent Van Gogh gallery to exhibit the children's master pieces. Our gallery fuelled the imagination of our budding artists who busied themselves all week long creating and labelling their family pictures and pictures.



We have had much excitement as the nursery butterflies emerged from their cocoons this week, some of the children really couldn't believe their eyes as I don't think they really believed in the 'metamorphosis' until they saw it with their own eyes!

RECEPTION

This week Reception have been learning about our bodies and investigating how our organs work. We began the week by exploring our bone. The children learnt that as adults we have 206 bones that make up our skeleton, the largest and heaviest is our thigh bone (femur) and did you know the smallest bone that we have is in our ear! Throughout the week the children made skeletons, X ray pictures and we even fixed broken bones on our dolls by using real plaster bandages to make a cast. The children discovered how our brains, stomachs, heart and lungs work and that each organ has an important role in making us fit, healthy and grow. We had fun finding where these organs are positioned in our bodies by drawing round ourselves and putting them in the right place. Reception made their very own lungs and watched how they inflate and deflate as we breathe in and out, all made out of straws and plastic bags! Our big news in Reception came towards the end of this week, we now have butterflies in our classroom! Reception were extremely lucky to watch one our butterflies come out of the chrysalis, opening up its wings and taking its first few step...incredible to watch!



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 1

Year 2

Year 2 have been having great fun this week learning about the Japanese festival of 'Kodomo no Hi' or 'Children's Day' which is celebrated each year on May 5th. On this day young children fly colourful streamers and enormous kites, in the shape of carp fish. The children learnt that the streamers and carp kites symbolize a family, and that the first kite represents the father, the second represents a mother, and the third represents a child. They also learnt that the carp is a strong, robust fish, renowned for its energy and determination as it swims upstream against the current and jumps high out of the water. It therefore provides a good example to Japanese children, who must also overcome obstacles to be successful. In Year 2 we decided to celebrate the festival ourselves by making our own carp fish and 'Chimaki' - a traditional Japanese dish eaten during the festival made from rolled rice balls and soy sauce. Yummy!



PEGASUS CERTIFICATES:

1H Ehsan Abbas

1S Nihal Dhatt

2M Zayna Salem-Ahmed

2W Eshan Mehra

3I Arjan Lai

3R Keshav Verma

4M Daniya Chughtai

4R Dylan Dev

5B Meera Thaper

5C Aryan Sharma

All of Year 6!



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

It has been an action-packed week for Year 3! The children are continuing to enjoy their 10 minute jog most mornings and we are already seeing the benefits with increased fitness and extra focus in lessons.

In Science, the children have been enthralled by the speed at which their plant seeds have been growing, and have closely observed the changes and measured the growth in special diaries. They have also been investigating how plant stems take up water through their xylem cells which transport it to the leaves and flowers. They were fascinated to see this highlighted by using brightly coloured water which tinted the stems, leaves and flowers of a carnation plant. Extremely interesting discussions have arisen from our study in geography about how humans affect the environment and how we all need to play a part in looking after our precious planet. Moving on from this we have investigated the different reasons for animals being endangered and all the children were passionately engaged in discovering why certain species are threatened. This involved deciding whether it is because of pollution, over-fishing, hunting, wildlife trade, habitat loss, or disease. We have all learnt so much about our world this week!

Year 4

History has been fascinating in Year 4 this week, as the children have been learning about The Bayeux Tapestry. Did you know the tapestry was only made from eight colours and it was based on the events from the Battle of Hastings? Holly, stated that, "6 metres of the Bayeux Tapestry is missing and it is believed that the missing piece shows the crowning of William II!" In Science, both classes have enjoyed carrying out experiments investigating water resistance. Everyone certainly seemed to get wet! Diary entries have been our recent focus in our creative writing lessons and the children have been very imaginative with their ideas. During RS lessons, we have been focusing on Hinduism and this week we have been learning about Puja trays and the items placed on it. If you have any interesting items, relating to Hinduism, that you would like your child to share with the class, please send them in. Thank you to those parents who have already donated cardboard boxes for our upcoming DT project. If you have not sent one in, please can we have them by Monday.

Year 5

Year 5 focused on story writing this week and used all the information acquired during their trip to the British museum to create their own Greek myths. The pupils invented their own mythical creatures and planned an imaginary legend which had a god or goddess, a monster and a hero or heroine. Homer would have had his work cut out if he had to compete with some of their myths! In History, the students focused on the features of the gods and goddesses who lived on Mount Olympus and studied the stories of The 12 Labours of Heracles and Theseus and the Minotaur. In Science, we studied pollination and fertilisation and the children enjoyed acting out the different process that are involved. They understood the importance of insects and explored the different seed dispersal techniques which plants use. Next week they will be learning about germination so we would like them to collect as many seeds from fruits and vegetables as they can over the weekend. These must be from foods that they have eaten and not shop-bought ones. Let's see who can gather the most amount of seeds!

PREP PUPIL WORK SHOWCASE

Simardeep Singh—Yr. 5

Yr. 5 Trip to the British Museum

Excited, overwhelmed and enthusiastic! These are the three feelings I felt on the day of my trip to the British Museum. As I reached school, everyone was talking about the trip and how amazing it was going to be!

In the museum, after putting our bags away, we went into a gigantic cinema-like hall. In there, one of the experts showed us a presentation which had three parts. One section was about recognising ancient Greek characters, recognising myths and telling a story. We learnt a lot from the power point as it had many interactive questions and we learnt how to recognise characters such as Medusa, Hermes, Athena and Heracles from visual clues.

After this, we went into another giant room full of ancient Greek statues and sculptures. Here we were given iPads. We were asked to do several tasks, using the iPad game during the workshop. We were able to work in pairs. We also had to find sculptors on the iPad and then find the objects in the room. It was great fun and it made us really look closely at the amazing statues.

When we had completed the tasks, we went to another gallery, where there was an amazing display of ancient Greek vases with paintings on them. We have been looking at pictures of these vases at school during our history lessons, so it really brought them to life to see these ancient objects for real! We looked out for the characters that we had been told about earlier in the day and then made sketches of them.

Finally we went to the gift shop and bought ourselves items to remind us of a fantastic day. I feel that we learnt a great deal from this experience and would recommend a trip there to anybody.

Thank you to Mrs Collet, Mrs Barnes and Mr Bagul for taking us.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Year 7's worked really hard on their performances to act like Zombies!!



Year 10 today completed one of their field trips for the GCSE Geography syllabus. We have spent the day in Amersham measuring the River Chess at three different sites. The group have had the chance to measure river depth, width, wetted perimeter, velocity and bedload size. All have enjoyed getting hands on experience of fieldwork and have reinforced their understanding of river processes.



Last week we welcomed the team from Active Slough to our school to explain all the activities and clubs that all students can access every day of the week. As well as explaining the shocking statistics of how obesity among teenagers is worryingly increasing, they shared with the students the positive effects that performing exercise can have to their physical and mental abilities. All the clubs are run by professional and fully insured coaches taking place in and around Slough, some of these include badminton, boxercise, judo, street dance, free running, Zumba and even kayaking!

For more information check <http://www.slough.gov.uk/leisure-parks-and-events/active-slough.aspx>

Or follow https://m.facebook.com/activeslough/?locale2=en_GB



PLEASE LOOK AT FIRELY FOR INFORMATION ABOUT EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

SENIOR PUPIL WORK SHOWCASE

The Hipster
by Esha Kumar
Yr. 9

**Towering trousers tall tumble,
Crisp, cotton, cardigan creeping
Artistic angles surrounding his aura
Great, gigantic, gold glasses seeping
Palette picture painting's perfect
The pain brush dances from
canvas to canvas
Colours glaring into each and e
very subject
Captivating every heart is what he
does!**

SCHOOL NOTICES AND MATCH REPORT

SLOUGH INFORMATION SERVICES



WEA Slough
www.wea.org.uk



Slough
Borough Council

Workers' Educational Association

Introduction to Working in Child Care

Thinking about working in Child Care?
This FREE course will give you an idea of what's involved.

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Elliman Avenue Children's Centre SL2 5BA | 6 Sessions (14 Hours) | Mon | 12.30 — 14.50 | 5/06/17 — 10/07/17 |
|--|--------------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------------|

To book on to this course please contact the Slough team on slough@wea.org.uk

Telephone: 01753 554456
Sahira 07931258997 or Grace 07767684959
or email: slough@wea.org.uk

www.facebook.com/wea.slough



Time Out for ADHD: Slough East Berkshire

25 April – 23 May 2017 (5 Weeks)

A COURSE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN PRE & POST ASSESSMENT FOR ADHD.

A PARENT TO PARENT APPROACH.

KEY THEMES:
Understanding & managing Attention Deficit behaviours
ADHD behaviours
Behaviour management strategies
Hyperactive/impulsive behaviours
Coping strategies for parents
Medication

Our facilitators are parents of children or young people with special educational needs and have a background in education.

DATE: Monday @11.30am-2.30pm
DATE: 12 June – 10 July 2017

VENUE: Chisney Green Children's Centre, Chisney Green, Slough SL1 1TE

COST: Course is FREE
*£10 course handbook

CONTACT: 01189 601513
adhdpa@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

<http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/event/time-adhd-slough/>

West Berkshire positiveparenting

Parenting Special Children are a charity working with families of children and young people with special needs in Berkshire.
www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE EXAM

Please note the GCSE English Literature Exam (Shakespeare & Post 1914 Literature) will be taking place on MONDAY 22 MAY

11+ Information Evening

This week we held an 11+ Information Evening for Yr. 5 parents. We are aiming to send you a SchoolComms next week on the slides if you missed out or for your reference.

SCHOOL EVENTS FOR W/C 22 MAY 2017

Tues 23 May—U9 Cricket v Dair House
Wed 24 May—U10/U11 Rounders v Eton End (h)
U15 Cricket v Charters (a)
Thurs 25 May—U9 Rounders v Eton End (a)

FRIDAY 26 MAY—BREAK UP FOR HALF-TERM

PTA NEWS

3 weeks to go till the Summer Sports Carnival!!!



Don't forget that you can get your tickets in advance using an app called 'ping it' we will also be selling tickets at the gate next Friday morning and afternoon (26th of May). The first 250 children get a free gift on entry so buy your tickets soon!



Football FEVER

We have had a great response to the planned five a side tournament and already have 5 teams ready to take part – we would like to get to an even number of 6 teams (or more). Even if you don't have a full team please contact us and sign up as we can pair you up with some of our other players who need a few extra bodies for their teams.

So far the only mixed team (male and female) is the staff team – so a little plea to the female football fans... ***MUMs dust of your trainers and get involved, our children love to see you taking part too!!***

Having a clear out this weekend?

Please look out for anything that you think would be suitable for the headmaster's tombola as well as any pre-loved fancy dress costumes your children no longer wear. We will be at the school gates next Friday (26th of May) at drop off and pick up time to collect any donations.

Stay in contact with us-



Join the PTA Facebook page



longcloseschoolpta@gmail.com