



23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

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Our Christian Value this Half Term is **Thankfulness**

**Calendar of Events**

<b>19<sup>th</sup> October</b> Chestnut visit to Sandringham	<b>7<sup>th</sup> November</b> Individual school photographs
<b>20<sup>th</sup> October</b> Last school day before Half Term	<b>9<sup>th</sup> December</b> School Council (KS2) visit to Parliament
<b>21<sup>st</sup> October</b> INSET Day 3	<b>16<sup>th</sup> December</b> Last school day before Christmas
<b>31<sup>st</sup> October</b> Children back to school	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b> INSET Day 4
<b>1<sup>st</sup> November</b> Parent Consultation Evening	<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b> Children back to school
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> November</b> Parent Consultation Evening	

We are well into the Autumn Term now and the children have been very busy. They all seem to have settled down very quickly into their new classes, which has been great to see. I'm hearing reports from teachers about how enthusiastic the children have been about their homework – a big thank you to you parents for that.

Please note above the dates for parent consultation evenings – you will get more information about them closer to the time. We also plan to have a class educational visit each term, so keep your eye out for those dates above.

Mr J Steeden

**Latin**

I was on some very exciting training on Friday, which was as new to me as it will be to the children.

Our foreign language that we will be teaching this year in Key Stage 2 will be Latin. This might seem an odd choice, but bear with me.

Last year, we taught French. The plans we used were not ideal and I would guess that none of the children finished the year with a particular grasp of the language. In addition, secondary schools teach a number of different languages now, so just teaching French is not necessarily preparing them for what they will tackle in Key Stage 3.

So why Latin – which is sometimes described as a 'dead language'?

Size Matters. A word hoard of about 50,000 – 60,000 is the vocabulary pupils need to have gathered when they leave school to thrive academically and beyond. We know that 60% of our English vocabulary is drawn from a combination of Latin and Greek origins, with the more technical vocabulary of school reaching even higher to something like 90%.

A single Latin root can generate over 100 words. So, 10 roots can give a child more than 1,000 words they can decrypt on their own.

Latin is also the foundation of practically all of the languages that children will go on to study in secondary school and also support spelling and grammar. We hope the children will enjoy it – I'm certainly looking forward to it.

## What's Happening at Weeting?

The children have been very busy this week – here's what's happening in your child's class:

### Chestnut

Chestnut Class have been exploring their "All About Me" theme this week. They have learnt about lots of different body parts, including more unusual words like "knuckles", "rib cage" and "eye brows". They linked this learning into our core book "The Gruffalo" and used some great descriptive language as they labelled their paintings.

The children have also been exploring what amazing things they can do with their hands as they used a ball of playdough. We used some great descriptive words to explain what we had done including "chopped", "flattened", "stretched" and "pinched"!



### Beech

Another busy week in Beech Class! We have been using part-whole and bar models in maths to represent partitioning numbers. We began our book 'Arabian Nights' and are learning the old tale of 'Aladdin' (not quite the same as the Disney classic!). We are learning to extend our sentences using conjunctions such as: but, so, and because, and using subject specific vocabulary. We are also making a start in our geography topic looking at maps and 'aerial view' photographs.

### Elm

Elm have had a brilliant week discovering new skills and knowledge. In Science, Elm have learnt about the two types of muscles the body has. The first was voluntary muscles that we control, such as our biceps. Elm also uncovered this through an experiment of squeezing an imaginary box. This helped Elm experience first-hand the true feeling of contracting and releasing muscles! Next, Elm learnt that some of our muscles are involuntary such as our hearts and we need them to work independently to keep us alive! Lastly, Elm have been rather creative in Art. Elm have been using lines and have had delight in discovering new methods of creating a picture purely through lines. These approaches were non-stop movement, never taking your pencil off the page, drawing with your eyes closed, using your opposite hand and only using straight and curved lines. Great week Elm, good job!

### Oak

This week in English, we have been focussing on the content and structure of biographies. This has been modelled through a biography of Ross Welford who is the author of 'The 1000 year old boy', which is our class reader. Within our specific sentence structure, we have been learning how to add detail through parenthesis, as well as including expanded noun phrases.



## The Trinity Partnership



In Maths we have been looking at negative numbers, from plotting them on simple number lines to calculating the difference between a negative number and a positive number. We have also carried on our focus on times tables.

In PE this week, whilst the year 6 children carried on their swimming sessions the year 5 children have been focussing on developing a range of skills they can then apply in competitive sports. In addition to this we have been developing our core strength through the use of active stretching.

### The Nest

This week in the Nest we have been very busy thinking about why it is important to have and to follow rules. We drew and painted pictures to show what our rules look like. We have continued to think about what we are thankful for. Our ideas this week included: our families, our houses, the weather and our holidays. In Science we have continued to think about our different senses and how these help us.

### Awards of the Week

Well done to all the children for their hard work this week. The following children were particularly celebrated for their effort and achievement in class.

Ryan and Sebastian in Chestnut, Charlie and Erin in Beech; Harvey and Lexi in Elm, Joanne and Mia in Oak, Charlie in The Nest.

### Attendance

Thank you so much for supporting the school with this. It is so important that we work together on this issue and continue the upward trend. Below is the attendance for each class for the past week – the Government target for attendance across the country is **95%**.

Chestnut – **88%**; Beech – **91.3%**; Elm – **91.2%**; Oak – **89.8%**; The Nest – **77.1%**.

Whole school attendance this week was: **89.7%**.

A big dip from the last Newsletter but I do know there's been a nasty bug going around. Let's hope things pick up again next week.

Whole school attendance since the beginning of the school year is: **94.6%**.

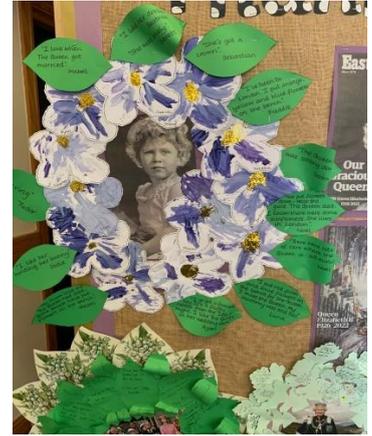
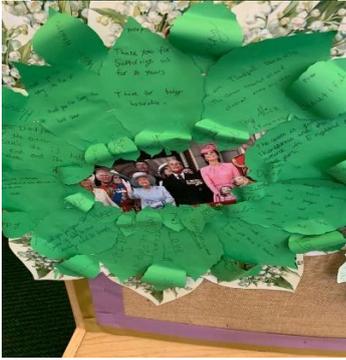
Congratulations to Beech Class for having the best attendance this week!

### St Mary's Church

Afternoon Tea Dance in aid of repairs for St Mary's Church Weeting. Come and join us for a cuppa, a catch up and a twirl round the dance floor. We're hosting an afternoon of merriment in aid of St Mary's Church, Weeting. The porch of this beautiful 12 century building is in much need of repairs. Having raised over £1000 at our successful Elvis tribute night in April, we'd like to match this by hosting another event in the lovely village of Weeting. Tickets are £10 each, which includes tea, coffee and cake. Date: Saturday 15th October Time: 1pm -4pm Venue: Weeting Village Hall Saxon Court Hereward Way Weeting Brandon IP27 0QN Music, sound system by Happy Dave Doughty. For tickets and further information, please contact: Lisa Jackson Mob: 07598 177466 Or Maxine Clare email: t4lli@hotmail.com Find us on Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/1LFbUsamI>

## Queen Elizabeth II

As part of the National Period of Mourning following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, each class reflected on this term's Christian value of "thankfulness" and said "thank you" for her 70 years of service to the nation and Commonwealth. The children captured their thoughts in a class wreath. Each wreath contains a photograph of Queen Elizabeth II during different parts of her reign.



## Assembly Focus of the Week

In this week's Picture News assembly, we focussed on the following question...



## Mr Steeden's Joke of the Week

I used to go out with the woman that was the voice of the Speaking Clock. Unfortunately, we had a big argument and now she won't even give me the time of day. (For those of you who remember the Speaking Clock.)

## And Finally...

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful weekend. Life seems to have abruptly returned to normality after the events of the last two weeks.

Thank you for all the support you provide for the children and our school!