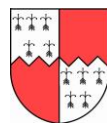


PROPELLER ACADEMY TRUST
Fitzwaryn

'Through learning to learn, pupils will access society'

Headteacher:
MRS. S CONEBOY B.Ed.(Hons.)
Chair of Governors:
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20th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, we have had a very busy term and it was lovely to welcome so many of you at Sports Day. It was fantastic to see the pupils take part in the activities with such enthusiasm and show support for each other, I was so proud of each and every one of them! Our older pupils did a fabulous job as Sports Leaders with the younger pupils in the afternoon; they showed themselves to be such good role models and were a tremendous help.

Friends of Fitzwaryn have held many fund-raising events this year:

- Christmas and Easter Bingo nights raised £805.00
- Didcot Christmas Fayre raised £165.50
- Rags to Riches – 3 collections raised £219.70
- Grove Extravaganza raised £447.00
- Sale of Uniform/party and contributions towards refreshments at events £121.30
- Summer Raffle raised £1087.56

Which means that that with your support Friends of Fitzwaryn have raised a grand total of.....

£2846.06!!

Thank you so much for your continued support – every penny of the fundraising goes towards your child at school. Currently the funds are going towards the upgrade of the sensory theatre. I know that the committee have some great ideas for next year and will be sending out details early in September.

As always at this time of year, we say goodbye and good luck to the pupils who are leaving us as they move onto college placements. We celebrated their achievements with their friends and families on Tuesday evening at Challow Cricket Club. They go with our very best wishes and hope that they take some fabulous memories of their time at Fitzwaryn with them.

We also say goodbye to some of our staff members who are leaving us:

Sharon Cooper is taking retirement, Jeremy Sharp is going to teach sailing, Ivy Abedi is taking up a teaching course at Oxford Brookes, Sian Braham is leaving us to take up a post as a HLTA at a secondary school in Abingdon, Rachel Lock is leaving but she will be keeping in touch with us, Becky Cumming is leaving to look after her lovely baby girl, Hannah Midgley and Kirsty Taylor are going on maternity leave and Harry Heywood is off travelling. We wish them all a very happy future!



On 3rd July we welcomed a new teacher to the team - Miss Fern Larsen will be teaching in Beech class next year and she has been very busy getting to know the pupils and staff. I am delighted to say that we have made some other new appointments in the last few weeks; I will be able to update you in September when they have started with us.

As usual, Fitz Kids will be up and running for 2 weeks in the summer holidays and I know that Clair Taylor and her team have some fun-filled days lined up!

Enjoy reading the round up of the term:

Maple Class

This term in Maple class we have been enjoying our topic of Fairy Tales. We have been learning some nursery rhymes and the stories the Three Billy Goats Gruff and Jack and the Beanstalk. The pupils have been brilliant learning actions for the stories and recalling events in the story. In our wider curriculum subjects the pupils have loved horticulture. They have been growing a variety of different vegetables and have become more and more independent looking after the seedlings and plants! It's been the perfect term for getting outside!



Beech Class

This term in Beech class we have been exploring the world of Fairy Tales. We have been learning about two stories - The Three Billy Goats Gruff and Jack and the Beanstalk, as well as different nursery rhymes. We have used lots of role play to help embed vocabulary and engage the children.

We have been focusing on Money and Position and Direction in Maths, using lots of practical resources that the children have thoroughly enjoyed using.

Across our wider curriculum subjects the pupils have immersed themselves in lots of independent play, team building in PE and showing lots of responsible skills in horticulture, where the children have worked hard to grow a variety of different vegetables and look after seedlings and plants! It has been a brilliant busy term, with lots of outside learning for the children to enjoy and grow!



Cedar Class

What a great year this has been for Cedar class pupils! It was my pleasure to watch these children grow and develop and support them to achieve their best. We made some lovely memories as a class, like the Christmas celebration, singing a sea shanty together, conducting musicians, enjoying the intensive swimming course, listening to and dancing to some music played by Afghan musicians, to mention but a few. We also shared lots of funny, golden moments.

As Cedar class teacher, I am very proud of all that the pupils achieved during this academic year. It is the greatest feeling celebrating these moments in school, like using Proloquo2go to make requests, riding a trike, confidently spending up to 1 hour in a standing frame, balancing without help on the bench, verbalising requests, using a communication book to request wants and needs, understanding and communicating feelings with adults, talking in full sentences, becoming a phonics expert!

In the summer term, our topic The Commonwealth took us around the world. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed cooking and tasting some Indian and Australian dishes. The highlight of this term has to be pupils using hand stitching to make flags. They were all so proud of their finished product, and rightly so!

I hope all pupils and their families have a relaxing and well-deserved summer break.



Hazel Class

The Summer term has been all about Commonwealth Countries for Hazel Class, and as always has been a very busy time. They have enjoyed learning facts about different countries but with a particular focus on India and Australia. As well as learning an Indian story 'The fish that talked' and creating their own versions of their story, they have enjoyed lots of creative activities linked to the countries. Many have become quite skilled at singing some of the Indian national anthem and all have enjoyed singing and accompanying sea shanties. They have designed and made different country flags by sewing the different parts together – turns out Hazel Class are keen sewers! Outside of the normal curriculum, they have enjoyed the Coronation celebrations, the Dance festival, the mini-marathon, Science week and Sports Day. It has been fantastic to see the progress being made by all of the class, academically and socially over this year.



Ash Class

Wow, what a fantastic summer term Ash class have had! At the beginning of the term, some pupils visited the Rutherford Science Fair with pupils from Hazel Class. All students showed exceptional manners and a positive attitude throughout the day. They all got stuck into a variety of science experiments and had plenty of fun whilst learning! Our pupils have made exceptional progress this term, they have enjoyed exploring 'The pirate next door' in English and have practised recount writing and even had a go at walking the plank! The pupils in Ash class have developed a secure knowledge of their emotions and have enjoyed exploring their feelings through playdough and other media. We are so impressed with how pupils in Ash class care for one another and recognise the importance of showing friendly behaviour towards their peers. Well done for all your hard work this year Ash class and we hope you have a wonderful summer holiday!



Willow Class

Willow class have enjoyed learning about Space and the Earth. They have explored how damaging deforestation is to our planet and have worked together as a team to use recycled materials to recreate 'Starry Night' by Van Gough. Willow class loved learning all about the planets and the true story about Neil Armstrong being the first person to land on the moon through Talk For Writing. Willow class have enjoyed writing about themselves in English and money life skills in Maths. They worked together as a team on sports day to support and encourage each other, showing excellent sportsmanship skills. Willow class are developing their knowledge of healthy foods, particularly being able to identify their fruit and vegetables. They have enjoyed the beginning of their garden project; making bug hotels out of old tyres and decorating other tyres to make the class garden an engaging space – definitely a work in progress.



Pine Class

Pine class have had a brilliant term filled with fun activities linked to the 'Space and Earth' topic. Pupils enjoyed travelling into space in the Sensory Theatre to learn all the planets and put them in order. They then went on to learn facts about each of the planets and started to make comparisons. In English, we looked at similes and metaphors and each pupil incorporated these within their own poem about space. A highlight within maths this term for all was in money-based lessons. Pupils really developed their understanding of how to make equivalent amounts and for some, how to check their change too. The whole class has taken part in cooking lessons where they have learned how to make a variety of pasta salads and wraps and have chosen the fillings themselves after looking at healthy food groups. Pupils have

also been going out to different cafes each week and it has been wonderful to see all of their confidence grow when ordering their drinks independently! There have been so many highlights this term for all, with a special one being the Afghan music concert that came to school. Pine class had such a fantastic time listening to different music, clapping along and some even got up to dance! Well done Pine class, you have all achieved so much!



Rowan Class

Rowan class has had a great term and have really enjoyed their topic 'Space and Earth'. We have been busy learning all about the planets and have created a model of the solar system. In art, we have been learning about Van Gogh and have working with the rest of KS3 to recreate his painting 'Starry Night' using collage of recycled materials. We have also learnt how to fill out job application forms and have been writing autobiographies in English. Our year 9 pupils enjoyed their 'work shadow day' around the school and learnt a lot about the world of work.



Senior School (Chestnut and Holly)

We have had a wonderful year in Senior School. We really enjoyed all of our topics, making progress, our work experiences and more! Some of the children loved our trips this year. In particular, they enjoyed the trip to London to see The Lion King. The pupils excelled on this trip, and it was a pleasure to see them having so much fun. This term we have enjoyed many exciting opportunities such as a tennis match against KAs, another trip to London linked to our careers work, planting and picking sweet peas, mint, and elderflower, lots of cookery, sports and a residential to Youlbury. The pupils had a go at bowling, archery, den building and had the opportunity to build up their independent skills.



Student Centre

We have had another very busy term in the Student Centre, that has rounded off a very successful year. All the students have been working hard towards their accreditation work, including Functional Skills and their Open Awards Independent Living modules. The Year 13s and 14s have completed their work experience placements. They have demonstrated that they can use all the Skill Builder skills including Communication, Problem Solving, Creativity, Staying Positive, Aiming High, Leadership and Teamwork in the workplace. Some of the students completed their Bronze or Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition as part of their awards which were wonderful experiences for everyone involved! The staff who supported were very impressed with how well the students coped on the expeditions.

Thank you for attending our monthly coffee mornings - the last one was extremely busy. We will let you know the date of next year's coffee mornings in September. From all in the Student Centre we wish you a very happy summer break!



Riding for the Disabled

Thanks to Blewbury RDA and their volunteers, we were able to offer horse-riding sessions to two groups of pupils from the Lower School. Children participated in a range of simple and fun activities which helped them gain confidence, improve communication skills, add to their core strength, and more. On the way to the stables, we could see anticipation on pupils' faces which turned to big smiles whilst riding in the arena! They were all brilliant!



A message from Wayne Tica, Chair of Governors:

As we approach the end of another year at Fitzwaryn, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the collective achievements, growth, and unwavering spirit that continue to define our school community.

First, I would like to congratulate our incredible students. Each one of you has shown immense strength, resilience, and determination throughout the year. Your unique abilities and talents have been a constant source of inspiration, reminding us all of the extraordinary potential that resides within each of you.

To the dedicated staff members; your commitment to our students' welfare, progress, and well-being has been truly fantastic. Your patience, creativity, and unconditional support have created an environment where students feel valued, empowered, and capable of great achievements.

Finally, for the support of our parents and guardians. Your belief in our school's mission and active involvement in your child's educational journey creates a lasting difference.

Wishing you all a great Summer.

Wayne Tica

It just remains for me to wish all our pupils, parents and staff a very happy summer holiday! (We all practised our communication skills by asking for an ice cream from the ice cream van that came to school in preparation for the holidays!)



I look forward to the pupils returning to school on Wednesday **6th September 2023**

A reminder - next year's term dates can be found on the website:

<https://www.fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1648&type=pdf>

with very best wishes

Stephanie Coneboy
Headteacher