

Friday, 8th March 2024



VJS NEWS

Proud To Be Me, Proud To Belong

Mr. David Lee, Headteacher



The weather appears to be changing from winter to spring, the daffodils are out and it is fabulous to see brighter mornings and evenings.

It is a good time to remember all the benefits of getting outside; away from TV and phone screens, and enjoy the games and activities on offer to you and your children in the local parks. Research proves the physical and mental health of all of us benefit from being outside, either in nature or playing games.

A reminder from the newsletter a few weeks ago that social media websites and apps are not aimed at junior school aged children and they are not permitted to use them. If you would like advice on how to set limits for children on using devices such as tablets and phones, please contact Mrs. Begum here and we will be very happy to help.

Dates for the diary...

It's Pizza Time - Timetable!

Class and Date

Year 5 Holly: 14/3
Year 5 Magnolia: 21/3
Year 5 Willow: 28/3
Year 6 Cherry: 18/4
Year 6 Chestnut: 25/4
Year 6 Laurel: 2/6



Coffee Morning next week...

A Family Nutritionist from BeeZee Bodies (as part of Maximus UK) will be coming to Coffee Morning on Tuesday at 9am.

Beezee Bodies deliver a 12-week, scientifically backed weight management program for children aged 5 - 11

As part of the coffee morning taking place on Tuesday 12th March, they will be discussing a few topics from their program, including breakfast, snacks and drinks and portion size. To find out more please come along on Tuesday.

World Book Day 2024



On Thursday, 7th March, Victoria Junior School was turned into Hogwarts as all staff dressed up as characters from the famous Harry Potter series.

Throughout the day, the children completed a series of Harry Potter themed activities, such as potion and wand making, making origami bookmarks, capturing pixies and inventing new mysterious creatures!

At lunchtime, our Quidditch coach Mr Hemmings led a fast-paced game of Quidditch on the astro-turf, enjoyed by many pupils.

Each year group also attended a FANTASTIC owls workshop organised by Miss Gregory. The children loved the opportunity to see and hold the birds, and found out lots of key facts about them.

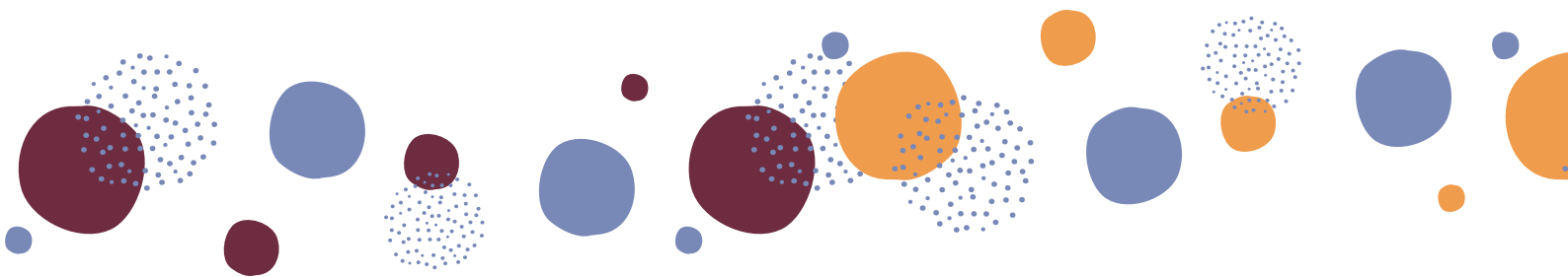
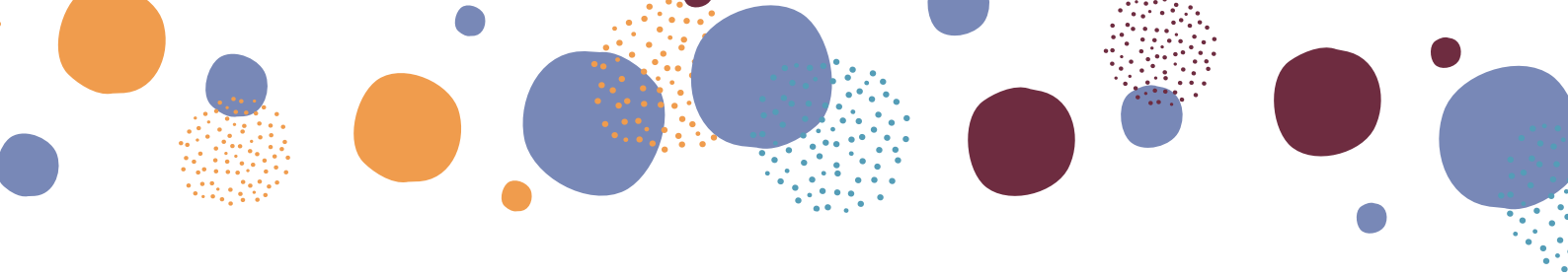
Micquel in Oak Class, Year 3, said: "The owls have large eyes so that they can see in the dark better. They have tiny whiskers on their faces so they can feel when something gets close to them. Then, they can attack or fly away. They are nocturnal if they have black eyes, and can hunt in the dark."

At the end of the day, we held a whole school celebration assembly which focused on the fact that the whole day was based on our love of reading as a school. Professor Dumbledore was revealed to be no other than....Mr Lee!

A fantastic day was had by all! Thank you to everyone who was involved in making it such a success.

We have included some photographs of the owl workshop that pupils attended, as well as some of the activities that took place throughout the day.





Retrieval Quizzes

by Mrs Wolczynski, Deputy Headteacher, and
Miss Principe, Cornerstones Lead

In September 2023, after researching lots of different curriculum resources, staff at Victoria Junior School chose to use Cornerstones Maestro to support with our planning in History, Geography, Art, DT and Science. Our curriculum provides an aspirational and ambitious, broad and balanced menu of learning for all our pupils through a range of inspiring subject-led projects.

The curriculum is informed by the latest cognitive science findings and enables deep learning of subject concepts and aspects. We have mapped out opportunities for retrieval across these subjects; throughout lessons, assemblies and at home. Curriculum projects have been carefully sequenced and interconnected to support children's learning over time.

As part of our work on retrieval, we asked pupils to write a retrieval quiz as part of a competition. They could use the knowledge organisers that are sent home as part of the curriculum, as well as their knowledge and understanding of the topics that are taught in school. Miss Principe had the very difficult task of judging the quizzes! Miss Principe chose Albie's quiz and Satvika's quiz as the winning entries. They both won a £15 Amazon voucher and the chance for their quiz questions to be used in our weekly retrieval assemblies. We have attached Albie's quiz to this newsletter, and will attach Satvika's next week so that you can see the excellent questions that were asked and maybe even have a go at home!



Buddhism



On Monday afternoon, we had a visit from a Buddhist – Mariano – who spoke to us all about Buddhism, the ‘middle way’ and the 8-fold path. He was from the Buddhist Society. He showed a glass of clear water. This represented us when we wake up from a good night’s sleep. He then shook the jar and it got misty and murky. This represents how we feel when we have many things to do and have problems to solve. He then got us thinking about what we can do to make the water clear again. Wait! Have patience! Live in the moment. Clear your minds. Meditate.

I really enjoyed listening to him because it was interesting and helped me understand how Buddhists live their lives.



By Kalpit
Chestnut class, Year 6

