

# THE ASHCOTT COMPASS



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ASHCOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER

Edition 4 April 2019

## Ashcott pupils to take on Parliament!

By Eva and Amelia

**Would-be MPs right here in Ashcott have set out to make a real difference to people's lives.**

Five pupils from Owls Class have been chosen to represent the school at Children's Parliament.

This will be the third time a team from the school has taken part: working on a project to improve our community's quality of life.

The students have chosen to tackle a subject that affects families across the country: screen time!

They have carried out surveys and encouraged everyone to take part in a tech-free 24 hours to reduce screen time. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Next term the Ashcott team will present their findings to Children's Parliament and will have to robustly defend their position.

Isaac, Lisa-Marie, Eva, Braydon and Amelia are Ashcott's Children's Parliament team and explained that they chose to look at screen time, because they thought that

children and adults are too-often 'glued' to some sort of device.

They said their research shows that it not good for people's mental health and wanted to see if 'screen-time' on mobiles phones and other devices impacts family life. Braydon quoted: "It's such an amazing thing to do and it's a pleasure to be chosen." Amelia said, "I was so excited to be involved with children's parliament when my name got called out."

"It will be fun because I can perform in front of other people," quoted Isaac.

Lisa-Marie said: "I felt excited because I've never done it before and I like working in small groups like this one."

While four will present to the Children's Parliament, the fifth member of the team will act as judge - questioning the other teams on their own presentations.

"Being the judge is going to express how I feel about other worries the competitors have chosen," said Eva.

We wish them good luck.



## S'not funny!

**Science has never been so exciting! Ashcott Primary School has held its first ever science week, all around the theme of journeys.**

**Mrs Busby co-ordinated the week which included science experiments across the school, a live BBC Blue Planet lesson and culminated in an amazing massive space dome which beamed the night's sky into the school hall.**

**For more see page six.**

**Thank you to Mrs Chamberlain for taking the photograph, above, and for suggesting the headline!**

**See inside for lots on lovely lambing, Bikeability and a 3-page Book Week special...**

# Starlings all ablaze as they rise to the occasion



Starlings class weighing and measuring, to cook bread. Pictured are some of the students, getting their ingredients together.

This term Starling's class has been learning about the Great Fire of London.

Each pupil has created a house out of paper, based on a traditional house from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

These houses would have been made from wood so, when they caught alight, they burnt down really easily. The fire started in a bakery on pudding lane when Thomas Farynor left the oven on overnight and the wooden houses were all connected and burned to the ground.

Many important buildings such as churches were destroyed, including St Paul's Cathedral!

Luckily they were rebuilt, including by Christopher Wren and he even gave St Paul's a dome instead of a spire!

Starlings pupils also did some re-search on the internet all about life in the 17th century.

Here are some of the quotes from starling class:

Zachary from Year 2 stated: "I really enjoyed it."

Year 1 Connie said: "I liked it because we made bread and then ate it."

Reuben said: "I liked the bread, it was really fun to make."

"I loved making the houses with my friend!" Said Chloe.

Sam said: "It's a fun thing to do and the bread was really tasty!"



Each edition of The Ashcott Compass will feature a weather picture. This edition's spring weather picture was drawn by Lucas of Starlings Class.

## Spring is sprung

The weather has been very crazy this half-term, we had nice hot days and some not so nice, with rain, sleet, as well as cloudy and dark days.

Some people have been wearing glasses, caps, shorts and dresses.

We hope that next half-term will be hot. It will be the start of our summer, so get ready for the hot weather so get your glasses, caps, shorts, dresses and don't forget your sun cream!

By Mason

By Bertie and Stanley

## Editorial Comment

Books are really important to this school: we all love them and we even have our own book club.

In book club we go in and read the book that has been chosen, discussing what we think about the story.

This time we have been reading Secrets Of A Sun King and there are mixed reviews about it.

We had even more literature during book week.

One of the highlights was the book cafe.

There were waitresses who offered you a starter book, a main course book and a dessert book. We were even asked about what we had liked: everyone enjoyed it!

We also had a special swap, where you took in your old books and swapped them with other peoples' ones.

Then, the best part off the week was the dressing up day, where you came in dressed up as one of your favourite book characters like Matilda, Harry Potter and Where's

Wally? The funniest ones were the teaching staff, like Ms Frampton, who came in as Noddy.

Mr Briar came in as Bert from Mary Poppins, and other teachers came in as other funny characters.

For book week, we also randomly read in the day: you had to Drop Everything And Read (DEAR).

On one of these marvellous days, the teachers brought in their own book and no one could see what the book was. You had to choose which one you wanted to read.

On the Friday we met up with our buddies to share some stories with them and then go into the Friday assembly to end this amazing week of fun.

Thank you to everyone for a fantastic week.

**The Editorial Comment is a personal point of view about an aspect of the school, written by the guest editor.**

**This edition the guest editor is Archie S, of Owls Class.**

*Book Week*  
***Special...***  
*three-page*



# Book Week Special...Book Week Special...E



**It's been a page-turning week as we have dressed up, swapped books and made a meal of things at the book café.**

On the first day, we did a 'blind date' book reading session and all the staff brought in their favourite

childhood books to read .

We have also had a lot of stories read by and to us in the bedtime book reading session .

"It was very fun because we got to listen to people read" said Edwin from Year 6.



It wasn't cakes on offer at a special café at Ashcott School.

Mrs Speakman and Ms Frampton set up the book café in the nest for two days.

Lots of children enjoyed reading (and eating) some delicious books.

"It was good, nice and comfy," said Ivan, in Reception.

"I liked the monster book."

"There were really

said Sam, of Year

Abigail, from Ye

that all of the bo

hilarious!

"The variety of ty

good, because yo

books that were c

ent!" noticed Har

Willow said "I re

they set it up with



# Book Week Special...Book Week

Willow from Year 5 added: "It was good because I loved a week dedicated to reading"  
She was much the same as Che, who loved the experience.

**By Isaac and Braydon**



...yummy books!"  
...r One.  
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seats and blankets."  
Jodie said she particularly enjoyed the 'Rabbit and the Bear'.  
Owls, Woodpeckers, Starlings, Sparrows and even the staff enjoyed the book café and are looking forward to holding it again, next year.

**By Rosalyn, Eva and Mason**





- Science Week - Science Week - Science Week

## Aspiring scientists in their element



This term Ashcott has had its first science week. With science poster competitions, a space dome, sticky oobleck (a type of scientific slime), paper aeroplanes and facts about light, we had a fantastic week.

Simon Ould, from Space Odyssey, came in with an incredible space dome. Each class visited the amazing inflatable planetarium with Simon sharing lots of different facts with us.

We had an amazing experience seeing all the planets

whizzing around the ceiling above.

Isabelle, from Year Two, said her favourite things were making paper aeroplanes whilst Isaac from Year Six said he liked learning about light.

"I liked snot day, it was weird and fun!" said Keira from Year Four.

Juliette said: "When I first came into the dome, I was really surprised about what was in there."

"I actually quite liked science week," said Adam.

**By Jasmine and Rosalyn**



## Budding naturalists

Woodpecker class has been learning about what makes a living thing.

The children have made some MRS NERG posters; a Mrs Nerg poster is something to remember the seven life processes.

Some of the pupils of Woodpecker have told us if they liked learning about science and plants.

Eleia answered: "I thought it was re-

ally interesting."

Oliver D replied: "I liked it."

Stanley G: "It was alright and quite nice."

Katie added: "Yes, it was exciting."

Lilly exclaimed that she liked doing the science.

**By Oliver B and Phillipa**

# In our clubs... In our clubs... In our clubs...



**Left:**  
Ashcott  
Book  
Club  
members  
meet with  
other  
schools to  
talk  
through  
Secrets Of  
A Sun  
King

## Book Club

In book club, we are reading Secrets of a Sun King, written by Emma Carroll. So far, the main character Lillian (or Lil) finds a parcel on her doorstep, sent by Professor Hanawati, who was found dead that very morning!

She meets two friends Oz and Tulip, who help her find clues to an ancient Egyptian curse.

Although it is set in 1922, but it was written in 2018.

Not everyone has found the book an enjoyable read.

These are some people's opinions:

"It got really boring and slow," said Isaac

from Year 6.

Eva said: "I didn't really like it, but there were a few good parts."

Three of us visited Baltonsborough Primary School to meet book club pupils from there, Walton and West Pennard; we found they felt the same way as us!

Novelist Emma Carroll has written more than half a dozen books, including: Frost Hollow Hall, The Girl Who Walked on Air and In Darkling Wood.

As well as being an author, Emma's day job is a secondary school English teacher and she has just graduated from Bath Spa University.

**By Rosalyn**

## Choir

Once again Ashcott choir went to Highbridge Music Festival last time they came 3<sup>rd</sup> - in part due to not smiling enough!

Their category was two or three short songs with the theme 'uplift' and they sang Believe and Wish.

We asked some people about how they felt before and how it went.

Abigail said: "I feel quite nervous but I think we did great." Eleia said: "I think it'll be really fun. Afterwards she said: "I think we did really well."

"It was exciting," said Lily-Rose.

Katie said: "I felt excited and nervous." Chantelle agreed.

Flo said: "I was scared but it was exciting to sing."

"I was really excited," said Layla.

"I felt mixed emotions," said Maria.

This time Ashcott sounded amazing.

They came second and singers were given a medal to remember the special morning.

**By Evie, Taia and Amelia**

## Gardening Club

This term Gardening Club has started off great, with potatoes being planted in egg boxes, nailing name signs into our plots and splitting up our plots (into nine) with the string.

We had good weather doing it so we didn't need our wellies but as it gets colder and damper we will be expected to bring our wellies!

Here are some of the quotes that some members of gardening club have said about it this year:

Lily-Rose was one of the people from Woodpeckers that said she enjoys doing it.

Stanley from Year Four said, "I like everything and I enjoy it."

"I like gardening because you can grow your own vegetables," quoted Abigail.

Year Five's Evie said, "I enjoy it and taking the crops home."

Bertie was one of the people from Year Six who said that "it's great".

We spoke to Mr Briar and asked him how important gardening club is to Ashcott School.

"I think we are extremely lucky because not many other schools that I know of have that community club and I like the different generations coming together and the benefits of good outdoors and healthy eating.," he said.

Who decided to have this club?

"It has been going for many years, even before I was head teacher," he said.

When, roughly, did gardening club begin?

"It has been going for about twenty



years, we've had plots extended. There were twelve beds before but now there are sixteen. The poly-tunnel has been in gardening for 15 years."

**By Keira and Jasmine**

# Active Ashcott



## I want to ride my bicycle!

This term the year 6s had two visitors from Bikeability to teach them how to ride a bike on the road. They were called Mark and Allison and were from Somerset County Council’s Road Safety team. They have inspired us so much, now some people ride to school. Most thought it was an amazing experience. “It was amazing to do,” said Jodie.

“I loved going on the roads,” said Lily.  
 “It was a good experience and we got to miss lessons!” said Bertie C.  
 “It was fun to explore on our bikes,” said Max.  
 “I love riding my bike personally and feel Bikeability is such an amazing thing,” said Isaac.

**By Braydon and Isaac**

## Sparrows flock to farm



This term Sparrows went to Rodway Farm, near Cannington, to see some spring lambs, cows and lots of different farm animals. They were very happy to have the opportunity to go. We asked Mrs Shore how the visit went this year and whether she thinks it is a good experience for the children?  
 “Yes, it was a very good experience because it is a real working farm,” she

said. What was the reaction of the sparrows when they walked in?  
 “Wow, so many cows, cute little lambs, lots of ‘awws’ and excitement,” she said. “They also enjoyed the coach because lots of them hadn’t been on one before.”  
 Has much changed since



you first took pupils to the farm?  
 “Yes, we’ve been going for five years and there has been new barns, teaching rooms and more hand washing facilities,” she said.  
 Mrs Shore added that she wanted to say a big thank you to Rodway Farm for paying the cost of the coach.

**By Keira and Jasmine**

## Netball team ‘reigns’

Ashcott netball team smashed their very first tournament.

Despite the awful weather, they were triumphant and it was great to see them trying their hardest. We took the opportunity to ask Miss Basta how the netball team were doing.  
 “They are amazing and all

work well as a team (as always!)”  
 Then we asked the netball team how did they find the tournament?  
 “I was really proud of everyone,” answered Jodie.  
 Edwin added: “It was very

wet!”  
 Isaac agreed: “I was happy whilst also soaking wet.”  
 “We did really well, even though it was raining,” quoted Jasmine.

**By Taia and Violet**

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Name: .....

Address: .....

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Name of pupil: .....

Year:..... Class:.....