

## **News Bulletin 23.4.21**

### **New term**

Welcome to the new term. I really hope that this term will follow the planned route map out of lockdown and that we will be able to start some of the wider school activities that we usually enjoy in the summer. At the moment we are still maintaining class 'bubbles' with separate areas for break and lunchtime. The children wash their hands frequently and all staff are testing for Covid twice a week. We remain cautious and vigilant. Thank you for wearing face coverings when on the school site. This is reassuring for staff and our families.

### **Curriculum plans**

We have lots of great learning planned for the term. Please see the plans for the term on our website at:

<https://www.stpeterscofeprimaryschoolcoggeshall.org.uk/curriculum/curriculum-plans>

### **Governor news**

It is so good to see the school functioning like it should - congratulations to all those that support the school, both parents/carers, governors, teaching staff, support staff and of course the pupils themselves.

Whilst the governors are meeting virtually (and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future), there has been a great deal of activity. Obviously the semi-closure of the school from January to March has meant we met weekly to discuss all matters with Mrs Cole and Mrs Sullivan. The main topics have been, for example, engagement with home school, school meals provision and SEND considerations. A particular focus has been on staff wellbeing during this pressurising time, and as the school is returning, we are also keen to understand any impact on children's wellbeing and the plans for catching up with any lost learning during this extraordinary time.

Governors have been conducting monitoring remotely and our thanks to the subject lead teachers for sharing their plans, which has enabled us to hold meaningful conversations. We have also undertaken a review of the home schooling arrangements where material and data were provided to us. I have to say, it's been so impressive how many children have engaged with home learning! Approximately 93% of children were either in school, or engaged with home learning - this is quite an achievement. The remaining 7% were provided with home learning packs. This isn't easy for children, parents/carers or the teachers, and our thanks to everyone who played their part.

We now have 4 new governors on board and we conducted an induction training session for them. We very much welcome them to our governing body and look forward to working with them, Governor training has also been very active, with all courses being conducted remotely. Again a particular focus has been on positive mental wellbeing.

Our special thanks to Mrs Cole who has been constantly updating numerous policies (amongst many other activities), it certainly has kept us all busy reviewing them!

Jayne Robertson (Governor)

## Sensory garden

Thank you to Helen and Derek and the Church community for taking on the job of renovating our sensory garden at the front of the school. We look forward to seeing it grow and develop throughout the summer.

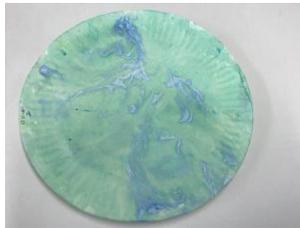


## Our learning – Earth Day April 2021

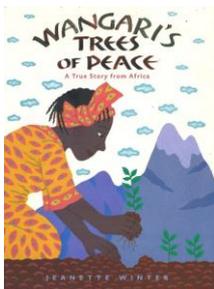
As a school we celebrated Earth day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> thinking about our impact on the environment and ways to improve our carbon footprint.

Mulberry class are working on their project over the next 2 weeks and will share with you soon.

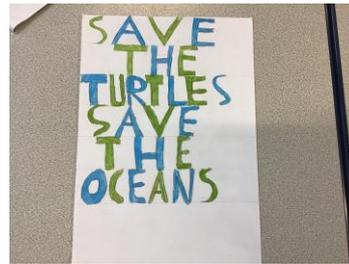
In the Pre-school the children made a bug hotel, they learnt about recycling, they made pictures of earth with paint and foam and they planted seeds.



To celebrate Earth Day in KS1 we are using the text 'Wangari and the Trees of Peace'. It is a true story about Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. It is an inspiring story of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change. Over the next two weeks we will be producing our own retelling of the text and some exciting artwork. We have also been learning about materials in science. We discovered why trees are so important and the reasons we should protect them. We went on a hunt around the school to identify as many different objects that are produced from trees.



Year 3/4 designed bee friendly gardens and have start to design protest posters.



Year 5/6 have filled the corridor with this beautiful tree decorated with their environment pledges in the style of the artists Kandinsky and Klimt.



### **Coggeshall library news**

Coggeshall Library is now open again for visitors. We have new opening times and these are:

Tuesday 2.00 – 5.30pm  
Thursday 9.00am – 5.30pm  
Saturday 9.00 am – 5.30pm

We hope that these will be helpful to families so that they can come after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and also any time on Saturday. We do still have restrictions in place due to the Covid situation but it is great to be able welcome customers back to the library.

The library also has a new Life in Lockdown exhibition that we thought some of the children may like to take part in. The items lent by people in the community will be made into a display/collage demonstrating the various ways people have been creative during lockdown.

Jane Richardson  
Coggeshall Library

### **FOSP news**

Captain Tom 100 – We really hope everyone gets involved in the challenge. Our School Council members have been discussing in their socially distanced meetings. They are thinking of ways to promote the event in school.

Look out for information about the next Kids Go Crazy day on May 28<sup>th</sup> and the Scarecrow trail during half term. More details will follow soon.