



RUSKIN
JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

March 2018 Issue 87

Ruskin Junior School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Despite what the weather might be telling us, it is in fact March already – although those poor daffodils have had a bit of a shock over the past week or so! But snow or no snow, the learning goes on here at Ruskin and it's been a busy month with plenty more to come as the new term gets underway. Whereas Year 4 have been finding out about what Britain was like at the time of the Roman invasion in 43AD, Year 3's lessons have had a futuristic feel, using technology to construct and control robots. It's back in time to the Norman Invasion for Year 5 but in Year 6 they continue to look at our more recent history and the profound impact the Second World War had on the course of history. It's been a month of contrasts. Much like the weather.

All the best and take care,

Mr Beadnell

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do."

Pele

Dates for Term 4:

Thursday 1st March

World Book Day

Monday 5th March (week beginning)

Science Week

Wednesday 7th March

Maths Challenge Day

Friday 9th March

Science Fair

Wednesday 14th March

William Morris Class Community Lunch

Thursday 15th March

Friends Disco

Junior Choir Festival at the Wyvern

Friday 16th March

Non-uniform day for Easter Fair

Tuesday 20th March

Rocksteady assembly

Parents' evening

Wednesday 21st March

Parents' evening

Friday 23rd March

Sports Relief

Easter Fair

Monday 26th March

Year 4 residential trip

The Big Dance Off at the

Wyvern

Thursday 29th March

Last day of term: finish at 1:30

Term 4's Value:

Empathy

Democracy in Motion

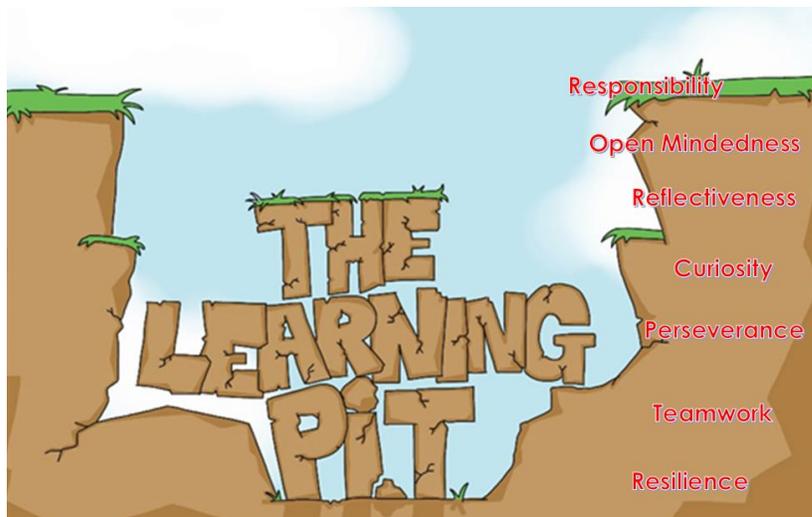


It was off to London for the School Council as they braved the snowy conditions for a visit to the Houses of Parliament. Travelling in style - on the Swindon Town Football Team's Coach. By the time we had reached London it was practically a blizzard! But that that didn't deter from what was a fantastic visit. First stop was a virtual history in a cinema room and we were then taken on a guided tour of the building which included a visit to the House of Lords. The children toured other parts of the Houses of Parliament where they learned about its history and got the chance to experience the heart of our democracy first hand. It was a brilliant trip, rich in

history and culture and our School Council were wonderful ambassadors for the school. We are all extremely proud of them. What a fantastic day! Massive thanks to Mrs Wollen, our school council staff member for organising and providing this fantastic opportunity.

Learning Ambassadors

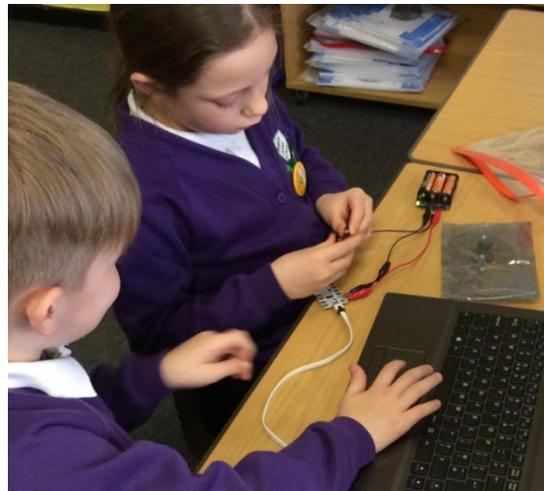
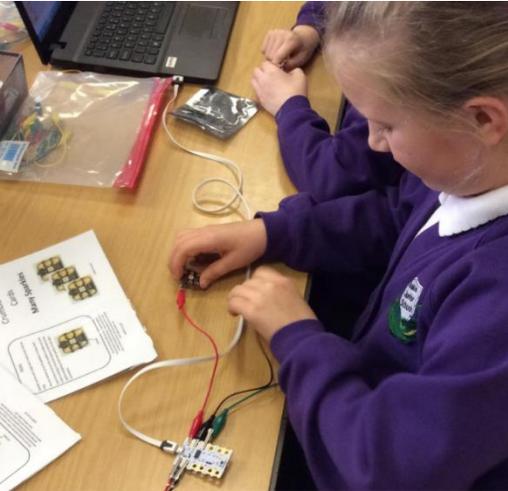
Here at Ruskin, providing the best learning experience for our children is at the heart of our ethos. All of our children have recently been introduced to the 'Learning Toolkit' – a number of attributes that will enable us all to become better learners. One child from each class has been selected to represent their class as a 'Learning Ambassador'. They will be joining either myself or another member of the school's leadership team and visiting classes to identify other children who are demonstrating fantastic learning skills. The Ambassadors will then present their own assembly celebrating what they have seen. We're all really looking forward to seeing some great learning in action!



Lego Robotics

It's been all systems go in year 3 as they spent the day with the Lego Robotics team as part of their Iron Man Big Idea. The children used hi-tech sets to create Lego lions which were then Blue-toothed to iPads and made to roar, rear-up and kneel down using programs the children wrote themselves. It was a fantastic exercise in coding that was very similar to how robotic devices are controlled in an industrial setting. Our year 3s had a fantastic day of learning: the staff were pretty excited too!

The techno theme has been a feature of year 3's learning this month as they also got to grips with the school's set of Crumbles earlier in the term.



Stepping Back in Time

Our Year 4s visited the Corinium Museum in Cirencester in February where they experienced what life would have been like around 2000 years in Roman Britain. The children examined a number of ancient artefacts such as mosaics, Roman weaponry and everyday tools. They even played a Roman version of Chequers although I have reliably been informed that the rules may have changed in accordance to which children were playing and who was winning - Gaius Julius Caesar would have been very proud!

Sports Round-up

It's been a really busy month of sports with both the girls' and boys' football teams in action and also Miss Sanderson's Netball team. Our girls' football team are going from strength to strength with gaffer Mr Burgess likening their style with that of Arsene Wenger's Arsenal: plenty of style and attacking panache: in their most recent tournament they scored 37 unanswered goals over 6 games. A bit better than Arsenal. The boys too have been making waves reaching the quarter finals of the cup for the second year in a row following a 3-2 win over Even Swindon. This was closely followed up by a 4-3 home victory over league leaders Covingham.

The Ruskin netball team saw back to back victories over Sevenfields and South Marston and are now only one game away from reaching the county finals for the first time ever. It's all very exciting and it is wonderful to see how proud the children are of their achievements and their school when they stand up in assembly. Brilliant stuff.



Young Carers Ambassador Award

We are delighted to announce that once again we have been awarded with the Young Carers Ambassador Award. A huge well done to all involved but especially Mrs Wollen who became our Young Carer representative in September of last year. It's a highly prestigious award and one that makes us very proud of both our children and the adults that assist them.

Happy Chinese New Year!

L.S Lowry Class treated us to a wonderful assembly based on the Chinese New Year. They explained many of the traditions surrounding the event and re-enacted the story of how why different animals represent different years. A wonderful performance, we really enjoyed it!

Please be mindful of local residents when parking around the school. 😊