

# Primary Matters

News and Information from Primary Phase - Friday 21st October 2022

## Vice Principal's Message

This term, we have been delighted to welcome our new Foundation Stage children to school and I am pleased to say that they have quickly settled into school life. Next term, the Reception children will be meeting their Year 6 buddies, who are very excited to become our youngest children's learning mentors and friends. It is lovely to see the children flourish together in their new Buddy partnerships.

It was wonderful to welcome everyone back to our first face-to-face parents' evening event in three years. Many of you commented on how good it was to be able to meet with teachers in person, see your children's books and explore our learning environment. The CCS Friends pop up, pre-loved uniform shop was a great success with uniform bargains galore! Thank you to everyone for the positive feedback we have received, especially in relation to our Year 6 hosts who did an excellent job in keeping their class teachers on time!

This week, the primary phase has been buzzing with the excitement and enjoyment of our annual Big Health & Happiness Week. Every year, this event inspires our children to think about their physical and mental health and wellbeing; the latter being increasingly more important. The highlights of this week have been a wonderful Indian dance workshop for children in KS2, heralding the forthcoming celebration of Diwali, energetic party games with Nicky Fancy Faces for children in FS/KS1, cricket coaching by Northampton Steelbacks and an impressive rendition of Hakuna Matata by our Year 2 Boomwhacker Band! Everyone looked magnificent on Shine Bright Thursday in their colourful outfits and the CCSF Friday cake sale put a smile on everyone's face as children and parents munched their way home. The next edition of this newsletter will give a full roundup of the various activities that have taken place this week.

And finally, as many of you will know, next term will be my final term at Caroline Chisholm School. After eighteen and half years in the role of Vice Principal, the time has come for me to retire and hand over the leadership baton; so we will soon be sharing news of my successor with parents. It has been my privilege to serve this school community over so many years and it will be with mixed emotions that I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school after the half term break, refreshed and ready for the new term's learning and perhaps a very special time of celebration!



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## CCS Friends

CCS Friends is the Caroline Chisholm School Friends Association. It exists to provide close links between home and school, bringing staff and parents together to provide social experiences and fund raising to help support the school with equipment to enrich the learning experiences for the students. A project we were particularly proud to be involved with was the funding for the Garden of Hope (see next page for more details).

All parents and members of the local community are welcome to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time. The committee meets each month, usually on a Monday or Tuesday evening at 7.00pm in the primary staff room. If you would like to offer your support, please complete the [Support CCS Friends Form](#) and email to: [friends@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:friends@ccs.northants.sch.uk).

There are also lots of other ways that you can help support CCS Friends. They run the CCS Friends Lottery which is a fundraising initiative where you could win 1 of 3 cash prizes EVERY month while simultaneously raising money for the school. Entries cost £3 a month. For more details and to take part, visit the [CCS Friends page](#) on our website and download the application form. Here, you will also find details of other ways that you can support CCS Friends.

We also run a thriving pre-loved uniform shop on our website. Please visit [CCS Friends Pre-Loved Uniform](#) to grab yourself a bargain!



## Garden of Hope



We are pleased to report that phase one of our Garden of Hope, inspired by the life of our colleague Mrs Laundon, is now complete. Mrs Laundon, our wonderful EYFS practitioner, was dedicated to the care and education of our primary phase children and was always a happy and positive presence in school. This garden was created with ideas from staff, primary children and 6th Form students. Funding was kindly raised by CCS Friends, without whom this special garden would not have been possible. Work was completed in conjunction with a local landscaping company, Gardener's View, who have been so great in supporting this important project.



The new garden area can be used as a place to rest and to play, as well as an outdoor learning space. The children were very excited to see it all come together and have been enthusiastically using the space at break and lunchtimes.

Amidst the wildlife attracting plants and greenery are two large decking areas with sail sun shelters and bench seats for the children to sit on.

We are looking forward to the launch of phase two of the project which we hope will be finished by the time that school reopens after half term. This phase will come complete with an all weather pathway and a little surprise!

We'd like to whole-heartedly thank our landscaping partner Gardener's View, CCS Friends and everybody who supported our fundraising events for this worthy cause.



## Year 6 Residential 2022 – Isle of Wight

*"I wanted to say thank you to the teachers who sacrificed time with their own families to help mine grow and for my child to have the best experience of his life, I quote! He was full of stories and laughter with memories that will last a lifetime."*

*Parent*



## Dates for Your Diary

### School closes

Training day

### School reopens

Young Voices payment deadline

Year 1 Victorian Day

Year 4 trip deposit payment deadline

Year R 2023 intake tours

Year 5 Star Gazing Evening

CCS Friends Year 5 cake sale

**Friday 21st October**

**Monday 31st October**

**Tuesday 1st November**

**Tuesday 1st November**

**Tuesday 1st November**

**Friday 4th November**

**Monday 7th - Friday 25th November**

**Wednesday 9th November**

**Friday 25th November**





## Roundup in Pictures



We have had a wonderfully busy start to the year with lots of memorable moments, including some fabulous Sensational Starts. A particular highlight was our long awaited KS1 sports day which unfortunately had to be rearranged and then cancelled. Key Stage 1 had a wonderful afternoon competing in their in-house sports day. They enjoyed taking part in relays, sprints, hurdles, sack race and of course the traditional egg and spoon! We were incredibly impressed with their efforts and sportsmanship. All children showed collaboration, confidence and resilience which is part of our High Performance Learning.



## Foundation Stage



The children in Foundation Stage have been busy settling into the new routines of being at school. Our learning theme is 'All About Me' and the children have been thinking about themselves and their families. We linked our learning to the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

We have been learning all about the SMART Charter and about what it means to be sensitive, motivated and responsible.

We are developing the children's attention and listening skills by taking part in small group activities and through small group circle time. We have been working on our fine motor skills by using tweezers, threading, weaving and playing with play dough.

The children have amazed us with examples every day, within the setting.



## Year 1

In Year 1, we have been learning all about ourselves and the human body. The children have had lots of fun painting themselves and labelling their bodies.

We have also created time capsules full of information all about ourselves, ready to be opened when the children start year 6. These time capsules were sent home for safekeeping.







## Year 2



Year 2 have been designing and creating their own African masks linking to our new learning theme of 'Near and Far'. We have examined what is displayed on a traditional African mask and created our own fabulous original designs.

We have also been gathering adjectives to describe the appearance and personality of Jamela from the story Jamela's dress. The children have been writing their own paragraphs using the class ideas.

We have been learning how to use an atlas to find many different countries around the world. We have also found out about how our lives are different to other people around the world.

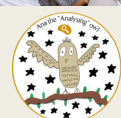


## Year 3

This term, Year 3 have been finding out all about how amazing the human body is. We have done lots of activities to help with our learning theme. We started by drawing around each other and then going on a scavenger hunt to find the major bones of the body.

Continuing with the learning theme of 'Inside Out', we have also learnt about the healthy eating pyramid and why each section of this differs in size. We enjoyed designing and creating our own healthy fruit smoothie.

In maths, we have been learning how to compare numbers, time and duration of events.. We have also found out how to tell the time using an analogue clock.



## Year 4



Year 4 started their term with their much anticipated trip to the Living Rainforest. We learnt about the ability of rainforest leaves to get rid of excess water, plant adaptations to maximise light and nutrient uptake and the way various animals are suited to life in the rainforest.

Another highlight of the last few weeks has been learning archery during taster sessions from one of our external clubs. We all learnt about the correct technique for holding a bow and shooting an "arrow". We had a lot of fun!

Other learning has included finding out about the basic parts of the digestive system and its function within the human body.





## Year 5

Year 5 settled quickly into their new classrooms with their class teachers and have got to grips with the move into upper Key Stage 2.

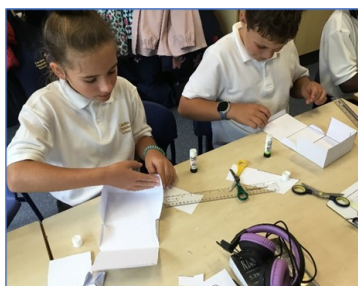
We began by researching the planets that make up our Solar system and created our own planet artwork using sponge painting. Outside, we recreated our own scale model of the solar system using fruit and toilet roll to measure the relative distances.



## Year 6

Year 6 had a great start to the year and their new learning theme – World War Two! Pupils took part in a variety of activities to start their history learning including: researching famous people from World War Two; using the secondary food technology room to make a rationing recipe and making their own gas mask box. We will be taking our gas mask boxes with us on our Year 6 residential trip later in the year when we go on our evacuee experience day.

Pupils have also enjoyed reading our class novel 'Goodnight Mister Tom'. They have used their knowledge of evacuation to write their own evacuee diary, developing their use of emotive language.



### MS Teams

In MS Teams, each year group has their own separate Team. For the younger children, this Team is used to communicate with parents, post updates and set homework. For the older children who are more able to use Teams independently, teachers use their Team to set homework and classwork, as well as communicate with children. Please make sure that you / your child is checking their Team regularly and mark posts with a thumbs up so teachers know who has seen and read their posts. 👍

If you are unsure of your child's Teams username and password, please contact the Primary Office who can resend this to you.

### Uniform - A Polite Reminder!

**This is a polite reminder that CCS fleeces and hoodies should only be worn as an extra layer on top of a CCS cardigan / jumper and should not be worn instead of a cardigan / jumper.**

Boots should **not** be worn to school; school shoes of a low, supportive style should be worn. Trainers should also **not** be worn for school, unless as part of a PE kit.