



# Termly letter to parents from the executive headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the wonderful learning that has been taking place over the last two terms.

As part of our engaging curriculum teachers have been planning exciting, hands on learning. The children in Early Years have been learning about life cycles and how to take care of animals. They welcomed some very interesting visitors which included some hens, a goat, a lamb and a calf. They have also watched live eggs hatch and observed the changes over time. In addition to this work the Reception children went on an adventure to *Wonderland* to find out more about traditional tales and fairy stories.

As part of their Science lessons children in Y1 and Y2 have been learning about animals. A visit to the West Midlands Safari Park and Chester Zoo provided an engaging entry point for their learning. As part of the theme the children took part in some very lively debates about the pros and cons of conservation.

To promote a love of reading, the nursery children from both settings wore their pyjamas for a day to highlight the importance of reading bedtime stories. Sara Griffiths a local author also joined the children for story time. The Y2 children really enjoyed working alongside Toni Williams the author and illustrator of the *Wrekin Giant*. They made their own 3D models of the Wrekin giant and gained a wealth of knowledge about being an illustrator. Toni also shared her story with the Y1 children during an assembly, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Later in the term we were lucky enough to welcome Toni and the Wrekin giant back to school when they accompanied Cllr Shirley Reynolds. During the visit every child was presented with a copy of the *Wrekin Giant*, the children were very grateful for this kind gesture from Cllr Reynolds.

As part of our Personal, Social, Health & Emotional (PSHE) curriculum we have received a number of visitors into school who have been teaching the children about staying healthy and the importance of good hygiene and dental care routines. Promoting Healthy Eating through the Telford and Wrekin (T&W) *Eat Well* project has also had a marked impact on some of our children so they make healthy choices.

The school continues to use the DfE Sports Premium funding to provide appropriate learning experiences to develop children's physical and emotional health. As a school we are part of the T&W *Future in Mind Project* and our school coordinator

planned a wealth of activities for the children to build resilience during *Children's Mental Health Week*. Our children continue to regularly take part in Forest School activities in the school grounds. These sessions not only help to support children's emotional well-being but they also learn about bio diversity and conservation. This kind of work carried out by the children has helped us to achieve the Eco Schools Green Flag status. Look out for the flag flying in our school grounds.

Ensuring children are physically fit is one of the core aims of our curriculum. Many children have taken part in a number of sporting events this term such as Multi Sports Skills and athletics. As part of a fund raising event the Olympic athlete Kristian Thomas came into school and worked with the children to complete circuit training. As a school community we are very proud to have raised funds to support Kristian on his next Olympian adventure.

Other visitors from the local community this academic year have included Rev Debbie who has attended our school assemblies to teach children stories from the Bible. Mr Smith from *Amazing ICT* who works with the children and teachers every Tuesday to deliver the Computing curriculum. You will be aware that the children have delivered an assembly to parents to raise awareness of how to stay safe online. When the Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP and Lucy Allan MP made a visit to school they were particularly impressed that children in Early Years and KS1 were able to talk about how to keep themselves safe online. They were also amazed at how well the children were mastering programming skills at such an early age.

When children sing or play music they become better readers, thinkers and learners. Music and singing is at the heart of our curriculum. T&W music service have delivered a number of workshops for children to develop their musical knowledge and skills. They have had opportunities to play instruments and improve their singing techniques. The school also offers private piano lessons for children in years 1 and 2.

Offering parents support is important to us. This academic year we have provided Family Learning courses as well as the Incredible Years Parenting Programme.

As a school we appreciate all you do to support us. The children have been able to take part in many more learning opportunities because of your contributions. Thank you so much!

Yours sincerely

*Denise Garner*  
Executive Headteacher