



Friday, 5th January 2024

Happy New Year!

We welcomed happy, smiley children back to school pleased to see their friends again after the holidays. Children are enjoying settling back into their daily routine and have been eager to share their Christmas news and adventures.

Children have keenly started their learning through the introduction of their new class topics for this term. Details of each year group's curriculum and learning will follow shortly.

On Thursday we were visited by Christine Hawkes, our qualified Thrive practitioner. Christine is working in school for 3 days a week, also developing our new nurture room provision. Children have decided they would like to call this room 'The Thrive Hive!' The inspiring 'Thrive' approach will further support our social and emotional curriculum.

We are very much looking forward to an exciting Spring term ahead. It has been wonderful to see everyone again this week. Have a great weekend, Mrs Ives

Our Class Books

Squirrels

The Magic Faraway Tree by
Jaqueline Wilson

Foxes

*I was there in 1066 – The
Norman Conquest*

Badgers

Who let the Gods out!

Mrs Jack's Recommendation

The Girls by Lauren Ace and
Jenny Lovlie

Four little girls are best friends and 'as different as they are the same'. One is an adventurer, one has good ideas, one is practical, and one makes everyone laugh. They stay rooted together as they grow, just like the tree they used to play beneath

Key Dates

Monday 8th January

Guitar and music lessons begin again

Visit from our Maths Hub partner

Tuesday 9th January

Swimming lessons begin for Foxes class

Tuesday 9th January

Badgers class begin PE lessons at Witham Hall

W/b 15th January

Extra-curricular clubs begin (details to follow)

Wednesday 17th January

Visit from our English Hub partner

This week's award winners are:

Squirrels Class

The achievement award for Reception goes to Delilah for great wheelbarrow skills and teamwork.

The achievement award for Year 1 goes to Jonathon for sharing and working well with his friends to create some fabulous buildings.

The achievement award for Year 2 goes to Darcy for her participation and thoughtful answers in our class discussion.

Foxes Class

The achievement award for Year 3 goes to Riley for a fantastic drawing of a Norman soldier on a horse, inspired by the Bayeux tapestry.

The achievement award for Year 4 goes to Eddie for role play in history, persuading others of why he would make a great candidate for King for England!

Badgers Class

The achievement award for year 5 goes to Daniel for some fantastic work and observations during wood school.

The achievement award for year 6 goes to Charlie for some fantastic observations drawings during wood school.

PE Days

Tuesday: Foxes go swimming

Wednesday: Badgers at Witham Hall

Wood School

Wednesday: Squirrels

Thursday: Badgers

Friday: Foxes

Attendance

Well done to Badgers Class with 88.6% attendance this week.

Our whole school

88.4%

Squirrels Class - EYFS

This week our Reception children have enjoyed exploring and working outside together, tidying up the leaves and sharing with our friends. We have worked together to create a display for the reading corner in the Y1 and Y2 base.



Squirrels Class – Year 1 & 2

This week we have worked together to create a new class charter. We had a lively discussion thinking about behaviour for learning to work well together.

We worked with the children in EYFS to create a display for our new reading corner.

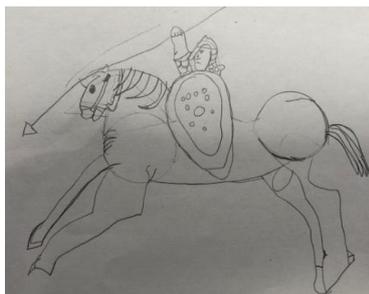


Foxes Class

We enjoyed engaging with new learning and vocabulary through our topic for this term which is '1066'. We learnt about Edward the Conqueror, King Harold, and the invasion of the Normans in the Battle of Hastings. We saw how this has been recorded in the famous Bayeux Tapestry.



We made some observational drawings inspired by the tapestry, looking at form, shape, and how to draw horses.



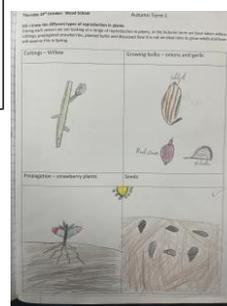
In maths we learnt about multiples of 10 in Year 3 and factors and product in Year 4, continuing our learning of multiplication.

Badgers Class

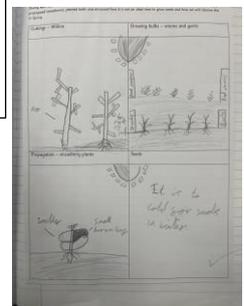
As part of our Wood School lessons, we are linking these to the national curriculum Science objectives, one of which is to observe how plants grow over the year. We made our initial observations in October (Autumn) and again this week at the start of Winter. Can you see any changes in the observational drawings below?

Charlie's Observations

Autumn

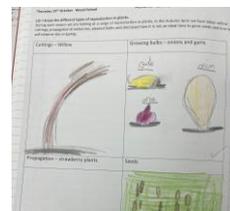


Winter

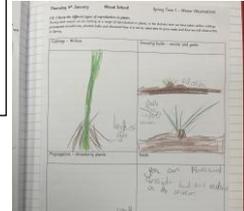


Poppi's Observations

Autumn



Winter



Wood School – Badgers Class

Badgers Class started their new term of Wood School this week by playing a variety of team building games as well as looking at the plants in the allotment and observing the changes. In October, they planted garlic, red onions, shallots, and strawberry plants. We went back to see how they have changed. The bulbs they planted have all grown! Some shallots have not come through, so we wondered if an animal has eaten them, or will they take longer to grow? We will go back and see which it is next term. We are learning what plants need to grow and reproduce and discussed why at this time of year we do not see as much growth. The strawberry plants are very small and brown, so we observed how they die off in winter. We were most shocked by the willow we are propagating in water. Some had no roots growing at all but as we checked more out, we noticed some are growing lots of roots!



Garlic, red onions and shallots



Strawberry Plants

