



MILE OAK NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 21ST JULY 2022

Summer 2 Newsletter



We have reached the end of another academic year at Mile Oak and what a year it has been for the school! So much progress and development has happened and following our recent Ofsted inspection, we can now officially say that Mile Oak is a good school, an achievement that the whole community should be immensely proud of.

Our pupils continue to be wonderful ambassadors for the school and represent the values that we hold so dear. They have worked incredibly hard this year and deserve a summer of rest and relaxation ready for another amazing year in September.

Thank you to all the staff who work unbelievable hard, every day, to support all the children. Their commitment shines through in all that they do and we feel so lucky to work with such a talented and inspiring staff team.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who work so hard to support the school and their children. We appreciate all that you do and the kindness and warmth that you exhibit to staff. Our community is so much stronger when we are a committed team of support around our children.

We wish you all a wonderful and well-earned summer break as families and look forward to continuing our journey with you next year.

Mr. Lording



AMBITION



RESPECT



PRIDE



COURAGE

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU!

Unfortunately, it is at this time of the year that we must say goodbye to a number of Mile Oak staff.

Mrs Gale, our wonderful Deputy Headteacher, has been successfully appointed as the Headteacher for Queen's Park Primary School in Brighton. We will miss her immensely but are absolutely delighted for her and know that she will be an incredible and inspirational leader for the school. She will be leaving Mile Oak at the end of the autumn term in December. The school will begin recruiting for a new Deputy Headteacher in September and we will update parents once we have successfully appointed an individual to the role.

Miss Wilcock, who has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Mile Oak for 30 years, is retiring. She worked for many years in the Early Years and most recently Year 4. Mrs Wilcock has wonderful relationships with staff and pupils alike and she has demonstrated incredible passion and commitment to supporting the children of our school. Her contribution to the growth and development of the school has been significant. We will truly miss her so much but wish her a restful and well-earned retirement.

Miss Ruble, who has been the class teacher for Hazel Class this year, will be leaving the school in search of a new adventure. She is a kind and thoughtful teacher who understands the needs of pupils and the support that can be provided to them. We will miss her warm smile and thoughtful nature but wish her all the best for the future.

Mr Mote, who has worked as the class teacher for Cherry Class and supported writing groups in Year 6 is leaving to pursue a new challenge. A thoughtful, caring and reflective teacher, Mr Mote will be missed by the school and we thank him for the impact he has had this year. We know that he will continue to be successful and make a difference to the lives of children.

Miss Bonito, who has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Mile Oak for two years, will be leaving the school this summer. She has worked in Years 2 and 3 and more recently has been having a huge impact by supporting individual pupils across the school. Her kindness towards the children will be missed and we hope that she experiences continued success in the future.

Mr Unsworth has supported the Year 5 team throughout this year and has focused his time in Elder Class alongside Mr Vickers. His positive and thoughtful nature has meant that he has formed strong relationships with the children and staff. We will miss his positivity next year and wish him luck in his next adventure.

Miss Brown has supported Year 5 with her time spent working in Walnut Class alongside Mr Conboy. She had previously worked in the school as a supply teacher and it has been wonderful to have her as a constant presence this year. Her calm and patient nature has had a positive impact on so many of the children and she will be missed next year.

Mr. Lording

THE LIVING CLASSROOM



Teeming with life is what springs to mind this half term! The Living classroom is in full bloom and that is down to the dedication of all the children who come along during their breaks to water and weed (and eat strawberries, raspberries, and gooseberries!) We have also had success with beetroot, Kale, onion, leeks, tomatoes, broccoli, cabbage, salad, peas, and beans all sown by the children from seed. It has been really rewarding for these children to grow and nurture their garden and to learn how food is grown.

As well as produce we also have nesting activity in all four bird boxes we put up in the spring! The living classrooms resident wood pigeon has also laid two eggs in her nest.



The Meadow area has really been a success too, Reception enjoyed a pollinating workshop with the Sussex Wildlife trust who came in to help the children make seed bombs. The lady could not believe the depth of their knowledge and was also blown away with their skills at rolling perfectly shaped seed bombs. Dough Disco paying off!

During Science week I took each class in Years 3, 4, and 5 to test our new sweeping nets and bug viewers. We identified 5 different butterflies, 6 different Moths, grasshoppers, crickets, ladybirds, and bees. We learnt what ecology is and the importance of a rich biodiversity and how it affects us all.

THE LIVING CLASSROOM



The small groups I have been working with in the afternoons have continued to work well together, our focus has been communication and how this benefits teamwork. We start each session taking it in turns to talk, I often start with a silly 'would you rather....' type question and move around the circle. Then we set about our task. I always take a back seat and let the children lead and problem solve.

At the end of each session, we sit and talk about what worked well and what we could have done better. The children are all learning valuable life skills and watching them form positive and supportive relationships together is incredible.



THANK YOU

Thank you to all the gardeners, compost collectors and weeders and wishing all the Year 6 children a happy bright future.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR SIX



It has been an extremely exciting and thrilling half-term for year six, with a jam-packed schedule after SATs! The children have had an unbelievable time and they have worked extremely hard. We have included some of the highlights from this half-term:

Crime and Punishment walk

As part of our crime and Punishment topic, the children went for a tour around Brighton, collecting gruesome murder stories as they went and visited places such as 'Murder Mile'. In the afternoon, the children searched for graffiti around the town and found some creative and grotesque examples of it.

Residential:

This year's residential trip was fantastic. The children had the opportunity to experience activities that they would never normally have the chance to do such as rock climbing, all aboard, scrambling, kayaking, and many more. Lots of the children were very brave, especially those who had a fear of heights, because lots of the activities were very high up. One of their favourite nights was the campfire, due to the fact that they could be as loud as they wanted to and they could embarrass their teachers! The children had an amazing time and they were very appreciative of the staff, who made their experience unforgettable.

Activity week

For activity week, the children experienced a plethora of activities. First, they went to Blackland Farm and they scrambled up large rocks and under tight spaces; zip lined off of a tree, and then they all went onto a supersized paddleboard and ended up in the reservoir! On the second day, they had a forest school themed morning and went into a beautiful forest to do some bug catching and ended the day off with some water games because it was very warm. On the final day, they went to the cinema with some delicious popcorn and went bowling in the afternoon. Everyone who attended activity week had a great time.

Summer fair:

For the summer fair, the children had to create their own stalls for the younger years to try and they made all of their own resources and posters to advertise their games. The charity chosen for the fair this year was 'Chestnut Tree House' a charity that helps children who are in hospital or coming to the end of their lives. It was a beautiful sunny day and everyone had an amazing time. We are pleased to announce that the children raised £311.72 for Chestnut Tree House.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FIVE



Year 5

It has been a fun-filled and busy final term in Year 5.

We had some good weather for our Art Walk along Brighton seafront. The children were enthusiastic about finding and discussing a number of sculptures along the way. We even got to enjoy an ice-cream on the beach.

Later in the term, we took part in some very important workshops run by the charity Little Lifesavers, who gave every child life-saving tips on what to do if someone is choking or they stop breathing.



We got thoroughly stuck into Science week and our investigations led us to find out more about climate change. By the end of the week, the children had a far greater understanding of how serious climate change is, what causes it and how we can prevent it. All of the children performed wonderfully to explain this in their Science Week Celebration event the following week.

The children are showing that they are ready for Year 6 and are looking forward to a range of end of term activities.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FOUR

Year 4

Topic – Year 4 had a great end of year here at Mile Oak. We have learned about the race to the South Pole where Robert Falcon Scott sadly failed to return from his expedition and the successful adventure of Ernest Shackleton which the children have documented in their own Powerpoint presentations. We learned how to go on a successful expedition so we set out to discover the historical buildings of Portslade Village using a map. When we got back into the classroom, we then had to work out the shortest route to Mile Oak Farm from school.



RE – To support our learning in Religious Education, we visited Father David at The Church of the Good Shepherd.

There we learned more about what Christians use the church for; what the stained glass windows depict and that the candle of light and the altar, are the two most important items in any church. What can you see in the stained glass window?

Poetry - We have created a poetry trail with the poet Kay Walton where every child wrote a wonderful poem about our beautiful school grounds with all of its nature and wildlife.

The poetry trail will be used by every class next year to support language, literacy and performance as well as allowing the children to engage with the natural world and the environment.

Science Week – During science week we watched a wonderful show with Dr Jasmine who taught us how clear plastic can be turned into rainbow plastic with a light source and 3D glasses – you may have seen this at our science fair/assembly. Back in the classroom, we carried several fair tests about magnets and electricity, as well as finding out whether hot or cold water freezes first!

We also looked at the Tiny World through microscopes and electron microscope images. We thought they looked so nice that we decided to draw them.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR THREE



Wow, what a busy Summer Term Year 3 have had! All children have continued to 'Think Big' in everything they do and we are so proud of the ambition they have shown this term and throughout the year. We began this half term with a trip to Brighton Museum where we learnt the skill of embalming. We had lots of fun removing organs and wrapping our Pharaohs in preparation for the afterlife!

To continue our understanding of this process and to support our learning of writing instructions, we then mummified an orange! As part of our creativity learning, we designed and made Canopic Jars, developing our clay work skills by using both the coil and pinch pot method as well as learning how to manipulate the clay to form heads of the Ancient Egyptian gods.



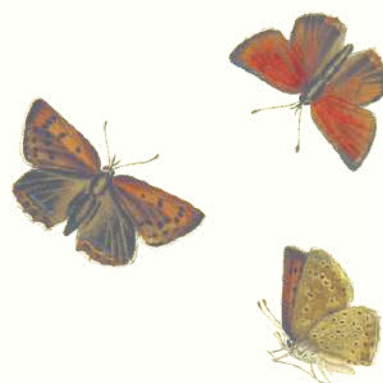
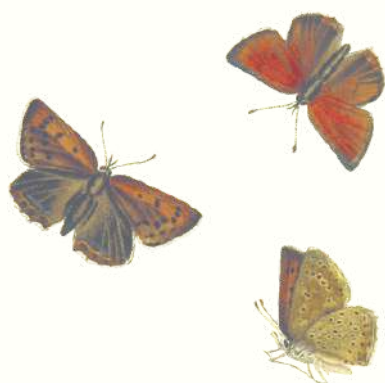
A MESSAGE FROM YEAR THREE

Science week gave us the opportunity to further explore the natural world.

Mrs Thomas helped us to meadow sweep and we were able to find a vast array of wildlife. We were all surprised by the amount of butterflies we were able to observe within our grounds. We learnt how to look after our natural world and the steps we can take to make sure we protect it. This included an investigation into how micro plastic can be released from our clothing and end up in our seas. We also loved the opportunity to combine music and science with our song about the paleontologist Mary Anning! This half term we have delved deeper into the world of flowering plants by looking at what is held within the petals of a flower and how these parts are so vital in the lifecycle of plants.

Once again, we headed to the garden to bring our learning to life.

We even found out that flowers can be taller than us!



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR TWO

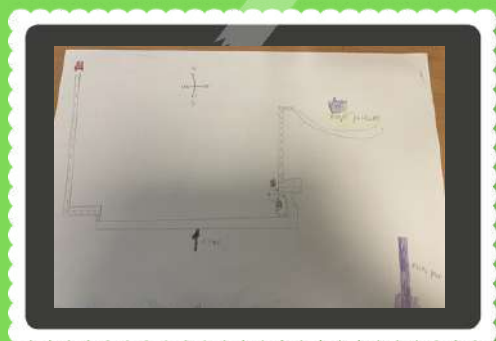
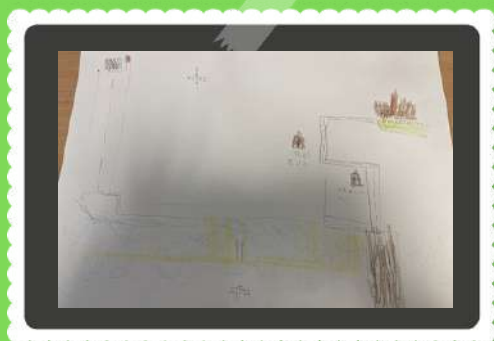
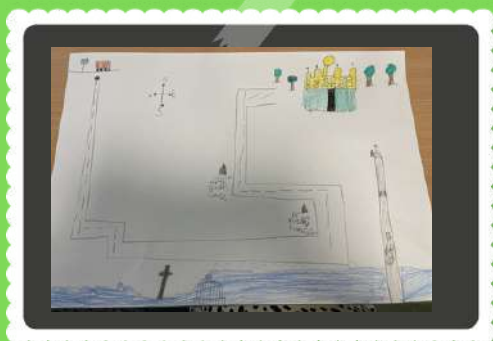


Year 2 have loved our topic 'Beautiful Brighton'. We have learnt all about Martha Gunn and her significance in Brighton's history. We had great fun on our school trip where we saw some of the places she would have visited. We plotted our route from the trip onto a map of our own and we also made some amazing artwork of Brighton seafront.

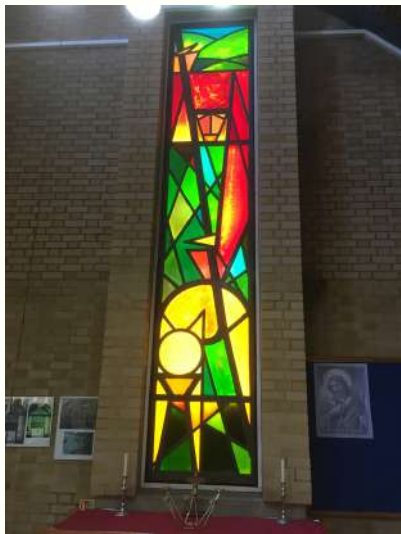


The Year 2 team are incredibly proud of the children for not just an amazing half term, but a brilliant year! They have worked so hard and have made the most wonderful progress since September.

Well done Year 2 and have a fantastic summer!



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR ONE



Year 1 are really enjoying our Summer term.

We have planted seeds, visited the Church of the Good Shepherd, made fantastic wheeled vehicles AND have been throwing eggs out windows. More on that story later....

Settings and Seeds

As part of our learning in English we have been reading the text of Jack and the Beanstalk in depth.

This has led to beautiful setting pictures, as we have imagined our own fantasy world at the top of the beanstalk! This has then led to excellent descriptive writing. These will be coming home at the end of term.

In Science we are learning about plants and what they need grow. We have been amazed at how quickly our class Bean has grown! Each child has planted seeds and these pots will be coming home to continue to nurture.

Church visit

Father David kindly hosted our Year 1 visit to our local church, the Church of The Good Shepherd.

He told us about how the church, and its key features such as the font and alter, are used. The children asked interesting questions and listened very respectfully. We are very proud of them.

Wheeled vehicles

As part of our Design and Technology Learning, children have designed, assembled, joined and decorated their own vehicles! We discussed which vehicles travel further and why, and which designs we liked. Learning technical language – axels and chassis - and evaluating our work has been an important part of this task. These will be coming home soon!

EGGSCITING NEWS...

Science week. We have exggslored flight and gravity, making predictions and observing what has happened.

Using the text 'Egg Drop by Mini Grey' as our stimulus, we have got in Science groups, agreeing and designing the EGGsperiment – dropping an egg out of the top window of the Science bus and seeing if it remains intact! Spoiler – they all broke! But to different degrees.

We have made paper planes, making predictions about which paper or card makes the best plane. We have used our wheeled vehicles to discuss force and friction, predicting which car would travel furthest and why....



A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



What a wonderful term we have had here in **Reception**. We have been learning about where we live through our topic 'Here's Looking Around Me'.

Our first stop was Mile Oak itself. We looked at habitats within school, searching for mini-beasts in our garden and at Forest School. During our Living Classroom sessions we planted seeds and made seed bombs. We had an interesting visit from Sussex Wildlife Trust who told us all about bees and pollinators. Our last adventure around Mile Oak was a visit to Mile Oak Farm. The farmer and his team were so kind. They helped us to answer our big science question of 'What animals live in Mile Oak?' Back at school we made maps of our trip around the farm. We shared the story 'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson which also has a map of a farm in it.



A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



Next we started to think further afield. We shared a story about all the people who help us in our town during the night, 'All Through the Night' by Polly Faber. This led to many role play adventures of firefighters, police officers, medical staff, construction workers and refuse collectors. We even had a visit from a real life scientist during science week. It was great to think about all the people who help us without us even knowing.

Alongside this fun we have welcomed our local preschool settings and supported their transition to our school. It has been lovely to see the Ladybirds and Dragonflies being so grown up and supportive. It has also helped them see how they have grown and changed.

Our half term culminated in thinking about our lovely city of Brighton and Hove. We have learnt about ocean pollution using the story 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' by Sarah Roberts and can talk about how we love our city and want to look after it. We had some fun thinking about pirates and their sea-based adventures, using our imaginations to be pirates ourselves. We also thought about our real seaside and what people like to do when visiting the beach. Our final trip to the I360 was a fun-filled adventure in the sky. We loved seeing our city from a different perspective.



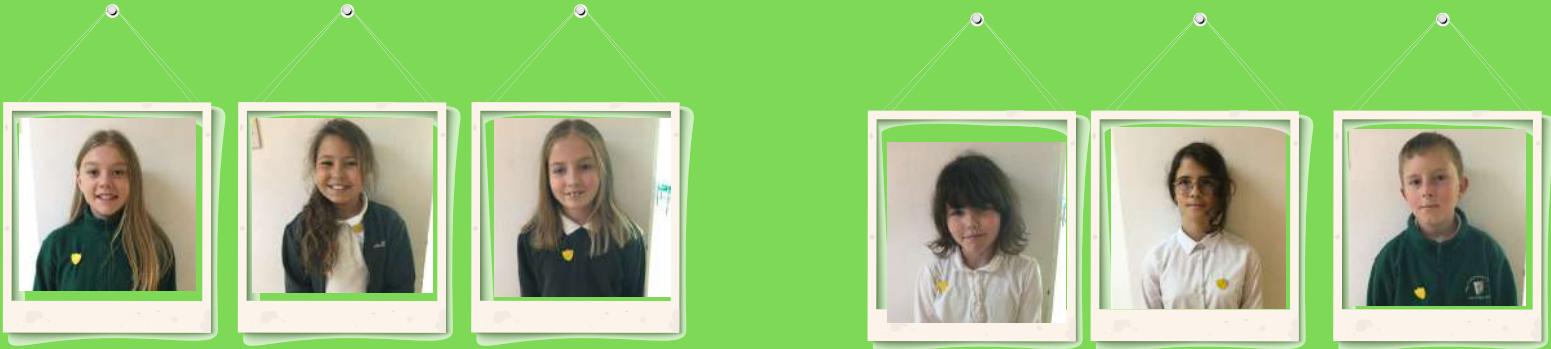
We have had a wonderful year. The children have started their learning adventures at Mile Oak School with such enthusiasm and have shown great perseverance and courage. Well done Reception!



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



Reading!



We have so much to celebrate about reading at Mile Oak this year. We have made changes to the way it is taught across the school and have seen the children make fantastic progress as a result!

Our newly organised Junior Library was restocked with a whole range of new books at the beginning of the year and it has been fantastic to see how much the children have loved the new library system and new books. At the beginning of next year we will see a similar system in the Infant Library so children will have a wide range of books to choose to take home.



We want to say a huge thank you to our brilliant librarians who have worked extremely hard during their lunchtimes to keep the library tidy and organised. They are also always around to recommend books to children around the school.

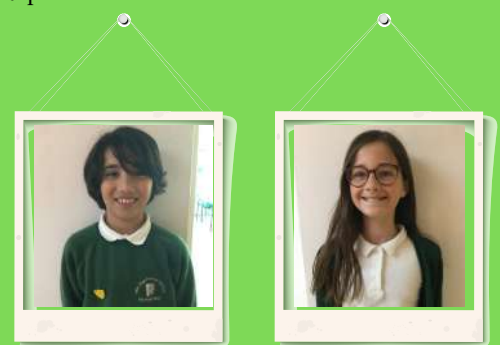
We have also introduced lots of new class reading books and these have led to the children producing some fantastic reading and writing work. There really is a buzz about reading across the school and it has been great to hear about all of the new books the children have been reading.

The half termly Book Swap has been a huge success and we have been overwhelmed by so many generous donations from our Mile Oak families. As it has proved to be so successful in promoting a love of reading and exposing children to more books, this event will continue next year. More donations are always appreciated to help us continue this event.

World Book Day was a highlight of the year and we celebrated with a whole week of reading activities, culminating with reading fluency performances to fellow pupils and a dress up day and reading celebration assembly on the Friday. So much effort was put into children's costumes



Next year we have even more exciting things coming up for reading at Mile Oak and we can't wait! We also really hope you are signed up to your local library and get involved in the Summer Reading Challenge.



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



Well what a productive year we have had! Our children certainly use all of our school values when they are writing, with their ambitious ideas and word choices! It has been an immense pleasure to lead writing this year and hear the excited buzz in each class as they immerse themselves in the latest writing project. It is important for us as teachers to create exciting writing stimulus, which help the children to unlock their imagination and this year we have done that through using high quality books; this gives them a meaningful context for writing.

Language and talk underpins each lesson and we ensure our learning environments are language rich. Part of the writing process, is to experiment, share ideas and make improvements to their writing. Allowing the children to make changes to the work, gives them the confidence to experiment and be courageous with their thoughts and ideas.

We promote every child as a writer, which means that each child has pieces of writing celebrated across the school. For me, I love to see the children's excitement as they see their work displayed for everyone to see. The children take a real pride in it and love to talk about what they have learnt. We are looking forward to reading their high quality writing next year as they embed the learning from this year in their new class.

Have a lovely summer. Why not support your child to complete some of these writing challenges over the next few weeks:

- 1) Write a postcard
- 2) Create a story that includes a map and a rusty old key.
- 3) Find out about something that interest you and write and report.
- 4) Retell your favourite fairy tale. This could have a modern day twist to it.
- 5) Read lots of books- this helps no end, with writing ideas.



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



We have had a fabulous year across the school in Mathematics.

Reception and Key Stage 1 have adopted a number facts scheme called Mastering Number, which has proven to be very successful and popular with children and teachers.

In Key Stage 2, children have continued to develop their times tables knowledge and we are really proud of Year 4 for completing the times table check.

We continue to be impressed by children's resilience in Maths and their desire to challenge themselves. We were especially proud of the children during our Ofsted visit. The inspector's made numerous comments about how wonderfully the children engaged in Maths lessons and described it as a strength of the school.

We are looking forward to relaunching Times Table Rock Stars with new features and rewards within school. We will provide parental support with this in the new school year. We are looking forward to continuing to develop our role as a lead school within the Maths Hub next year.



Summer term in PSHE:

In year 6, we talked about gender stereotypes and the children used examples of stereotypes in newspapers and magazines to create posters raising awareness of this.

In year 5 we have looked at what secrets are safe or unsafe to keep from others. We have discussed who we should talk to at home or school if we are feeling unsafe.

In year 4 we have been reading Badger's parting gift. We have learnt about what it is like to lose someone and how we can manage our feelings with the change or loss.

In year 3 we have learnt about what it means to be safe and have practised recognising unsafe and safe situations. We have learnt about the early warning signs and what feeling we may experience in different scenarios. We have assigned colours to how we feel at different times.

In year 2 we have looked at change and the emotions people feel when faced with different scenarios. We have learnt how to manage the feeling we may experience and how to self regulate our emotions.

In year 1 we have discussed the scientific vocabulary for our body parts and the ways in which we are similar and different to each other.

In reception we have learnt all about moving forwards and changes through our 1 decision videos. We have discussed what we have enjoyed this year and what we are looking forward to in the year to come.

OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



PE and school sport have been a huge success at Mile Oak this year. One of the largest achievements has been the number of clubs that have been offered this year, including breakfast club, tag rugby, ultimate frisbee and many more. Next year, we aim to increase this number even further to ensure that the children are being provided with a variety of opportunities and are participating in at least sixty minutes of physical activity every day.

There has also been a plethora of sporting opportunities outside of school, both participation and competitive events, which the children have immersed themselves in. One of the most exciting events was the Withdean athletics competition, where our children represented the school flawlessly and returned with numerous medals! The school will continue to partake in many sporting competitions and festivals across the city next year to give our children further sporting opportunities and inspire them to continue taking part in different sports.

Cycling will also be a large part of our sporting calendar next year as our 'Bike It' initiative will take off and give our children the chance to consolidate their cycling skills that they already have, or learn a completely new skill. This is something that we are extremely excited about going forward. Thank you for all of your support this year.



Music has four main components in our teaching and learning – listening, playing, composing and appraising – saying what we like or don't like about sounds, songs and music. Highlights in Music teaching include:

Reception enjoyed using instruments to add to role play adventures including at the theatre, under the sea and during a mini beast ball. They played various rhythms on drums for dragon dancing while exploring Lunar New Year celebrations. Both Reception and Year 1 classes have enjoyed the visiting African Drumming workshops. Year 1 explored composition – looking at pictures and exploring what sounds might be heard, and using percussion instruments to 'tell' a sound story, using Little Red Riding Hood as the stimulus. Year 3 have particularly enjoyed their unit on Gamalan music, finding out about the history of this music and exploring sounds on metallic tuned instruments. Year 5 recently enjoyed changing the lyrics to well-known popular songs to make them all about the Ancient Maya. This helped the children to learn lots of new information as well as to sing and perform brilliantly.

Next year we look forward to developing the topic links further in our Music planning, making links with subjects such as Science, story books and Art.



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



There have been many exciting and enlightening things happening in Science throughout the school this year and we are proud to have received recognition of the wonderful learning children have been doing.



The Year in Science culminated in another successful Science Week. Children were excited to take home their Family Science Packs and to explore these at home. Thank you to those of you who sent in photos of what you got up to. If you haven't yet completed the pack, you might want to dig it out and see if there is any more fun to be had.

On the Monday of Science Week, all of the children got to watch a Science show put on by the inspirational Dr Jasmine Pradassitto. Both of these activities were generously funded by FOMO.

Children in all year groups completed a range of Science investigations throughout the week. Many children got to do some meadow sweeping and minibeast identification with Mrs Thomas. The event was capped off with lots excellent costumes, which were worn for the dress-up day on Friday – thank you for all your hard work with those!

Finally, it was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers into school the following week for the Science Celebration Events.

We are looking forward to another inspiring year of Science next year, when we will be focusing on driving our learning even more through the use of **Big Questions**.



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



There have been many History highlights across the school this year – this is just a snapshot! Year 1 have enjoyed learning all about Amelia Earhart, the first female pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Year 2 loved having Rainbow Theatre visit in January to bring The Great Fire of London to life! All children became part of the show, and it helped them gain a great understanding of the events. After, they produced fantastic diary entries in role as Samuel Pepys. Year 3 have been fascinated to learn about Ancient Egyptians. They had an amazing time at the Brighton museum, partaking in a mummification workshop. The children got to mummify a Pharaoh and squealed with excitement (and disgust!) when they pulled the brains out through the Pharaoh's nose!



Year 4 have really enjoyed learning about Romans. They were lucky enough to make 'wine' in the outdoor living classroom with Miss Thomas. The children picked the grapes and took their shoes off to squish them! They also used herbs from the garden to make a pesto to enjoy with bread, yummy! Year 5 loved participating in a Maya workshop; they handled objects, made calendars, and learnt all about Pok-A-Tok (An Ancient Maya ball game). Year 6 went on a crime walk around Brighton as part of their 'Crime and Punishment' unit. They listened curiously to famous crime stories that have taken place in Brighton! This then gave them a great stimulus to create their own crime stories. Of course, the whole school were delighted to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – a dress up day, a show, games on the field, and a special party lunch in the playground made the day a day to remember!

Next academic year the children have many History topics to look forward to! Over the Summer holidays, how about delve a little deeper into the history of our very own area? You'll be surprised at what you learn! Visit this website to explore the local History of Portslade: <https://www.portsladehistory.co.uk/>



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE



The children have really enjoyed learning about the world around and have learnt some really valuable geographical skills here at Mile Oak this year.

Here are some of this year's geography highlights across the school:

Reception: Reception have loved finding out about places around them. They have been to Mile Oak farm and have been to Brighton to fly on the I360. In their play they have built models of faraway places such as London and Paris.

Year 1: Year 1 have enjoyed learning about our place in the world, called 'Me on the Map', using the text by Joan Sweeney and they are able to locate the countries in the UK. Year 1 have also enjoyed looking in detail at the African county of Kenya, comparing human and physical features to the UK.

Year 2: Year 2 were so proud when their fieldwork project proposals won some money to improve the school grounds! It will be exciting to see this develop next year. They also loved their trip to Tilgate Park, learning about the physical and human features and comparing them to Mile Oak.

Year 3: Year 3 loved learning about the Europe and exploring France in detail. They also became experts when using the atlases to explore Europe and the countries within it.

Year 4: Year 4 had a wonderful time observing the human and physical features of a river and coast line at Shoreham-by-Sea. The children also began their map drawing skills at this time and mapped Shoreham using ordinance survey symbols. Later in the year, the children used these skills to map the local area of Mile Oak and Portslade Village.

Year 5: Year 5 immersed themselves into some writing where they imagined looking at the Earth from the International Space Station, recognising and describing the shapes of countries and geographical features.

Year 6: Year 6 loved their trip to Lewes Railway Trust where they learnt about Rivers and drew some fantastic geographical sketches, using some amazing geographical vocabulary to support these.

We are really excited to further instil that love for geography here at Mile Oak and will be placing a real focus on fieldwork in geography, during the next academic year. The children will be exploring our fantastic school grounds and the surrounding local areas, equipping them with invaluable skills to use now and in later life.



OUR CURRICULUM UPDATE

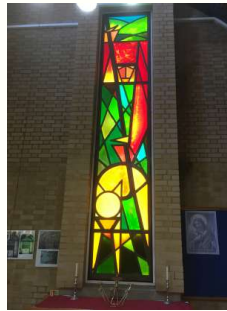


Religious Education!

We have continued our learning of Religious Education by always starting with a question which will encourage us to 'Think Big'. This has enabled us to dig deeper into the core beliefs of the main world faiths.

We have once again been able to take our learning out into the wider community by exploring the Church of the Good Shepherd. Many year groups have had the opportunity to explore the church, identifying the features of the building and how they tie in with Christian beliefs. We have also been able to have Father David visit our classes to enrich our understanding of the Christian beliefs we have been learning.

Next year, we will continue to learn about the main world religions and we aim to enrich our learning with visits to St Nicholas's Church, a Mandir, Mosque and Synagogue to support our curriculum. We will also be exploring how religion is represented within art and music across the world.



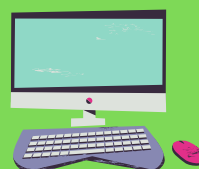
Computing!

Computing lessons have had a wonderful boost this term with the arrival of 30 new laptops. The children have thoroughly enjoyed using them and have completed some great projects. The Year Three classes were the first to get stuck in, making some fantastic presentations to support their history topic.

All pupils have access to Purple Mash from home <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/mile>. Their log in information is inside their home reading journal. Please let us know if you need this information again.

We continue to have digital literacy as a core theme at Mile Oak. The children can talk with such knowledge and confidence about how to stay safe online. They are proud to be confident digital citizens.

Here is a link to a great site for parents and carers helping us to keep up with our children's increasing knowledge <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/parenting-digital-age>



CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Based on the ongoing work with our parent/carers and staff diversity working party, each half-term we will be sharing information about all of the wonderful people within our community. This could be further information on gender, culture, religion, heritage, neurodiversity, sexual orientation, disability and much more! This week, to launch our new section, we are very lucky that Jess Rollinson, one of our year 4 pupils, has written a piece about having a stammer.

Stammering is when someone struggles to say a word or they have to try to say a word properly even if it takes them a few tries. This is completely OK and normal. Let me tell you a story.

There was a boy named Milo. He had a best friend named Jay. Milo and Jay play together all of the time because they are neighbours. They play tag, hide and go seek, climbing and many more fun, outdoor games. One day a girl moved into the big, old house across the road. "Look a new neighbour with a big garden," said Jay.

"Oh, yes!" Said Milo.

The next day, Milo went and knocked on Jay's door. His mum answered and said, "Jay has gone over the road to Suzie's house."

Milo replied, "Suzie! Who is she?"

"She is the new girl who lives just across the road," she said.

The next second, Milo was jogging over the road to the new girl's house. As he was peeking over the fence, he saw them playing together. "That's mine and Jay's game!" he thought.

Suddenly, he had a weird feeling in his tummy. Then a big, green-eyed monster popped out of thin air. As soon as he appeared, he started to tell Milo very negative things like, "Jay is not your best friend anymore and he was never your friend in the first place." Said the big green-eyed monster. Milo instantly believed the monster and started spying on Jay and Suzie. "They are playing all of our favourite games!" Said Milo in his head.

One week later, Milo was playing in the park when suddenly Suzie popped up behind him and said, "Are you still friends with Jay? He is ever so upset and thinks you're not best friends anymore!" Then Milo realised that the big green-eyed monster had been lying to him the whole time. Suzie and Milo ran to Suzie's garden where Jay was sitting looking hopeful.

"I am so sorry." Said Milo and Jay in unison.

"I forgive you," said Jay.

"Me too," said Milo.

From that day on, Suzie, Jay and Milo all played together.

Soon the big green-eyed monster disappeared.

"D-Do you think that I can strange because a stam-stammer," said Suzie.

"Definitely not," they both said! "You are our new best friend."

This story shows that it is completely OK to struggle to say words, whether it is because of a stammer or because you can't find the words to say. Just remember, say what you have to say, do what you want to do and do not let anybody stop you.



NEXT TERM

Topics for Autumn 1

Reception - Here's Looking Around Me

Year 1 - Out and About

Year 2 - London's Burning

Year 3 - Stone Age

Year 4 - The Tudors and Explorers

Year 5 - Ancient Greeks

Year 6 - Vikings

Please visit the school website and select your child's year group to view the curriculum overview for their year group. This details what children will be learning in each subject.

In addition to which concepts and time periods children will cover, the curriculum maps show the language which will be taught.

As a school we focus on the development of children's capacity and confidence to use speech to express their thoughts and communicate with other.

Please discuss the language used on the curriculum maps with your children at home.

Core Reading Texts for Summer 2

Reception - Monkey and Me: Emily Gravett

Owl Babies: Martin Wadell Oh Dear: Michael Rosen

Year 1: Town Mouse Country Mouse Richard Jones/Libby Walden

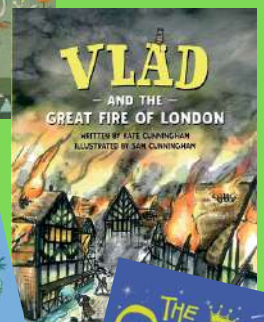
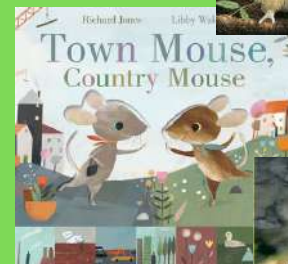
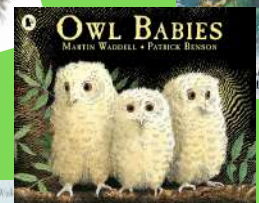
Year 2: The Great Fire of London- 350th Anniversary Edition and Vlad and the Great Fire of London

Year 3: Stone Age Boy and Stone Age Hunter Gatherers

Year 4: The Queen's Token and Kings, Queens, Scribes and Ferrets

Year 5: Percy Jackson

Year 6: Beowulf and Viking Boy





September

Thurs 01.09.22 Inset Day

Fri 02.09.22 Inset Day

Mon 05.09.22 First Day of Term

Wed 07.09.22 Year 2 - Visit from Rainbow Theatre

Thurs 08.09.22 Year 5 - Ancient Greek Workshop

Mon 12.09.22 Year 6 - Viking Workshop

Thurs 15.09.22 International Day of Democracy

Wed 21.09.22 Year 1 local walk - Goldfinch

Thurs 22.09.22 Year 1 local walk - Starling

Mon 26.09.22 Spanish Day

Tues 27.09.22 Beech Class School Trip - Details to be confirmed

Wed 28.09.22 Year 4 Trip to Hamilton Court Place

Thurs 29.09.22 Chery Class School Trip - Details to be confirmed

Fri 30.09.22 Time to Talk - Details to be confirmed

October

Mon 03.10.22 Individual and Sibling Photographs

Thurs 06.10.22 National Poetry Day

Fri 07.10.22 Time to Talk - Details to be confirmed

Mon 10.10.22 Ladybird visit to the Library

Mon 10.10.22 World Mental Health Day

Tues 11.10.22 Dragonfly visit to the Library

Fri 21.10.22 Last day of Term



AMBITION



RESPECT



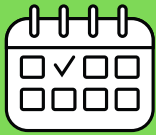
PRIDE



COURAGE



OPEN DAYS FOR RECEPTION STARTERS 2023/2024



Dates and Time



- Friday 30th September 2022 9:30am
- Wednesday 12th October 2022 1:30pm
- Saturday 08th October 2022 10:00am
- Tuesday 01st November 2022 1:30pm
- Thursday 17th November 2022 9:30am
- Tuesday 29th November 2022 9:15am



2022



Ofsted commented that, 'Pupils feel happy and safe at this school. They know that staff have high expectations for all pupils. Staff encourage pupils to follow the school's vision and 'Think Big' about what they can achieve in the future. Pupils are proud to belong to the school and they enjoy the range of experiences on offer. Mental and physical health are strong themes in the school's work to support pupils.'



AMBITION



RESPECT



PRIDE



COURAGE

MILE OAK SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mile Oak Primary School

"THINK BIG"

Safeguarding Team

Mile Oak Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children. We expect all members of our school community to share this commitment.

We are all alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow agreed procedures to ensure that all pupils and families feel supported, protected and kept safe.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or would like to request further support yourself, please contact one of the safeguarding leads, detailed below.



*Mr Lording
Headteacher*



*Mrs Gale
Deputy Headteacher*



*Ms Bennett
SENDCo*



*Mrs Foster,
Learning Mentor (DDSL)*

If you need to contact one of the safeguarding team, please call us on 01273 077114 or email office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk and mark it 'FAO the safeguarding team'.

COMMUNICATION

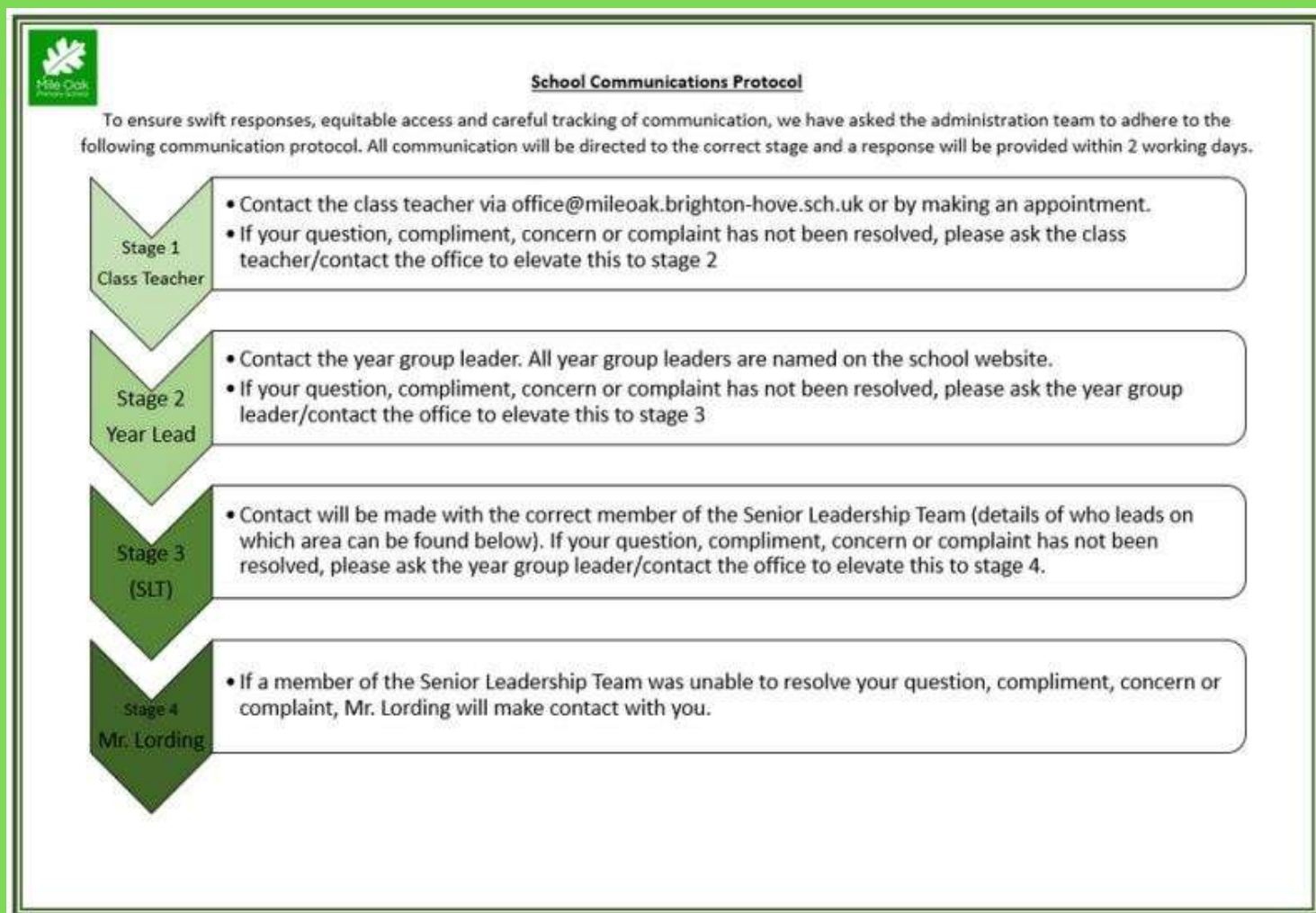
We have received excellent feedback regarding our new communication protocol for staff and parents. All communication is logged by the admin team and tracked for a response.

Whilst it can sometimes feel simpler to grab a teacher at the end of the day, this means staff are not able to supervise children who they are releasing to parents. Before school, it is vital that teachers can fully prepare for the day ahead and many of them run early morning interventions. In addition, our wonderful admin team track communication which means it does not get lost in a busy email inbox or become a forgotten question at the end of the school day.

Once initial communication has been made, staff will respond within 2 working days. If a face-to-face meeting is required, the relevant member of staff will make an appointment for a mutually convenient time.

The Admin team are very happy to take calls, emails or even messages in the postbox outside of the reception area and will ensure your query, concern or compliment is passed on to the correct members of staff.

For more further information on our communication protocol, please visit our website.



Mile Oak Primary School, Graham Avenue,
Portslade, BN41 2WN



01273 077114



office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk



<http://www.mileoakschool.co.uk>

Summer Reading Challenge 2022

GADGETEERS

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.



The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that pupils develop the habit of reading widely and often for both pleasure and information.



Organised by charity The Reading Agency (www.readingagency.org.uk) and the UK public library network since 1999, the Summer Reading Challenge is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11.

The Summer Reading Challenge combines FREE access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and young volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading.

How the Challenge works

- Children sign up through their local library and receive a Gadgeteers collector poster.
- Children set a reading goal and borrow and read library books of their own choice during the summer, collecting special stickers to complete their poster and extra incentives along the way.
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to advise and run family-friendly activities.
- Children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge are presented with a certificate
- The official Challenge website hosts digital rewards, author videos, games and more for children to enjoy all summer:
www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

It's FUN! It's FREE! It's LOCAL!

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2022

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend from 25th July - 4th Sept 2022

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal during the school holidays

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

YO! SUSHI

Kid's eat free from 3pm-5.30pm, Monday to Thursday until 1st September 2022

THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

From June 27th kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend

MARKS & SPENCER CAFE

Likely But Not Yet Announced

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

MORRISONS

Spend £4.99 after 3pm daily & get one free kids meal (usually all day during half term)

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat breakfast free with every adult breakfast, daily from 9am - 12pm.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Monday to Thursday

CAFE ROUGE

Kids eat for £1 when you order one adult's main meal. Excludes Saturdays

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Only valid Wednesdays but on all day

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto

FARMHOUSE INNS

Likely But Not Yet Announced

Copyright of MONEY SAVING CENTRAL