1 John 4:7 Let us love one another, for love is from God.

Learning together and worshipping together

October Newsletter

What a very busy and exciting start to our new school year. The building work is now progressing at speed, and we are on track to move into the new classrooms on the 23rd November. We cannot wait!

News from Robins - Whoosh, Swish, Swoosh! Exploring the Wind!

Our learning began by following the children's interests when one child discovered the joy of throwing leaves into the windy air and watching them dance and swirl! This sparked our curiosity and inspired us to become weather explorers. We shared the story *Rosie's Hat*, which helped us explore the exciting things that can happen when the wind catches something and carries it away. We headed outside to observe how the wind made the trees move, learning exciting new vocabulary such as *sway* and *gust*. We brought the wind to life through a wonderful windy dance, twirling and swirling our scarves, before becoming artists and painting what we imagined the wind might look like if we could see it. We also developed our pre-writing skills by creating zigzags, swirls and wavy lines, just like the movement of the wind.

To finish our windy adventure, we designed and made our very own kites before heading out onto the school field to watch them fly. What a wonderful afternoon of fun, curiosity and learning we had!

News from Wagtails

In Wagtails, we have been busy exploring and learning all about our wonderful world! We began by thinking about where we live before discovering the differences between villages, towns and cities. We then zoomed out to explore our country before venturing even further afield to learn about the seven continents and the oceans of the world.

The children have loved bringing their learning to life through actions to help them remember the continents. Ask your child to show you the actions at home and see if they can remember them all.

The children were very excited to learn about hot and cold countries and which animals lived in each. This linked beautifully with our science unit 'Habitats around the world' helping the children to understand the different environments.

We enjoyed reading the end of our Lost and Found book about George and his friendship with penguin. After learning lots about penguins and their habitat, the children wrote some beautiful final pieces which they look forward to showing you at Parents' Evening.

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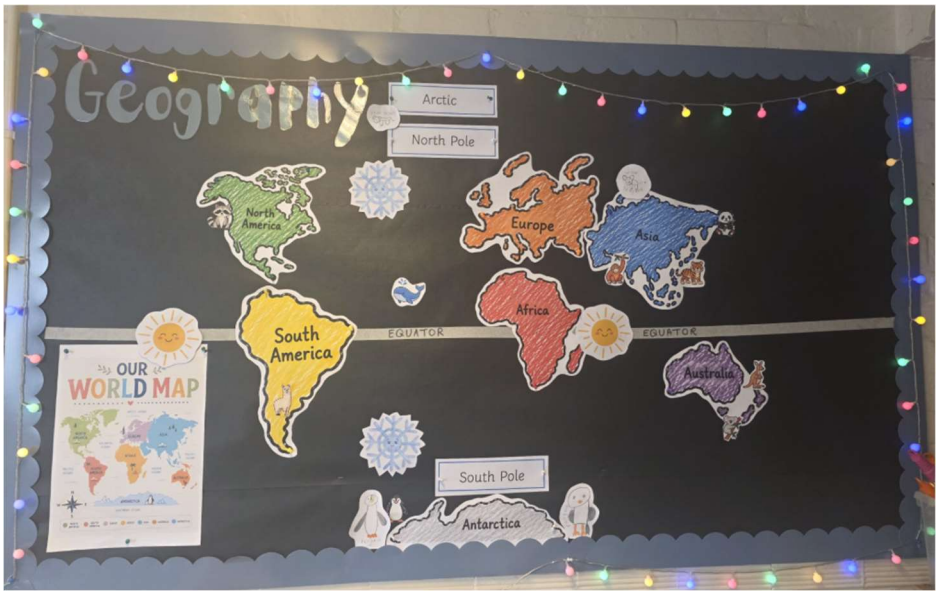

In PE, the children have been developing their creative movement skills by exploring and choreographing dances using a variety of twists, turns, jumps, travel patterns and sequences. They have also been working hard to improve their tag rugby skills, practising teamwork, passing and game strategies. These skills were put to excellent use during the recent tag rugby tournament, where we were proud to take two enthusiastic teams to compete at the high school.

In Science, we have been investigating sound and how it travels. The children have conducted a range of practical investigations, exploring how sound moves through different materials and testing which materials are the most effective at insulating sound and preventing it from travelling. Their curiosity and enthusiasm for scientific enquiry have been fantastic to see.

VIVA Initiatives

As in previous years we will be creating shoeboxes full of lovely presents to send to children in Eastern Europe as Christmas gifts, raising money for Children in Need and marking Remembrance Day. The Vivas shared a little about these initiatives with the children, when leading their first Worship and will send out further details to families very soon.

News from Kingfishers

In Kingfishers, we have been learning all about computing systems and networks. The children have explored how devices connect and communicate through networks, learning about the important roles of switches and routers. They have discovered how networks connect to form the internet, how websites are stored and shared through the World Wide Web, and how online content is created, uploaded and accessed. We have also discussed the importance of being critical online and understanding that we cannot always believe everything we see or read on the internet.

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VIVA Appointments

We are very pleased to announce that our Tushingham Viva's this year are :
Sophia and Finley (Wagtails) Jude and Elias (Kingfishers) Eva, Rosie, Ruben and Elora (Tawny Owls)
Congratulations to these children, but also to all the children who took time to write and present application speeches to their classes. The staff were very impressed by the high standard and the pupil votes were very close in all classes.

Harvest

On Thursday 8th October, the whole school enjoyed our Harvest Service at St Chad's church. Donations for Whitchurch foodbank were displayed at the front of the church, as children from each class shared readings and poems and the theme of Harvest and being grateful for all that we have in our wonderful world. Rev Veronica also shared thoughts, reminding us that our school is like a pumpkin with the children being little seeds inside, ready to grow and make wonderful contributions to the world. The children beautifully sang four harvest hymns, including Autumn Days and the children's favourite 'Cauliflower Fluffy' with the service ended with a special sung prayer from our youngest children in Robin's class. Thank you to all the parents who attended this lovely service and for all your generous donations to the Harvest food collection.

News from Tawny Owls

In Tawny Owls, we have thoroughly enjoyed making the most of the autumn sunshine while taking part in a variety of invasion games. We have proudly represented the school at several sporting competitions hosted by the high school, and the children have been fantastic ambassadors throughout. We have celebrated many sporting successes this term, including excellent performances in the cross-country event, taking two teams to the tag rugby competition and achieving an impressive third place in the hockey tournament.

In music, we have begun our clarinet lessons with Mrs Holmes. She has been amazed by how quickly the Year 5 children have developed their skills and started to play confidently.

In English, Tawny Owls have been using the film and book *King Kong* as inspiration for writing exciting adventure stories. The children have worked incredibly hard and are very proud of their achievements, and we have enjoyed celebrating their fantastic writing together.

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The Roost

We are delighted to introduce The Roost, the new name for our wraparound care, inspired by our new bird theme across school!

The Roost is run by Miss Baldwin and Mrs Proctor. We are pleased to have welcomed Mrs Proctor to the team at the start of this school year. Many of the children will already know Mrs Proctor from her previous role as a midday assistant at Tushingham.

Morning care runs every day from 7:45am to 8:45am, providing children with breakfast, time to play and the opportunity to catch up with friends before the school day begins.

After school, we offer a range of fun and engaging clubs from 3:20pm to 4:20pm, with activities changing each half term to keep things fresh and exciting. For Autumn 2, our clubs will be:

- Monday: Christmas Crafts
- Tuesday: Spinning Tops
- Wednesday: Play-Doh
- Thursday: Cooking
- Friday: Christmas Games

Alongside these clubs, children are also welcome to attend our general after-school wraparound care, which runs until 5:50pm. To make things as flexible as possible for families, the sessions are split into three time slots: 3:20pm–4:20pm, 4:20pm–5:20pm and 5:20pm–5:50pm. This allows you to book the childcare you need to suit your family's schedule.

All bookings and payments can be made easily through School Spider.

We look forward to seeing the children enjoy all that The Roost has to offer, providing a welcoming space to play, create, learn and spend time with friends before and after school!

Refection on our value of generosity

This half-term we have been looking at how God is generous and how, through our actions, we can show generosity too. The Bible presents God as the ultimate example of generosity. In John 3:16 , it is written, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." This act of giving is the cornerstone of Christian faith, demonstrating the depth of God's love and His willingness to give the greatest gift of all, so that through Him, we can have everlasting life.

We wish you a lovely half-term full of autumnal festivities. We will see you back in school on Tuesday 3rd November. Every blessing, C Mackenzie

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Diary dates

31st October		Closing date for admissions for current Year 6 pupils to apply for their Secondary School Year 7 place
Monday 2nd November	All day	INSET Day
3rd November	11am	Flu immunisations
3rd November	3:30-6:30pm	Parents evening
Week beginning 9th November		Interfaith week
10th November	3:30-6:30pm	Parents evening
Week beginning 16th November		Anti-bullying week
19th November	4-5pm	Year 3/4 sports hall athletics
20th November	All day	Tawny Owl visit to RAF Cosford
23rd November	All day	INSET Day
25th November	All day	Kingfisher visit to Liverpool world museum
28th November	10am-2pm	St Chad's Christmas market and Christmas Tree Festival - All welcome to a variety of stalls, refreshments and Christmas songs sung by our children.
29th November		Advent Sunday
1st December	Performance starts at 2:15pm	Kingfishers and Tawny Owls visit to The New Vic Theatre to see 'The Borrowers'
2nd December	2:15pm	Christingle service in church - Parent to pick children up from St Chad's if not joining us for the service.
4th December	3:30-5:30pm	FoTS Christmas fair
7th December	5pm	Wagtails Nativity
8th December	2pm	Wagtails Nativity