



# Rogate Review

1<sup>st</sup> half of the Autumn term 2021

7<sup>th</sup> Edition

With the first half term of the new school year under our belts, it's time to reflect on the first part of the Autumn term. The children have all settled into their new classes so well and, with the relaxations in Covid restrictions, it has been wonderful to feel the school so alive again. Although Covid is very much with us still, the removal of class bubbles has allowed us to re-introduce our daily whole school worship in the hall and enabled all the children to play freely together at breaktimes. The sense of 'whole' and 'together' that this has brought back to our school community cannot be measured but it has been noticeable how much positivity this has released in the children and the friendships being formed across the school are a pleasure to see.

The school was involved in the village's Great Big Green Week celebrating all things creative! Each child contributed by making their own recycled flower, from nothing more than brown paper. The final display, which was absolutely stunning, was put up inside the church, alongside other contributors from around the locality and it received high praise from all who saw it.



Harvest was also celebrated in church and, for the first time since the Covid pandemic, we were able to share this occasion with a congregation full of parents and families of the school. The children shared their harvest prayers and songs and also collected a very generous amount of food donations which were donated to charity. Chichester Foodbank have expressed their appreciation for all of your very generous donations, thank you all very much.

We have also shared some very thought provoking whole school sessions thinking about our feelings and how to express them, on World Mental Health Day and considering racism in the community, as part of Show Racism the Red Card Day.

The Wrens have settled so well into school and we are all so very proud of them. This term we have enjoyed spending time together and getting know each other better. We have been focusing on building our new rules and routines together so that the Wrens are comfortable and confident with what will happen during their school days.

We celebrated the beginning of a new season with Autumn walks and harvesting the apples from our orchard. The children helped to chop the apples before cooking them into Harvest Muffins.

The focus this term has been to develop Personal, Social and Emotional skills, Physical Development and Communication and Language skills. The children have been learning to use talk to build new friendships and talk about their experiences. They have also been using their senses to explore objects and play with new vocabulary to describe how they feel, sound, smell and look.

The Wrens have really enjoyed exploring their classroom and resources and we would like to thank the RSFF for funding our new outdoor sandpit. Thank you so much!

The children greet Mrs Hockley and Mrs Stonehouse with a huge smile every morning and we cannot wait to see what new learning awaits us next term. Well Done Wrens!



Starlings, have been learning about 'seasides' around the UK and how they have changed throughout history. They had an exciting day trip to Hayling Island where they explored the shoreline and used their senses to describe their surroundings. It was a blustery, showery day but a very enjoyable one nonetheless and one which, for most of the children, was probably their first school trip ever! Back in the classroom they have also shared lots of stories from home about their own seaside experiences and also those of their parents and grandparents in the past.

They have also written their own guide on how to be a pirate. Their inspiration came from their experiences whilst building their own pirate ship outside the classroom, dressing up in character and acting out their own brilliantly imaginative stories.



Kingfishers have travelled back in history, going from the Stone Age to the Iron Age this half term. They watched a virtual tour of The Lascaux Caves in France and this inspired the children, not only in their cave painting, but also to write their own cave poems, using lots of lovely descriptive vocabulary. They have created some amazing Stone Age model houses from natural resources. They are also enjoying the book, 'Stone Age Boy', which is about a Boy who travels back in time to The Stone Age and learns about life in a Stone Age settlement. This story was used to help inspire them to write their own Stone Age time travel stories.

They have also undertaken some interesting investigations about bones and muscles, thinking about who they might belong to, how they work and what their functions are in the body.

Their trip to Butser Ancient Farm was an interesting day, packed full of activities, where they looked at how humans lived in those early times. They built walls from wattle and daub, breaking up chalk (clutching) and looking at how people made and used flints.



Red Kites have made a fantastic start to the new term. The children have enthusiastically embarked on their study of the Rampaging Romans and their progress across Britain, producing some wonderful descriptive writing. They have been re-establishing standards of handwriting and presentation, with many of the Year 5's already re-earning their pen licences. They've also worked hard on maths, particularly in consolidating times tables. In science they have carried out some interesting experiments to explore the movement of the sun and moon in the sky, from our perspective on earth. In art, links have been made with Harvest Festival to produce some lovely pictures based on the work of Arcimboldo.

The children have also successfully organised a cake sale as part of the Macmillan Big Coffee morning to raise vital funds for Macmillan cancer. They raised an incredible £138.68 for this worthy cause. Thanks to everyone who supported this event, both by making cakes and eating them too!



Additionally, the year 6 children were invited to Easebourne School for a morning as part of their Inter-faith event. They met representatives from various religious groups in the area and were able to gain an interesting insight into the lives of those from very different faiths.

Of course, the real excitement for our Red Kites this half of the term has been their residential trip to Fairthorne. The children's activities included orienteering, kayaking, crate challenge, raft building and generally lots of mud and water!! They children returned to school buzzing about all the new challenges they had faced, the skills they had learnt and also the amount of fun they all had!



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