



1 October 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for the tremendous support and encouragement you have given to your children as they have been learning poems this week. There has been great fun and laughter in school as the children have enjoyed poetry week and all the associated activities. A particular highlight has been the class poetry recitations.

Each child has been applauded and cheered on by classmates. It has been brilliant to see the variety of poetry that has been shared, and how confidence has grown as children have presented their chosen poems.

It is wonderful to see our children responding to each other with encouragement, joy and sensitivity. They are shining examples of our values in practice.

Enjoy finding out more about Poetry Week, below.

Poetry Week



'See it like a poet!' This has been the tag line for the week as the children explored poetry from different perspectives. The week started with members of staff treating the children to recitals on the theme of vision. Throughout the week, each year group was hard at work.

Reception Diamonds learnt a poem collectively, 'The Nut Tree' and wrote their own short poems entitled, 'When I close my eyes....'

Year 1 Pearls developed their knowledge of adjectives and similes in order to create poems about Autumn.

Year 2 Sapphires explored rhyme in different ways and worked towards writing their own colour poems.

Year 3 Rubies studied the structure of poetry using a step by step tutorial by Simon Mole. They then focused on using creative word choices and metaphors in their own poems.

Year 4 Emeralds observed nature in the garden and used this as inspiration when writing Japanese haiku poetry.

Year 5 Topazes studied 'The Word Party' as a stimulus for creating their own version. They also used imagery of the natural world to create free verse with their poetic language.

Year 6 Aquamarines spent time honing their performance skills - making use of creativity to develop an emotional connection and interactive link with their listener.

Last week, every child was challenged to learn a poem by heart in order to perform it to their class and yesterday, the children held their own class recitals and voted for the best performances.

The finalists were:

Kezia and Ethan in RAW

Leonore and Matilda in Year 1

Daniel and Henry in Year 2

Sophia in Year 3

Isabel in Year 4

Walid in Year 5

Emily and Edward in Year 6.

Some of these highlights will be available to watch on the parent protected part of our website, from Monday.

We are immensely proud of every child for learning and performing their poem. A huge 'Well Done!' to everyone for all their efforts!

I am Kitty
I am Kitty,
Football kicker, game striker, treehouse reader,
Brave lizard
Word wizard,
I am a poet.

Kitty 3HC

Reception Diamonds

It feels as if the Diamonds have been with us forever, already! They have settled so quickly and got to know each other so well. We have read and talked about two familiar stories this term: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell. We acted the stories out, painted parts of them and some of us even wrote some of what the characters said. We love Bill in *Owl Babies* because he always says,

"I want my Mummy!" but we have been too busy playing, learning and enjoying ourselves to miss our mummies too much!

Here are some photos of what we have been up to:



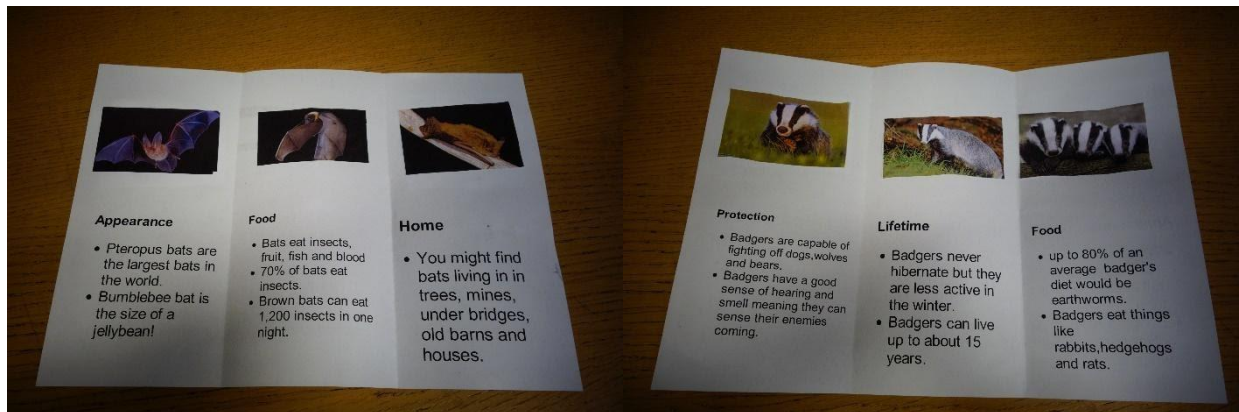
We painted owls, made leaf owls and wrote captions from the story.

We also created Autumn tree pictures and discussed what happens to the leaves during Autumn.



Year 3 Rubies

Last week, the Year 3 Rubies were busy diving into the world of non-fiction, creating their own informative leaflets about animals. They harnessed and honed their research skills, using the internet to find out a wide variety of fascinating facts on their chosen topic and considering subheadings to focus their attention on key details. Finally, they used Purple Mash to produce wonderful leaflets to rival the knowledge of even Sir David Attenborough himself!





During our Relationship Time lessons, the Year 3 Rubies have been inspired to take a closer look at nature, delighting in the extraordinary creativity we can see around us. We decided that a big part of enjoying the natural world involved finding ways in which can support it, sustain it and preserve it. We discussed some of the wasteful ways in which we lived, and brainstormed ideas for how we could be “stewards” of our planet.



We took two lavender plants and carefully took cuttings to plant for ourselves, hoping to grow lots more brand new plants as a result, thus increasing the number of lavender plants for us (and the bees!) to enjoy next year. We will have to keep a close eye on them over the next few weeks to see if any have been able to grow roots!



Year 4 Emeralds

Year 4 Emeralds wrote Haiku inspired poems for you to enjoy

In Dolphin's Secret Garden

One robin clearing
Its throat to the day's dawn
Ahead of singing
Genevieve

Black and yellow stripes
Super Furry honey bee
Watch out for the web!
Amelia

Lavender sprouts here
Bursting into bright purple
Lovely as always
Felix

Bright green, sparkly sage
That smells strongly of pure
mint
And lavender too!
George

The robin rested
Skinny legs on the dark tree
Flitter, fly away
Milla-Jane

Medium grey bucket
Stuck in the bucket tower
Tree in the garden
Tami

Yellow and black bee
Sucking in all the nectar
Back to family
Reuben

The potato was
Sitting on the ground by the
Stinky, smelly sage
Kitty

Yellow, black, yellow
It's a bee, a wasp, a fly?
No, it is a wasp!
Ameya

Beetles on a leaf
Huddling to try and keep
Warm, to stay alive
Layla

Spider made a web
A wasp flew into the web
Spider eats dinner
Noah

A robin moving
Swiftly and silently through
Branches of a tree
Zoe

Black bug tumbling on
A sunflower leaf, snoring
Oh no he's falling
Sofia

The light soft flower
With white stripes, amazingly
Resting for winter
Isabel

See crawling woodlice
In the soil it stays warm
It runs really fast
Abigail

Year 5 Topaz

National Poetry Day 2020



Year 6 Aquamarines

In Relationship Time, Year 6 have been focusing on the wonders of God's creation and how it inspires us. Phoebe was inspired to write this poem, which captures creation beautifully.

Inspired by creation by Phoebe

You saw the darkness before the beginning of time
Had a dream, a vision of a world.
You gave it day of beautiful lime,
And night to fold his velvet cloak around.
Blessing the world with silent slumber.

Gave us speech to share your wonders,
So the power of God is never forgotten.
Put the power to write in our fingers,
And incredible animals for us to look after.
To live in harmony forever more.

Who was it that placed trees in the rich, brown earth?
The magnificent Ash and the sweeping Birch.
Roses of beauty and created with love.
Your dazzling power overwhelms me,
We fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim,
You are the One.

Coronavirus

Under current measures, people are being asked not to meet outside in groups larger than 6, including children. This is a particular challenge at school drop off and pick up. Thank you, parents, for moving quickly away from the entrances as this helps to keep the pavements clear for passers-by and reflects the government's guidance for limiting outside contact. Some parents have asked about wearing masks at pick up and drop off. Of course you may do so if you wish, as everything that we can do to maintain social distance and adhere to government guidance helps to minimise risk of transmission.

Individual Photographs

We will have a (COVID-19 safe) school photographer coming into school for individual school photos on Monday 12 October. On that day, please ensure that your children arrive in their school uniform, hair coiffured and smiles sparkling. If pupils have PE on that day, the PE teachers will plan their lessons taking into account that pupils will be wearing school uniform. Pupils will not need to change into PE kits at school. For this day only, the pupils may wear their school blazers.

To keep school bubbles intact we will not be able to take photos of siblings together. However, sibling photos will be created by digitally combining individual shots.

Wandsworth Foodbank – Harvest Invitation

On Tuesday 13 October, pupils are invited to bring contributions to school for the Wandsworth Foodbank. Donations will not be brought into the school building, but at morning drop-off there will be an outdoor area demarcated for the items. Some of our wonderful parents who are also Foodbank stalwarts, will deliver our contributions to the Foodbank warehouse.

Please note that this time slot 08:30 – 09:00, is the only time that donations can be made in kind. Please refer to the list of suitable items below.

- Can openers
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned fish
- Biscuits
- Ketchup
- Chocolate
- Shower gel
- Packet soup (not tins)
- Noodles

Alternatively, you may prefer to make a cash donation to the Foodbank by [donating online](#) . Whichever way you give, you would be helping to ensure that the Foodbank would have enough food to meet rising local need in winter.

Outdoor Parents' Prayers: 9 October

Many of you will know that Parents' Prayers usually takes place in the Music room each Friday, but we have unfortunately been unable to gather together since lockdown. However, we are going to try an experimental prayer meeting on Friday 9 October. We will meet on Wandsworth Common at 09:10, opposite the top of Wakehurst Road. Social distancing will be necessary, and in order to comply with requirements regarding numbers, it will be necessary to book beforehand by **7 October**. The meeting will last half an hour. Please let Mrs Saunders in the office know by email receptionist@dolphinschool.org.uk if you would like to reserve a place.

We very much look forward to seeing you there, as it is one opportunity for coming together as a community.

For those new to the school, Parents' Prayers is a gathering where we thank God for our children, families and staff, and pray for their needs in an informal and relaxed way. We usually sing too, but will not be doing this again at the moment, COVID-19 restrictions being what they are.

With best wishes

N. S. Baldwin

Mrs N S Baldwin
Principal