



Be who God
created
you to be and
you
will set the
world
on fire.



Friday 24th March 2023



This week, across the school, the children have been completing their assessments. Assessments are important for the teachers to ensure they can effectively plan next steps for the children's learning. The process is not about what 'mark' a child gets, it is about identifying if and where there are gaps, so that these can be addressed in the summer term. We have been extremely impressed by the focus and resilience shown by the children. Well done to all!

The children have continued their Science learning this week. Years 5 and 6 particularly enjoyed the "KNEX Challenge", where they worked in teams to create a crane. This was a great way to develop their problem solving skills! Their level of creativity and tenacity they demonstrated was inspiring. The wheels are already in motion to book more workshops for the whole school to enjoy. Once again, thank you to the PTA who fund much of our enrichment activity. Year 4 experimented to find which materials have the highest noise cancelling benefits, something, I'm sure, the Year 4 team were glad to have discovered following their "straw pan pipes musical" experiment! Take a look over on the next page at some of the fantastic Science learning from this week.

On Wednesday, we had a visit from 'Joy of Movement'. Speaking to the children about the importance of physical activity, the connection between the body & mind, meal planning, hydration and balanced diets. The 'Joy of Movement' is aimed at inspiring children of all abilities to move through play. They commented on the children's abundance of energy and how well they threw themselves into the outdoor activities.

It was so wonderful to see so many join us for our "Book Look" on Wednesday. The children (and teachers) were beaming with pride to have the opportunity to share their learning, hard work and dedication they have been applying to their learning this year so far.

On Thursday we welcomed our local Librarians, Alison and Ingrid from Abbots Langley Library. They came with a variety of books for the children in Year 1 & 2 to look at and tell them all about our local library and the wonders it brings. They were most excited to hear you get a library card! And even better, that it is for free! The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit and listening to a story. Visiting your local library with your child is a great way to encourage a love of books and reading. I encourage you to visit yours.

Yesterday evening we met with our Governing Body. We are extremely grateful to have such a nurturing and supporting team of dedicated volunteers. Working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers, they are committed to provide excellent education for our children, ensuring that the school is continually developing and improving. We look forward to welcoming our Governors for more school visits in the summer term.

Year 4 made their way to our local Parish (Our Lady & St Michaels Church), for Mass this morning. They were congratulated by Father Paul and the congregation for their "harmonious singing" and RE Knowledge and their "clear, confident reading". A special thanks was given to Mr Giocone for leading the congregation in hymns due to a technical issue. Well done to all St John Paull II team!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Ms Kane

Science



"We went out to the Forest School Area to search for things that fall off trees. We used a measuring tape to measure around the tree trunk. Different trees have different size trunks. There were lots of pine cones".



"We filled the cups with different materials to find which one worked the best at cancelling out noise. To keep our experiment fair we used the same tone and volume. Cotton wool worked the best".



"We squeezed the top of the straw and cut the ends off. When we blew into the straw it made a high pitch sound. The shorter the straw became the higher the pitch".



"We had 5 minutes to design and 1 hour to build a crane using the KNEK. We followed our design but made some changes along the way. We needed to add more weight to the back to stop it from tipping forward".



"We worked as a team to build the crane. It needed to be able to carry a small box. Our plan was to keep it strong and simple with a weighted center to help balance it when lifting".