

There are contributions to our newsletters from each phase of the school. This June and July we are looking back at the end of a very unusual year, which has been dominated by the Covid 19 pandemic and created many challenges for all.

By now you should have all received your child's **annual report**. Thank you for all the return slips. They have been shared with staff, and discussions and follow-ups have been made or planned if requested. All children **learning instruments** should have received a paper report, either in an envelope delivered by your child, or in the post if they weren't in school at the end of term. Congratulations to those who performed to their families and pupils who are interested in learning next year. Well done to those who passed grade exams and everyone who continued to have lessons both in school and remotely. We have met all requests for those who want to start learning in September, as they join key stage two, or beyond. There are still spaces for learning flute or clarinet – please email me directly if interested.

The children in **Ash and Beech** classes have all worked very hard this term perfecting their sentence writing; remembering the sentence rules and making their sentences interesting to the reader. In maths they have been using all the skills they have learnt throughout the year to problem solve. The children have enjoyed watering the seeds planted during last term's 'Saving the Bees' and were all very excited to see them flower this term. Sports day was held on the field with many different activities, ending with a running race down the track where the children had lots of fun cheering for their friends! To finish off the year in reception the children all enjoyed a special visit to the copse, our natural dell of trees, where they investigated the area and also had a small campfire where they tasted s'mores.

Children in **Cedar, Elm and Hazel** classes have followed a geographical theme, learning about what it is like to live in different places around the world. They have heard traditional stories from Australia, especially the Tiddalik story, and have written their own versions. They have also looked at some fantastic Aboriginal art and created their own designs. The Australian theme continued into their sports afternoon and all the children were in teams named after Australian animals. They all happily participated in team activities and running races and the Echidna team won. Some families booked for their children to take part in Bikeability and became quite skilled at balancing and propelling themselves along in preparation for cycling. Mr Lee enjoyed being in Year two, where he taught alongside Miss Sorrell. Mrs Green is now thrilled to be back in her class. Miss Kelly helped teach in Elm class during her final term of teacher training and we are all looking forward to seeing her in Cedar class next term.

Children in **Laurel, Maple and Pine** classes experienced another busy and strange half term, ending in isolation before a very full last two days fitting in their sports day and transition to meet new classes. In English, LKS2 have enjoyed working through an amazingly beautifully illustrated non-fiction book called *Atlas of Adventures*, which took them through interesting facts about several countries and all of the continents across the world. Passports were used during the book and details about different events and places were taught, as well as how different cultures and habitats thrive. In maths, the formal methods in multiplication and division were developed and they practised telling the time. During remote learning children worked on coordinates and translating coordinate points and learning about capacity. The teachers are so proud of our times table learning - each and every pupil in Year 4 making fantastic progress in their knowledge and completion of the **Multiplication Test Check** this June. Congratulations year 4 ! All three classes analysed, designed and made juggling balls in DT. They researched and tested different fillings and evaluated our final product. Thank you so much to the parent who came in to school to help with sewing the juggling balls using our sewing machines. The children all enjoyed this very much. Theme learning, both historical and geographical, has been used to research our locality, from finding out where Hoddesdon is in the world to looking at how Hoddesdon has developed through the ages from Saxon times. Art has been linked to our theme and PSHE with sketching local buildings and using pastels to create feather art. Music has brought a lot of enjoyment - practising our singing of contemporary songs and joining in with the fantastic Virtual Big Sing online this half term, it was wonderful to see the artists performing their songs.

All the children were recorded singing the chorus of 'We Are The Voice' contributing to the National Music project being presented at the Climate conference in November. In Science children have learnt about sorting and classifying living things and how to improve our local habitats to make them better for living things. Computing this term has been learning to code using Scratch, they have had great fun making our sprites move and dance. Our new Jigsaw scheme in PSHE has helped us to think about respect and friendships. French lessons finished with a fun online quiz of the things they had studied this year. The Lower Key Stage Two staff did their best to keep subjects as normal as possible for the children's remote learning in a topsy turvy time in our world!!

Children in **Year 5 and 6** have worked extremely hard during this last, very busy summer term. Within the Upper Key Stage 2 phase, pupils enjoyed taking part in a Sports Morning where the children competed for their school house in a variety of different races, ranging from sack races (which the children have definitely grown out of!) to the good old fashioned egg and spoon race. Everyone put in a great effort, but Dahl house came out victorious in the end. **Year 5** also had the opportunity to travel to John Warner School to take part in an afternoon of sports. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a range of different activities but some of the highlights include the 4x100m relay on the full size athletics track and the doubles matches in tennis. The children were completely exhausted by the end of the afternoon, but everyone had a great time.

Summer term in Upper Key Stage 2 saw the pupils learning about World War II and the impact it had on our locality. The children were very mature and showed great interest when learning about the different aspects of the war, such as evacuation, the Blitz and rationing. The children have created fantastic pieces of work based around this topic such as a Blitz newspaper report and an evacuee's diary entry.

A highlight for pupils in **Year 6** has been the two camp days, during which the children took part in a variety of outdoor activities: orienteering, raft-building, sailing, stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing, climbing and competitive bell-boating. Despite the extremely rainy weather on the Friday, the children remained enthusiastic and had a fantastic time; we are very proud of how the children took part and their resilience! One pupil commented: "*Raft building was really fun, even though all of our rafts fell to pieces – we all loved being in the lukewarm water, but got very cold very quickly when we got out!*" French, artwork, writing and maths work has been linked to the children's experiences at camp and is absolutely excellent creating a fantastic display, which can be seen on our website.

Another highlight of the half term for year six pupils has been the **performing and recording of Ali Baba**. The children did remarkably well to revise their lines, in rhyming couplets, from Christmas time when a period of isolation prevented them from recording. All performed with confidence. Mrs Wyman's background designs and costumes have helped to bring the pantomime to life and we hope you enjoy watching it as much as we have enjoyed filming it. Look out for the video appearing on the school website soon!

Congratulations to Scarlett Mills who has been awarded the annual Colin Jones Award for all round determination, effort and achievement.

Although there hasn't been the traditional, county **Moving Up Day**, where the Years Sixes usually visit their new secondary schools, the pupils have all enjoyed meeting their future teachers during safe-distanced meetings here at Roselands, or meeting them virtually. We wish the Year Sixes the best of luck as they move onto the next stage of their education.

Mr Biggs' **PE sessions and Rugby sessions** delivered by the Saracens coach have been enjoyed, together with after school clubs, as often as the weather allowed.

We are delighted to report that the old sports shed has been replaced at last, in preparation for the delivery of a range of equipment to enhance the teaching and learning of different sports. The tall fencing added to the end of Oak Wing playground has been welcomed by the older pupils as many footballs escaped each day over the low walls.

During the Summer Term, Children in Year 6 have had the incredible opportunity to **plant and nurture** over 135 saplings around the school grounds. Once Roseland's consignment of free saplings from The Woodland Trust had arrived, Year 6 busied themselves identifying areas of the grounds that would benefit from the planting of hedges, to add to our rich outdoor environment. Children used trowels and elbow grease to 'slit plant' saplings and then support each with a cane and a plastic guard.

Over the coming weeks and months, the children look forward to seeing the saplings establish themselves. Our Roseland's 'Groundlings Team' have the responsibility for overseeing the watering of all of the saplings.

Meanwhile on the field, our living willow structures have established themselves successfully and are now flourishing. Soon, our 'Groundlings' will need to continue to weave the new willow growth, aiming for a dense covering to our huts and the tunnel. In the near future, we are hoping these fantastic structures will become a welcome respite from the hot sun and a new and exciting area to explore during play.

In other news, children in Oak Wing identified suitable spots for our three new bird boxes in the Oak Garden. Our giant oak – nicknamed 'Colossal Clark', is now the proud owner of one of the boxes and the children are excited to monitor the comings and goings to the new additions.

Our local police will be coming to present prizes of Amazon vouchers to pupils who designed the winning posters for the **speed awareness campaign** on Ware Road. After a considerable delay, because of Covid19 the posters have gone to print. First prize to Johnny Moore, year 5, Second to Ben Fruin, year 6 and third to Evie Jerome in year 4.

We shall send an update and reminder of practical issues within the week before the Autumn Term starts. The first day of the next academic year is Thursday 2nd September, when we are hoping we can revert to all children starting school between 8.45am and 8.55am and leaving at 3.15pm.

I know the staff join me in thanking you for your support throughout the year. We all wish you a happy, safe and enjoyable summer

With best wishes – Jane Carson