



Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.

29th April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It finally looks like the weather is improving. Hopefully, we can look forward to a sunny bank holiday weekend. We have had a busy two weeks since our Easter break and the children have produced some amazing work.

Year 1 Drumming Session

During their music lessons this week, our Year 1 children have been learning to play an African drum. The children have been finding out about the different parts of the Djembe drum and learning what materials are used to make the drum. They have also learnt how to hit the instrument in different ways to create different sounds including the slap, bass and tone. Everyone had great fun dancing to the rhythm as a partner played the Djembe. Our Year 1 class certainly know how to move to the beat!

Year 2 – Where the Wild Things Are

Our Year 2 children have been reading "Where the Wild Things Are". They have written all about the forest that grew in Max's bedroom and the long journey across the wild seas. The children have also designed and made their own 'Wild Thing'. Mrs Griffin can't wait to hear about the mischief they get up to! 'Let the wild rumpus start!'

Drugs and Alcohol Awareness Session

On Thursday 21st April, Year 5 and 6 were visited by two representatives from an organisation called Change Grow Live. During the session, the children held a discussion about what different types of drug there are, including legal and illegal and the effects of these. Many thanks to Change Grow Live for providing the session and raising our children's awareness of such important matters.

Dance for Ukraine

Last weekend, some members of our school spent time taking part in an all-day danceathon to raise money to support Ukrainian refugees. By taking part in the event, they raised a superb £109. Well done to Ava in Year 5 and Lexie in Year 4.

KS2 Cross Country

On Thursday 28th April, over forty Excalibur children from key stage 2 competed in the annual cross-country competition. There were three separate races (Year 3/4 mixed, Year 5/6 girls and Year 5/6 boys). Everyone who participated showed a superb resilience and determination to put in their all and keep running to the very end of the race. It was also wonderful to see the support the children provided, both to each other and to runners from other schools.

There were also some fantastic individual results, with Emma coming 1st in the Year 3/4 race, Grace coming 2nd in the Year 5/6 girls race and Noah coming 1st in the Year 5/6 boys race. In addition to this, we had a number of top 10 finishers. As a result, we were crowned the overall cross-country champions for the first time ever! Well done to everyone who took part and to all the members of staff who made it possible to run the event.

Competition Winner

Last term, our children completed some activities in school as part of a Michael Rosen poetry competition. The children then had the option to submit their entry to the competition at home. I am extremely proud to announce that one of our Y6 children came runner up in the competition for her poem "Grandad's Fright Night". Well done Maisie. What an accomplishment. I hope you continue to hone your skills in creative writing. As a result of her success, Maisie has won 10 signed copies of Sticky McStickstick for the school. We look forward to receiving the books and adding them to our ever-increasing library.

Parent Survey

A parent survey has been sent out this week. It is this time of year when the leadership team in school look towards next year and start to make plans for school development. As part of this process, we elicit the views of all stakeholders in our school: children, parents, staff and governors to ensure we have a complete picture of what is going well and where improvements can be made.

Your views are important to us and we would appreciate it if you could spend a short amount of time completing the survey sent through on parentmail.

Safeguarding

During of Friday stars' assembly, our newly established Y6 safeguarding team introduced themselves and talked about all the things that we do as a school to keep our community safe. I am sure they will do brilliantly in their role. Well done to Oscar, Ellie, Jess and Will.

As you may remember, at the start of the year, we started a subscription to National Online Safety. We sent out a link earlier in the year for parents to be able to access a wealth of resources promoting online safety.

We are now hoping to achieve Certified School Accreditation with National Online Safety by the end of the year and need your help to do this. We are asking that as many parents as possible log on to the National Online Safety page on the link below and complete their "Online Safety for Parents" courses.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/excalibur-primary-school>

MMU Research Project

PLYTIME Learning and Manchester Metropolitan University are looking for year 4 and 5 children to help with a research project. Using the new FOCUS Tutoring concept, they aim to measure the impact of length and frequency of 1-to-1 tutoring on primary maths performance.

If you are interested, your child will benefit from

- 24 x 7 access to access to personalised maths practice, built around the curriculum
- Supported by up to 45 minutes of FREE 1-to-1 online tutoring each week for 6 weeks
- Plus a completion bonus of up to £20.

Numbers are limited and on a first come first served basis.

To find out more and register your interest, please scan the QR code using your camera, or visit <https://plytime.com/plytime-learning-focus-tutoring-research-sign-up/>



If you have any queries or need any further information, you can get in touch with PLYTIME via email student@plytime.com or contact the team on 07553 531399.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Jones
Head Teacher

Mr Hancock
Assistant Headteacher