



Together we grow, together we flourish

## Letter from Mrs Huish 27.05.2022

Dear Families,

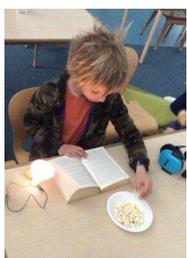
Can you believe we are halfway through the Summer term? It has really flown by with so many memories made and many more to come!

This week we were joined by Emma Bone, our Director of Education, and Tracey Cleverly, our Trust Lead, who were delighted to have the opportunity to see the children learning in class and share their thoughts on what they enjoy in the curriculum.



How do we know when things are working? We ask the children.

In the children's pupil voice survey, they said how much they are enjoying the new music curriculum and how they are now getting much wider opportunities to use musical instruments in their weekly lessons. These are some of their comments ***"I like that we have more music because I find music relaxing and calming," "Music lets you express your feelings. Some music is calming, and you can play classical music to calm you, but if you want to let your feelings out, you could play rock." "I like that in music we can use our value of creativity because you can decide how the tune goes."*** There was a particular strength in the pupils who have had the opportunity to work with the musicians that we have invested in this term: Jason Singh and Kip Pratt. ***"I really liked it when we did the playground chants because it brought the music alive, and Mr Pratt played his Ukulele." "I loved the beat boxing. I never knew until I worked with Jason Singh that the music you make is never wrong. Now I know that I feel more confident in sharing my music."*** We are really proud of the progress this year in our music curriculum and the positive impact the children are telling us it has had!



Another strength of the pupil voice survey was the new Design Technology curriculum. It has been amazing to see the children designing and creating products for a clear purpose. We have seen the Year 3 and Year 4s designing and making torches for their reading party. They had to use their scientific skills from electronics to help them to design a strong circuit and their research to decide the features that make a torch successful. In year 5 and 6, they designed animal habitats such as hedgehog houses, bird boxes and bug hotels to help the wildlife. They used their science knowledge and forest school skills to help them. I asked the pupil voice team to name one of their favourite school memories and one little girl said that hers was her D&T learning where they designed and created fruit kebabs in Year 1 and Year 2 thinking about healthy eating. ***"What I like about Design Technology lessons is that we learn from our mistakes and then problem solve to find a way that does work." "I like how we use our values of creativity to make our own creations, compassion when we are thinking about the purpose like the hedgehogs having a safe home and wisdom when we are trying to problem solve how to stop it falling over or breaking."***

Warm wishes,  
Mrs Huish

## Community News: Local River Dipping

Many of our classes have been out and about this term with Mrs Wallis combining their forest school and Scientific learning. Tawny Owls had a wonderful time looking for invertebrates in our local brook as part of their Science learning that relates to 'Animals including humans'. The Woodpeckers had a fantastic time river dipping. They found a whole variety of river insects, water snails, tadpoles and fish. A big thank you to all the parents who came along to support!



## Community News: Jubilee Street Party



Don't forget the INVITATION to our Jubilee Street Party on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022. This is an invitation for all parents who can to come and join us for a Jubilee lunch with your child. You will be served in our wonderful kitchen by our catering team who have created a delicious menu for you all to sample. All the information about how you can join us on this special occasion is in your letter emailed on Friday 06<sup>th</sup> May. **The cost is £2.50 an adult for lunch and must be booked in and paid for advance so that we have numbers and a register for our risk assessment. All children who would like to join the lunch, will also need their option ordered before the day. If they do not**

**want the lunch that day, they can bring their own packed lunch. There will be no option for any missed lunches on the day due to high numbers.** Please do not worry if you are unable to make it, this event will be enjoyed by everyone, and all children will attend. Book their lunch now to avoid disappointment!

## Community News: Super Sixes



Year 6 have now completed their SATS week. This week is a big part of the Year 6 offer and a chance for them to show off their skills and resilience. We could not be prouder of our Year 6 children who all came in for a shared breakfast ready to tackle their papers and all with big smiles on their faces. Miss Humphries had done such a wonderful job to help the children to feel at ease. The children were confident that they had the skills and knowledge to do their very best and they will take this determination on to their secondary schools. As per Dartington tradition, they celebrated the last examination with a rather long conga around the school. It was so gorgeous to see the other children coming out of their classes to clap and cheer them on!

## Community News: Year 3 work with National Musician

Our Year 3 children have had a wonderful opportunity this half term as they have worked with the musician, Jason Singh, from Dartington Trust. They have had a full day out at Dartington Trust music studios as well as weekly sessions in school composing their own music to nature. Our minds were blown when we heard the music that a spider plant from our office could make! We heard all about the electrical currents that run through all living things and how they can be translated into sounds. It was fascinating!



## Staff Update: We have vacancies!

The Trust have made the decision to invest in Dartington Academy to support the growing need here in the SEND and pastoral team. Because of this, we are looking for new members to join our SEND and pastoral team and support the children in their learning. The advert has gone out and can be found on our website. We asked the children what they looked for in an adult and they gave us these points:

- Listens to them when they need to talk
- Helps them when they are stuck
- Finds exciting things for them to learn
- Is kind and always has a smile when you see them

# After School Clubs: Clubs for the Summer Term 2022

**MONDAY - FRIDAY After school wrap around care:** This will run every evening until 6pm. This is open to all children from EYFS to Year 6. Please book on and pay as usual through the School Gateway App.

**TUESDAY Premiere Sports:** This is a **Tennis** sports club for EYFS/KS1. Book on the Premiere Education website.

**Frazoo:** This is a **science club** that will be starting with Mrs Hulbert for years 5 & 6. Bookings are made directly to Frazoo - [frazie@frazoo.co.uk](mailto:frazie@frazoo.co.uk).

**FRIDAY Premiere Sports:** This term, it is **Basketball** for Years 4,5 and 6. Book on the Premiere Education website

All clubs run from **3:15 - 4:15** (except the wrap around care).

**Spanish Club:** Kidslingo will start running 2 Spanish lunch clubs on Tuesdays to all the children in year 1,2,3,4,5 and 6.

## Dates for your Diary: Don't miss out!

- **Non-Pupil Day** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- **Jubilee Street party** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- **Year 4 Music Festival at Killerton House** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- **Year 6 Residential** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022
- **Transition Day** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- **Sports Day** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- **New Reception Teddy Bear's Picnic** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

