

# Kennet Valley Voices

Term 3 - February 2019



This week The Year 6 children set off to the Isle of Wight for their residential at Kingswood. It has been fantastic to hear about all the adventures that they have been having while they have been away. Some of the activities that they have taken part in are whizzing through the air on the zip wire, exploring the beach on an adventure, defending themselves and their team during fencing and Laser Quest and showing their courage during the abseiling. They have also been challenged to design and build during the bottle rockets and scrap heap activities. All of the group have pushed themselves to achieve more and have worked really well as a team throughout all the activities.

Staff, both from Kennet Valley and Kingswood, have commented about what polite and positive children we have at the school, and I feel really proud of them for this.

Comments from the children included

"Its all really, really good fun. I've completed all of the challenges so far and I'm very proud of myself. I've been quite nervous at times but its all been fantastic!" (Luca)

"The zip wire made me so nervous but actually it was great fun to do. I am so proud of the things that I have completed" (Saskia)



## Recipe for a Story.

While Year 6 were away at Kingswood the rest of our lovely school used the book "Recipe for a Story" by Ella Burfoot as inspiration for their week of work. Children thought about all the things that need to be added into a story to make it a 'delicious read' - from characters and settings to punctuation and exacting vocabulary. The whole school work on a beautiful display, which is on the glass doors in the main corridor.



Teachers linked different subject to this book, such as maths being brought to life by all the classes measuring and baking (pizza, gingerbread men and rock cakes).

We hope that you will pop in to see the children's work and the display in Term 4.

## Open the Book.

Last Wednesday (6th Feb) a group of Year 5 and 6 children led Collective Worship in our first 'Open the Book' session of the year. 'Open the Book' is a nationwide Collective Worship initiative usually run by local volunteering parishioners. Due to a shortage in our local community however, the children have taken the initiative to run it themselves - the only child led Open the Book in the country! (That we know of..!). The children took the challenge in their stride and led a confident, thought-provoking and engaging Worship session. Based on the story of the 'Ten Lepers', the Open the Book team retold the story with accompanying actions, a poem and well thought out questions to the audience. The younger children in return responded with excellent and considerate answers demonstrating the ingrained Christian ethos which is present throughout the whole school community. It was wonderful to see the support from parents too in the audience and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the next Open the Book session at Easter!

Miss Hughes



On Wednesday 6th February 2019, I attended an 'Open the Book' assembly, this was led by a group of year 6 students. They confidently led the retelling of a story about Jesus healing the lepers, reciting a poem and also engaging the younger children in the audience by asking questions around what their thoughts were about this story. They showed themselves to have a meaningful understanding of the topic in the questions and answers received, they rewarded the younger children enthusiastically when a question was answered correctly with house points and raffle tickets. They also led the school and audience with The Peace and lighting of the candle. This was the first Open the Book Collective Worship and was very enjoyable to watch the children, I look forward to the next one.

Mrs Jones

Hello, my name is Miss Burrows. I have recently moved from Wales to England and I am studying for my PGCE at Bath Spa University. I feel extremely fortunate to have been able to spend time in Otter class as part of my studies; I have found them a joy to teach.

My desire is to develop so that I can fulfil my full potential and be the best that I can be, making a positive difference to the children I teach and helping them to be the best that they can be.

In the time I have been at Kennet Valley I think the children have taught me as much as I have taught them, which has given me the determination to continue in my chosen profession.

I know the time I have spent at Kennet Valley will stay with me throughout my career and will always be an inspiration for me.

Thanks to everyone for making me so welcome.

Miss Burrows.



P.E. - This term we have continued to cover a wide range of P.E. in school. Children have had the opportunity to take part in gymnastics, which includes balance work, team work and using the hall equipment. They have also been practising their handball skills, netball, dance and hockey. This week we have had two children take part in the Sports Leaders workshop and 10 of our Year 4 children took part in the Handball festival and WON! We played Osbourne school in the final and the score was 11-5



Shared collective worship every Friday morning is a wonderful way to end the week. It is a very special opportunity to hear and see what our children have been doing during the week, and allows us parents to show our interest and encouragement in a subtle way. It is also a real treat to see the Stars of the Week awarded alongside other successful achievements in and out of school. I encourage all parents to support this when they can as the children and staff love seeing us there.

By Mrs Smith

Having handed out so many reading certificates since the start of the year, it is clear that we have a lot of enthusiastic readers here at Kennet Valley School. Whether you've just received your 20 reads or 120 reads, it's great to see everyone having a go.

With this in mind, we decided that it would be interesting to have a Mystery Book event in Term 4. I have already received some books from parents, ready to be wrapped, and those parents that have seen me have expressed how much they are looking forward to the event, as I am myself. I can't wait to find a mystery book to take home and read!

I hope that the children use the event to try out a different style of book, one that perhaps they might never have chosen for themselves and that they enjoy being able to share their books at home.

Mrs Byford

What a fantastic music week! I could not stop smiling.

The Samba workshop was an epic success, and it was clear that all classes enjoyed working with Raz. The children learned the names of different Brazilian instruments and worked together to create an ensemble piece of music that raised the roof of the school hall.

"I loved following the hand signals - the rumble was my favourite bit".

There was a wealth of opportunity for the children to access music throughout the week and we even managed to link it with writing, RE, art and numeracy. We even linked science with music by completing several sound experiments. Each class experimented with different instruments, including using garage band on the iPads. Everybody loved performing and you could sense the creative buzz throughout the school.

Jo Sercombe returned with her gospel workshop and inspired the children to learn traditional songs as well as tunes from Disney. I have always been proud of our school's singing and Thursday was no exception.

I hope parents enjoyed the showcase sessions and it was fantastic to see so many friendly faces supporting our children.

We topped the week off with the FRIENDS' silent disco - proving to be an excellent success for both children and volunteers. There is nothing funnier than walking into a busy room, filled with the sound of children dancing to their choice of song with no music to be heard. Definitely one to do again.

Thank you to everybody who supported Music Week, and hopefully it will be here to stay.



# D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y



Friday 15th February - Last Day of Term 3



Monday 25th February - First Day of Term 4

Tuesday 26th February - Collective Worship Incorporating Stranger Danger Awareness

Tuesday 26th February - Kwik Sticks Hockey Tournament (Years 5&6) 9.15am, Marlborough Hockey Pitches

Wednesday 27th February - PE at school NOT KV Hall (collect from school please)

Friday 1st March - Kennet Valley Toddlers 10.00am-11.30am

Monday 4th March - Stay & Play, Hedgehog Classroom 9.15am-10.30am

Wednesday 6th March - Ash Wednesday Collective Worship WO Church 9.00am, ALL welcome

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day, dress up as a character from The Jolly Postman

Thursday 7th March - Little Angels Group 10.15am -11.30am

Thursday 7th March - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Monday 11th March - Parents Evening 3.30pm-5.30pm

Wednesday 13th - Friday 15th March - Year 4 Children at New Barn Residential Trip, Dorset

Friday 15th March - Miss Burrows last day in Otters Class

Monday 18th March - Mr Lawton returns to Badgers Class

Wednesday 20th March - Scholastic Book Fair opens at school, timings to follow soon

Wednesday 20th March - Voice in a Million Years 4, 5 and 6

Thursday 21st March - Little Angels Group 10.15am-11.30pm

Friday 29th March - Small Schools Rugby Festival - more info to follow

Thursday 28th March - Year 4 Collective Worship 9.00am, here at school - all welcome!

Thursday 28th March - Dragon Easter Bingo - more info to follow

Friday 29th March - Kennet Valley Toddlers 10.00am-11.30am

Thursday 4th April - Stay & Play 9.15am-10.30am Hedgehog Classroom

Thursday 4th April - Little Angels Group 10.15am - 11.30am

Friday 5th April - Easter Service, West Overton Church 9.00am

Friday 5th April - Last Day of Term 4

Tuesday 23rd April - First Day of Term 5

Friday 3rd May Teacher Training Day - School Closed to Children

