

Dear Parents and Carers,



We have had an exciting and busy week this week. Year 3 have enjoyed being able to use the big gym equipment - listening to their excitement as they opened the doors into the school hall was so lovely; year 5 had an amazing space experience – I thought we had lost them at one point when I walked into the school hall and just saw their shoes. Year 4 and 5 have also experienced a science workshop led by Mountbatten. The buzz throughout the afternoon was amazing. A massive thank you to the science department at Mountbatten.



### Mountbatten Science Assembly – Earth and Space.

To launch our new science topic in Year 5, the children watched and participated in a workshop on Earth and Space with Mountbatten Science department. The children shared their learned knowledge of our Solar System and learned more about the vast emptiness, which is around all our planets. The children really enjoyed immersing themselves in their learning and there was great collaboration all round.

### Have your Say!

If you would like to take part in a survey to share your views with policy makers ahead of the General Election, please take the time to fill in the following survey.

[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)

### Baby News

Miss Telford has welcomed a healthy baby boy into the world. His name is Solomon. Both baby and mum are doing well and we all look forward to meeting him. Today we say goodbye to Mrs Hunter who is commencing her maternity leave. We wish her and the family all of the best and look forward to hearing when Baby Hunter is born.

Community Day – we look forward to any help next Saturday - a parent mail has been sent out this week.

## Eco Committee

**Pen Recycling Scheme:** The Eco Committee recently gathered to discuss their new initiative – a Pen Recycling Scheme for each classroom. Starting this term, we are encouraging every student to bring in their used pens, felt tips, and markers. These items will be collected and sent for recycling, where they will be turned into park benches!

**RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch:** In preparation for the upcoming RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch in January, our students have been revising bird identification. The Eco Committee are committed to understanding and appreciating our local bird population, and this survey provides a fantastic opportunity for our children to actively partake in bird conservation.

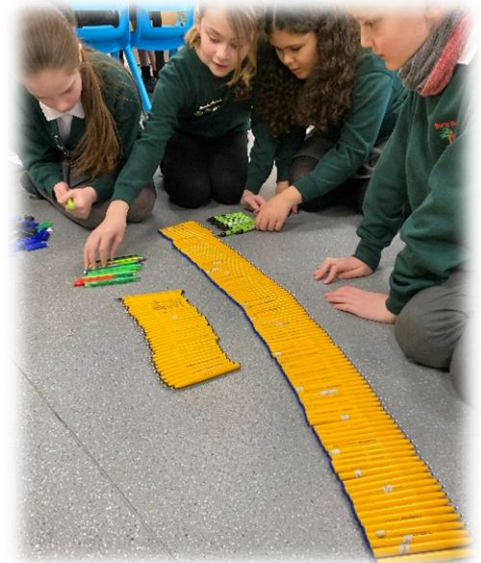
**Why is the Birdwatch Important?** The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch is a nationwide citizen science project, which helps monitor and protect birds. By spending just one hour observing and recording

the birds in our school grounds, the children will generate valuable data, that aids scientists in understanding bird populations, migration patterns, and the overall health of our environment. This information will also highlight which bird species are increasing and decreasing, indicating where the RSPB needs to allocate its conservation resources.

We encourage all families to join in, and take part in the

RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch at home. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with nature, engage in a fun activity, and assist bird conservation. Find out more on the RSPB website!

**Bird Conservation:** You can help birds in lots of ways, such as **planting native trees and hedgerows**, like hazel, oak, beech, rowan, hawthorn and blackthorn. All of these produce a variety of fruit, nuts and seeds, which provide birds with a plentiful food supply for autumn/ winter. Furthermore, they will provide cover for birds to escape predators, like cats, as well as create nesting opportunities, although these can also be created by **putting up bird boxes**. If you do have a cat, you could put a **bell on its collar** to stop it catching birds. You can also increase food availability by **providing bird food**, such as sunflower seeds, aflatoxin-tested peanuts and suet pellets, but please make sure bird feeders are kept clean and are not left to go mouldy, as this can spread bird diseases. In the garden, it is advisable to **avoid cutting hedges between March-November**, to protect nesting birds and allow birds to feed on the hedge's fruits. When growing plants, you should also **avoid using pesticides**,



especially slug pellets (now banned in the UK), as birds can be killed by eating the pellets or the infected slugs.



**NBJS Waste Audit:** Our Eco Committee have also planned their first Waste Audit, which will play a key role in reducing our waste generation, whilst also increasing recycling rates. This hands-on project involves analysing and categorising the waste generated within our school, to gain insights into our consumption patterns. By understanding the types and quantities of waste produced, we can pinpoint areas for improvement, implement targeted recycling



programs, such as our pen and battery recycling schemes, and foster a culture of mindful consumption within our school community. There will also be a competition to determine which class recycles the most and generates the least waste!

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Mariam (6C) and Jessie (6C), who are both currently leading the Green League, having worked so hard for the Eco Committee already this year! Pippa (5T), Ted (6R), Daniel (4H) and Grace (6G) are not far behind, and are all tied in second place. Keep up the good work, there are still many months to go!

Values 12/01/24

*Elizabeth  
Leila  
Alfey  
Harry  
Keon  
Olivia  
Samuel  
Daniel  
Billy  
Ethan  
Malachi  
Isla  
Evan*

Best wishes,

Miss L. Wootten  
Head Teacher

## Upcoming dates and events

JANUARY 2024	3	4	5	6	Event
Tuesday 2nd January	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>Return to school</b>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January			✓		Year 5 planetarium experience in school
Wk. beginning 15 <sup>th</sup> January	✓	✓	✓	✓	Clubs begin
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January		✓			4H Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January		✓			4C Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	✓	✓	✓	✓	Community Day (10:00 – 2:00)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January		✓			4W Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
FEBRUARY 2024					
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February			✓		Year 5 Hampshire Fire and Rescue visit in school
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>FONBJS School Disco</b> (Yr.3 & 4: 4.30 -5.45) (yr. 5 & 6: 6:00 – 7.15)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Last Day of Term
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	HALF TERM
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	INSET DAY
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Return to school
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	✓				Year 3 Beaulieu Trip
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>Parent communication:</b> spring attainment and progress reports sent home.
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>Parent communication:</b> Parent Evening Consultations 3:30 -7:00
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>Parent communication:</b> Parent Evening Consultations (3:30 - 6:00)