



Starcross Primary School

June 2024 Newsletter



We have had another exiting month here at Starcross. Our year one Kittiwakes have recently been on the ferry to Exmouth and had a picnic and an ice-cream in the Manor Gardens. Curlews went to Stover and had a wonderful experience with the Rangers. The year four children returned today from Pixies Holt, although quite tired they had a fantastic time and will undoubtedly have created some lifelong memories. Next week, Oystercatchers are going fossil hunting!

We are fast approaching the end of the term but we still have lots of exciting events to look forward to before the summer holiday. More details and dates are continued within this newsletter.

Tara Trail

Head Teacher

Starcross Primary School

£77 raised from own clothes day

PTFA NEWS—THANK YOU!

£186 raised from Fathers & Others Sale

Thank you for supporting the father's & others day sale.

Our next event will be sports day where we will be out with refreshments and a raffle. We would really appreciate any cake donations on the day.

Unfortunately we will not be holding a summer fete this year but instead we have a stall at Dawlish carnival on 15th August.

We will also be having another bags2school clothes collection in September so please hold on to unwanted clothing for us.

Thank you!

Starcross PTFA



From Mr Cross:

Some of our Key Stage 2 children enjoyed a Dartmoor 3-Ball competition with Mr Baxter last week. Dartmoor 3-Ball is similar to rounders but, as you have probably guessed, uses three balls! The children had a great time and the winning team to be announced in assembly.



DIARY DATES

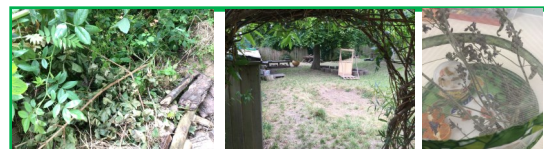
DIARY DATES	
9.07.24	Oystercatchers Trip to Charmouth
10.7.24	Sports Day for Preschool 2pm—3pm
11.7.24	Summer Review Day—Preschool
11.7.24	Transition Day
15.7.24	Year 6 show dress rehearsal
15.7.24	Music Concert 2.45pm—3.15pm
16.7.24	Preschool Graduation 11am—12pm
16.7.24	Y6 Leavers performance matinee 2pm—3.30pm, evening 6pm—7.30pm
17.7.24	School Sports Day 1pm—3.30pm
17.7.24	'Meet the Teacher', Drop in Session 3.30pm & 4.30pm
18.7.24	Reserve School Sports Day 1pm— 3.30pm
18.7.24	Year 6 Leavers events & 'Classtonbury'
19.7.24	Y6 Graduation - 9am—10.30am



This half-term in Sanderlings, we have really been enjoying the sunshine!

We have spent lots of time exploring the natural world. We have been planting seeds, learning all about what plants need to grow and have loved seeing things blossom!

We have spent time down in the nature area – mixing, turn-taking, experimenting and exploring the world around us.



Forest School Fun for the Sandpipers!

The Sandpipers have been fortunate enough to enjoy three super summertime forest school sessions so far this half term.



We have had rain and shine which has certainly given a variety of activities as well as a variety of clothing! We have enjoyed puddle

jumping in the rain, playing in the mud kitchen and building in the sunshine as well as lots more fun outdoor physical activities.



We have seen a frog (see if you can spot it in the photo!) as well as lots of other wildlife, contrasting to what we saw in our autumn/winter forest school sessions. We keep looking to see if our butterflies that we grew from caterpillars and released in the nature area will come back and see us. We have also planted on our pea plants that we grew from seed, down in our vegetable and fruit bed.

They are definitely enjoying the rain and sunshine as they grow, just like our lovely Sandpipers!



Kittiwakes

took to the sea this term, as part of our 'golden thread experiences.' The intention was to go on a journey, using a mode of transport, that they may not have experienced before. So, what better that to take a trip on the Starcross ferry, over to Exmouth. Lots of our children had either never been on a boat or not experienced a trip on their local boat ferry.

We couldn't have asked for better weather either. The sun was shining and the sea was calm. We loved seeing the sea sparkle in the sunshine. We waved at fisherman hard at work and we saw a tour boat full of people out for their trip.

In Exmouth, we played games in Manor Park, had a picnic and a whippy ice cream from the Bumble and Bee cafe. What a treat to end the day! A truly memorable experience

Curlew's Trip to Stover

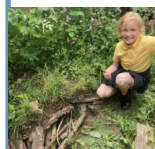
Curlew's had a wonderful trip to Stover Country Park this term related to their Science topic of 'Living Things and Habitats.' The ranger Jo was fantastic and took us on a habitat walk exploring microhabitats and feeding animals. We learnt lots of new things and discovered new insects whilst pond dipping.



In Science, our recent focus has been how humans can help animals and make habitat improvements. Therefore, Curlews built a frog and toad habitat in our nature area next to the pond. They worked as a team to dig, collect materials and build the new home for our froggy friends.



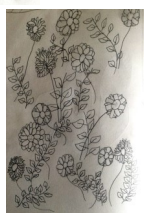
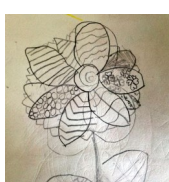
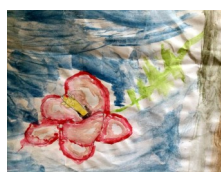
In History, we have been finding out all about different monarchs who have ruled our country in the past. We have enjoyed finding out about why we call King Alfred 'Alfred the Great', and why King William was 'William the Conqueror'. We have just started learning about King Henry VIII, and thinking about how these kings ruled differently. We have found out about monarchs who had absolute power, and those who shared responsibility by having a parliament; as well as finding out about how each of these monarchs made changes in the country.



This term in Oystercatchers

we have been *botanical artists*. We looked at some famous botanical artists from the past and their work. We carefully copied their styles and techniques.

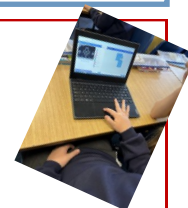
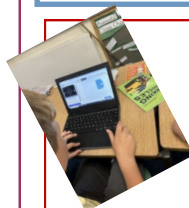
Then we tried making some mindfulness-style colouring pages of our own. Finally we went into the Millenium garden where the flowers are all in bloom, and we had a couple of outdoor sketching sessions looking at all the beautiful nature around us.



Another busy month for Avocets!

We have continued our Science unit, looking at how to program devices and experimenting with a new website called Micro-bit.

In PE, we have been practicing our striking and fielding skills, playing different games and participating in a whole class Cricket game.



We have had a busy half term in Razorbills

– we have visited Sawmills Solar farm where learnt about how the energy from the sun is captured and turned into electricity and then transported into our homes. Then we carried out a biodiversity study, identifying plants and animals that live on the site. A huge thank you to Kara from Earth Energy Education for her excellent instructions (we loved being electrons!)



Back at school we took part in a solar workshop where we learnt about the different types of renewable forms of energy. We played with some solar powered toys then carried out two scientific enquiries to find out where in the school we could generate the most electricity. We enjoyed making predictions and forming conclusions, but most of all we enjoyed using all the solar tech to collect the data.

