

Mabel Prichard School

Weekly Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher 09th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a wonderful day with both Chinese New Year and Pancake celebrations. There are a lot of red themed activities on both sites and some wonderful puppets and lanterns. There have also been some very messy pancake activities but equally some delicious ones with Rosie's cafe selling cakes and drinks throughout the morning.

This half term has been short but very busy, and we are really looking forward an equally busy half term leading up to Easter. We are celebrating World Book Day on 7th March, and Comic Relief on March 15th. Music for Autism are on primary on March 5th, which is always a wonderful day for everyone.

We have been granted an additional inset day by the trust to train staff in some health and safety priorities as well as learning priorities. This will be on March 28th, so learners finish school on Wednesday 27th March for Easter. There will be no early finish and students will leave at the usual time of 2.50pm.

Please can I remind parents and carers that if you have changed collection arrangements, you let the class teacher know.

Have a wonderful half term and we will see you on February 19th at the usual time.

Best wishes

Lucy

Coming up:

19th February
Students return to school
usual time

7th March
World Book Day

27th March
Students break up for
Easter at 2.50pm

28th March
Inset day. No students on
site.

Member of the



Skills Builder
PARTNERSHIP



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

News from the Classrooms

Purple Class

Purple class has had a fabulous half term, and we have enjoyed various activities. We have been embracing the new phonics scheme of work, and seeing the pupils' progress has been excellent. They have been learning to read, with some of us developing our sign language skills to help us communicate alongside this.

Within Purple Class, we have enjoyed developing our creative skills through art and drama. We have been creating artwork around various topics, including the Chinese New Year when we made dragon masks. The pupils enjoyed dressing up in Chinese outfits and pretending to be dragons.



We have also been acting out the story 'Animal Boogie'. We have enjoyed pretending to be different animals and using our bodies to express how each animal moves. We have continued to enjoy developing our physical abilities by exploring the outdoor space, learning to play with our friends, riding bikes, and playing simple chasing games. We enjoy visiting the hall once a week to develop our skills further, including climbing, jumping and participating in cooperative games on and off the apparatus.



News from the Classrooms

Platinum Class

We have been all about smells this term in Platinum Class. We have introduced a 'scent of the day' into our Good Morning routine, and have found that scented activities are especially engaging and that students are always interested in exploring which smell it is each day. We also have a 'song of the day' playing at the same time. Of course, we keep the song and scent consistent for each day over a long period to support the students' understanding of the passing of time over the course of the school week. Our cooking activities have offered lots of opportunities for tasting and smelling. Last week, we were part of a cooking extravaganza when Ruzia led us in making pakoras to sell to staff across the school as a fundraiser to enable us to participate in the Oxtrail art project. Over the past couple of weeks we have also been cooking, tasting and playing with stir fry noodles, vegetables and sauces in the run up to Chinese New Year.



Oxtrail Fundraiser for Sobell House Hospice

We are taking part in a fundraising project for Sobell House called OxTrail where we will design and decorate a mini ox sculpture, which will then be displayed alongside others to showcase the creativity of our pupils.

We are excited to get stuck into this project, but need your help to reach our fundraising target! We have 118 pupils in our school and in order for us to take part, we have a target of £468 and we would really appreciate your support in raising this money.

Every pound we raise through OxTrail will help to fund the care and support that Sobell House Hospice provides to the people of Oxfordshire.

Taking part in OxTrail would also mean so much to our school community, as it would provide us with the opportunity to...

- Showcase our pupil's artistic talent and creativity
- Get involved in a countywide project that aims to leave no child behind
- Enjoy enrichment activities that promote art, wellbeing, and physical activity
- Engage our students in fantastic curriculum resources, both for the trail itself and around hospices, bereavement, and grief in a child-friendly and sensitive way.

If you would like to donate, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mpsoxtrail>



HEADTEACHER'S
AWARDS



Keeping Safe Online



Parents & carers

Advice for parents and carers to help support children and young people in their safe and responsible use of the internet.

 Childnet

[Childnet](#)



Homepage

Working with online safety experts, we're here to provide parents & carers with guidance, advice and support to keep children safe online

 Internet Matters /

[Internet Matters](#)



Parents and Carers

Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online

 UK Safer Internet Centre

[Safer Internet](#)



Parents and carers | CEOP Education

Access information and resources for parents and carers on keeping your child safer online including...

 thinkuknow.co.uk

[ThinkuKnow](#)



Keeping children safe online

Learn more about children's online safety. Advice and support to help you learn about staying safe online as a family.

 NSPCC

[NSPCC](#)