

Mabel Prichard School

Weekly Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a really exciting first week back which has involved two art projects. You will all be aware of our Oxtrail project by now, where we are decorating a mini Ox for an exhibition in Oxford. Some of you will have seen the Ox on secondary, where it became a beautiful Mabel Prichard blue. It is now on primary, where it is having other colours and some decoupage added. We are now close to sharing the finished product with you.

We have also started a project, working with a local artist for the next 6 weeks. Jon Mackay, a silk screen printer, is working with students from primary and secondary to create a sensory wall. Jon themes his work very much around nature and our wall is a huge forest with animals hiding, which will inspire stories, communication, shared play and engagement. He started working with rotating groups of students on Tuesday and will continue the work on the main wall, as well as giving projects to individual classes to create sensory creatures for the forest, which will then be added to the wall to make it interactive. The wall will cover the entrance to the primary hall, adding to the new quad and making the entrance to the hall feel like you are entering a magical world. Most of Jon Mackay's work is producing limited edition hand printed posters and art work for bands and festivals and he has worked for Gary Barlow, Keane and The Luminières among many others. His festival work includes our own Oxfordshire Wilderness festival, as well as Download and Latitude. He has even made it to the Whoniverse, with one of his posters being featured on a wall in the background in the new series of Dr Who in May. We are looking for any donations of paint and sensory materials, so if anyone has any connections with builders or suppliers, please could you shamelessly beg! There are photos of our work so far later in the newsletter and an image of what the wall may look like.

Our phonics scheme has been going well and we have received really good feedback from parents and carers about the impact at home. Next week, we are introducing our new Maths programme, 'Maths for Life' which some of you may already know. We will be running curriculum information events in the near future so you can learn more about our reading, writing and maths approaches and we will share dates with you in the near future.

Finally Eid Mubarak to those of you who celebrated last week. Some of our primary students cooked a wonderful Daal to celebrate on Tuesday and we all had a very special lunch.

Have a wonderful weekend and we will see you on Monday.

Best wishes
Lucy

Coming up:

Monday 6th May
Early May bank holiday.
School closed

Friday 24th May
Break up for half term

Member of the



Skills Builder
PARTNERSHIP



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

News from the Classrooms

Rainbow Class

Welcome back to a new term everyone - one which will hopefully bring a lot of sunshine with it. We hope everyone enjoyed a lovely Easter break and are now ready for the fun the Summer term provides.

Rainbow class are cracking on with a variety of exciting activities as usual. We are forever working hard at building up so many of the key skills that are important to us, such as; communication, independence, and physical skills. These are all areas we like to have a lot of fun with also and, so it is always rare to not see many smiling faces when you visit the class; often some fairly messy ones too.



This new term we hope to expand on this further as, providing the weather decides to work in our favour, we are looking forward to making the most of being outside as much as we can. We have been really enjoying a number of community visits these last few months and are hoping to add a couple more places to the list.

News from the Classrooms

Bronze Class

Bronze class have been learning about different artists. Some visited primary where they joined local artist Jon Mackay to begin creating a mural in the primary corridor (a picture of Jon's plan is included in the photos below, can you tell the difference?)

Back at school, learners have been researching portrait artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo and creating their own fruit portraits. One learner said it looked like he was going to the spa with fruit on his eyes.



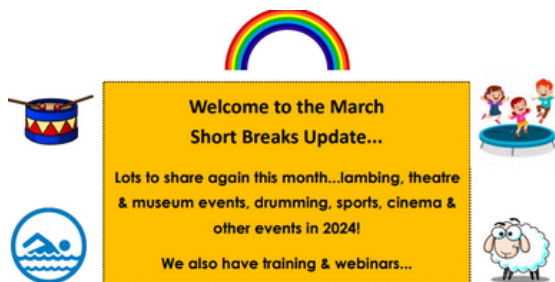


HEADTEACHER'S
AWARDS



Short Breaks

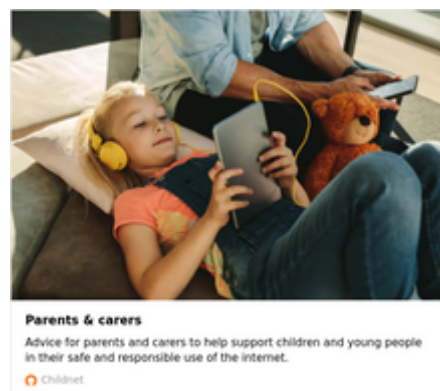
Please find below links to the March Short Breaks newsletters.



Short Breaks Update for Families with Disabled Children and Young People March 24

Short Breaks update - Parent/Carer Support Groups

Keeping Safe Online



[Childnet](#)



[Safer Internet](#)



[Internet Matters](#)



[NSPCC](#)

[ThinkuKnow](#)

