

Mabel Prichard School

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers

As we end this half term, we can reflect on what has been an extremely busy and very productive time. Our phonics scheme 'Little Wandle' is providing excellent opportunities for learners to develop their early reading skills, as well as their enjoyment of books and reading. We have all learners accessing a level of phonics, ranging from the very foundations of sounds to some who are approaching fluency. We have also introduced our new Maths scheme 'Maths for Life' and we will share the maths theme of the half term starting in June, where we will give you ideas on how you can support the learning in class at home. We have scheduled in an on-line information session on Little Wandle on September 10th between 5 and 6pm and a Maths for Life session on September 17th between 5 and 6pm, which will share the links for in September.

We are finalising the plans for 'Sportfest' on June 7th, which will celebrate a range of sports. With it being an Olympic year, we are planning some olympic themed events for students.

We are also planning our summer festivals and parents, carers and new parents and carers will be invited. We will have music, fun activities and a FoMP stall. We also plan to officially open our new sensory story wall at the primary festival on Friday July 12th, where you can meet the artist and the students who have worked on the wall will be able to share their work.

Have a really wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing everyone back on June 3rd.

Best wishes
Lucy

Coming up:

Friday 24th May
Break up for half term

Friday 7th June
Sportsfest on both sites

Thursday 20th June
EY/KS1 Teddy Bears'
Picnic

Wednesday June 26th
Wimbledon day

Thursday 11th July
Secondary Summer
Festival

Friday 12th July
Primary Summer Festival

Friday 19th July
Break up for summer
holidays 1pm

Member of the



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Green Class

This term in Green Class we have been planting a variety of edible plants outside in Zahrah Najeeb's memorial planters. We began by weeding them and adding some more compost, before the learners enjoyed raked the soil level and mixed more compost in. We then planted nasturtium seeds by making a small hole and covering the seed up. The class worked really well to water the planters by going back and forth to the water trays with buckets of water.



We then planted some french beans in class, which we grew inside pots. Green Class then planted these out and they should begin to grow tall with more sunny weather.



We have enjoyed seeing our nasturtium plants grow and soon they should begin to flower.

News from the Classrooms

Titanium Class

What a busy six weeks Titanium Class have had. Rosie's cafe is now open twice a week and this week we joined forces with Platinum class to cook Biryani for twenty staff. The Biryani was delicious and we will definitely be making it again. We are pleased to tell you that we are signing our students up to take basic food hygiene certificates, and are excited about trying out new recipes after half term.

As well as running the cafe, we have been cycling, going to the gym, swimming, playing basket ball and having fun at South Oxfordshire Adventure Playground.



We have also enjoyed our phonics and maths lessons, and have been learning all about Oxford. We have visited the Museum of Oxford and the nuns in Littlemore. We have also enjoyed listening to music from bands who come from Oxford and straight after half term we are looking forward to Nick Cope (who is on Cbeebies regularly and comes from Oxford) coming into school.

Three of our students are enjoying their weekly work experience placements at Donnington Doorstep. They are working so hard and we are very proud of them. We are now busy setting up work experience placements for more of our students. Have a great half-term, you all deserve a rest, before coming back to school for an action packed seven weeks.

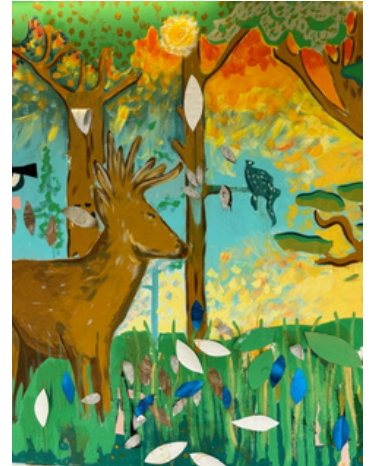


HEADTEACHER'S
AWARDS



Our Sensory story wall

Our work with silk screen artist and illustrator, Jon Mackay, is now finished. Jon will adding some finishing touches and we will launch the wall at the primary summer festival.



Carly's Skydive for Thomley

Carly from Titainium will be doing a Skydive for Thomley on Sunday 26th May.

Carly says "I have never done anything like this before but I am pleased to be doing it for such a lovely charity, which is very close to my heart"

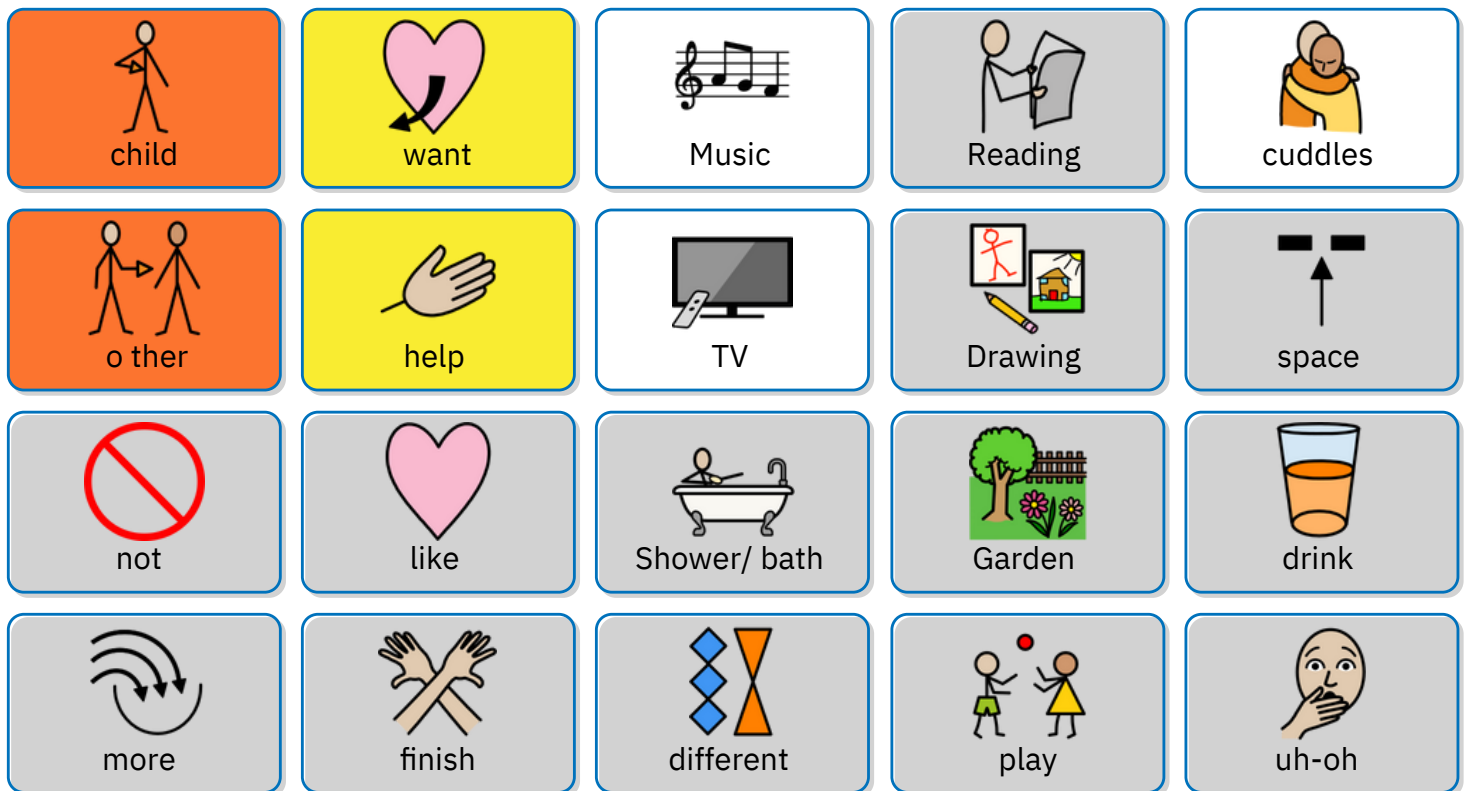
If you would like to donate, the link to her page is below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/carly-skydive>



Choosing a Calm Activity

Aided language boards are one type of low tech augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) that we use to support communication. Aided language boards allow adults to point to visual language (symbols) alongside verbal language (speech), positively modelling communication. The vocabulary on the board is arranged from left to right to imitate sentence structure. Here is an example you may like to share at home to support making calming choices and ‘staying positive’.





Recognise different emotions in yourself and others

Keep trying when something goes wrong

Respond calmly when things go wrong and reflect on what has happened

Cheer others up and encourage them to keep trying too

Look for opportunities in difficult situations

Share opportunities with others so that you can plan and adapt accordingly

This term all our learners have been working on the skill of staying positive. Bronze Class have been so engaged in their specific Skills Builder lessons that as part of their PSHE next term they will be continuing to work on ‘Staying Positive’ as a way of taking care of your well- being. They have been looking at the story of baker Bill and exploring the emotions involved when something we are working on go a little wrong.

Activities where there is the possibility of things going a little wrong or differently from the way we planned are a great way to develop our staying positive skill set. Over half term maybe explore activities that have ‘risks’ like construction play, building with lego, exploring somewhere new, doing a puzzle, arts and craft. Whatever your son or daughter enjoys. Most importantly have a great Holiday! Next Term our Skills Builder focus will be ‘Aiming High’ as we move towards the end of the school year.



We have been asked by the BBC to send some of our primary aged children for an audition to take part in an episode of Mr Tumble. Parents and carers are asked to complete the attached forms as soon as possible, so they can meet the production team online with parents and carers next week. Please apply, we are sure it will be lots of fun. Consent forms have been sent through Parentmail.

Accessival

Accessible Festival for the whole community

Saturday 6th July 2024 - 11am-10pm
Music - Beer - Food - Play



Thomley's festival is an opportunity for the whole community to experience the best of all the local festivals.

We will have various food stalls; alcohol stalls; live local bands on stage plus the best of Thomley for children and young people. Camping availability and camping pods available to book for the night before and night of the festival.

Main Sponsors



Book your tickets here:
thomley.org.uk/events/accessival-festival/



Opportunity for Post 16 Learners

In September Mabel Prichard School will be partnering with The Story Museum in Oxford and some of our post 16 learners will have the opportunity to attend work experience placements every Thursday. We will be working in Visitor Services, the shop and in the Small World Galleries. It is going to be a great experience for us.

There are also opportunities to explore over the summer. If you would like your son or daughter to have either a week block or single day work experience placements over the course of the holidays please contact Tor Broadley at school to book an appointment to discuss this opportunity.

Please note that parents would be responsible for transporting their son or daughter to and from their work placement at The Story Museum and putting in any appropriate support to meet the needs of their child during the placement.

Upcoming Autism-friendly Openings at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Autism-Friendly Openings coming up at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History between now and the end of the Summer Holidays.

**Friday 31st May, 9am - 10am
Saturday 6th July, 9am - 10am
Saturday 3rd August, 9am - 10am
Friday 23rd August, 9am - 10am**

The sessions are free but booking is required which can be done via the [website](#).



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



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](#)



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

[Safer Internet](#)



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](#)



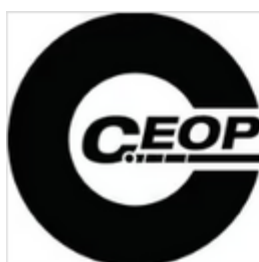
Parents and Carers

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

UK Safer Internet Centre

[NSPCC](#)

[ThinkuKnow](#)



Parents and carers | CEOP Education

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

ceopeducation.co.uk