

Message from Mrs Hird

This week, the children have had some great opportunities to develop their sporting skills, as well as working on aspects such as resilience and teamwork during their cricket sessions with Lewis and with Mark. It has also been lovely to spend some time with the children out on the playground talking about their hobbies and the games they like to play with their friends and I was delighted to read the version of Anansi and the spider that our Reception pupils had written.

Mrs Hird

Attendance: This week's attendance was **98.63%**, so above our target of at least **97%**.

News from the Classes

This week, the **Acorns** have been looking at the story Handa's Surprise, which is another story set in Africa. We have been sampling some of the exotic fruits that are featured on the story to help us to think of interesting ways of describing them.

In Maths, the Y2s have been measuring using Centimetres and Metres and estimating what the length of an item will be before checking with rulers. Y1s have been looking at finding half and quarter of a shape and an amount.

We had a lovely afternoon of gardening and hunting for signs of new life on Wednesday. Some were planting, watering seeds, adding to the Mini-beast Mansion and recording signs of spring life.

We have taken delivery of an exciting piece of furniture for our outside area - a work bench which will soon be set up and stocked with tools and resources to allow us to incorporate woodwork into our daily activities. More information on this exciting addition will follow soon.

Our week has finished with a great day devoted to numbers and fun for **NSPCC Number Day!** It started with a whole class warm up counting 'How many?' of something we can do in a minute moving to a session of board games involving counting such as Snakes and Ladders, Dominoes and Skittles. Everyone was very competitive and really enjoyed playing and talking about the numbers. We also had the opportunity to fish for fishy numbers talking about what we caught. The number wheel of fortune was quite a challenge. KS1 had to think about doubling and halving and Reception told us 1 more and 1 less. Year 2 then went on to carry out a measuring investigation. In this activity, children worked to see how many different accurate measurements they could make of their own body marking them on representations of themselves. Year 1 played games related to halving numbers and Reception enjoyed playing Bingo. Miss Wilson was a wonderful caller and the children again were very engrossed. Each time they crossed off a number they had to tell Miss Wilson an interesting fact about it. For example one more is, one less is etc.



The Acorn **Star of the Week** is **Finley** for coping really well and not fussing when Sophie was called away and for working so hard in everything he does.



The **Oaks** have been busy impressing the supply teachers this week with all their work. It was reported that they were amazing and the best class in the area! Mrs Walley was very proud of them all.

In maths, the Year 3/4 children have continued with fractions and begun on decimals. The Year 5/6 children have tackled ratios this week.

The children have researched information about the Queen and have written a biography about her with clear paragraphs.

In DT, they have investigated moving pictures in children's books. (They really enjoyed the younger books but it was strictly for research purposes!) They found sliders, flaps, pivots and spinners. We will be making some of our own and eventually designing and making our own books.

We thoroughly enjoyed our additional cricket session today with governor and cricket coach Mark Hollingworth.



The Oak **2 Stars of the Week** are:
Betsy for excellent cricket skills with brilliant concentration and attitude.
Daniel for always working hard, trying his best and for having wonderful manners.



NSPCC Number Day

Today has been a non-uniform day, with some clothes relating to numbers being worn and number based activities and games enjoyed. Thank you for the kind donations that have been brought in towards the work of the NSPCC (£18) and the online donations made (currently £20) through the JustGiving page below:-

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/castleton-school1>

Next Week

Monday	Music Lessons with Alix Lillie. Please remember instruments. Choir after school (Oaks).
Tuesday	PE for Acorns "Signing" after school.
Wednesday	All pupils Outdoor learning. Children can come to school dressed in appropriate clothing. Gardening Club (Oaks).
Thursday	PE for all pupils. Football after school.
Friday	PE for Oaks.