

26th May 2023



Dear Parents,

Wow! This half term has flown by – it's incredible to think that we will be on the home stretch to the summer holiday in just a weeks' time.

Over the last few weeks we have noticed many of the children in the school are beginning to find coming into school and concentrating for long periods of time quite hard. We have high expectations at Ongar that we do not compromise on but it is perhaps worth us all remembering that the lockdowns and school closures are still having an impact. This is the first full year our Year 2 class have ever completed in school! Lots of early nights and healthy food are recommended over half term for staff!

We are back in school on Monday 5th June at 8.55. Please remember that there is no one supervising the back playground before 8.45am. If your child arrives earlier than this they need to stay with you or be booked into attending breakfast club. Have a fantastic break. Mrs T L Good

Local History Week

We have had a fantastic Local History Week with every year group focusing on different aspects of our rich, local past.

In Nursery, the children have really enjoyed show and tell - sharing old toys and stories from parents and grandparents.

In Reception, the children visited St Paul's Church and then compared the old Ongar House with the present school building.

Year 1, also visited the church and handled old artefacts. They have explored Ongar Hill House and compared our school to Victorian schools.

Year 2, have been way back to prehistoric times learning about St Anne's Hill. They have studied maps to see any changes, looked at an Iron Age fort and handled some very old artefacts.

Brooklands race track has been investigated by Year 3. They learned about the development of the motor car, made a race track and developed a board game.

Year 4, studied Hampton Court, locating it on maps and had a virtual tour. They had great fun asking enquiring questions and being creative when handling and wearing Tudor artefacts. They have investigated the importance of paintings and created their own royal portraits.

Year 5 have been delving into Chertsey Abbey. They have reproduced a medieval map and compared it to more recent maps noticing any changes. They have handled and sketched 700-year old tiles, found out about the life of a monk and investigated the chronology of the Abbey - discovering why it is no longer there.

The M25 has been a focus for Year 6. They have studied a range of maps from different times to note similarities and differences.

It has been great to see the children get excited, curious and interested in our local history. May be some of you might be able to follow up the children's learning with some days out during half term.

Year 3 Assembly

On Wednesday, Year 3 showed us all how to keep ourselves healthy in their class assembly. The children all spoke with beautiful clear voices and showed some great comic timing with their acting. Well done Year 3 and thank you to Mrs Reed and Mrs Tuttle.

From Mrs Good: I apologise for the late written notice which impacted on some parents – I missed the date off.



DIFA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated a mufti day bottle today ready for the Summer Fair on the 30th June. Don't forget to sign up to help run a stall or help with the set up and clear away.

This week 15 children from Year 6 took part in a workshop run by **The Rez**. The Rez is a Sci-Fi podcast adventure set in the future where happiness is just another download. The children enjoyed creating characters and writing their own comic strips.

