



Grow Every Learner   Learn for Life   Enjoy Every Challenge   Excel Together

## Happy Easter from all the staff at Luxulyan

Dear Parents & Carers,

This half term has flown by with World Book Day, British Science Week and the introduction of Novel Study at Luxulyan. Our sports teams have continued to see success in the football league, cross country league and the rounds of the Cornwall Schools Games.

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April we held our much anticipated 'Climb Everest' sponsored walk. Our House Captains organised the event and the whole school were out walking laps of the school field to raise money for the defibrillators. They calculated that 47 laps is the equivalent distance to climbing Mount Everest. Pupils arrived at school dressed for activity with either hearts or climbing influenced clothing! The total raised by this event with contributions from parents, families, friends and local business exceeds **£11,000!** What an absolutely fantastic amount, thank you to the children for being such a credit to you all, they did not stop walking, jogging, skipping and jumping their way around the course. Thank you to everyone who donated and a huge thank you to the parents who spread the word with local businesses. The power of community at its best; as I explained to the children- Luxulyan may be small but we are mighty!

[Crowdfunding to purchase 20 defibrillators for 14 schools across mid Cornwall. on JustGiving](#)

### Safeguarding

We have had a number of online safety discussions with the older children in the school this week, specifically about the use of online messaging through various apps such as snapchat, whatsapp and through gaming.

The link below signposts helpful information from NSPCC about use of Social Media.

[Social media | NSPCC](#)

Common Sense Media is a useful guide to a whole variety of apps, games and media. It explains the age restrictions for various platforms and the reasons why, e.g. the app snapchat is rated age 16+ by this website.

[Snapchat App Review | Common Sense Media](#)

### Staffing

Mrs Rebecca Carter joins us fulltime as the Ash Class teacher after Easter, we will organise a meeting for Ash Class parents to meet her in person- date to be confirmed.

Have a fantastic Easter Holiday everyone and we will see you all on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April for the start of Summer Term.

**Mrs Williams**  
**Head of School**



Grow Every Learner    Learn for Life    Enjoy Every Challenge    Excel Together

## Ash Class



As another half term draws to a close, we reflect upon what has been a particularly imaginative, fun-filled and inspiring time in Ash class.

At the beginning of March, we celebrated World Book Day and Reading Week, coinciding with the introduction of our new Novel Study approach to literacy learning. On World Book Day, children and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters and spent the day sharing stories and writing a profile about themselves as a reader. Novel Study has seen the children diving in and immersing themselves in two popular books; 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon and 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. In 'Beegu', we have explored character description and persuasive text types. This culminated in the children creating a Lost poster and writing a letter to persuade their teacher to let Beegu come to our school. 'Where the Wild Things Are' has provided us with the opportunity to share and magpie exciting adjectives, along with learning about verbs and conjunctions.

We have also enjoyed a whole school Science Week this half term. This coincided with the close of our 'Coastline' topic and beginning of our new 'Plant Survival' topic; perfectly timed for the Science week theme of 'growth'. We celebrated with activities throughout the week which focused on the growth and changes we notice in plants. The children conducted their own cress investigation to find out whether seeds will germinate more successfully with or without water. They spent a lot of time outdoors, identifying plants which are local to the area and planting a range of seeds which we will be observing the progress of over the coming weeks and months. Linking with one of our favourite stories, 'Tad' by 'Benji Davies', we have welcomed a cluster of frogspawn into our class and look forward to observing as this hopefully progresses through the frog lifecycle.

## Beech Class



This term in Beech Class we have been learning about Coastlines. We have been thinking about the physical and human geographical features found at the coast and comparing our Cornish coastline with Whitby in the North East; learning who keeps us safe at sea whilst considering how life on the coast has changed over the years.





## Grow Every Learner Learn for Life Enjoy Every Challenge Excel Together

Traction Man- in his dazzled-painted battle pants, with his trusty sidekick scrubbing brush- provided the stimulus for our Novel Study unit. The children explored expanded noun phrases and direct speech before writing news reports. They then used drama to explore other missions for Traction Man before writing their adventure narratives. Wold Book Day saw a return to a dress up day and the children enjoyed dressing as a favourite book character to celebrate our love of books and reading.



Science Week was great fun in Beech Class. Our focus on 'Growth' led us to science experiments growing different seeds, a bit of bee pollination drama and some delicate daffodil dissection. We ended the week with a trip to Luxulyan Valley in search of spring growth. The children found many signs of emerging flora and fauna and then thought about growth in terms of themselves and made woodland images of their growing bodies.

### Sycamore Class



This term in Sycamore class has seen us focusing on our new topic. This has involved learning all about the world's biggest and most famous mountains and rivers. Not only have we been learning all about the 7 continents of our world we have also discovered which continents contain mountain ranges and famous rivers. Our Novel study this term has seen us looking at Ted Hughes classic *The Iron Man*. We have explored his use of rhetorical questions to engage the reader and have focused on writing and punctuating direct speech and constructing our own newspaper reports. Within maths, we have moved on to fractions. This has been used to open up lots of conversations about magnitude (size) and the meaning of a fraction's numerator and denominator. Pupils have enjoyed some of the practical applications of fractions such as how to portion a pizza or cake correctly and what a fraction looks like in its pictorial format using multiple representations. We also celebrated World Book Day and joined in with some live events that allowed the pupils to write, draw and sing along.

We have been celebrating science across Luxulyan and in Sycamore class we were looking at factors that affect the growth of plants. For our experiment we used watercress and the pupils chose one of three variables to investigate. These variables were water vs no water, air vs less air and light vs dark. After the pupil chose their variables, we set up our experiments using cotton wool, cress and water. We made some paper trays to hold our cotton wool and cress seeds for



Grow Every Learner    Learn for Life    Enjoy Every Challenge    Excel Together

the duration of the experiment. Across the week, we have focused heavily on predictions and used our existing knowledge to predict what would happen. Once the experiment has finished, we discussed why we achieved the results we achieved and used our predictions to analyse our experimental results. Other experiments and things we have explored included making slime (with limited success), identifying the different layers of mud, invertebrates and their habitats and we have also been exploring vertebrates and human bones.

## Oak Class

It has been a tale of 2 different weeks in Oak class as we have enjoyed celebrating our love of reading and science.



Reading week coincided with World Book Day and we had a great time taking part in 3 live streamed events with authors and illustrators. I think it is fair to say that our favourite was Nick Sharratt who shared his new book and then taught us how to draw some of the characters. His teaching even made my drawings look realistic which is a difficult thing to do!

On World Book Day everybody dressed up as their favourite book characters as you can see. We finished the week with all pupils preparing a piece of writing, that will be shared across the school, which explained why they enjoyed reading and who their favourite authors are.



Science was also celebrated with activities throughout the week covering the theme of 'growing'. Oak class looked at optical illusions and why they trick our brains. They then created their own illusions to share at home. We also built nests and tested them for their abilities to withstand wind and rain. I think most pupils enjoyed making slime and changing variable to see how they affected stretching and contracting. Road safety measures and a traffic count was linked to our growing population and global warming.





Grow Every Learner    Learn for Life    Enjoy Every Challenge    Excel Together



Congratulations to Sarah Berry on the safe arrival of Mollie Robyn, 8lb 13 oz. A true gift on Mother's day for the Berry Family. We can't wait to meet her!