



## Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 31st March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term it has been! The children have had so many opportunities to demonstrate our Character Virtues, develop their academic skills, work with members of the community and innovate their ideas.

Our KS1 children enjoyed participating with other children at the Holsworthy Performing Arts Festival. I had the pleasure of attending this with them and was so proud of the children with their participation and teamwork when learning the dances.

It has been lovely to see so many of the children join in with the tree planting scheme with Elaine at Beer Mill. The children have been Inspiring Changemakers, planting trees that will benefit future generations.

Our fantastic PTA have been extremely busy organising Clawfest, whilst also providing Easter Activities for the children and much more! Could I take this opportunity to thank them for all of their hard work that they have done, fundraising for Clawton School. The summer term looks set to be a busy one already, so as soon as we have finalised dates for the different events, we will send these out to you.

I would like to wish you all a lovely Easter break on behalf of all of the staff at Clawton. We look forward to seeing you all back on the 17th April.

Kind regards,

Mrs Steyn



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**Key dates:**

31st March - Last day of term

17th April - First day back

17th & 18th April - Yr 5 Bikeability

20th April - Storm in a Teapot  
(KS1)

**Focus virtue this week:**

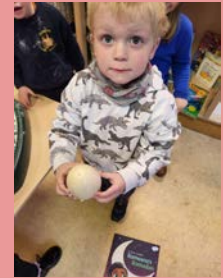
**Citizenship**

Owls:

**Academic:**



This week Owls focus has been 'Prehistoric' looking at change over time. We have also been learning about the Easter story and 'new life'. Owls were very excited to find an egg on our walk to Beer Mill! We have been studying the egg wondering what might hatch!? This week a head poked out...



**Character:**



Owls are Inspiring Skillbuilders after they built a beautiful Sensory Path for us to use! We dug out the patch (in the rain!) Owls weren't afraid to roll their sleeves up and get stuck in (literally!) We designed the path using our painted stones and items brought in from home as well as planting thyme and laying rubber, woodchip and gravel. The end result looks brilliant for our path into preschool, well done Owls!



**Community:**



Owls have been Inspiring Adventurers on their trip to Beer Mill where we helped Elaine on their Claw Wood Tree Project. Owls were helpful volunteers, nailing blankets around the bottom of the trees and placing the trees in tubes for protection. Elaine told us the trees were 3 years old which is our focus number and lots of children said they are also 3!



**Digital and Innovation:**

Owls have really enjoyed our Talk for Writing text this half term - Jasper's Beanstalk. We have imitated the text by learning days of the week, characters and sequencing the storyline. We innovated the story by thinking about what could be at the top of your beanstalk and had a surprise visit from a Giant in preschool! This week Owls demonstrated being creative and critical thinkers by inventing their own fantastic stories!



**Hedgehogs and Flying Squirrels:**

**Academic:**

This half term the children have been learning about how living things grow and change. They have also realised that all living things need to be nurtured and cared for to survive. This week, 'The Stork' delivered a baby sloth to the classroom along with a note asking us to look after him. The children will need to be Inspiring Researchers and learn about what he likes to eat so he doesn't go hungry and what habitat he lives in so that they can build him a shelter. Will they be able to provide the sloth with everything he needs in order to survive?



**Character:**



This week the children have been encouraged to use their critical thinking skills and build a tower for some chicks inside a nest. They were given wooden cookies, lolly sticks, corks and Bluetac and had to design their own structures. Some children decided to share their ideas and work with a partner while others chose to work alone. It was fantastic to see so many character virtues in action during this activity, including cooperation, determination, motivation, critical thinking, resilience and reflection.



**Community:**



This week the children enjoyed being Inspiring Volunteers and Skill Builders by getting involved in Elaine's tree planting project up at Beer Mill. The weather didn't hold us back and we got stuck in with laying blankets and securing the plastic tubes around each infant tree for protection. We also welcomed parents and grandparents into class on Wednesday morning and had a lovely time taking part in a range of Easter activities. Some parents became Inspiring Skill Builder themselves by learning how to use a pompom making machine to create Easter chicks!

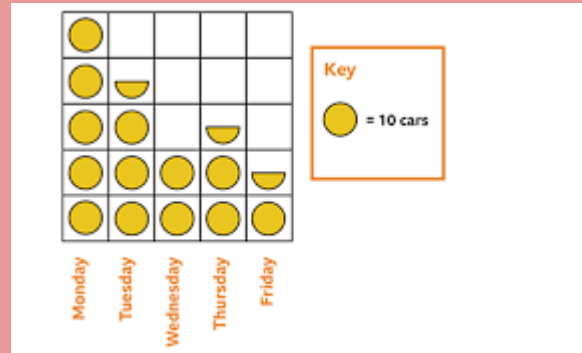
**Innovation:**

This week the children have innovated 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' to create a new version of the text called 'The Very Hungry Tadpole'. The reception children made up a life cycle dance to represent our new story and the year one children did a final write where they had to include adjectives and adverbs to make their stories more interesting to read. What 'Wow Writers' you are all becoming!

Squirrels:

**Academic:**

Squirrels have been learning about simple statistics and how they can help us. They have carried out surveys and recorded their data using tally charts, block graphs and pictograms. It was interesting to see how the different graphs and charts helped us to work out what was popular and what was not; some of the results were quite surprising!



**Character:**



Squirrels have been using their character virtue of Curiosity when out and about in the school garden with Wendy. We learned about bulbs and have planted some onion bulbs which we hope to harvest and cook with when they are ready in July. We also dissected some daffodils and looked at the different parts of the flower under a real microscope. Everyone was fascinated by the different parts and how they work!



**Community:**

Squirrels have been learning about Fair Trade and what a difference this can make to farmers around the world. We have all agreed that making sure everyone is treated fairly and paid properly for their work is so important. As global citizens, we support Fair Trade!



**Digital and Innovation:**



Squirrels have enjoyed working with the text 'Dear Greenpeace' over the last couple of weeks and have innovated upon the text by writing their own letters featuring an orang-utan. We had great fun thinking about what an orang-utan might get up to if it arrived in Clawton, and learned all about how to properly structure a letter.

Foxes

**Academic:**



Foxes have just finished the end of the Fractions unit, we will return to this in the summer term. We have now moved on to Mass and Capacity in year 3 and the year 4s are looking at decimals. The year 4s are currently also practising for the multiplication check in June which consists of 25 randomly generated multiplication questions. In English we have been writing warning stories. This is based on what may happen if you do something you are told not to do. There were lots of fantastic ideas!

**Character:**

This week Foxes have been demonstrating the virtue of creativity whilst creating lots of Easter crafts. They have also demonstrated reflection focusing on what we have learnt over this term.



**Community:**



Foxes have also demonstrated determination and helpfulness when we visited Beer Mill to plant trees. We managed to plant over 100 trees, to help Elaine build her new woodland! We also planted seeds for the school garden which consisted of herbs, flowers and other exciting plants. Keep an eye out for these after Easter!

**Digital and Innovation:**

Foxes have created lovely Easter baskets on Wednesday, being creative and inspiring skill builders. Using weaving skills, which some children have not done before. Foxes had to use their creativity and patience virtues to complete this task.



## Badgers

### Academic:

Badger class have all now completed their farming projects. They have answered the question 'If someone gave you a huge piece of land what would you do with it?' with numerous amazing ideas from water parks, farms, cities or a combination of everything! Their projects are great.

### Character:



This week Badger class have shown the character virtue of generosity. They made chocolate Easter nests for all the children in school and delivered them to the classes at the end of the day. They also used their mathematical skills (a calculator!!) to ensure that they had enough for everyone.



### Community:



Badgers also demonstrated determination and resilience when we visited Beer Mill in the rain to help Elaine plant the new woods now named 'Claw Wood'. They planted about 130 trees, put the stakes in, added weed control and deer and rabbit protection. On their return to school they also designed the signs for Elaine to choose from naming the woods.

### Digital and Innovation:



This week Badgers had a visit from Louise who works for EEE. She taught them all about solar energy. The children were able to test out numerous solar powered toys before designing and making their own. This was an amazing session and the children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



**Clawton Toddler Group**

Toddlers had a great time on World Book Day! There were some great costumes and it was lovely to see the children dressed as their favourite characters and enjoying listening to some great stories.

We have enjoyed science week where we made our very own volcano and lava lamps which was great fun.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter from the Toddler Team.



**Inspiring Changemaker in Action!**



“I am Orla and I am 6. I am in Squirrel Class and I am walking one mile every day throughout April to raise money for Nick to go to school in Uganda. So far, I have raised £75 from my family.”

Well done Orla! We are looking forward to following your journey!

**School Council**

School council has been working hard to plan a fundraiser to help the school pay for Nic, our sponsored child, to go to school in Uganda. We have planned our coin trail and lots of people have already started to bring in coins which is amazing! By the end of April, we might even be able to put the trail all the way around the school! School council has also sorted some books to be collected and sent to schools in need in Africa. We have used our character virtues to help others and have been inspiring fundraisers.

Happy Easter!

By Chester and Evie.

Thank you, from the School Council.

More Photos

The Very Hungry Tadpole

Sunday ↑ and POP!

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