

Issue No 26 - 7th May 2021

This week's year group news...

Reception Ask your child to tell you a fact about minibeasts. They have explored and investigated them with enthusiasm. The next couple of weeks will move on to looking at the wonderful book, 'Kevin the koala who could' by Rachel Bright to enhance and inspire our learning. The children will be empathising with the character of Kevin and his experiences and sharing their own thoughts and feelings. What are their strengths? What do they find challenging? Happily, we are able to reintroduce our dressing up clothes and we will be thinking about the roles of people who help us in society such as the police, paramedics and supermarket workers. The children will engage in role play reflecting on their own understanding and experience.

We will be thinking about the country of Australia and comparing it to the UK, looking for similarities and differences and creative activity will see us looking carefully at aboriginal art and spot paintings as well as working towards building a tree house for Kevin. Have a lovely weekend.

Year 1 We were very excited this week when our tiny caterpillars arrived! The children have enjoyed naming them (Rose, Arthur, Jeffrey, Sparkle and Wriggly in 1WH and Fluff, Cutie, Tyler, Sparkly and Rosie in 1T). We are looking forward to watching them grow and change over the next few weeks. Other exciting news was the beautiful stick insect (named Shirley) that staff at Jacks and Jill's pre-school found. Next week in Science, as well as observing the caterpillars and stick insect, we will be learning all about food chains. In Maths, we will start to take a look at fractions. We will begin by thinking about the concept of a half, finding half of shapes and quantities. In our writing, we say goodbye to The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and we look at non-fiction texts. We are looking forward to learning lots of facts about a range of different minibeasts and learning about the features of non-fiction texts. Our PSHE, as part of the relationship's jigsaw piece, will be focused on what makes a good friend. Thank you as always for all your continued support. We wish you all a very happy weekend.

Year 2 We have had an exciting week in KS1 this week and welcome the arrival of a stick insect called Sheila and caterpillars which each class has named. We are looking forward to watching the caterpillars grow into butterflies as part of our minibeast topic. Next week in Maths we will be looking at counting in 2s and will be jumping, clapping and singing our 2 x table.

In English we will be reading and recreating minibeast poems. We hope to perform our poems to our classmates at the end of the week.

We are really enjoying our PE and games sessions and have loved getting out onto the field. Please remember PE kits on Tuesday and Thursdays.



More year group news...

Year 3 & Year 4 The Year 3 and 4 teachers are proud of the effort children are making with their learning. Next week in Reading, they will be working on their comprehension skills. In writing they will identify the features of a Viking myth (saga) then express their opinion about it. They will then answer comprehension questions about it and move on to creating a story map. For topic, they will be investigating 'daily life as a Viking child'. Year 3 Mathematicians will be exploring fractions. Year 4 Mathematicians will be comparing angles, classify quadrilaterals and will then explore symmetry.

A polite reminder that Year 3 have outdoor Games on Monday and indoor PE on Friday. (This includes 3/4Y). Year 4 have indoor PE on Wednesday and outdoor Games on Thursday.

Year 5 Year 5 have continued to enjoy their Allotment topic. In English, we have reached the end of a fiction block, which has resulted in the children writing their own versions of *The Secret Garden*. We are immensely proud of the quality of their writing and have seen many descriptive techniques used such as similes, powerful verbs, adjectives and the use of their senses to enhance description. In our Reading lessons this week, the children have been reading short extracts of fiction texts and answering questions about what they have read. Next week, we will be starting a new book, which we are confident the children will be mesmerised by! In Maths, we have been learning about percentages and the link between fractions, decimals, and percentages. Please continue to remind your child to complete their My Maths homework each week. We have noticed that the number of children completing these tasks in each class are decreasing. As you know, our Religious Education lessons for the past few weeks have seen us discussing what people believe about life after death. The children have participated in these sessions maturely and sensitively. Finally, well done to all the children in Year 5 who have completed an Accelerated Reader quiz this week. Which class will have the highest word count by the end of the year?

Year 6 In Year 6 this week, we were delighted to welcome dancers from the Mayflower Imagination Museum project. The children were asked to imagine that they were passengers on *The Mayflower* during its voyage to the New World. Each child in Year 6 has been given a specially designed boarding pass and 'suitcase' full of information and craft activities made by Katie Green. Those children who have expressed an interest will be taking part in a dance workshop for the next five weeks. The final dance will be filmed and shown at The Box Museum as part of the Mayflower 400 commemoration.

In English sessions, we have continued reading *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman. Accept a transplant of a pig's heart, or die? That's what Cameron had to decide. The children have impressed us by using this text to inspire their own writing based around a moral dilemma. Next week, we will be writing a balanced argument using the discussion topic of xenotransplantation.

In our reading sessions, the children will continue to apply their viper skills when reading and discussing 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl'. They will learn about the life and discoveries of Mary Anning, the first female palaeontologist.

Our maths learning this week has focused on properties of shape. The children have been calculating angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and regular polygons. MyMaths homework tasks have been set to reinforce classroom learning.

Please make sure that all children with a pen licence, bring their own handwriting pen to school. Also, weekly spelling tests are taking place each Friday so please ensure that the spelling lists are accessed via the website (Term 4-5).

Finally, please look out for information regarding the Year 6 activity day in July.

Thank you for your continued support and stay safe.



Headteacher: James Gentile
Goosewell Road, Plymouth PL9 9HD
Tel: 01752 482960
Email: admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk
Website: www.goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk

This week's highlights & reminders:

Parent Support Advisor - Jo Penk

Don't forget to look at the PSA section of the Goosewell Academy website, for information on ideas, support and activities for families throughout the current lockdown. Your children can also use the [Worry Box](#) link if they have a worry that they would like some help with. By clicking on the link, Mrs Penk can talk to your child about their worry on our return to school and together they can work out how to make that worry shrink. Click [PSA](#) to keep informed of all the most recent updates from [Plymouth Information Advice & Support for SEND](#) and [Routeways](#).



Covid-19 Reminders on Guidance & Reporting

As you know, children may be asymptomatic with Covid-19, but as advised by the Government, pre-school children and primary aged pupils are not being tested with Lateral Flow Tests. Staff will be testing to help reduce transmission of the virus and keep everyone safe. However, as there are still positive cases in the city, we ask that the whole school community stays vigilant, and should your child develop any new symptoms of Covid-19, you must seek a PCR test. LFT testing is designed to identify asymptomatic cases only.

We have included a link to the guidance for you to follow should you or a member of your family/support bubble experience Covid-19 symptoms, or test positive for Covid-19. Please take the time to read this guidance to ensure that we are all following the correct procedures, aimed at keeping our community safe and well. We would be grateful if you could continue to use the covid@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk email address to inform us of anything Covid related.

[Covid-19 - Absence Guidance](#)

Take Part In 'The Big Ask'

The Big Ask is now Live

The Big Ask is the largest ever survey of children in England, designed to find out what their concerns and aspirations about the future are. The Big Ask survey is now live at: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

There are [promotional resources](#) for the Big Ask, including posters, social media posts and activity packs for children and young people. The survey is accompanied by an [online video](#) introduced by England and Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford.

Your cooperation will be crucial for us to ensure that all children and young people, including those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged, have their voices heard.

The results from this survey will help me identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve. I need to reach as many children as possible through The Big Ask – the more I hear from, the stronger the results will be.

Thank you in advance for helping me put children and young people in the heart of the country's plans to rebuild for the future.

Sincerely

Dame Rachel de Souza
Children's Commissioner for England



Headteacher: James Gentile
Goosewell Road, Plymouth PL9 9HD
Tel: 01752 482960
Email: admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk
Website: www.goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk

A Message for Year 6 Parents/Carers

Year 6 Leavers Party - 23rd July - parent organised event

Hopefully by now Year 6 parents have all seen the letter sent home after Easter. We have had a really great response so far, with around 70 replies. It looks to be a really fun evening and we'd love for as many Year 6 children to come and celebrate as possible.

This is **not** a school organised event so, if you are able to, please join our Facebook group:

Goosewell year 6 2021

This is where we are able to disseminate information to everyone in the easiest way.

Tickets are £10 which includes a small meal, drinks and a gift to take home. Tickets will need to be paid for by **16th May**.

Each of us are happy to receive cash at school if you see us at the gate, or contact us for PayPal details.

If anyone has any questions, please do drop any of us a message and we will try and help.

Thanks

Louise Draper Bennett (Fraser 6s, Finley 6R) Claire Wilson (Harry 6WT), Sharon Yeoman (Sam 6S), Amy Pardew (Skye 6S) and Samantha Wilson (David 6T)

Goosewell
Primary Academy

Rise To Greatness



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