

# NEWSLETTER

Inspiration and Success



## Clash of the Titans

On Thursday 18th of February 2016 two greats of the footballing world were pitted against each other - Oswald Road Teachers and 44 of year 6!

The teachers were lead out by Captain Salisbury, who had been holding intense early morning training sessions to ensure his team were ready to win! Although there was a huge amount of pride at stake, this game was to christen our brand new sports facilities. There was a fantastic response from the year 6 children, 44 of them were ready and raring to challenge the teachers' sporting prowess.

Not only were they ready and raring to go, but our new House Captains and their Deputies organised it so all the children would get to play for six minutes in a team of seven. There are a few candidates who will be knocking on the door for the England job in years to come.

It was a still day. The pitch looked perfect, ideal for a game of this magnitude. The teachers started with Super Goaly Miss Beech, lumbering centre half Mr Keeley, marauding full back Miss Davis, flair midfielder Mr Salisbury and 20 goals a season striker Miss Wiles. Some one was missing...the veteran - Mr Beisly. Just in the nick of time he made it on to the pitch (still sporting suit trousers) to complete the dream team. The teachers had formidable opponents in year 6 and the nerves could be seen

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throughout the team. No fear was evident in year 6, they firmly had their game faces on! As the game kicked off it was obvious neither side were willing to let the other side win. Tough tackles were flying in and the game was end to end. It was a close run affair with the teachers being the eventual winners, scoring 27 - 6.

This will not be the last time these giants of the sporting world will clash! A June grudge match is already in the pipeline!

## Exploring Eyam....



On 11th February Year 2 took a trip to Eyam linked to their topic about the Plague.

Eyam is a small village in Derbyshire that isolated itself when the plague hit it so it didn't spread to the rest of the north of England. We had a look around Eyam museum then had a walk around the town and up to Riley Graves. It was interesting to see the cottages that housed so many plague victims and hard to believe that so many people lost their lives in such a small village.

It was a beautiful day for a hill walk and we saw such amazing views over Derbyshire - **What fabulous day!**





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## Down on the farm....



Nursery went to visit Smithills farm this week and what a fun day out we had! Our day started off by meeting 2 friendly donkeys called Mickey and Tommy. We were even allowed to have a little ride on them! After that we got on a tractor and made our way into the fields. We had lots of bread ready to feed the donkeys with! After a busy morning we



stopped for a picnic before going to visit lots of different pets in 'Pets Corner'. Here we had the very important job of feeding all the baby lambs.

They were so hungry and drank all their milk very quickly!



We also got to hold chicks, guinea pigs and even stroke a snake! We quickly made our way to the 'Milking Parlour' where we learnt all about how cows are milked. The machines sucked the milk from the cow's udders.

**It was amazing!**

Next we had more feeding to do as we went to visit the goats, pigs and sheep. They were very greedy taking all the food straight out of our hands.



After a fantastic day it was time for us to get back onto the coach to come home. We can't wait to look back at our photos and talk about our favourite animals from the trip.

# ECO TEAM NEWS



## PLAYGROUND UPDATE!

### GROWING:



As the warmer weather approaches, children across the school are getting ready to plant flowers and vegetables in their year group planters. Year 5 sowed broad beans inside back in February, which they have now planted out. They are looking forward to watching them grow and to harvesting and eating them in the summer! School have purchased a new shed in which to store gardening tools and the Eco team have set up a composting bin for all the weeds we pull up.

Any parents who would like to help out with our growing project, please talk to your child's teacher.

### OWL GARDEN

After consulting with children and staff, we are pleased to be able to announce our plans for the Owl Garden. Later this year we will be installing an outdoor classroom using money raised from the Go for Green campaign. Using school money, we will be fencing off the Owl Garden area to create a quiet area in our playground. We will also be working with Hulme Garden Centre to design and plant a Forest Garden, which will hopefully include a small pond. In the future the children will be building bug hotels and bird feeders to help encourage wildlife to our playground. Other plans for the future include a mural and a range of seating, including a friendship bench.

### GREEN DAY

We will be holding a Green Day in school on Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup> to help raise money for our playground plans. We will be asking the children to wear something green and to bring in a small donation of money. During the afternoon the children will take part in eco-friendly activities. We will send out more information about this nearer the time.



### DONATIONS

We are currently in need of donations of logs and woodchip. If any parents have any contacts, please contact Mrs Dumville (Miss Wilson) through the school office.





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## Year 3 visit the Recycling Centre...



This term, Year 3 took a trip to the Recycling Centre! Safety goggles? Check! Hi-vis jacket? Check! Hat? Check! Headphones? Check! All geared up, we took a tour of the recycling centre to see what really happens to our rubbish! After that, we had a lesson from an expert & made cool bags from recycled wallpaper!



At the end of the day, we were all awarded with a "Recycling Superhero Certificate"! We hope 3CD's parents enjoyed their class assembly & learnt a thing or two about recycling!





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## A big well done to our wonderful Right's Ambassadors...



I was extremely proud of the Right's Ambassadors this week. They delivered a confident presentation to our Governors about our Right's Respecting journey so far at Oswald Road. They interacted well in activities with the Governors and held some important discussions. The Ambassadors showed how passionate they were about the importance of **all** children in school having 'a voice.' Thank you to all involved.

- **Kathryn Whalley.**

Here's what one of our Governors had to say about it:



“ On Monday afternoon I had the pleasure of meeting some of the Rights Respecting Ambassadors at school. The children from Year 1 to 6 talked to us about their work and the importance of respecting rights.

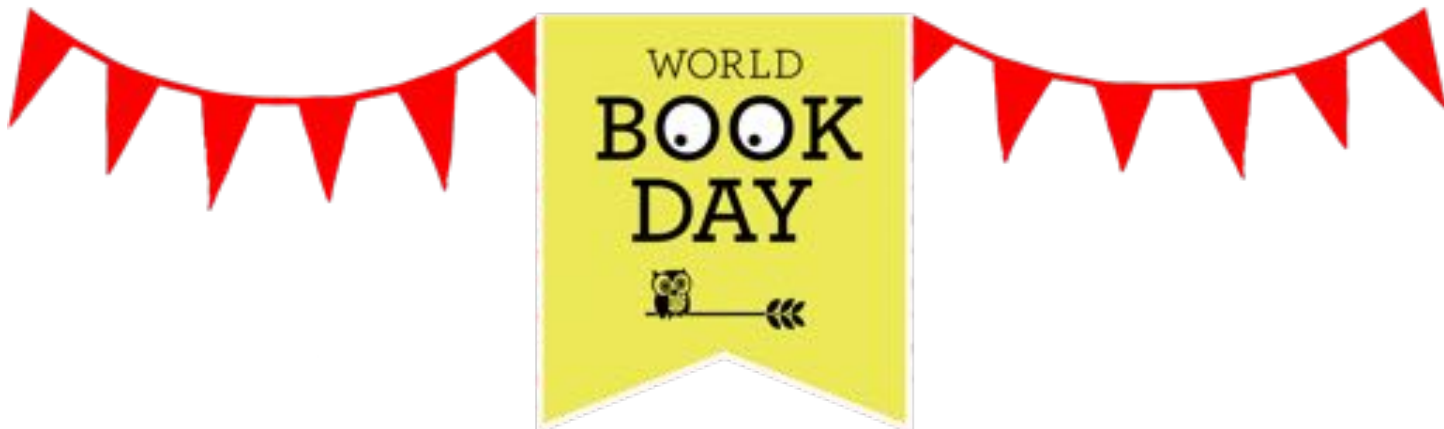
I was very impressed with the eloquence and confidence of the children and particularly enjoyed sharing ideas with them when they gave us a task to do! They have lots of

great ideas and are keen to put them in action. They take the responsibility of being the voice of their peers very seriously and were able to give examples of adults responding to questions they have raised. We have been invited to return later on this year and I look forward to hearing more about the work of the Rights Respecting Ambassadors. I see why Miss Whalley is so proud of her team!

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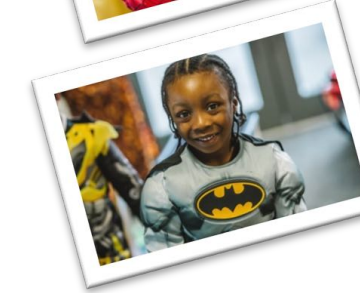
## Wonderful World Book Day!

We certainly had a magical World Book Day this year! As our theme was Harry Potter, lots of children came in dressed up as wizards and witches; there was even a house elf! The children were really enthusiastic and they enjoyed their Harry Potter themed afternoon activities. Some year groups created invisible writing whilst others designed and made their own (incredibly powerful) wands.

Florence (4KR) said, "I liked making spell books about Harry Potter in Freestyle Friday and everyone made an effort with their costumes."

Charlie (4KR) also said, "I liked seeing everyone's outfits and I liked that we got to do themed activities."

Everyone had a fantastic time and it was clear to see that the children really do love reading!





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## Year 4's amazing museum!



Year 4 had a wonderful time at the end of Spring 1 when their 'Tomb Raiders' topic culminated in their classrooms being turned into Egyptian museum exhibits!

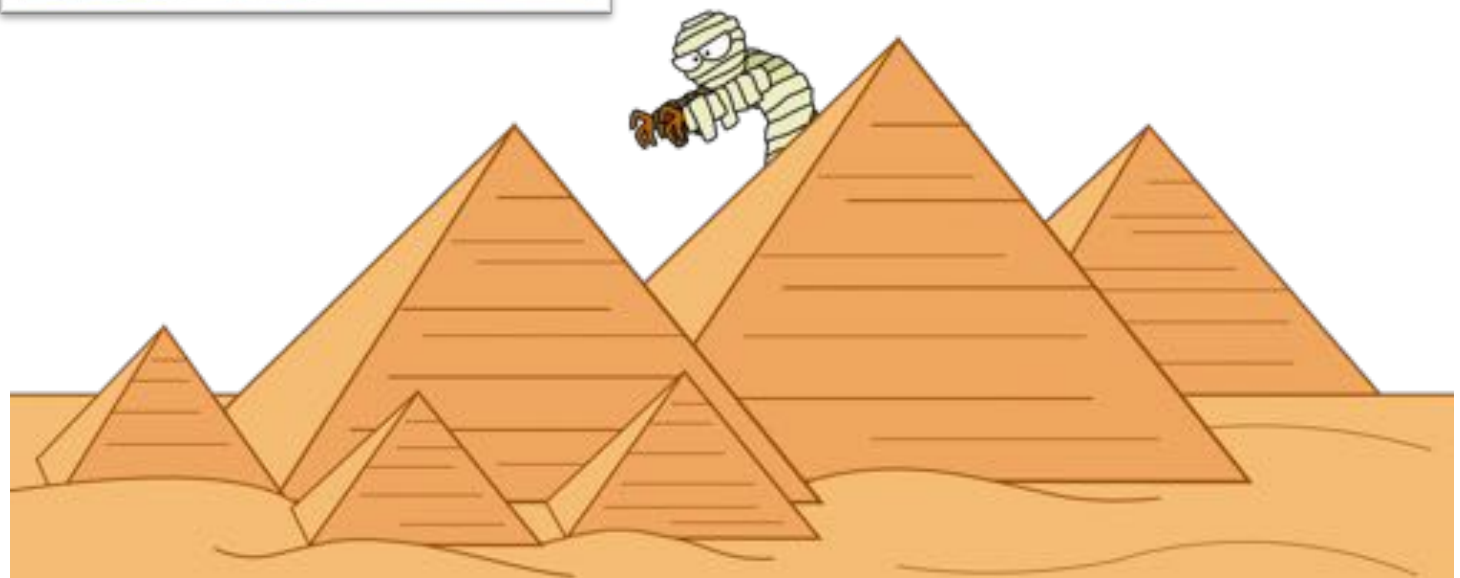
The children were delighted to be able to show off all they had learnt over the course of the term to



their grownups. Artefacts included: mod rock mummies; perfect pasta pyramids; cracking clay models of Egyptian gods; jazzy jewellery and hilarious hieroglyphics.



They even used their fab ICT skills to create mini information clips.







## Sport Relief at Oswald Road Primary School

Children at Oswald Road School fundraised themselves proud on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The day started with an energetic whole school 5 a day activity in every classroom. In addition, children took part in a dynamic Duck and Dive dodgeball competition in which they played against house teams. Children had a great time and their sports themed costumes added to the excitement of the day. Children in all houses played with great determination and points were very close, but Tawny managed to fly to the lead and won.

Throughout the day, each class stepped up to the pedometer challenge and thought of creative ways to collect the most steps. As a result, 5WM won with a staggering number of 48,488 steps!

“ ***I really liked doing the Sport Relief event on Friday. We were doing lots of events and all the money raised went to charity which was an added bonus. There was something for everyone from penalty shootout to water fights and pie throwing. The school managed to raise an amazing £471 for sports relief. Also we really enjoyed ourselves in the process so what's not to like?*** ”

- **Alfie 6JB, house captain for Snowy owls.**

Year 6 organised activities throughout the day supported by staff who joined in the spirit of Sports Relief and took part in the gruelling wet sponge challenge.

During lunchtime children took part in the fun run lead by Miss Wiles, with lunchtime staff cheering them on.

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To round off the school day, Oswald road PTA had organised a bake sale full of tasty treats. It was amazing to see everyone working together having fun and raising money in order to make a significant difference in the lives of adults and children all around the world.



But the fundraising didn't end there. On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March the Y6 netball team put on their pyjamas and carried out the netball challenge after school. They had worked hard in organising this event and had demonstrated commitment in supporting a worthy cause.



**They raised a whopping £119.73. Wow!**



***"We did a dodge ball match but in my class Spotted owls did not win. I felt proud because I helped raise money for children my age who struggle every day."***



Rosie 3SE

***"I felt proud because I raised £1.50 for Sports Relief."***

Niamh 3SE

***"I felt proud because I gave a pound to help poor children like Champa and other children in other countries. I also enjoyed dodge ball because we won against Barn owls. I hope children like Champa have a home now."***

Freya 3SE

***"I enjoyed playing dodge ball because it was fun."***





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Aayan 3SE

***"I enjoyed trying to get as many steps as possible at playtime."***

Hugh 2SF

A BIG thank You to all the staff, pupils and parents who put fun into **fundraising** and helped create many enjoyable memories.



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## New maths initiative coming soon...



We are in the exciting stage of setting up a new maths initiative in school based on maths teaching in Singapore. Back in October Deborah Howard and I went on a fantastic three day maths training course with the inspiring Dr Yeap Ban Har. We have also seen the initiative in action at St Mary's in Moss Side. The benefits of this new approach were clear to see – the children's number sense and reasoning skills were incredible. Since then we have worked with other schools in the local cluster, who have already started Singapore maths, to devise an action plan for rest of the year. Teachers and teaching

assistants will receive training in the coming months ready for a trial period in Year 1, to start in September.

- *Paul Salisbury*

## Important: Times for closing EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) gates

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The gates for our Foundation Stage will be opened at 8.45 and closed at 9. In the evenings they will be opened at 3.15 and closed at 3.45. We kindly ask that parents leave the area by the time the gates are closed.



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## You said | We did

As part of our commitment to improving communication with our families, each newsletter will feature a 'You Said, We Did' section, so you can see how your suggestions have been put into practice...

You said you weren't sure who to approach with a concern.

We have introduced a central email address: [inbox@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:inbox@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk)

You want to see the quality of lunchtimes developed.

We have just appointed a Strategic Senior Lunchtime Organiser to work with different members of the Leadership Team to strive towards their vision of excellence for lunchtimes.

You asked for a consistent approach to homework.

We have reviewed how we do homework across school, communicated this with you and posted this on the website. We have written a Homework Policy, which is currently being ratified by school governors.

You asked for a greater profile for our Rights Ambassadors.

We have made a large display centrally in school about our Rights Ambassadors and there will soon be a blog and Facebook and Twitter updates from our Rights Team.