



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...



Reading
on World
Book Day

Page 2 >>>



Year 6's PGL
Adventures!

Page 3 >>>



Growing musical
talent with
Singinspiration

Page 6 >>>

Headteacher's Update

Dear Families,

The nights are growing shorter, the days are becoming warmer, and the grass is beginning to grow—spring has arrived, and with it we've leapt forward at King Offa. Recent assessments in Maths show an increase in the number of pupils meeting the expected standard across every year group. We have seen similar progress in Reading, with particularly strong improvement in Year 5. This reflects the positive impact of our pupils' hard work, excellent teaching, and the wonderful support provided at home. Well done, everyone.

Our Reception and Nursery pupils have been captivated by the hatching eggs they have been caring for. Watching how delicate and vulnerable the chicks were in their first moments reminded us all of the importance of caring for one another and showing kindness.

This term, we have focused on our school value of **Pride**. There have been many proud moments, but one that stood out to me occurred during the Inter-School Cross Country competition. The course included a particularly muddy section where shoes were literally being pulled from runners' feet. When Reggie noticed a classmate in difficulty, he sacrificed his position in the race to go back and help. His team spirit and selflessness were a shining example of the character we value at King Offa. A truly proud moment.

Next term will be an important one for our Year 6 pupils as they complete their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). We will approach this milestone with confidence, determination, and a sense of pride in our knowledge and skills.

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to more adventures next term.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES TOWNER
Headteacher, King Offa
Primary Academy



Building Works Update

The regeneration of the Camelot building continues to make excellent progress, and I am pleased to share that we are now officially out of the ground. The foundations have been successfully laid—a moment that brought great excitement to our Nursery and Reception pupils as they watched the cement being pumped into place. Fingers crossed, we remain on track for completion by September.



What a wonderful World Book Day celebration we had!

Our events ran throughout the entire week and created such a buzz around reading across the whole school.

We started with a free book sale on the playground, giving every child the chance to choose a book to enjoy at home. Followed by one of the highlights of the week, our first ever 'Breakfast and a Book', which was incredibly well attended. Families arrived bright and early to share stories together.

The atmosphere was full of smiles and chatter, and the bacon baps were a huge hit. It was lovely to see children and parents enjoying a relaxed, welcoming space to read side by side. We received so many positive comments from parents who said how much they appreciated the chance to spend quality time reading with their child before the school day started.



The week culminated on Friday 6th March with so many wonderful costumes on display, showcasing creativity, favourite characters, and a real love of reading. Throughout the day, children took part in buddy reading, with older and younger pupils coming together to share books and build connections across year groups. We also welcomed parents into school for a Reading Workshop, where they learned more about how reading is taught and how we foster a lifelong love of books here at King Offa.

It was a joyful, community-centred week that truly celebrated the magic of reading.



PGL

Our Year 6 pupils have had an unforgettable adventure at PGL Windmill Hill! From the moment they arrived, they threw themselves into every challenge with enthusiasm and resilience. The zipline tested their nerves, but each child showed impressive determination as they took a deep breath and launched themselves into the air. The giant swing brought even bigger thrills, with pupils encouraging one another to be brave and enjoy the ride. In the evenings, the disco was a highlight, giving everyone a chance to relax, celebrate, and show off their best dance moves (including Mr Towner!).



What stood out most across the trip was the *pride* the children took in supporting each other, stepping outside their comfort zones, and proving just how capable they are. Their teamwork, positivity, and willingness to try new things made the residential a huge success and a fantastic memory for the whole year group.



PRIDE

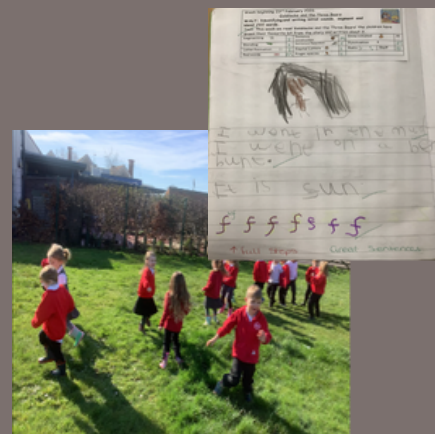


Nursery

The children explored new experiences this term, with children working together and celebrating achievements with growing confidence. They have demonstrated fantastic bravery and pride when holding our newest members of the team, our lovely chicks. Our chick hatching project has brought so much excitement to the nursery, and there has been a wonderful sense of *pride* on show as the children have gently cared for and held our newest little arrivals. We have seen perseverance and teamwork during threading activities and independent play, with some children collaborating to build an impressive “super car”. We have seen lovely moments of self-care and independence as the children have taken responsibility for brushing their teeth, showing good understanding of looking after themselves.

Reception

This term, our topic is *In the Forest*, and the children have been exploring the world of bears and their habitats. With the beautiful sunshine on our side, we took the class on a bear hunt out on the school field. The children loved acting out the story, joining in confidently and bringing the adventure to life through movement. After our outdoor experience, the children headed back inside to complete their writing task, and we were absolutely wowed by their efforts! They used phonics knowledge brilliantly, applying learned sounds and recalling parts of the story in their writing. Many were able to independently write their own sentence, and some used ‘the’ in their sentences, which is a fantastic achievement. We are so *proud* of how engaged, enthusiastic, and creative the children have been throughout this topic.



Year 1

In Year 1 this term, we have taken *pride* in the growth of knowledge in Geography. We have been exploring the seven continents of the Earth and also the five oceans. The children have been busy exploring globes and atlases to identify these parts of the Earth. They have loved sharing their knowledge with one another. They have also taken pride in the work they have added to their floorbooks to demonstrate this knowledge and using teamwork to locate the continents on a map.



Year 2

This term, the children of Nightingale and Seacole class have made the staff from the Year 2 team incredibly proud with the way they represented our school while on our trip to Drucillas. They listened wonderfully during our life cycles workshop with a zoo keeper and were very courageous to take up the opportunity to stroke a gerbil or snake! This trip supported our Science learning for the term of ‘Animals including humans’. We experienced seeing a wide range of animals during this trip where they were able to make connections to their learning. The children should be very proud of themselves.





Year 3

This week, year 3 have been asking the question, how does the distance between an object and a light source affect the size of a shadow?' We used multilink towers and torches to change the size of shadows ourselves. Our results show that the smaller the distance between the object and light source, the bigger the shadows. This is because more light is blocked when the object is closer to the light source.

Year 4

We are proud that Year 4 love learning about the environment and are passionate about looking after the planet. In Wellbeing we have learnt about the environment agency and how we are all responsible for looking after our world. For Science week we investigated and learnt about ecosystems and realised how interlinked plants and animals are in a given ecosystem.



Year 5

Mrs Smith and Mrs Woodhouse have been immensely proud of the Year 5 pupils who have opted to build the choir. Not only were they willing to work with inspirational musician, Andy Nunn, but they also elected to compose and perform songs that will be entered into the Hastings Music Festival — and will perform on stage at the White Rock Theatre on Thursday 26th March, 9.30! Please book tickets and join us as they once again shine. Our Year 5's have once again shown great determination and courage during our trip to Bedgebury Pinetum where they managed to conquer fears, self-doubt and trepidations to take part in the Go-Ape Plus course. The children and the supporting adults should feel proud of their efforts to have completed such a wobbly high-ropes course and embracing the free fall of the zip lines. The encouragement and positive support for one and other was heartwarming and once again shone through – we are incredibly *proud* of you all.



Year 6

Year 6 showed real pride earlier this term as they took part in an exciting Power to Drive workshop, exploring how renewable and sustainable energy can shape a cleaner future. Pupils learned about solar, wind and hydro power, discussing why these sources matter and how they can help protect the planet. Their enthusiasm was clear as they designed and tested electronically powered toy cars. The room buzzed with excitement as teams refined their designs, solved problems together and celebrated each small improvement. By the end of the workshop, Year 6 had not only created impressive working models but also demonstrated *pride* in their learning, teamwork and creativity. Their commitment to thinking like young engineers was inspiring – the future of British engineering is in safe hands!



Singinspiration26

In a celebration of unity and artistry, our very own Musical Theatre Club recently attended the Singinspiration26 at the De La Warr Pavilion. It was an electrifying event where our students came together with around 300 other voices, to raise the roof in a powerful display of musical talent. They were accompanied by the vibrant iGospel band, creating a dynamic and uplifting atmosphere for all.

Our students did a fantastic job and continue to go from strength to strength with their performances.



Meet the Athlete – Heather Olver

We were delighted to welcome Heather Olver, a Great British Olympic badminton player, to King Offa this week. Heather shared her inspiring journey as a professional athlete, giving pupils a valuable insight into the dedication, resilience and determination needed to compete at the highest level.

To mark the occasion, pupils took part in a sponsored fitness circuit, showing fantastic enthusiasm and teamwork. The event raised money to support new school sports equipment, while also contributing towards helping GB athletes achieve their dreams.

It was a memorable experience for all, and we are incredibly grateful to Heather for inspiring our pupils to aim high and stay active.



Local Academy Board (LAB) Profiles

The LAB are an essential component of our school's governance structure, playing a vital role in supporting our mission to provide a high-quality education for all.

The Local Academy Board (LAB) is a variety of people made up from the local community, parents and staff. We are all volunteers with an interest in education who engage with leaders and staff to focus on the direction of learning within the school.

As a LAB we are there to challenge and be a critical friend to the school. The LAB staff member is Charlotte Daniels (KS2 teacher). We can be contacted via the school office.



STEVE ETHERINGTON

I am the Chair of the LAB board having initially joining as a parent governor in 2018. Both my boys were taught at King Offa and are currently at Bexhill Academy. As Chair I regularly speak to the school head and meet with other chairs from schools under the Auror Academy. My responsibility within the LAB extends to Safeguarding.

GINA POTTER

I am the Vice Chair of the LAB board and responsible for SEND and Reading throughout the school. I am retired with and have two grown up boys. During my career I worked in several areas of education including behaviour and SEND. I spent sixteen years running inclusive dance clubs for children in East Sussex schools, plus I was a party entertainer.

CLARE AKEHURST

My child attends King Offa and used to attend the nursery. As a parent LAB member, I provide a parent's perspective on matters that the LAB are involved in. I have worked in Local Government for over 20 years and am also a community fundraiser for a Bexhill based children's charity. I also volunteer for the King Offa PTFA.

GEMMA SMITH

My responsibility for LAB is Early Years. I have been on the LAB for nearly two years, and I have two children attending King Offa. I live in Bexhill and work in finance for a local government authority. I am a member of a local musical theatre choir and love trips to London to see a show.

CHERRIE JOY

I live in Bexhill with my husband, and I am Mum and step Mum to two boys and a girl. During the day I can be found walking our two dogs and working in my Psychotherapy and Counselling practice. I work for myself so keep super busy! I also love Ultra running, reading, Netball, Bexhill United FC youth and the beach. I am a Co-opted member of the LAB, and my duties extend to Pupil Premium.

CAROL JOY

New co-opted member



Save the date – Upcoming events

Monday 13th April

INSET

Thursday 16th April

EYFS Vision Screening and Measurements

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st April

Bikeability — Year 1

Wednesday 29th April

JOLF - Nursery to Year 6

Friday 8th May

Herstmonceux Science Centre – Year 3

Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May

KS2 SATs week — Year 6

Tuesday 19th May

Michelham Priory - Year 4

Wednesday 20th May

Inter School Crazy Golf - Team selected from KS2

Thursday 21st May

Kings and Queens Workshop — Year 1



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Get in touch

King Offa Primary Academy
Down Road, Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex, TN39 4HS

Tel: 01424 211548

Email: office@kingoffapa.org.uk



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