



LORENDEN



We are having a whole school 'Woodland Walk' on Monday morning during assembly time (8.40am), with the focus on spotting and appreciating the first signs of Spring. Parents are welcome to join us.

Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2020

Thank you for your continued support this week with emphasising hand washing routines and following guidelines for when children are feeling ill. We really appreciate everyone working together so we can keep our community as safe as possible.

Thank you also to all parents who have kindly responded to our short survey helping with our planning for any enforced school closure due to the coronavirus. Please do respond to the [survey](#) by Monday afternoon next week.

Sports Scholarships

I am really pleased that we are now able to offer [Sports Scholarships](#) to pupils entering Year 3 or 4 in September 2020. These are open to internal and external candidates - please contact Mrs Sheaves if you would like more information.

Welcome to Mrs Claire Bourne

After a very tough interview process with highly skilled candidates, we are really delighted to have chosen Mrs Sheaves' replacement, who will join us after Easter - working alongside Mrs Sheaves for the summer term. Mrs Claire Bourne was an outstanding candidate on the day and is a kind and friendly person who loves Lorenden and who I am sure that you will all enjoy meeting and getting to know in the new term.

Assemblies this week

Well done to Year 2 for their assembly on alternative fairy stories on Thursday morning. We were treated to a Cinderella who didn't want to marry a prince, but wanted to go to a club instead as she felt she was at 'the most boring party ever', and Karate Granny who made easy work of the menacing wolf who had come to eat her! I know that Year 2 have really enjoyed their topic this term and their wonderful individual fairy story writing is testament to this, as was their beautiful singing - no less than three songs performed this morning to a high standard.





Year 3 dazzled us this morning with their assembly on Robin Hood!

Nursery enjoyed the first (almost) warm day this week! The mud kitchen and sand pit are always popular and we built many sandcastles and interesting looking chocolate cakes with our friends! Some children like to draw and colour outside so we set up the little tables with pens and paper.



Year 6 have enjoyed an informative trip to Canterbury Cathedral.

by Mia, Gracie, Oliver, Gilbert, Lottie and Skye

On a cold February morning year six went to Canterbury Cathedral. The rain was relentless, but it did not dampen our spirits as we made a shortened pilgrimage to the cathedral. We arrived, dripping with water, and once we had taken off our wet clothes we went upstairs to get dressed up. You could be: the King, Thomas Beckett, knights, monks or pilgrims. Once we had got dressed up we went into the first room which was called the Knave, where the pilgrims gathered to pay their respects to God. Once we did that, we came into the Cloisters; it's a place where the monks gave lessons as most people couldn't read or write. Continuing around the Cloisters we came to the chapel, which is the oldest place in the cathedral. We learnt that the reason that Thomas Beckett was killed was because the King was being humiliated by



knights and said "Who will rid me of this troublesome king?" The knights thought he wanted Thomas Beckett dead. All four knights went to England to find him. Thomas Beckett knew they were coming to kill him but he refused to hide. The knights killed him and when the King heard he crawled up the steps and allowed the monks and pilgrims to whip him. After that we went into the dark underground room where Thomas Beckett was buried. He is no longer there because he was moved upstairs, the monks used to charge people to see Beckett's grave and you could pay for some of his blood, some would pour it on themselves and some would even drink it! (Yeeurgh!) After a long, interesting tour we climbed out of our costumes and finally ate our lunch. The guide came down and she took us upstairs and told us how to make pilgrims badges and how to write our name with quill pens. We made the badges by drawing on paper and tracing them onto tracing paper and then on tin foil and then we folded the tin foil on the cardboard and wrote our names on the cardboard. After that we decorated stained glass windows, put our initials on a stone block, tried to get fake bricks to the top of a crane, we also had the opportunity to build different styles of arches made from blocks. Then we walked wet and cold to the car park where the minibus was waiting.

Thank you for a very enjoyable trip!

Year 6 visit to Oare Gunpowder Works

By Oscar

On Thursday 12th of March 2020 year 6 went to Oare Gunpowder works.

When we pulled up we were met by Mrs Jasper and we had a chat about what we were going to do and how gunpowder was made.

First we walked to a bowl where horses walked round which powered a grinding stone. Here is where they mixed the three elements of gunpowder (Sulphur, Saltpeter and Charcoal).



We then learned that the reason half of the buildings were gone was because of an explosion on Sunday the 2nd of April 1916. Over 100 men and boys lost their lives and many were injured, however because it was during World War 1 the works was soon pressed back into action.

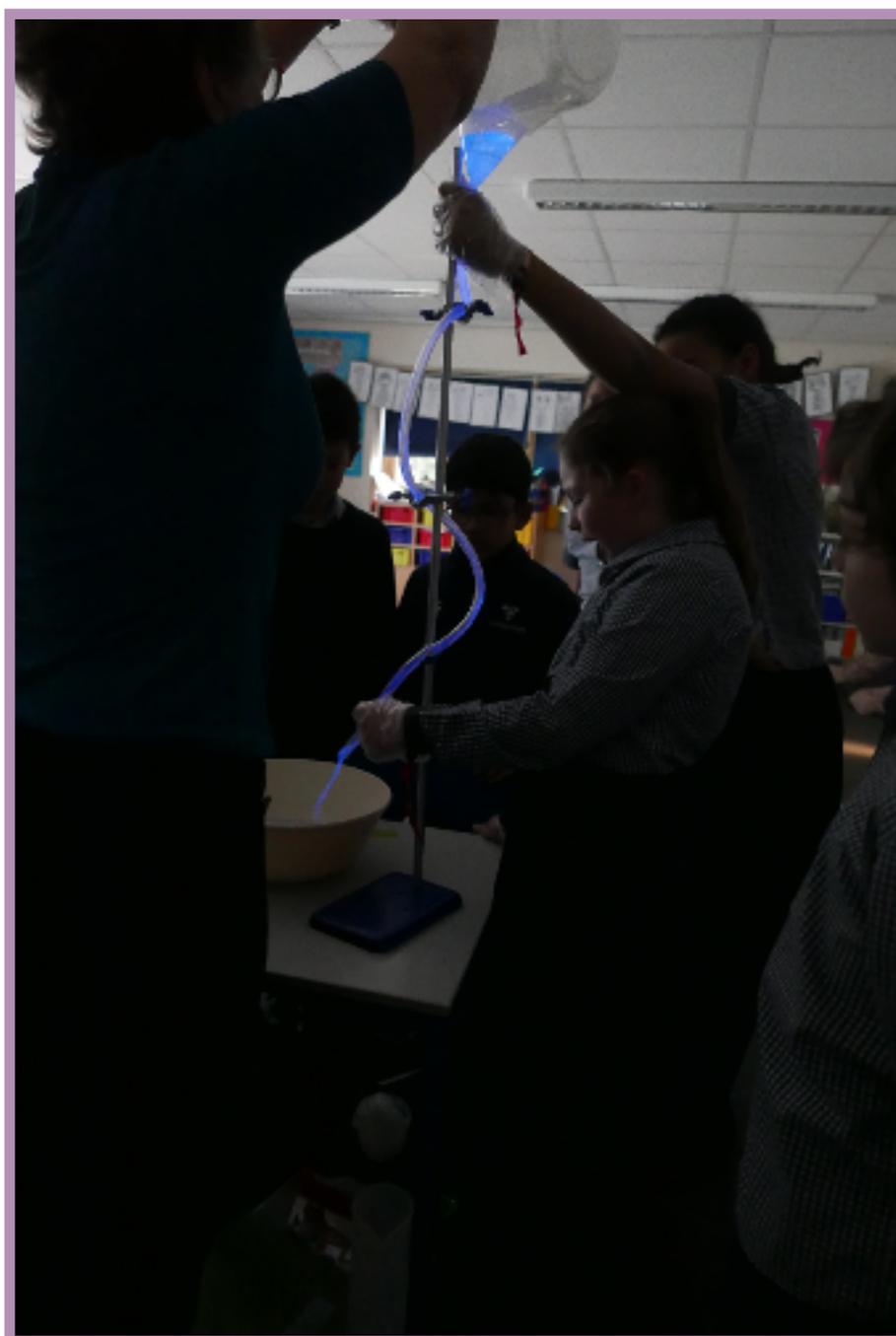
We saw the 'range' where they would fire a cannon ball using a test batch of gunpowder to make sure that the gunpowder was good.

A lot of the gunpowder would have been shipped to Chatham to the historic dockyard.

At the end of the school trip we went into the visitors centre where lots of facts about the Oare gunpowder works were on display. There were three models of the Oare Gunpowder Works as they would have been when they were in use. It is even thought that Guy Fawkes may have bought the gunpowder he intended to blow the houses of parliament up with from Oare!

A huge thank you to Mrs Jasper for giving her time up and for such an informative tour.

Year 5 had fun in their Science lesson this Thursday mixing chemicals that luminesced as they reacted. Then they carried out experiments to find out how temperature affects how long glow sticks glow for.





Mr Norton and Mr Waitt enjoyed being 'gunged' by the children in aid of Sports Relief today!



WEEKLY CHALLENGES



Well done to Emily (Year 4) for winning this week's challenge - deciding who she would most like to be from a number of significant historical figures. Emily thought that she would like to have been Alexander Graham Bell as the telephone has meant that the internet and mobiles were invented and also because he didn't get it right the first time and had to persevere. Emily wrote 'This teaches you not to give up until you have done it!'

[Next week's challenge](#) is topical and gives an opportunity for creativity in poetry or song.



Well done also to the intrepid team of chess players who went to Russell House, Otford on Tuesday for games of chess against their Prep pupils. It was an afternoon of intense concentration - and silence - and I think River (Year 4) summed it up in a few words, 'It was really hard, but fun!'. Well done everyone!



Click [HERE](#) for this week's match reports.



MARCH

Monday 16th

8:40am Woodland Walk

Tuesday 17th

Year 2 to Museum of Kent Life for Egyptian Workshop

Wednesday 18th

9am Poetry Speaking Competition

U11 boys' hockey V Wellesley House AWAY

U11 girls' netball V Wellesley House HOME

Thursday 19th

Year 3 to Museum of Kent Life for Anglo Saxon Workshop

U9 boys' hockey V St Lawrence College AWAY

U9 girls' netball V Gads Hill HOME

Friday 20th

Year 1 to Wingham Wildlife Park

All the best for lovely weekend.

Mrs Uttley
