



Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you all in good health and spirits as we approach the end of February. Time truly does have a way of slipping through our fingers, doesn't it?

As you might expect, our collective worship at school since returning from the half term break has reflected on the significance of Lent, a period of contemplation and personal growth. We have been encouraging children to reflect on the significance of their actions, on how to demonstrate kindness, and how to contribute positively to our school community. We appreciate your continued support in reinforcing these values at home.

This term is already shaping up to be a busy one, filled with exciting learning experiences, and events – we are all looking forward to World Book Day next week, and inviting in two very special authors throughout the week.

Let us also not forget that 2024 is a leap year, which means that today, the 29th February, is a bonus day! What better day to appreciate the accomplishments of our children, celebrate the hard work of our dedicated staff, and reinforce the sense of community that defines our school.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and engagement in your child's education and the school. I hope you enjoy looking at what Class 6 and Class 5 have been learning, and please do take a good look at the PTFA news – there is a lot going on between now and the end of March!

Yours,

Mrs Price

Parent Consultations

These will take place on Wednesday 13th March, in the school hall, starting at 2pm. Booking for these opens at 6pm tonight.

At these consultations, teachers will discuss your child's progress and you will have the opportunity to look at your child's books either whilst you wait for your appointment or after you have met.

Please note that each slot is 8 minutes long, which teachers will need to do their best to stick to!

Book Recommendation

This month's first book recommendation is from Albie in Year 4

Fortunately, the Milk...

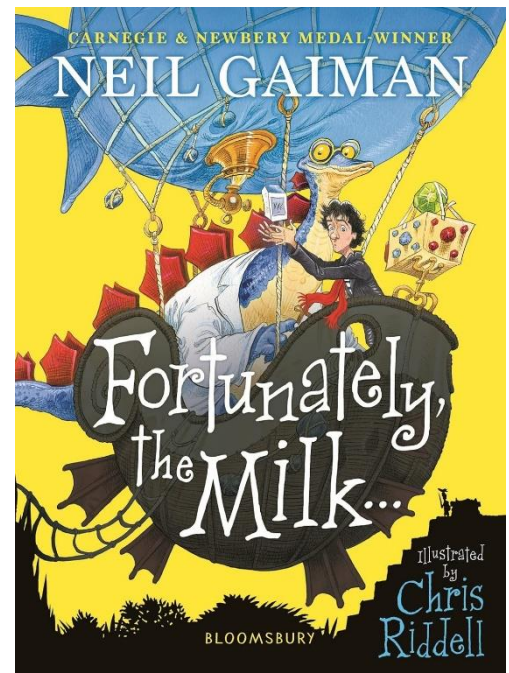
The book **Fortunately, the Milk** was written by Neil Gaiman and illustrated by Chris Riddell. This is a fiction book and I chose it because when my mum bought it for me, I started to read it and immediately got glued to it because it is humorous and addictive.

In the book two children are at home with their dad because their mum has gone to work but they don't have any more milk for their cereal, so their dad goes to buy some. This book is narrated by the dad and tells the story of all the silly things that happen to him whilst buying the milk. These include meeting aliens and pirates.

The characters are uniquely different in lots of wacky ways for instance one of them calls things funny names like coconuts are called hard-hairy-wet-white-crunchers. My favourite character is the dad because whatever happens he always has THE MILK!!! Usually in his coat pocket and he tells everyone he meets that.

This book is hilarious and whimsical and I would recommend it to anyone that likes to laugh.

By Albie - Class 4



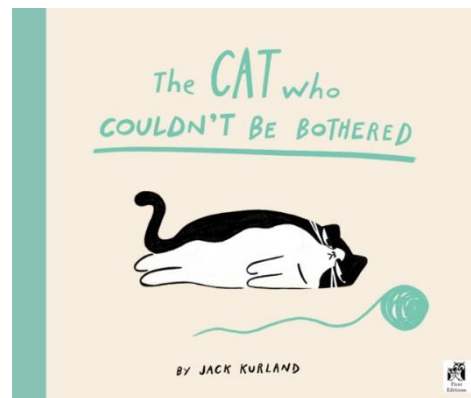
Book Recommendation – from The Kids Book Curator

Recommended for ages 3+

The Cat Who Couldn't Be Bothered by Jack Kurland (Quarto)

It's tricky to interpret someone's feelings inside even as an adult. Meet this rather gorgeous + plump looking cat. With double spreads featuring lots of white space (room to breathe with the story), large colourful and expressive animal characters, and conversational direct text. There are oodles of psycho-babble about the power of black and white images for young developing brains. I must say, my not-so-young brain rather loves being mesmerised by the illustrations too. Greg (for that's his name-ish) appears lazy, disconnected, bored, unbothered by all the offers of parties, trips to Mars or skating. His friends try again and again to tempt him to join in and have fun with them... Greg is overwhelmed by all their buzzing about and eventually shouts a big massive STOP! Only then does he admit to them that he is just feeling really sad... The absolute power of being able to do that! To explain the reality of one's feelings without fear of judgement to loyal friends. What appears to be a simple children's picture book on the cover, is actually an emotional toolkit enhancer with bells on. Being able to recognise and label one's own feelings, then let others know about it and what you need in that moment? What an amazing skill! LOVE IT!

<https://uk.bookshop.org/a/9925/9780711287440>



Recommended for ages 7+

Di Island Crew Investigates: The Case of the Abandoned Boat by Kereen Getten illus. Leah Jacobs-Gordon (Pushkin Press)



Amazing Children's author, Kereen Getten grew up in Jamaica and she infuses her childhood (and her personality) into her books so that the reader feels soaked in the story, smelling the mangos, hearing the ocean, and feeling the balmy heat. I so love her obsession with the paranormal and a good old fashioned detective mystery, and how she captures yo-yoing friendship dynamics, and she's AWSOME at a plot twist too! For book 3, Fayson doesn't have to wait until the Summer to go to stay with her two cousins, uncle and aunt at their luxury property on a private island, it's the Easter hols and she's been missing the crew so much and feeling so left out! Fayson lives with her mum in the city, barely scraping by - a vast contrast to all her mystery-solving friends she has made on the island, and her cousins. The poverty vs wealth theme is prevalent throughout this series as the children learn empathy towards each other's personal stories. The first twist in this story is that Mama is coming to the island! Mama, who is set in her traditional ways, is proud, has beef with her rich brother, and is strict with Fayson. Gulp! On the island Fayson is free to roam, investigate, have fun, be a child without real world problems - just for a little while. Fayson's arch-nemesis in the crew, Tia, is also up to her old tricks. What with Fayson's defensiveness, and Tia's spoilt bravado, there are often fireworks! When an abandoned boat is spotted on the beach, the kids are so excited that they've a new mystery to solve... that is as excited as they can be when someone has written a letter to all the parents complaining how annoying and disruptive the kids' detective agency is! Could it be a coincidence that the letter arrives around the same time as the mystery boat? And who is Sam - the name found on one of the life jackets? Beneath the mystery solving adventure, this is a story about family and friendship, loyalty and lifting others. I look forward to a new story every year, I get to take a little holiday. Bliss!

<https://uk.bookshop.org/a/9925/9781782693949>

Follow me on Instagram @the.kids.books.curator for book reviews, giveaways and more.
Thank you and happy reading!

Class 5

Forces

Last term, Class 5 explored forces, linking them first to rollercoasters and then to everyday life. We considered the force of gravity and that is causes unsupported objects to fall to the ground. We were amazed that when there is no air resistance, objects of different shapes and masses will reach the ground at the same time. We saw this in action when we watched astronaut David Scott on the Moon during the Apollo 15 mission; he tested Galileo's idea that in the absence of air resistance, a hammer and a feather would fall to the ground at the same rate. We also watched Brian Cox prove this once again in a vacuum chamber. Why not choose two different objects and a place at home where there is as little air resistance as possible and try it out for yourselves!

Class 5 also explored how simple machines (pulleys, levers and gears) can make a small force, have a much larger effect, therefore making every-day work easier. We were all surprised at the difference it made when the pivot point (fulcrum) of a lever was close to the object being lifted and how much difference adding pulleys made to the effort needed to lift a heavy load.

To finish the term, Class 5 made simple cam toys to show how cams can change the direction and smoothness of movement. We designed our models and chose a cam shape that suited the up and down (or rotating) movement required for our design. We also cut our own wood and joined it using triangles as these are the strongest shape and also ensured we were working with right angles. Here are a few of our amazing, finished pieces:

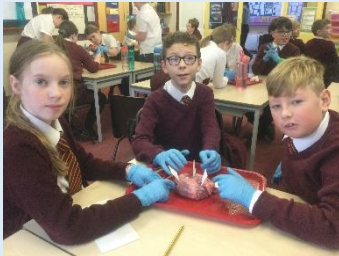


Class 6

January 2024

LO: To find key parts of a pig's heart by dissection.

Year 6 located the key parts of a pig's heart. We then made a cut through the heart, which allowed us to open it up and look at the internal structure and locate the internal features.



Class 6 continued

February 2024

Year 6 took a trip to Discovery Planet in Ramsgate and learned all about spiders – their habitats, physiology and anatomy and the uses in everyday medicine.



News from the PTFA



Dear parents and carers,

After a long rest of events, please see the following information about our busy month of March:

Thursday 7th March - *World Book Day*. We will have a pre-loved book sale in the hall at pick-up time and will also sell baked goods (not pre-loved!). We would be really grateful if you could spend a little time over the weekend to sort out your children's books (and summer uniforms) and bring them to school. Donations of baked goods would also be welcome.

Friday 8th March - *Mother's Day gifts at pick-up time*. For the occasion, we will create a jewellery shop in the well-being room during school hours for the children to come and 'buy' a gift and have it beautifully wrapped. Every PTFA subscriber will automatically receive one pair of earrings (child's choice!). If you would like to upgrade the gift to a pair of earrings, bracelet, ring and a beautiful card, the cost will be £5 in total. Therefore, PTFA subscribers will need to pay an extra £3. Everyone else will need to pre-order by email and pay by bank transfer (£2, £3 or £5); gifts will be given to the children before they leave their classrooms that day. Remember to act surprised!

Friday 22nd March - *Second hand uniform sale, and crepes*. We have a huge stock of good quality second-hand uniforms! Prices are extremely reasonable. PTFA subscribers have £5 worth included in their membership; so please take us up on this!

Thursday 28th March - On that last day of school, children will be invited to participate in *The Easter Bonnet Parade* in exchange for a £1 donation. All kinds of Easter headpieces will be welcome and children are invited to go OTT. There will be a prize for the best Easter head piece in each class during the school awards ceremony! This event isn't part of the membership so subscribers will need to transfer £1 to our account or bring £1 to the school gate.

That same day we will end the day and Spring term with our annual *Easter Trail* in the playground at early pick up time (1.30pm). PTFA subscribers don't need to pay, everyone else please drop us an email and pay £2 to our account. (Please note children with no memberships can pay £3 directly for that day to cover the Easter bonnet Parade and the Easter trail. As usual please put one child's name as reference with EBT for Easter Bonnet & Trail for example: SKYE Y5 EBT).

From 15th April, *Friday treats* are back (weather permitting).

Thank you all for your continued support.

Best wishes,
The PTFA

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Ramsgate Holy Trinity PTFA