



Photo: Meeting Maggie



YR Y1&2 Y3&4 Y5&6

Dormice Class (Year R) learned how to meet Maggie this week. I spoke to them all in class and used a Maggie-sized soft toy to help them practice how to interact. They learned to crouch down to her level and stay still, present a flat palm-up hand and that this invites her in. I also explained that Maggie will then likely sniff them and then they can stroke her – she doesn't like her head being reached for by strangers (as most dogs don't) so they know to tickle her chin or chest. Once we practiced this, they all then met her in small groups (photo above) and have then said hello at playtimes and lunchtimes if they want to! It's worth noting that this is a good process to greet any dog – to allow the dog to approach, time to smell and then stroke without going for the head- so is good learning for life!

Not Bringing Toys into School - Resin Animals

There always seems to be some craze that goes through children - I remember football stickers when I was a child, some of you might have memories of Pogs or similar! These crazes are often quite nice and encourage interactions so we let them happen...until they become a problem. The current attention seems to be on small resin animals. Older children have up until now enjoyed playing with them but younger children are starting to create conflict around them, where they swap, then want to swap back, lose them, multiple children claiming a found one is theirs and feeling left out when some are gifted. All of this is detracting from core teaching time in class so I have explained to the children today that they are not to bring the resin animals into school from next week.



Sports News this Week

The first sports fixture of the new school year took place on Tuesday, a Year 5 team of boys and girls took part in a dodgeball tournament. They played lots of matches and the emphasis was on having fun and enjoying the fast paced, chaotic nature of dodgeball. Having said that they won lots of games and performed brilliantly. Thanks to Mrs Pilgrim for taking the children and to all the parents who helped with transport.



Hedgehogs Trip & Swimming Next Week

Lots to remember for Hedgehogs Class (Y3&4) next week – for their trip to Butser Hill a reminder to wear normal school uniform but sturdy shoes or trainers – a coat will be handy as they are outside most of the time and packed lunch/water bottle. Swimming kit for Wednesday ready for their first session.



If you have not yet given consent or contributed for the trip or swimming yet, please can you complete within Arbor as soon as possible before Tuesday.

Dates for your Diary:

- Tues 23 Sept –** Hedgehogs (Y3&4) Trip Butser Ancient Farm
- Wed 24 Sept – 2.45pm** Squirrels Class phonics info (Particularly useful for Year 1 parents)
- Wed 24 Sept –** Hedgehogs (Y3&4) First Swimming session
- Fri 26 Sept – 2:15pm** Badgers (Y5&6) Macmillan Coffee Break
- Tues 14 Oct –** Parents Evening 4.30-7.30pm
- Wed 22 Oct –** Parents Evening 4pm-6.30pm
- Mon 27-Fri 31 Oct** Half Term
- Mon 3 Nov –** INSET Closure Day

INSET Days left for 25/26

- Mon 3 Nov
- Mon 5 Jan
- Mon 23 Feb
- Fri 22 May

Check you haven't missed these communications this week:

None this week

Emails:
adminoffice@upham.hants.sch.uk
Web:
www.upham.hants.sch.uk
Tel: 01489 860355





Badgers Coffee Afternoon

Badgers Class (Y5&6) are holding a coffee break for parents and families of Badgers children next Friday afternoon (26 Sept at 2.15-3.15pm). The children will be baking next week as part of their DT learning so hope to include some treats! The event will be in support of Macmillan Cancer so donations would be gratefully received.



New Team Member

You will remember back in July I mentioned one of our LSAs had left as she moved to Dorset. We have completed a recruitment process and I am delighted that Alanna Lee will be joining our team. As a result, I can now confirm who is where:

Dormice (YR) – Miss Knight (Mon-Fri)

Squirrels (Y1&2) – Miss Fradley (Mon-Thurs) & Mrs Mildren (Tues-Thurs am, all day Fri)

Hedgehogs (Y3&4) – Mrs Lee (Mon-Fri am) & Mrs Mildren (Tues – Thurs pm)

Badgers (Y5&6) – Mrs White (Mon-Fri) & Mrs Haywood (Mon-Fri am)

Village Music Concert & Art Gallery

I mentioned the art competition last week and the Art Gallery at Blessed Mary Church. As part of this work, the children have learned a song in school over the last few weeks called 'Badgers and Hedgehogs'. There is an exciting Music Concert being held on Saturday 27th September at 6pm where a range of musicians and choirs will perform, all around the theme of animals and life. Hopefully, some children might like to perform the Hedgehogs and Badgers song we've learned in school with a choir backing them. If your child would like to do this, head to the church for 5pm, before the concert where they will hold a short rehearsal. If you would like to do this, I have some free tickets – please ask in the school office!

Music Concert: Sat 27th 6pm (rehearsal 5pm for singers)

Art Gallery: Sat 27th 10-3pm, Sun 28th 1-4pm

(See poster attached with Newsletter for more details)