



The Waveney Valley Partnership  
Mendham Primary School  
Weekly Newsletter  
Friday 12th January 2024



#### Message from Mr Lea

What a great start to the term - this week I have been visiting classes and seeing some of the wonderful work that the children have been completing. Their attitude to learning has been exemplary.

We have also been showing prospective families around our school and they have been extremely positive about our calm and purposeful environment.

I know that there are many different events planned this term for both our pupils and parents to get involved in. We really hope that you will join us for these.

Please remember we are all here to support you all and we are very aware that there are times when you need help, as we start this new calendar year always remember our staff are there to talk to should you need to.

#### Mendham Dates

School nursing team Yr R/6 visit	16.01.24
Spring census – Winnie the pooh menu	18.01.24
Swimming – Juniper class	Spring 1 at Diss pool Wednesday pm
Seedings environment walk	23.01.24 @ 9.00-10.30am
Learn more with Mr Lea – Maths	25.01.24 @ 2.30pm
Class photos	01.02.24
Education visit – Juniper to Sizewell	06.02.24
'Learn more' with Mr Lea – SPAG	08.02.24 @ 2.30pm

#### Attendance Information

The Government this week launched a new attendance campaign with the heading 'moments matter, attendance counts'. We fully support the key messages of this campaign.

One of these is focusing on trying to get children into school even if they wake up with worries or some minor symptoms. I would hope that our families know that all of our staff take care of the pupils like a family member and if they need to contact you during the day to discuss how your child is feeling they would always do that - no child will ever be made to stay in school if they are feeling unwell.

Also, our office staff always complete an attendance check every morning and will follow up on any pupils not in school. At the present time we are supporting a number of families and look forward to continuing this in the future.

Please get in touch if you have any worries or concerns about your child's health or attendance.

### Message from Mrs Jones - Seedlings Class

Our marble run has been the hit of the term so far. The class have loved using the blocks, channels, bridges, turns and drums to create a variety of tracks for the marbles to run down. Working individually and collaborating together they have learnt a variety of strategies and techniques to make the marbles travel successfully from the start to finish. Adding items from around the classroom we have been able to make the most of the pieces we have extending the track even further.

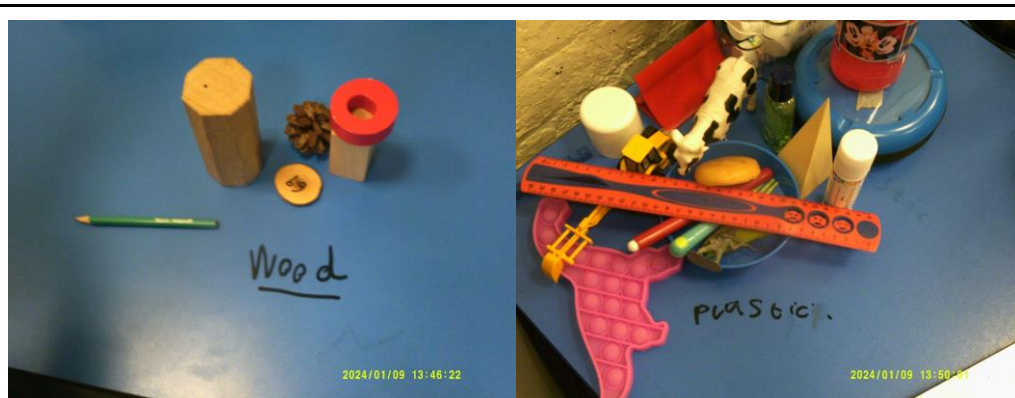
We have tried knocking over mini skittles with the marble as they come out of the end of the track and tried directing the marbles in varying directions using the turn blocks.

Everyone has been respectful, following the rules set out for using the marbles, sharing them fairly, asking permission to take one and returning it to its rightful home after use.



### Message from Mrs Ball - Pine Class

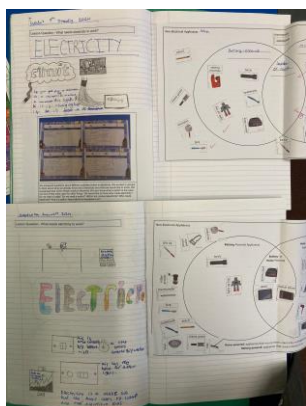
We have started a new topic in Science, looking at the material that things are made of. This week we thought about what we already know about materials and then sorted items in the classroom into the material they are made from. We discussed why things are made of different materials and will move onto looking at the properties of different materials before choosing materials to complete a task.



In Maths we are learning to recognise coins and notes and have been adding amounts of money and selecting amounts from a group. This is proving to be a challenge as not many of us use coins or notes anymore! However, Pine Class are making good progress and we will continue to work on these skills.

### Message from Mrs Peach - Juniper Class

This week Juniper class have been super busy with their learning. In Science we have been learning about electricity. We have been thinking about what things need electricity to work. We have also been asking whether these appliances need batteries or if they run on the mains electricity. We have learnt that electricity is made in power stations and by renewable sources and we are all looking forward to our trip to Sizewell B to extend this learning further.

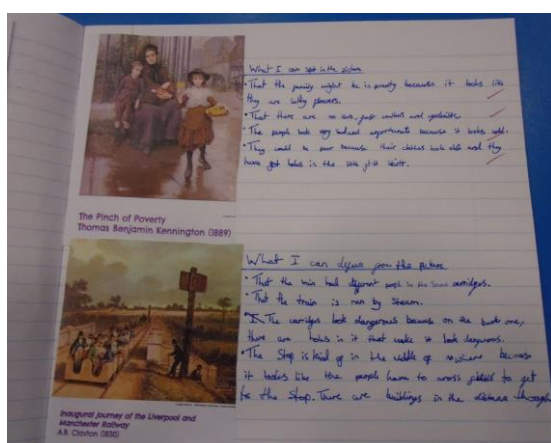
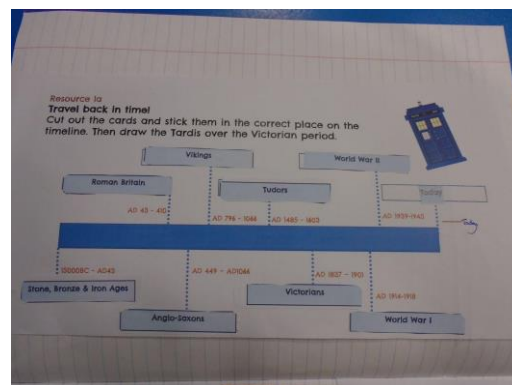


We have also started our new History learning about the Great Fire of London. The children already knew that the fire was in 1666 and that it started in Pudding Lane. We then looked at picture evidence of London in 1666 and today and started to make comparisons between the two. We noticed that there were no cars or buses in 1666 but there were lots of buildings - most of them made of wood and straw. We also now know that there was no Fire service back in 1666!

## Message from Mr Norfolk - Sycamore Class

Welcome back to the Spring term. We hope you had a restful break over the Christmas period and I would like to thank you for my wonderful gifts.

The theme for the spring term is 'Inventions'. Sycamore have started by learning about the Victorian period in history and have put into context, when the Victorian era was. They have created timelines and also worked as historians by using some secondary sources to deduce what they could about Victorian life.



In Science, this half of the term, Sycamore will be focusing on learning all about light. They have already explored and investigated how light travels through practical work and have been already to explain and support their findings. They worked scientifically to discover that light travels in straight lines and explored how it can reflect.

## Safeguarding Information

The DSL (Designated safeguarding lead) for safeguarding in school is Mr Simon Lea. The ADSL's (Alternate designated safeguarding lead) are Mrs Nicola Jones and Mrs Julie Rogers.

A copy of the safeguarding policy and other policies are available on the school website.

The Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership website contains a wealth of information:

[www.suffolksp.org.uk](http://www.suffolksp.org.uk)

If you are worried about the welfare or safety of a child speak directly to Mr Lea or Mrs Jones. If concerns are outside school hours, please contact Customer First on 0808 8004005 (24 hours). If the matter is urgent because a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, phone 999.