

04.11.24-
CHILDREN
BACK TO
SCHOOL
TERM 211.11.24-
FLU VAC-
CINATIONS
YEAR R—6

Miers Court

Matters

ISSUE 6

18.10.24

Note from Mrs Fordyce

WOW we have reached the end of the first term and what a fantastic end to the term it was. The whole school has had a day immersed in our new values starting with some awesome music and dancing by the gates this morning !!! Our values, **Self belief, Togetherness, Aspiration, Resilience** and **Success** spell out STARS and we have definitely been reaching for them today !! A massive thank you from me to everyone for making me feel so welcome this term, it has been such an exciting start and I can not wait to work with everyone even more as the year progresses.

Have a great couple of weeks half term break and we will see you bright and early on Monday 4th November ready for Term 2 and the exciting learning opportunities that we have planned leading us up to Christmas !

Attendance – Well done Flamingo Class (Year 4) for achieving 98.7%, Dragonfly Class (year R) for achieving 97.9% and Bumblebee Class (Year R) for achieving 96.8%. These classes are this week's top attenders!

This year's attendance to date 95.0%

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



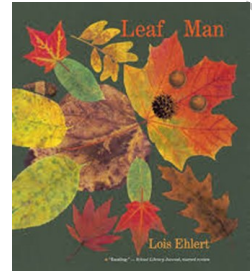
Celebration Corner

Congratulations to Allen, Arlo, Bailey, Bella, Daniel, Ethan, Finley, Frankie, Frankie, Grace, Imogen, Iulia, Jack Joseph, Lola, Marley, Maya, Milan, Riley, Sahaj, Tillie, Tzion, Zach, Seb, Oakley and willow in year 3, Olivia C, Toni, Isobel, Tommie, David, Sophie, Ethen, Katness, Jake, Aaliyah, Josie, Ethan, Laci, Luca, Amy and Michael in year 5 for earning 10 Dojo points.

Book Talk

Year 1 Book Talk

In Year 1 this week we have been reading Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert.



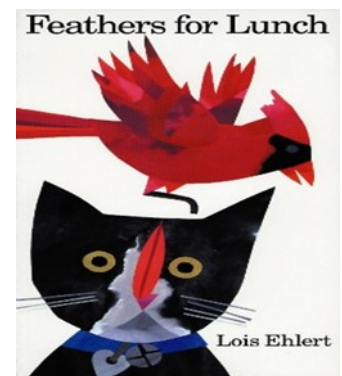
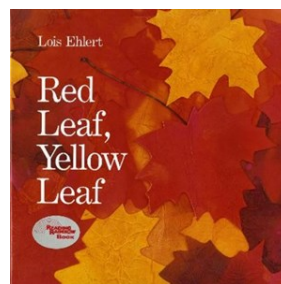
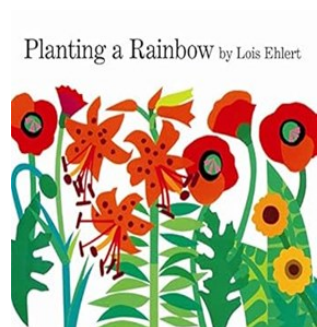
This is a wonderful story about a leaf man and how he travels across the land, going where the wind takes him. He experiences gliding over prairie meadows and floating above orchards and vegetable patches. It is a relaxing, calming read and all of the children enjoyed making their own leaf men. The children were inspired to think of their own verbs to describe how leaf man moved and have used their new vocabulary to write some wonderful descriptive sentences.

George – *“I think Leaf Man will break as he is only made of leaves”.*

Denley - *“I think that he might get eaten by bears”.*

Ruby – *“I think he is trying to run away from something”.*

Lois Ehlert has written other books for children



Sports Section

Quote of the week

“Everything is created twice, first in the mind and then in reality”

Robin Sharma

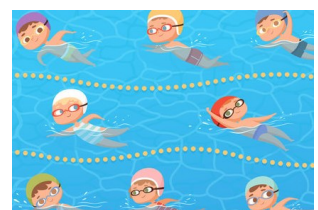
Next term clubs:

Tag Rugby Year 4 Wednesday's 3:30pm—4:30pm

Badminton Year 6 Wednesday 8:00am—8:30am

Year 6 swimming—The dates for Mr Shelley (Phoenix Class) are: -

- Thursday 7th November 2024
- Thursday 14th November 2024
- Thursday 21st November 2024
- Thursday 28th November 2024
- Thursday 5th December 2024
- Thursday 12 December 2024



Safeguarding Corner

As a reminder, our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs L Fordyce. Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are; Ms Munns, Miss Collings, Mrs Doherty, Miss Bradley and Mrs Kavanagh. If you have any safeguarding concerns, do not hesitate to get in contact.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGERATINGS

The on-demand availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence may cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN
The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:
U: All Ages
PG: For children aged 8 and above, this content should be supervised.
PGC: Children under the age of 12 should not watch unless supervised by a parent or guardian. Material may contain bad language, nudity or sexual references.
PGC-12: Suitable only for 12-year-olds and above.
M: Restricted for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to access internet content without their usual filters. The availability of streaming services (both free and paid) means that children can watch content at any time and in any place. If not reviewed by parents or guardians, this could be harmful to their mental health and cause significant worry for each child. Material, content and language may be inappropriate for their age.

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE
Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to access internet content without their usual filters. The availability of streaming services (both free and paid) means that children can watch content at any time and in any place. If not reviewed by parents or guardians, this could be harmful to their mental health and cause significant worry for each child. Material, content and language may be inappropriate for their age.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY
It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. Horror is for the most part not intended to frighten or scare. As many children are naturally more sensitive to horror, they may be particularly affected by content that is scary or disturbing. It is important to have an open dialogue around the kind of content that young people consume and to be aware of warning signs that may indicate a need for professional support.

FACT VS FICTION
Many children have a fascination with horror. It has been shown that children who watch horror films are more likely to be fearful. However, with the right support, children can learn to distinguish between fact and fiction. A warning sign for parents is to look for children who are fearful of things that are not scary. If you are concerned about your child's reaction to horror, talk to your GP or a mental health professional. It is important to be aware that something scary that has been depicted by the news can be more impactful than anything shown in a film.

PEER PRESSURE
Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can be a real challenge. Children may feel that if they don't watch the content it will make them seem like they are missing out. It is important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure. It is also important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS
Recent studies have shown that children who watch horror films are more likely to be fearful. However, with the right support, children can learn to distinguish between fact and fiction. A warning sign for parents is to look for children who are fearful of things that are not scary. If you are concerned about your child's reaction to horror, talk to your GP or a mental health professional. It is important to be aware that something scary that has been depicted by the news can be more impactful than anything shown in a film.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST
If you are concerned that a film might be suitable for children, please watch it first. This will help you to decide if it is appropriate for your child. It is also important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure.

REMEMBER - IT'S NOT REAL
It is important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure. It is also important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS
If a child has seen a film that they may have found scary, it is important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure. It is also important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS
Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ratings on children's accounts. This means that you can choose what content your child can watch. It is important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure. It is also important to be able to discuss this with your child and to be able to support them if they are feeling peer pressure.

Meet Our Expert
John Kelly is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with the school for over 20 years, working in various roles including teaching, pastoral care, and safeguarding. He has a wealth of experience in supporting children and young people who are experiencing difficulties. He is a member of the National College for Leadership Development of Schools Practitioners and is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars. He is also a member of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Educationists (NASUWE) and is a member of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Educationists (NASUWE).

WakeUp Wednesday
The National College

Twitter: @wakeup_weds | Facebook: www.thenationalcollege | Instagram: @wakeup.wednesday | TikTok: @wakeup.weds

Online Safety—Internet matters

For Parents - Cyber Security

From financial scams, identity theft, using public WiFi and much more, cyber security is fundamental to all of our lives. Internet Matters have put together a number of articles and resources for parents and their children which go into these topics including

- Creating secure accounts.
 - Phishing and ransomware.
 - Digital piracy, and much more
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-is-cybersecurity/>.

For Parents - Parental Supervision - How Far is Too Far?

Many parents will opt to use apps to track and monitor the location and online activities of their children. These apps can be really beneficial (e.g. physical safety) but as with anything there are drawbacks (invasion of privacy)

Using the voices of young people Voicebox have put together an excellent article which parents can use to give a more informed opinion of these apps and to use as discussion points with their children.

<https://voicebox.site/article/parental-supervision-how-far-too-far>



Harvest Festival Assembly



We shared a wonderful harvest festival assembly on Tuesday with the whole school coming together. We shared songs the children have been learning this term as well as hearing children from many year groups do readings. As ever we rounded the celebration off with a whole school rendition of "Autumn Days". Its wonderful hearing everyone sing together. Thank you so much to our wonderful Miers Court community. Our Harvest appeal was an amazing turnout with some lovely donations, these have now been collect to support those in need. Than you.



Poetry Assembly

On Monday our community librarian, Emily Maycock came in to give a special poetry assembly each to KS1 and KS2. She had us up on our feet and joining in some actions and sound effects for a dinosaur poem and a poem about things we can imagine. We were also shown the wide range of books which are on offer in our local libraries and shown just how easy it is to get a library card! Please do pop along to your local library during the holiday if you have the time, it would be lovely for the children to discover all that is on offer!



Platter Farm Shoe box appeal



We have been in contact again with Platters Farm Lodge care home to see if we are able to offer our support for the residents over the Christmas period, we are pleased to let you know we will be helping them this year again with the shoe box appeal we did last year. If you would like to help donate here is a selection of goods for female and male: gloves, smellies, stationery, chocolates, hat, small quiz book etc. Please can these be brought in by **Monday 9th December**. Thank you again for your continued support.

If you have any spare shoe boxes please can these be brought in for Mrs Ridley. Year 6 drama club - Year 6 will be performing a Pantomime on **Thursday 12th December** for the Platters Farm residents and we would love to be able to take the gifts along with them. Thank you

Medway winter coat drive!

The Medway Children and Family Hubs are seeking donations of good quality pre-loved **adult, children's and babies coats** to give to families in need this season.

We will be making a collection for these at school and will inform parents and cares when Medway are due to collect these and we will also share the drop of locations that will be available for you to drop coats of if you wish.

Thank you



Battle of the Bands TTRS



A huge thank you and well done to everyone who got involved in this terms Battle of the bands on Times table Rock Stars. In celebration assembly on Thursday, winners were announce and prizes were given.

Phoenix Class were this term’s top class with an impressive **72,000** total correct points, followed by Falcon Class in 2nd place and Pegasus class in 3rd place.

We then celebrated our most valuable players. Well done **Rory** in 3rd place, **Alyshba** in 2nd place and **Callum** in 1st Place.

Keep your eyes peeled for a rematch in Term 2!!



1	6 Phoenix Class	72,250
2	5 Falcon Class	47,772
3	6 Pegasus Class	44,260
4	5 Kestrel Class	34,197
5	4 Flamingo Class	19,323

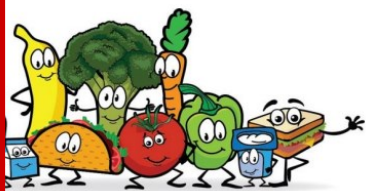
Battery Recycling – This week we have **114** batteries!! Fantastic total, thank you. We submit our total to the Duracell website each week.



We also collect empty, clean bread wrappers and used ink cartridges (domestic only, please), which we give to Gillingham Street Angels, who receive a small amount of money for them. This money is used to help fund the projects that they run, for example, the soup kitchen and food bank.

Meal Balance reminder – Please can we remind you to keep an eye on your child's meal account, and top up when needed. Thankyou. Please remember that, if your circumstances change, you child may be eligible for Free School Meal Support. You can apply on line for this and we are always happy to help if you are finding it a little tricky. The link will take you to the application page and you will get a decision really quickly. [https://](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school_information/354/free_school_meals)

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Dates for your diary

- 04.11.24—Back to school term 2
- 11.11.24—Flu Vaccinations Year R to Year 6
- 13.11.24—Individual school photos
- 18.11.24—Height and Weight Check Year R and Year 6



Stay connected

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