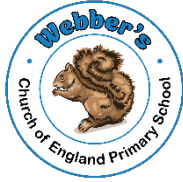


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Alumnis
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Dear Readers,

Welcome to the regular glimpse into the lives of our two, local primary schools. The second half of term is well under way – it'll be Easter before we know it with lovely, long days and the King's Coronation to look forward to afterwards.

Our participation in Wellington School's pilot project – Stage School – is well underway with children from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 from both schools taking part in drama-based fun on two days after school. This is led by the excellent Charlotte James from Wellington School's drama department and there have been some very positive comments from our budding thespians. This club continues until the end of this term; I would like to thank Mrs. Claire Davies, who is the head of the drama department at Wellington School, for facilitating this enrichment opportunity for our children.

Children from most year groups from both schools have also been representing their schools in a variety of PE and sport-based endeavours through our partnership with Uffculme Academy's PE outreach programme. Children in years 5&6 took part in Sports Hall Athletics, where a variety of athletic disciplines were modelled by Uffculme's Sports Leaders, before children had the opportunity to record their best effort. **Motivation** to succeed along with **cooperation** and **determination** were in abundant display and I would like to thank the children who took part for their **teamwork** and their **friendliness** with each other, and children from other schools. A good example of this is when one of our children saw that a child from another school had fallen over, so alerted their Sports Leader, who went to help. I know that you share my pride when we see children living their lives to their **virtues** – a sight increasingly seen at our two schools.

The PE theme continues with some of the youngest members of our school communities taking a trip to Uffculme Sports Hall for the Year 1 Multi-Skills event. Again, this was led by Uffculme Sports Leaders, who are overseen by Uffculme teaching staff, and they maintained their usual high standard of modelling and care. Children spent 90 minutes engaging in up to 15 different activities ranging from curling to jumping, which the children all tried their hardest in. It can be quite a daunting experience to go to the "Big School" for the first few times – **courage** and **curiosity** were evident in equal measure, and I know we have lots of younger children who are now eagerly awaiting their next trip to Uffculme for more sport-based fun.

Continuing with the focus on sport, selected children from years 4,5&6 recently took part in the Swimming Gala at Tiverton swimming pool. This year, we decided to combine the might of both schools, to field the strongest team possible in this extremely competitive event. It gives me great pride to announce that we came 5th overall, which is our best result for some time, and saw some children winning their events. A fantastic time was had by all - thank you to Miss. Ody, PE Lead for both schools, and Mrs. Gardener for attending the event with the children.

The team from Open the Book have visited both schools recently using lots of children volunteers to help bring the Bible to life during Collective Worship. These sessions are lively, entertaining and really help enrich the children's learning experiences; I would like to thank Mandy and the team for

volunteering their time for the benefit of children in our communities...a lot of hard work goes into these visits, whether they are in-person or virtual, and that effort is greatly appreciated by children and staff alike.

Finally, I have some news to share, and to ask you for the possibility of some help. Our schools have an exciting, new opportunity for children through the Silver Stories charity. This charity connects children (Silver Readers) with older members of the community (Silver Listeners) by having children read short stories or poems over the phone every week. This improves children's reading skills and helps reduce feelings of isolation in both children and older listeners. The program aligns with the school's mission of Inspiring Changemakers and Global Citizens by empowering children to make positive changes in their local communities. We are starting this opportunity after half-term and are in the process of identifying Silver Listeners from our local communities and beyond, who may want to take part. If you, or anyone you know, would like more information about how to take part, please contact either school office – email addresses and telephone numbers for each are in the header of this page.

Until the next time,

Take care and Climb to your Highest...

R. Rosley