



NEWSLETTER



OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT – UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY – TEAMWORK

1st February 2022

As well as Rocksteady music in our school, Holly Crofts are also having a super fun time learning African drumming. A music teacher from the Bucks Music Trust comes weekly and the sounds coming from the hall last week were very rhythmic.

The Thomas Trophy

We were recently awarded this great little trophy by Hawridge and Cholesbury Commons Preservation Society (HCCPS). HCCPS was originally awarded the trophy so that, whenever possible, they could continue the work that school children have already done with them on the Common, erecting bird and bat boxes, planting native daffodils and fritillaries and building a bug hotel.

They were particularly pleased that Year 4 had been studying habitats on the Common and had spotted the Tawny Owl box down from the bug hotel. They have made a little video of their work with Bucks Owl and Raptor Group, who go regularly to check all of the bird boxes and they have footage of the baby Tawnies and Barn Owls being ringed. They will send the video to school but are also going to put it on their website

<https://www.hawridgeandcholesburycommons.org/> so parents will also be able to have a look. How exciting!

A fascinating article about the origin of the Thomas Trophy is attached for you to read. What a shame the little engine isn't around any longer - the children would have loved to see it!



Bronze Arts Award



Mrs Davey is a trained Arts Award adviser and is offering the Bronze programme to current Year 6 pupils. Arts Award is a range of unique qualifications that supports anyone aged up to 25 to grow as artists/arts leaders, inspiring them to connect with and take part in the wider arts world by taking challenges in an art form - from fashion to digital art, and pottery to poetry. *Trinity College London* is the awarding body responsible for Arts Award and we are thrilled to report that three of our leavers have just been awarded their award.

Congratulations to Ines, Rebecca and Safwan. We hope you are continuing to enjoy the arts in secondary school.

I wonder if, like me, you have also noticed an increase in birdsong as the length of the day has increased. We all enjoyed listening to Bob Marley's Two Little Birds in our assembly last week which I understand is Y5's favourite song (good choice Year 5!). Many of us will be taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch later in February. With over 40 years of Birdwatch data, your information enables the RSPB to find out if garden bird numbers are still declining and help find ways to address that. Shockingly we have lost 38 million birds from our skies over the last 50 years. Let's hope this year's count spots some returners.

And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky."
Genesis 1:20



Y2 Multi Skills Festival

Miss Jeanes was most impressed with her class when they travelled by coach to their Multi Skills Sports Festival at Dr Challoner's High School. She said all of her Little Peppers were so engaged with the different activities, it was wonderful to see and she is so looking forward to their next trip.

Finally, one of the parents' evenings has been moved due to a clash with the Y5/6 school choir singing at the Royal Albert Hall. The dates are now Thursday 31st March and Tuesday 5th April. These will once again take place online due to all the positive feedback from parents.