

Quinton House Junior School

*Bi—Weekly Newsletter
w/e Friday 14th October 2016*

A WORD FROM THE HEAD:

Once again the weeks seem to have flown past and we are already approaching half term. I have been delighted with the way the children settled back into the school routine after the long summer break and with the way our new pupils have quickly become part of the Quinton House family. It has been a very busy few weeks, with Harvest Festival Celebrations, Macmillan Coffee Morning and Open morning, to name but a few of the events that have taken place. Looking ahead to the next half of term we have plenty to look forward to. I do look forward to seeing many of you at the QHSPA Bonfire Night on Saturday 5th November. I have no doubt that after half term Christmas will be soon upon us and the various rehearsals will begin to occur. The lead up to Christmas is always a magical time, particularly for those of us who are fortunate enough to be surrounded by children every day.

I would also like to remind parents of the Christmas shoebox appeal organised by the Samaritan's Purse charity, which the Junior School are supporting again.

In the meantime I hope you all enjoy the two week half term, whether you are staying at home or taking the opportunity to squeeze in a holiday before the end of the year.

Mr S Pape

Q2 CLASS ASSEMBLY

Q2 will be performing their class assembly on Thursday 20th October. Parents/guardians of the children in Q2 are warmly invited to come and watch. The performance will start at 3pm.

Mrs A Pearson /Mrs L Phillips

CONTACTING MRS RIHAL— PA TO HEAD OF JUNIORS

To contact Mrs Rihal or to book an appointment to see Mr Pape please call her direct on

01604 684829

CONTACTING AFTER SCHOOL CARE

If you need to contact the after school care team for any reason between 4.00—6.00pm please call them direct on:

07815 693051

HEAD'S AWARD—THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2016

- RCB Amyra Lahoti** for confidently saying a number that is one more or one less than a number to 20.
- 1PW Teddy Graves** for trying his best in his learning, for persevering and not giving up.
- 2PP Joshua Raddon** for starting to use adjectives and commas in his writing.
- 3AU Jessica Liddle** for a new and improved attitude to learning.
- 3MC Savannah Metaj** for showing such engagement in lessons and trying her best.
- 4DH Louis Horton** for being enthusiastic and motivated in science lessons and confidently Investigating a habitat to find an invertebrate.
- 4KM Lois Bonnell** for a positive attitude to learning in all lessons.
- 5MH Jessimae Crane** for working completely independently in maths and persevering with a hard topic.
- 5JS Finn Shardlow** for a conscientious attitude towards catching up with work he's missed.
- 6SW Dilawar Syed** for his excellent explanation of how shadows change remembering all he had been taught last year.
- 6MW Isabella Dunham** for showing responsibility and organisational skills handing in science work without being asked.

HEAD'S AWARD—THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2016

- RCB Elise Pettican** for excellent participation in phonics lessons.
- 1PW Finley Snedker** for applying what he has learnt in maths to help him find answers and for persevering even when tasks are challenging.
- 2PP Mimi Pilcher** for her increased maturity towards all work in the classroom.
- 3AU Sasha Barber** for an amazing Big Write.
- 3MC Alexi Flanagan** for working extremely hard during our lesson on play scripts and answering relevant questions.
- 4DH Hattie Pearce** for her continued enthusiasm and determination within her maths lessons.
- 4KM Louis Clark** for thoughtful and enthusiastic contributions in all lessons.
- 5MH Jessica Adams** for good effort and positive attitude in her work in school.
- 5JS Charlie Phillips** for his consistently conscientious approach to all his work.
- 6SW William Chamberlain** for excellent work in his CT design project.

QR NEWS

Reception have continued their topic on Bears over the last two weeks. Last week we read 'Peace at Last' and children used their phonics to write missing words to complete sentences from the story. We went on a sound walk around school to see what other noises might keep Mr Bear awake. Children learnt about nocturnal animals and that they are awake when we are asleep, they had fun sorting pictures of animals and explaining if they thought they were nocturnal or not.



This week we have read 'Whatever Next' and enjoyed making a large rocket in art. Children talked about what they would take with them on a trip to the moon and then used their phonics to write a list of items. We learnt some interesting facts about space and the planets and children then made and named their own planet to go in our class planetarium. In maths we have been learning about positional language and drawing aliens in different positions around a rocket and describing where they are.

Next week we will be sharing non-fiction books to learn some facts about real bears.

Miss C Billington

QUINTON HOUSE BONFIRE NIGHT—5TH NOVEMBER

Please do not forget to purchase your tickets for Bonfire night taking place on Saturday 5th November. The Bonfire will be lit at 6.30pm followed by fireworks at 7pm. There will be a BBQ and refreshments. Tickets are available from Mrs Angie Duckett at the Senior School.

If you wish you can leave your ticket request slip with Mrs Rihal/Mrs Brown in the Junior School office and they will forward these to Mrs Duckett in the Senior School who will process the request and send the tickets back to the Junior school for collection.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs T Davies

NEWS FROM Q4

Over the past two weeks Q4 have been very busy. The children have constructed a formal written letter to Sir Buildmore in a bid to stop the councils' building permission on a nearby forest. The children wanted to save the lives of woodland creatures and to protect the wildlife and their habitats. The children thought about persuasive letters and really enjoyed trying to take on a persona in order to stop the build. (All letters are strictly fictional and no forests or wildlife were harmed in the process!)

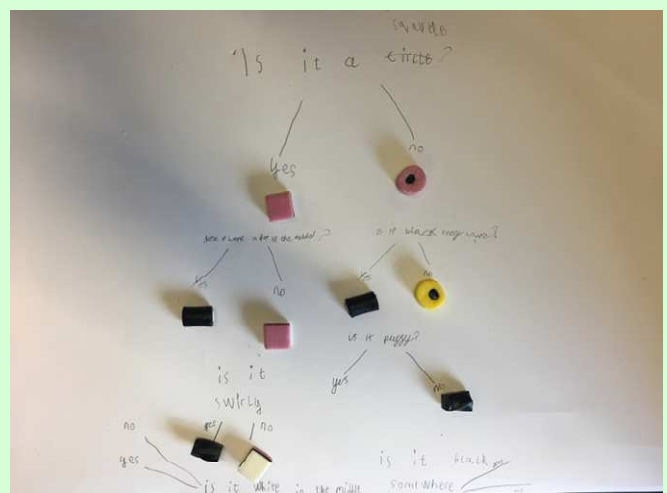
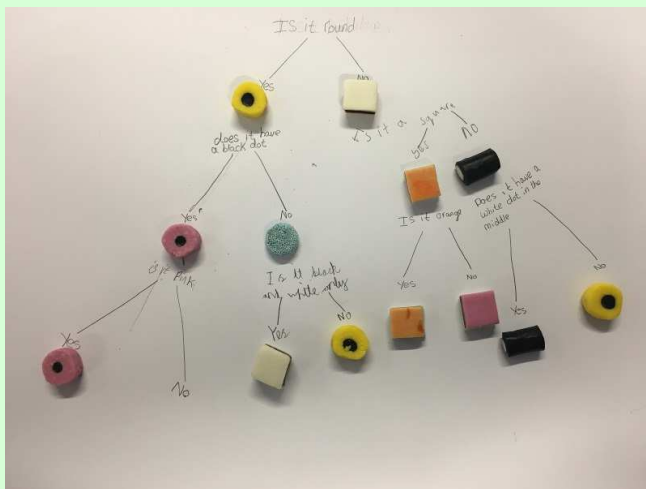
The children were also set the task of making their own habitat to protect a small invertebrate. The children took photos of their results and we think they look fabulous!

As the winter days draw in, please ensure your child has a named, black school coat in school. Red scarves and gloves are welcome too (purchased from the school shop).

A big thank you to those who have confirmed their parents evening time slot, we look forward to seeing you all on the 20th October.

Q4DH have been having fun working with classification keys whilst trying to determine the characteristics of liquorice allsorts. We think our work looks good enough to eat!

Miss D Howard



Q3 NEWS

Q3 are continuing to explore the Romans and over the last couple of weeks have been learning about Boudicca's Rebellion. They have acted the story out as well as writing character descriptions and retelling the story in their own words.

In science we have been looking at heart rate and what causes it to change. Q3 worked to devise a fitness routine which would increase their hearts rates.

Swimming continues to go well with a focus on being able to swim on our backs. There is so much to remember to ensure you don't sink!

In RE the children have enjoyed learning about Christingle and what each element of it symbolizes. They even learnt a catchy song which has been going round in our heads ever since!

In maths we have been focusing on fractions and even developed our investigation skills to solve the smarties problem. We have also enjoyed planning a holiday to India deciding on flights, activities and food without going over the £4000 budget! We have to consider how many nights we would need a hotel for as well as how many people would be going and how many meals would be needed.

The children have also been looking at money and how to work out change from different amounts.

Miss Miller-Chalk

TABLES BADGES

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded their tables badges over the last two weeks.

Silver star

Dexter Pettican.

Zak Hewitt

Bhavin Nagpal

Gold star

James Giddens

Unfortunately, this week we ran out of time for Gold star tests and I was concerned the children would be missing their lunch. However, the joy of a seven week term is that we have an extra week so I will be repeating the gold star test next week to make sure everyone has a turn.

Mrs M Herbert



WHY DO WE PLAY MUSIC?

Music affects the brain in many positive ways. It makes you smarter, happier and more productive at any age. Listening is good, playing is even better.

I spend a great deal of my time during a school day working with the children and playing instruments. We learn to play together and at other times listen to each other. This is just in lesson time and throughout each week more than 12 groups are offered to the students in the school covering all age groups and instruments we hope. We also have a huge range of individual lessons that are on offer to the children from Q2 onwards depending on the size of the instrument and child.

I am a great exponent of why children should play instruments but don't always have the chance to explain why I feel it is a life skill worth learning. I decided that writing an article for your newsletter might be a good way to share how important it could be to your child.

['Musicians Have Better Brains'](#)

['Music Can Improve Your Mood'](#)

['Music Boosts Brain Chemicals'](#)

['Music Helps You Learn'](#)

The accepted theory now is that taking music lessons as a child enhances brain function and structure.

Children with musical training do better in subjects like language, reading, and math and have better fine motor skills than their non-musical classmates.

Early music lessons encourages brain plasticity — the brain's capacity to change and grow.

And if children don't stick with their music lessons forever, that's OK.

There's evidence that a little bit of music training goes a long way.

Just a half-hour music lesson increases blood flow in the left hemisphere of the brain.

As little as four years of music lessons were found to improve certain brain functions, even when tested 40 years later!

When exposure to music training begins before age seven, the brain enhancement that takes place can last a lifetime.

Kids who sing together in a choir report higher satisfaction in all their classes, not just music.

Music Training Can Significantly Improve Motor and Reasoning Skills

We generally assume that learning a musical instrument can be beneficial for kids, but it's actually useful in more ways than we might expect. One study showed that children who had three years or more musical instrument training performed better than those who didn't learn an instrument in auditory discrimination abilities and fine motor skills

Classical Music Can Improve Visual Attention

It's not just kids that can benefit from musical training or exposure. Stroke patients in one small study showed [improved visual attention](#) while listening to classical music.

Ambient Noise Can Improve Creativity

It turns out that a moderate noise level is the sweet spot for creativity. Even more than low noise levels, ambient noise apparently gets our creative juices flowing, and doesn't put us off the way high levels of noise do. The way this works is that moderate noise levels increase processing difficulty which promotes abstract processing, leading to higher creativity. In other words, when we struggle (just enough) to process things as we normally would, we resort to more creative approaches.

Music Helps Us Exercise

Research on the effects of music during exercise has been done for years. An American researcher, Leonard Ayres, found that cyclists pedalled faster while listening to music than they did in silence.

This happens because listening to music can drown out our brain's cries of fatigue. As our body realizes we're tired and wants to stop exercising, it sends signals to the brain to stop for a break. Listening to music competes for our brain's attention, and can help us to override those signals of fatigue, though this is mostly beneficial for low- and moderate-intensity exercise.

How Music Affects the Brain: The Bottom Line

There's strong evidence that playing a musical instrument or listening to music can positively impact brain health and function. This brain boosting effect is evident at all stages of life.

Everyone benefits, from babies to seniors. Music can improve mood, increase intelligence, enhance learning and concentration, and ward off the effects of brain aging. Music therapy can help various mood and brain disorders, including Alzheimer's. No matter your age, it's never too soon or too late to fill your life with music!

This information was taken from

<http://bebrainfit.com/music-affects-brain/>

<http://lifelife.com/how-music-affects-the-brain-and-how-it-benefits-you-1469597259>

If you are still looking for more information then go to the Quinton House School website and onto the VLE where in Senior School - music you will find an interesting short video. We offer Voice, Violin and Viola, Brass, Cello, Guitar, Drumming and Woodwind lessons within school. If you would like your child to be involved then please feel free to get in touch at

Joanna.stone@quintonhouseschool.co.uk

Miss J Stone

INDIAN MUSIC

Q4 have had a great time this week thinking about how Indian music is closely linked to its dance and trying some simple Bollywood dancing. We enjoyed the music but have to admit we may need to leave the dancing to the experts!



NURSERY NEWS 7TH OCTOBER



The children have had some spectacular experiences this week. The forest school group got to use loppers and saws (with our very own Forest School leaders help of course) to cut down branches to re-vamp the den.

We have also had a surge of mini builders in the Nursery this week. So following the children's lead Miss Parker has changed the role-play into a workshop for the children to let all their constructive ideas flow. Miss Billington, Mrs Banyard and Miss Parker have also had some of their very own new experiences. Together they went to learn about 'Unlocking the outdoors'. The training was all about how children learn outside and they have come back with some sparkling new ideas which we hope to give you more information on in the close future.



We have started to collate all our around the world memorabilia on to a display in the messy room. Thank you to all those who have already contributed. However there are a few gaps on our map, please come and take a look to see if you have anything (pictures, magnets or other objects) from our missing countries.



SuperCamps

October Half Term at Super Camps

Super Camps, the UK's no.1 for childcare during the school holidays, will be back during October Half Term. The camps will be packed full of great seasonal activities, as well as the camp favourites. If you need

childcare or just want to treat the children, Super Camps is the place to be at half term!

Camps are open from 8am – 6pm, Monday – Friday.

Super Camps is offering parents a **year-round 10% discount off standard rates.**

Use discount code 'PARENT16' when booking online or over the phone.

Find out more at www.supercamps.co.uk or call **01235 467300.**

NURSERY NEWS 14TH OCTOBER



The Nursery children have all experienced trips to Italy, Brazil, Africa and a tour round England this week. The children stepped from Africa in the big room to Italy in the garden and took part in many activities relating to each country.

Over the last six weeks Mrs Swallow has introduced a letter sound each week, the children have now looked at the first full set of letter sounds these are— 'm', 'a', 's', 't', 'd'. Please continue to encourage your children to recognise and practice these letters. We have also looked at numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Next week we will conclude our topic of 'around the world' by tasting our way around the world!

