



# January in review

JANUARY 2020

Friday 28th February—Friday  
Film Club

Wednesday 18th March and  
Thursday 19th March -  
Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday 18th March and  
Thursday 19th March—Parent  
Consultation appointments  
—letters will be sent out after  
half term

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## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

### Welcome to February

Already the first month of 2020 has flown by and so much has already happened. The families joined us back in the first week of term to compete in a family reading quiz - part of our Fun with English week. Who would have thought how competitive it would be!

We have welcomed students here on their secondary school work experience placements and have further supported students who are training to become teachers.

Year two had a trip to MK Gallery to look at the superb art work of George Stubbs. Some of our nursery children and parents have had an opportunity to “shake, rattle and roll” together in our Music Sessions with MK Community Learning.

Our first film club of 2020 took place and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves eating popcorn and watching Shrek. The children who attend 3-2-6 club are going on more adventures together - going to the local shop to buy their own ingredients to bake and cook lots of scrumptious goodies.

Thank you on behalf of ourselves and Milton Keynes Council for submitting children's applications for their Year 3 places and Reception places for this coming September. It does support the school admissions team greatly and gives your child the best chance of getting your preferred school.

Jo Orbell

Head Teacher

## Competition Winners—Fun with English

The Reading and Quiz event with parents and children was a huge success - the quiz winners were Harley, Alyssia and Shahina—it was great to see so many parents getting involved.

We are very impressed by the creativity and imagination of the entries for the Reading a Book in an unusual place competition —The children won £5 vouchers to spend at our Book Fair in March. (details to follow)

The children looked fabulous as a Superhero character. Please look at our website—[www.thewillowsmk.org](http://www.thewillowsmk.org) to see some photos.

## Reception — Chinese New Year

In January we celebrated Chinese New Year. We learnt about Chinese stories, customs and traditions. We loved looking at photos, special artefacts and real life experiences that Miss Leung told the children about. It helped us to learn lots of vocabulary. We created our own dragons and held our own dragon dance in the hall with music and instruments. We would like to say a big thank you to Morgan's family for cooking delicious spring rolls for us to try and for writing Cantonese symbols so we could have a go at writing Chinese.

In English we have been writing simple sentences using the sounds we know, to write new words. In Maths we have been learning the vocabulary of addition, words such as 'more', 'less', 'altogether', 'adding' and 'total'.

Please keep sharing books and reading the children's reading books at home. Just 10 minutes a day really truly makes such a difference!

## Year 1—Our Teddy Bear Visits China

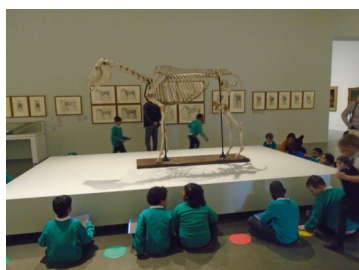
In Year One, the children have had a great time in reading week. They looked at a wide range of stories, drew comics, retold poems and took part in a quiz. Since then, the children have had a teddy friend that had gone travelling to China. To say goodbye, the children enjoyed a teddy bears picnic.

In English, we have written postcards to our teddy bear. In Science we have looked at different types of bears and different types of animals. We are looking forward to find out where the bears travel to next.

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	AM	School Nurse appointment letters have been sent home
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February – Half Term—School Closed		
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – Staff Training Day—School Closed		
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	8.50am	Children Return To School
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	3.00pm – 4:45pm	February Film Club – Spaces available please contact the school office for further details. £5 per child

## Year 2 Visit to MK Gallery

The children were really interested in the art work of George Stubbs at MK Gallery. George Stubbs is famous for his art on the anatomy of horses.



## Attendance

January Attendance 2020				
Year	Class Name	% Week Commencing 27th January Attendance	% Whole Month of January Attendance	
Rec.	Badgers	97.1%	91.2%	
Rec.	Hedgehogs	99.1%	94.9%	
1	Squirrels	96.8%	97.3%	
1	Rabbits	92.5%	97.0%	
2	Owls	99.1%	97.9%	
Total attendance		97.2%	95.6%	

Well done **Hedgehogs and Owls** with an attendance of **99.1%** for the week beginning **27th January**

Well done **Owls** with an attendance of **97.9%** for the whole month of **January**

Did you Know: Lateness also affects you child's attendance %

For the whole month of January there were 53 occasions when children were late. Time lost in the mornings can mount up quickly in lost education and cause disruption for other children in the class.

