



AIRTHRIE SCHOOL NEWS

New Year 2012

Cedar Class's 'Crafty' Creations

Year 3 pupils have been letting their creative juices flow on Thursday afternoons this half term. As part of their DT and English studies they have been writing and then following instructions. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Elwes (mother of Octavia and Jemima) with her colleague from the Food Works Cookery School. They shared their culinary expertise to assist the children in making peppermint cream hearts.

the foodworks
cookery school



We were then treated with a visit from Mrs Cambridge (Mother of Ella). She shared her artistic side by demonstrating to the pupils how to make some extremely inventive and simply lovely card 'cups and saucers'.



THANK YOU children and teachers for your contributions to this newsletter
We wish you a happy half-term break
See you back at school on Monday 20 February 2012

Please forward any contributions for the next newsletter to andrea@airthrie-school.co.uk
or see Andrea Wilson in the school office. Many thanks.

La Galette des Rois



Oak H and W have been investigating Epiphany celebrations in France. The Epiphany cake 'La Galette des Rois' was made and sampled in each class. In keeping with tradition, the youngest child from each class sat under the table and selected the order in which the slices were to be given out. The pupil who found a fève (lucky charm) in their portion was duly crowned King or Queen for the day.

Partner School in Pau, France



Last term pupils in Larch and Spruce sent Christmas cards to their partner class at Groupe Solaire des Plantanes, Idron in France. The children were delighted to have received some brightly coloured New Year cards from their French counterparts in return.

Mme Dale



Of mice and...



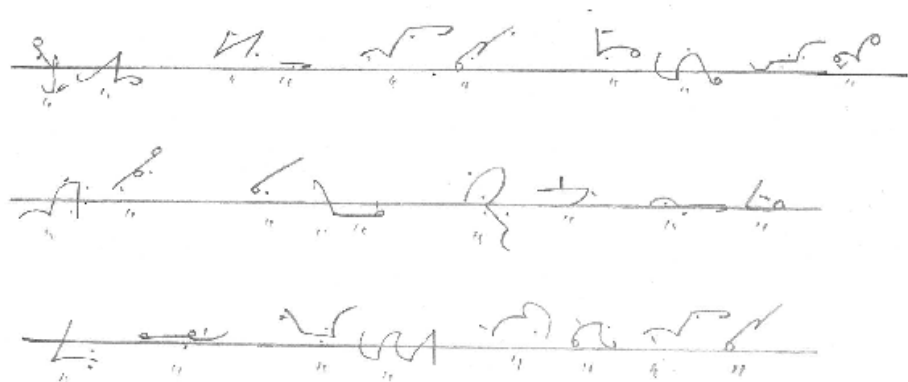
Form Beech proudly displaying their felt mice - all made to their individual designs - and, right, cards made for the special people and pets in their lives! These were made during their IT studies.



Charles Dickens and Shorthand



This term Year 6 has been studying Charles Dickens. One of the facts they discovered was that he taught himself shorthand. Oak H pupils took the opportunity to have a look at some shorthand forms and practised writing their own names using shorthand outlines. (See if you can find your name!)



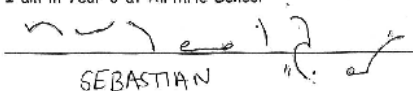
“This morning Mrs Wilson came into our class to teach us a bit about shorthand. We were learning about shorthand because we had read that Charles Dickens taught himself shorthand when training to be a journalist. He also wrote some of his stories in shorthand. This year it is 200 years since Dickens was born (7th February 1812).

Mrs Wilson showed us how shorthand is written on, above and through the line so you have to do it on lined paper. Vowels are written as dots or dashes and their position affects the sound they make.


Shorthand is like a special code – it means you can write things very quickly once you have learned it – perhaps 120 words in a minute! Mrs Wilson told us that she uses shorthand at work but also at home – she writes her Christmas and birthday lists in shorthand so that her family can't read her ideas!

It was a lot of fun and we would like to learn some more. Thank you Mrs Wilson!”


Georgie, Sebastian, Abigail, Tom, Harry, Oliver, Lizzie and Jimmy

I am in Year 6 at Airthrie School

 SEBASTIAN

My name is  HENNIE

I am in Year 6 at Airthrie School


 HARRY

I am in Year 6 at Airthrie School


I am in Year 6 at Airthrie School
 LIZZIE

Time Capsule Adventures



The pupils in Form Cedar have placed a time capsule in the School's front garden (with the assistance of Mr Harrison!). The items chosen to put in their jar include a poppy (to remember them), a 5p piece, a paper clip, a cocktail umbrella (!) and a sponge die (to show some of the different materials they have been studying). Ella wrote the following letter to accompany the objects.



"Dear Finder of this Time Capsule

We are writing this in 2012. We are pupils at Airthrie School and we like playing football and climbing on the monkey bars. These are some of our favourite things:

- TV programmes - Tracy Beaker, Blue Peter
- Book/film - Harry Potter, Nanny McPhee
- Chocolate bars - Toblerone, Mars Bars, Wispa
- Pop Stars - Lady Gaga, Take That, Jessie J

We hope that you find this interesting. Good luck.

Love from Cedar class"



Ash Adventure into Experiments

On Monday 23 January Form Ash took a trip in the mini-bus to @Bristol to learn all we could for our science topic on "Pushes and Pulls". It was an exciting, fun-filled day with lots of 'hands-on' exhibits. We participated in lots of experiments including sending up parachutes, and turning a water-wheel using only pedal power! It was a great day out.



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Forest News



Dallington

Dallington members are busy planning the design of our forest banner. We have a large piece of fabric attached to a pole which, over the coming months, we will decorate with stencils, fabric paints and collage - all in a forest theme.

Big Garden Birdwatch 28-29 January - In our last meeting we talked about the various garden birds which members may be able to spot in their own gardens: they will report back on their findings at the next meeting.

We finished off with a bird-themed quiz.

Well done! *Mrs Drury*

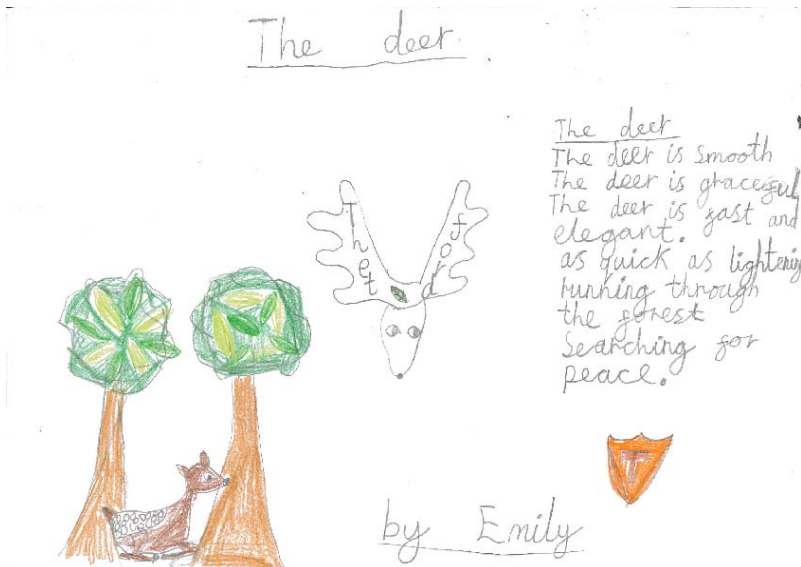
Wentwood

Our enthusiastic Wenties all enjoyed the first meeting of the year. Three new members were welcomed to our Forest. After our 'briefing' the forest split into their groups led by our Treefects to discuss their performance for 'Wentwood's Got Talent'.

The performances were highly cheered, applauded and appreciated. Dramatic sketches and vocal groups were presented. Congratulations to the Treefects who directed the presentations in 6 minutes. **Everyone** took an active part! This was a non-competitive show today and much self-confidence was derived. Wentwood thanked the staff at this meeting for their continual support - Mrs Ferris, Mrs Green, Miss Sury and Mr Spicer. Our meeting closed at 9.27am. Your ranger: *J Chidzoy*



We were delighted to welcome new members to Thetford Forest at our first meeting of the year. The children enjoyed playing a 'think of animals and plants' game in their pine groups. Several children have brought in pictures, facts and poems about our forest animal.



In our meeting on 9 February Thetford children will bring in a small square of fabric. These will eventually create the border for a Thetford banner we are making.

The design will have a woodland/forest theme (eg, red squirrels, deer, pheasants, woodlarks and nightjars) and children can use pieces of fabric to make a collage or draw on it with felt pens.

Mrs Southgate

Kielder During the early part of this term our Year 6 children put together a wonderful quiz about the different animals and birds we might find in Kielder Forest.

At our next meeting we will be busy on our task of providing birds with much needed food over the cold winter days. Our children will be making bird feeders out of every-day recycled materials - helping our birds and our planet! **Mrs Derounian**

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Football



Our first match this year was on 3 February (!) away to Hesters Way where we were narrowly beaten 2-1 (our goal by Alex Willerton). Others matches include St John's (home), John Moore (away) and Gloucester Road (home).



On March 3 the regular team players, 15 in total, have been very kindly treated to a visit to watch Cheltenham Town FC play a home match. A very big thank you to Mr Walker (Father of Andrew). "Come on The Robins". *Mr King*



We have played two fixtures so far this term. On Wednesday 25 January Airthrie played Malvern St James - the result was a win for Malvern St James by 6-4 (we only lost in the last quarter). On Wednesday 1 February the U11s lost 8-2 to a very good Berkhamstead Team. We are off to improve our shooting skills!! *Mrs Green*

Lorna Holland, form Alder, was presented with a well-earned **Distance Swimming Certificate** over the Christmas holidays. On Friday 23 December 2011 she took part in the *Christmas Mile Swim* at GL1, Gloucester. This was a charitable event which involved swimming 64 lengths.



Lorna was in the pool just after 7am and she completed the mile in 59 minutes. (The furthest distance for which she had previously received an award is 800 metres.)

She was rewarded at the end of the mile with a handful of chocolate biscuits and was presented with a certificate to commemorate this marvellous achievement. She declined the offer of a drink of milk due to the fact that she felt she had *drunk enough liquid already!*

102 people took part in this event and we believe that Lorna was the youngest person to complete the distance as an individual swimmer. Very well done!

Cross Country

On a VERY cold Tuesday 31 January, 6 Airthrie runners visited Dean Close Junior School to compete in their Annual Mixed Sixes Race - 3 girls and 3 boys compete as a team, with ALL runners' scores being added up to give an overall total result. Our best competitor was Jack Kempson (Yr6) who came in 18th and the team finished in 6th place. Well done everyone for trying hard.

Mrs Green



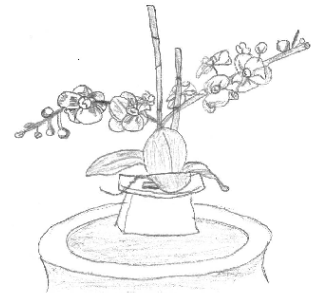
Gallery



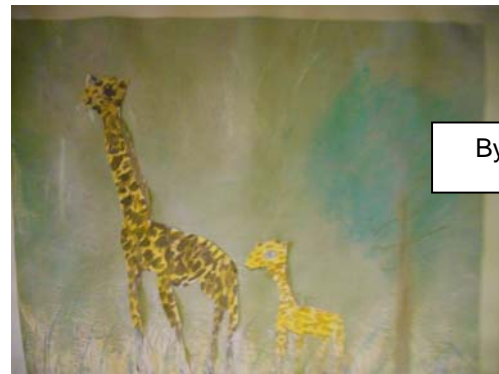
Viking dolls made by some Year 4 pupils



By Anastasiya Pushkareva



By Lucy Warr



By Freya Coull



By Sebastian Whitman
(mythological creatures)

By Millie Laird
(in the style of Henri Matisse)



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Where is the cat?

"Where is the cat?" asked the girl
 "She's here."
 "But where? But where?"
 "I can't see, the ginger cat
 That leaps and bounds
 Staring you right in the eye."
 "Come up here my little girl I know where your
 Gunge is hid."
 As they crept through the long dark corridors
 They stopped....



All of a sudden by a window
 As their eyes adjusted to the dark
 They noticed straight away
 That there was a pair of green
 Beady eyes, and a pair of whiskers
 In the centre.
 The cat is big
 She is bold
 She also looks strong
 The cat has claws
 So sharp as knives
 A tail moving like a snake
 She comes out as close to the girl
 as you can.
 And then wonders why



Some lovely poems
 and drawings by
 Jack Kempson
 (right) and Tilly
 Milne (left), Oak
 W. Tilly's may be
 difficult to read,
 however, we
 wanted to display
 her beautiful
 drawings.

Kiwi and Kea

So ginger like fire
 Kiwi kitten stands....
 He has claws like sharp blades
 On paws, not hands
 He pounces and jumps
 On the lawn outside
 He turns around
 And spots Kea cat,
 She's running with her
 Long silver legs
 And JUMPS!
 She's caught a big fat rat,
 Kea bites and chews
 The blood making stains,
 She had silver fur
 Now red, but no paws



After she's eaten she goes inside
 And sits on a nice comfy chair.
 She starts to lick herself but had no idea
 That Kiwi followed her there.
 He reveals himself and sits on
 The chair next to her.
 And they start to speak to each other
 In the language of tabby cats.



The Teddy Bears' Party



Willow 'partied' with their teddies and enjoyed eating Dossie teddy's gooey chocolate cake. This was as part of their topic on celebrations and festivals.

What did you like about the birthday party?

- "I liked it when I ate the chocolate cake and the sweets at the end of the day." William
- "My favourite bit was playing Oranges and Lemons." Henry
- "Opening her presents. I brought her some chocolate and Daisy wrapped it." Barney
- "My favourite bit was bringing Hello Kitty in. My favourite thing was making the drink fizzy." Thea
- "I liked everything at the party. I liked making a name badge for Rapunzel." Poppy

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Other News

COBALT

**HEART
MIND &
BODY** 

SCANNER APPEAL

Thank you for your contributions to this scheme throughout January.

All cards collected have now been forwarded to the organisers. *Mrs Trembath*

Sparkle Update



Hibernation is progressing well in Mrs Trembath's fridge! Apparently he responded well to a little stroke on the nose earlier this week!

Many, many congratulations to:

Jack Kempson - 3rd position in the DMT (double mini trampoline) National C level competition in Hatfield. **Qualified for the British Championships** to be held at the Birmingham NIA in July. He was the youngest and most inexperienced boy in a field of Under-15 boys from all over the country. Very well done Jack!

Following an absolutely fantastic performance at the **Young Musician of the Year** Competition on Sunday 5 February, **Caitlin Marshall** is through to the finals. This will be held at Dean Close on Sunday 19 February. Good luck!

(Parents – if you would like us to include details of an award your child has achieved in an extra-curricular activity please either e-mail andrea@airthrie-school.co.uk or drop a note into the office)

- Board Games - New After School Club

Calling all Year 2 and 3 pupils. Mr King is now running this club on Mondays. It takes place in the hall until 4:30pm.

We would welcome any favourite games that anyone would like to bring along to play.

Second-hand School Uniform

We are always happy to receive second-hand uniform – please leave it in the office or with parent helpers Mrs Cambridge/Mrs Waterman.

Please, should you buy named second-hand uniform, it is very important to put your own child's name in the garment as there is much confusion caused by a child wearing a garment with an incorrect name!

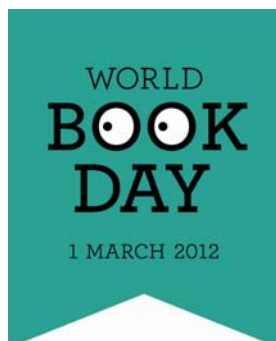
Thank you.

Non-Uniform Day - Thursday 1 March

Airthrie pupils may come to school on this day dressed as a book or forest-themed character (as it's our Forest meeting day).

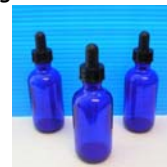
We look forward to seeing your outfits!

(Year 5/6 please make sure that you are wearing trainers and suitable clothing for sport. Thank you.)



Appeal

The Science Department are searching for old apothecary bottles with pipette droppers and also Persil/Ariel liquid measuring lids (marked with 35ml, 52ml, etc). If you have any that you no longer need please send them to Mrs Trembath in Poplar. Many thanks!



Airthrie School, 27-29 Christ Church Road, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 2NY Tel: 01242 512837

Website: www.airthrie-school.co.uk

Advertisements



Marcus Sullivan Dip AD BA Dip ScGD

The Woodlands
Woodmancote
Cheltenham
GL52 9QH

M: 07810 635 539
T: 020 7419 4069
F: 020 7419 4069
E: newviewdesigns@googlemail.com



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To help keep school records up-to-date please complete the form below and return to the school office as soon as any of your contact details change. Thank you.



Child's name:	Address:
E-mail:	Tel No (mobile/home/emergency other):
Any other details:	

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