



From the Head's Desk

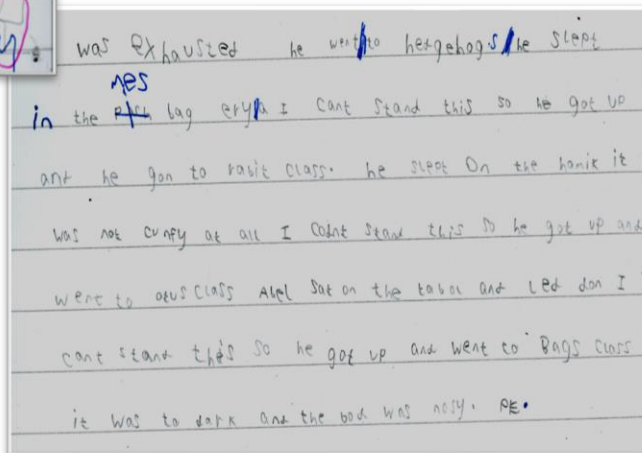
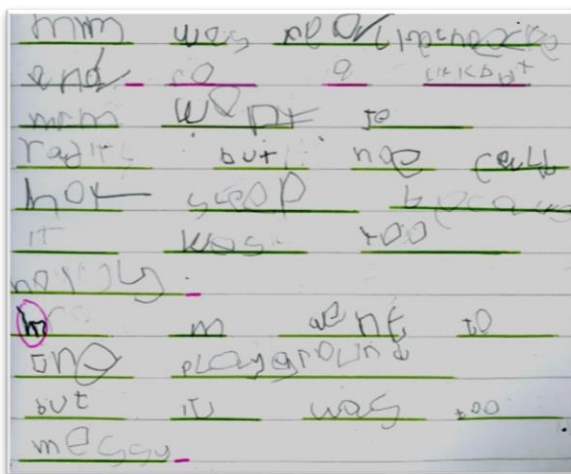
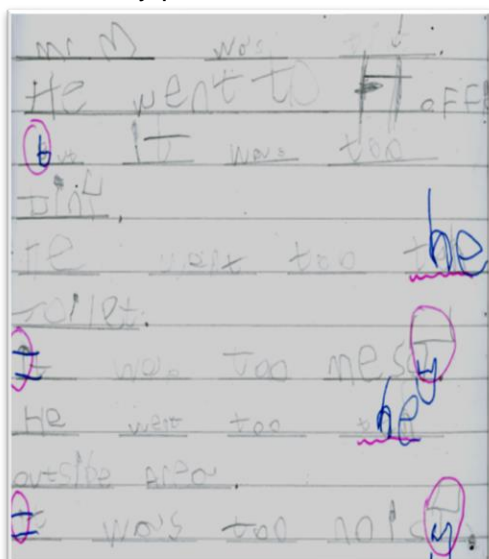
Autumn Term 1, Week 3
Friday 22nd September 2023



Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

We have had another busy week in school with some fantastic learning going on in all classes. It has been wonderful to see Rabbits Class so settled – it is hard to imagine that they have only been here for 3 weeks! They are already well established in their routines and keen to share their learning.

I have particularly enjoyed spending time in Hedgehogs Class this week and sharing some fantastic stories which the children have written – they should be really proud of themselves!



Celebrations!

A big well done to all of the children who have received certificates this week. Parents are welcome to join us at our weekly celebration worship which takes place in the church every Friday at 2:45pm.

Rabbit Class: Salvatore

Sports Star: Mia

Hedgehog Class: Reggie

Accelerated Reader: Luis

Badger Class: Layla

Greatest Showman: Harper

Otter Class: Leo

UPCOMING DATES

Tuesday 26th September

Individual Photos

Friday 29th September

Harvest Festival 2:45pm at the church

Monday 16th October

Autumn Sports Event

Last Day of Term

**Tuesday 17th October –
Friday 18th October**

*School Closed to children
(Staff Development Days)*

**Monday 23rd October –
Friday 27th October**

Half Term Holiday

Monday 30th October

Children return to school

Club Reminders

Breakfast club runs daily from 7:45am. Please book your child's place in advance via the office.

After School Clubs are now full, apart from a Thursday. Please ensure that children attend the full session and are collected on time at the end.

Monday - Archery
Tuesday - Hockey
Wednesday - Dodgeball
Thursday - Basketball
Friday – Running/Athletics

Attendance

As you are aware, we continue to focus on improving whole school attendance and tackling rates of persistent absence (children who have less than 90% attendance). We are monitoring attendance on a weekly basis and will be re-issuing our attendance policy so that you are all aware of the expectations around attendance.

The target for attendance is **95%**.

Our school attendance figures for the year to date are as follows:

- Whole school – 93.5%**
- Rabbits – 97%**
- Hedgehogs – 93.7%**
- Badgers – 93.1%**
- Otters – 91.7%**



This week in worship, we have been thinking about growing. We have talked about growing seeds, which will produce vegetables and fruits, but we have also thought about the ‘seeds’ that we can sow to help us grow.

I wonder what seeds you might all grow



Online Safety

Our lives have often become increasingly intertwined with an online world which can be enjoyable, the source of social contact and the tool through which we carry out some of our daily tasks. Although we like to think that we are safe and protected in the online world, there are many things to consider and often things that can worry us or cause concern.

As parents and teachers, we have a responsibility to support our children in becoming responsible online citizens and as such, each week we will be sharing some useful information (attached to the newsletter) about supporting our children as they explore the online world. If there is anything you would like us to focus on, do let us know.

A really useful resource is the [ThinkUKnow website](#) which has a whole host of resources for children and adults.



We all know that for many children, time playing video games or being online can be fun, relaxing and rewarding. We are finding that lots of children are talking about playing games intended for those much older. This week our focus is on Age Ratings.

Harvest celebration preparation is well under way and it has been so lovely to hear the children singing seasonal songs – and some great new ones too!

We are looking forward to sharing our Harvest Celebration with you next week at the church. As usual, we will be collecting donations for the foodbank and will be grateful for any contributions you can make. You can find a list of items that the food bank needs on the next page to help you.



What are video game age restrictions?

Video game age restrictions can help show what content is suitable for your child's age. You can also use them to set limits on what is available for your child to play.

There are five age categories and eight content categories, set by the PEGI.



What the numbers mean

Age restrictions act as a guideline for who should use a game, based on the content included.

- The age categories are '3', '7', '12', '16' and '18'. The number means that the content is suitable for that age and above.
- There is also a 'Parental Guidance Recommended' category for some apps.
- The age restriction doesn't tell you anything about how difficult the game is. A game rated 3 might be too difficult for a three-year-old, but the content would be appropriate.

What the symbols mean

The symbols on a game represent different types of content. This includes:

- Violence. Games with a rating of 3 won't include violence. For a 7 rating, the violence will be non-realistic or non-detailed. Games rated 12 can include violence in a fantasy or non-realistic violence. The 16 and 18 ratings can have more realistic-looking violence.
- Bad language. There is no swearing in games rated 3 or 7. Games rated 12 can include mild swearing. Games rated 16 and 18 may include expletives.
- Fear. The symbol can be on games rated 7 where pictures or sounds may upset young children. It might be on games rated 12 if there are horror effects or sounds but no violence.
- Gambling. This highlights games that may teach or encourage gambling. Gambling is only allowed in games with 12, 16 or 18 ratings.
- Sex. On games rated 12 or above. The higher the age restriction, the more explicit the game can be.
- Drugs. Where a game refers to or depicts the use of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco. This is only allowed in games with 16 and 18 ratings.
- Discrimination. This symbol can only apply to games rated 18. It means the game contains stereotypes of religious, ethnic, or national groups. These could encourage hatred.

The website, <https://www.askaboutgames.com/> is a really good resource to use as a family. There is a wealth of information and guides about all aspects of gaming. The key message is centred around:

P - Play with your kids. [Discover amazing games](#) and understand what they play and why.

L - Learn about [family controls for your console](#).

A - Ask what your kids think. [Discuss ground rules](#) before setting restrictions.

Y - You're in charge. [Set restrictions that work](#) for your family.

HARVEST APPEAL



**HELP BY DONATING AN ITEM OR TWO FROM
OUR SHOPPING LIST TO ENSURE WE CAN
PROVIDE FOOD TO PEOPLE IN CRISIS.**

SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS

Microwave rice
Milk
Instant Noodles
Toilet Roll
Fruit Juice
Sponge pudding
Tinned meat
Pasta sauce
Tinned Fruit
Coffe

Don't forget...

*You can help transform
more lives with a financial
donation too.*



info@dover.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1168737
Registered Charity in Scotland (000000)