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Active Outdoor Learning

I have just finished writing an article for the SEN Good Schools Guide about our whole approach. Showing the education world how we do it, following our PLLUSS curriculum and integrating every child's EHCP into making a truly personalised learning programme. The success of so much of our learning is that we make it fun. We learn in an environment we feel relaxed and happy in and we build strong relationships between staff and students. Our greatest success currently does appear to be when we can learn outdoors, in our woodland area, along the nature trail, in our playgrounds, horticultural grounds and paddocks. As a school we have developed our Forest Schools work a great deal and we are working with the national Forest Schools team to develop the special educational needs work and make them more inclusive.



"Many pupils flourish while learning outside." (Ofsted 2018)



Music for Autism

We use a number of musicians who have a special interest in working with children who have autism. This term we were visited by two musicians who were particularly gifted in using music and sensory activities to keep all our children highly engaged throughout the afternoon.

The children had the opportunity to listen to a guitar and a violin while adding their own music with percussion instruments. They could make the large sheet and scarfs vibrate to the music or demonstrating loud and smooth music by shaking the material to the sounds.

They also enjoyed playing a variety of unusual stringed and keyboard-like instruments.

“The school’s work to promote pupils’ personal development and welfare is outstanding.” (Ofsted 2018)



Our artistic flare grows

This term has seen us continue to enjoy a wide variety of arts and craft activities. To start Autism Awareness week we had an African arts day with drumming and mask making workshops.

Our Dr. Seuss themed work was celebrated in the making of another Green Screen film which we all enjoyed creating and the children loved to watch.

Weekends as usual have been filled with a wide variety of themes which has allowed so many different arts, model making, printing and drawing to take place.

Our spring weekend saw the creation of a large scarecrow which took a lot of straw to make and a lot of wonderful mess and fun for all.

Our Harry Potter weekend was a lovely opportunity to mix up potions and dress up.



Experiencing the community



As part of our Minibeasts themed curriculum work a group of students visited Magdalen Hill Down Butterfly Reserve and we able to walk around the reserve with a ranger who showed them lava and butterflies as well as the food they like to eat. We are pleased also to attend the monthly BASRAM walks. The rammers put on a special walk for our students - and all enjoy walking through a wide variety of our countryside.

We continue to enjoy our visits to Leatherhead to train with the Olympic Parahockey team. A small number of students attend and are gaining some great playing techniques and bringing this skill back to school.



For one of our weekend theme of 'Spring' the children visited a local farm and were able to feed the lambs, goats, and hold some chickens. Each week we continue to visit Eastleigh to the cycle park 'Cycles 4 All' which has a fabulous range of tricycles, bicycles, and tandems. The park offers plenty of cycle tracks so that the children and staff can have plenty of fun and exercise while enjoying a new environment each time. If you are feeling strong the cycle up the hill offers great views and a fabulous ride back down the hill.





Our new interactive floor projector



Taxi trips preparing us for adulthood



Community service posting the Parish magazines.

Embracing all new opportunities

It was a pleasure to invite two members of the Chineham Running Club to join us at one of our star assemblies. They presented us with a cheque for £1770 which they have raised through a variety of activities. We thank them for their kindness and support for our school.



I am also very pleased to announce that The Wellington Arms (newly refurbished, located on the A33) has selected us to be their local charity and will be donating 20p per pint of Red Mist beer purchased and 50p from the children's meals purchased in the pub. They also hold a number of quiz nights and events and have a national sponsored event. This money will help greatly towards our building project.



We are looking forward to a summer term filled with activity, and hope you will be able to join us.

Summer dates for your diary:

Parents Picnic: 6 May

Loddon Festival: 28 June

Sports and Staff Award Day: 19 July



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The Loddon School



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