



Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## Head's desk

### Art Solutions

We are still enthralled by the quality of art work produced during our 2 day Art Solutions project. Do read the children's reactions and observations in their section of the newsletter. Feel free to drop in and see the finished displays, they are in the hall, outside the office, in the Y1 classroom and reception class have their very own display.



There was a lovely piece and photo about the project in the Mercury last week.



A big thank you to all parents, carers, grandparents, family and friends who gave up their time to work alongside the children. We are incredibly proud of their achievements.



### Fabulous news- Raspberry Pi

Mrs Freman, our ICT coordinator reports:

'Following our entry into the 'Hour of Code' completion in December, we have won 20 Raspberry Pi's for the school (cost price £35 each). A 'Raspberry Pi', is a small credit sized 'bare bones' computer that allows children to practice programming. This is a bit of an alien concept but half the fun will be exploring and learning together.'

A big thank you to Mrs Freman for entering us into the completion in the first place and we look forward to receiving the goods and working with them.

### Opening of new Preschool Provision

Again thank you to all who supported our grand opening and to the Mayor and his wife for joining in the celebrations. In passing both Mr and Mrs Bonner commented on the warm and friendly atmosphere they encountered in the school and the high achievement of the youngest children. We expect to see a photo in the next edition of the Mercury too.



### A reminder and request

Morning session begins at 8.50am; please ensure your child is on time. Lateness disrupts morning routines in class.

Ensure any dog fouling is cleared from the pavements outside school; it is both a health hazard and a criminal offence. Your cooperation in this matter would be much appreciated.

### Parental Concerns

Just a reminder that if you have any worries, anxieties or concerns about your child or their education at Layston, or any ideas about how we can get even better at what we do, or things you appreciate about us, we are always keen to hear your views, so please come and discuss them with me or one of the Deputies. In addition you could come to parent chat, drop an email to [admin@layston.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@layston.herts.sch.uk), or catch me on the playground of a morning. Thank you.

## Reception

'I liked putting the tissue on.' Kyson

'I helped make the bridge.' James W.

We voted what colours to make the Troll and the bridge.

'I helped cut the tape for the hills.'

Ewan

'I splashed glue 'cos it was so runny.'



I am very proud of Reception children, they worked really hard (so hard that Laura from Art Solutions had to keep finding them extra work). They also displayed great PSE skills by helping each other, listening to others and carrying out instructions carefully.

I felt very proud of their achievements. Mrs Smith



This is the children's reaction on Wednesday morning:

'Wow! We made that'

'Oh look, can you see it?'

'Wow!'

'Oh!'

## Year 1

"I liked scrunching up the newspaper and I liked making pebbles" Miles.

"I liked making the toadstool. It was fun. I liked to scrunch up the tissue paper. It was amazing!" Charlotte.



"I like I because it is 3D" Jonny.

"I liked it when I had my photo taken with my snail" Emily.



## Year 2

Last week, Year 2 helped create some beautiful, 3D art displays. We worked really hard with Art Solutions helper Anna to make woodland creature!



I am very proud of Year 2 as this was tricky stuff! We had to fiddle a lot with small templates and make pebbles with newspaper to glue it all together. We also had to be very patient due to waiting for it all to try and then had to be even more patient and careful when covering them with tissue paper. We were very sensible throughout our Art days even with the VERY runny glue!

Well done Year 2!

"Art Solutions was really good! We used loads of glue and paper to make things 3D"  
Cass Perry Y2

"They look really good and are all over the school!" Rachel Hill Y2



## Year 3

I thought Year 3 were fantastic during the Art Solutions project last week. They were making things normally completed by older children and they certainly rose to the occasion. Thank you to everyone that came in to help out!

"We've really enjoyed Monday and Tuesday. I had fun making my mallard duck. It was amazing seeing a piece of card turn into an amazing creature" Megan E.

"The animals looked like they were alive!" Paddy.



"It started hard but after a while it became fun and the one I did was great!" Amie.

"My favourite part was making the deer and looking back and saying, 'That's what I did!'" Conall.



Also this month, we have been doing a spot of gardening and learning about the Romans and their mighty army.

Having completed our very own shields, we did a short demonstration in assembly. We showed how the Romans marched into battle and the famous "tortoise" formation where they used their shields to create a 'shell'.

"I liked the Romans because it was interesting and fun. The best part was when we got to look at Roman numerals" Ella.





## Year 4

Art Solutions two day event:

George worked really well and was very engrossed in making the animals. Later he said, "I am going to make something at home, perhaps an airplane or a dinosaur."

Holly said "We've done art for two whole days and it's been such great fun!"

Katie said "I didn't know they were going to look so good at the end."



"In the Art Solutions my group did a stag it was very hard. My favourite part was putting on the tissue paper to make it have some colour. I got to help out doing a badger but I also liked seeing the whole thing put together in the hall. There was lots of different animals made like swans, bats, owls, rabbits, birds, squirrels and many more."

*Charlotte*



# PTA

After a hectic but fantastic end to 2013 we have had a quiet start to this year. Our first meeting of the year will be next Wednesday 5th February at 7.30 in the staff room. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Our first event is the year 2 cakebake which will take place on Thursday 6th February straight after school. (Moved from Wednesday 5th). Please could the year 2 parents send in their donations to the staff room on Thursday morning and everyone else please remember to bring some money in on the day!

Next week we will finalise our Easter activities and we are planning the next children's disco for Friday 9th May. Our spring quiz night will be held on Saturday 17th May, so book your babysitters, get your table booked and dust off your brain cells!!

Finally, if you want to get more involved with events or helping out with some of the activities please either talk to one of us in the playground, or let the office have your details and they can pass them on.

## Looking forward...

Dates to watch out for in February:

**NB Parent taster session Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Feb as this was not on the calendar**

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2.30- 3.15pm- parent chat** in hall. No agenda items received from parents so we would like to discuss safety. However just turn up and bring any items for discussion with you.

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 3.15pm- Y2 cake bake**

**7.30 pm PTA committee Meeting**

**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Feb in the morning - Bishop Alan visits school**

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup> - Learning logs home**

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb- Y2 -visit Roald Dahl Museum**

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> -Whole School Circus Skills Day**

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> 9.00-10.00 am - Parent taster session-** a chance for you to visit your child's class and see the learning they have been doing over this half term.

With kind regards

Myra Bloomfield

Headteacher