

JANUARY 2024 NEWS

Both schools have taken part in an exciting dance project with The Royal Opera House. Last September, Miss Chatterton, Mrs Wilson and Miss Waterhouse completed training with the dancers so they could collaborate to produce a short dance piece based on Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. Our pupils shared with other schools at the Terry O'Toole Theatre in Lincoln and introduced us to villains, heroes and magic. What a performance it turned out to be!

Congratulations to all the dancers who took part - Year 2 Skylarks and the Year 3 and 4 Barn Owls. Do let us know if you'd like to come in to watch the short video we have to share; we can have the film available after school on Mondays and Thursdays at both schools.





FENLAND FEDERATION

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Marshchapel Infant and Grainthorpe Junior Schools



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The councillors were excited to test out the new meeting room and are looking forward to getting stuck into their projects: organising cold weather playtime activities, road safety campaign and preparing for World Book Day. There are lots of great ideas shared at the meetings and we welcome our new secretary, Marisa, who has volunteered to take the notes and keep everything in order.



Once the weather improves we will be looking at re-developing our flower beds and ensuring we are wildlife-friendly.

This weekend is the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch so why not spend some time checking out the birds in your garden. For more information, look at the RSPB site:

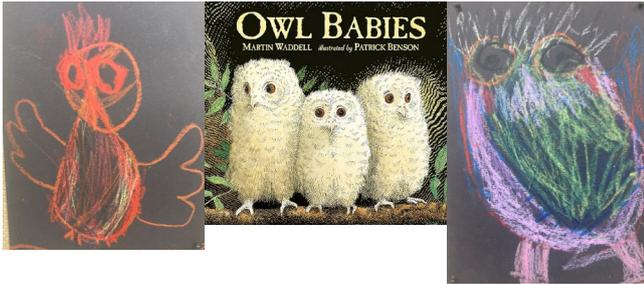
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch/submission>

The top three birds so far this year are the House Sparrow, Blue Tits and Starlings. I wonder whether they will remain the top three?

Spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, between 26 and 28 January, and record the birds that land.

MARSHCHAPEL LEARNING

The Lapwings have been enjoying their books of the week this term and *The Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell inspired the children to create artwork using pastels. We have some creative little people at Marshchapel!



The children love exploring during investigation time - it may look like they are playing but they are interacting with one another, solving problems and making connections.



Skylarks have been learning about The Great Fire of London as part of their *Bright Lights, Big City* project this term.

After researching the fire and the sort of houses the streets were filled with, they reenacted the Great Fire in Pudding Lane at the Louth Fire Station (in controlled conditions.)

It was also an opportunity to learn about fire safety.



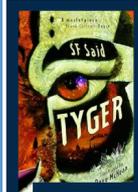
We know about the Great Fire because Samuel Pepys kept a diary.



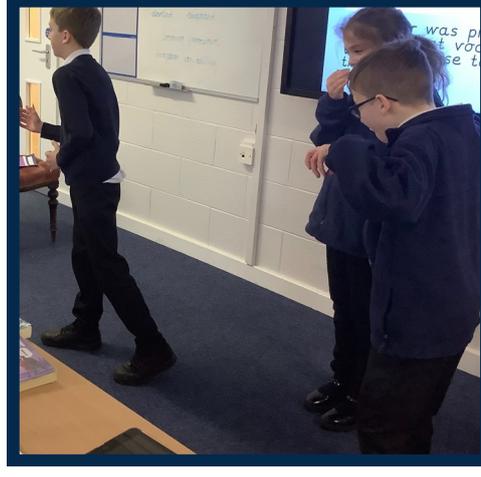
GRAINTHORPE LEARNING

Another busy month at Grainthorpe and there has been a great buzz of learning in the school. I am always impressed when I speak with children about the depth of understanding and their enthusiasm in most subjects!

Our Barn Owls have been exploring the mouth of the River Trent, identifying human and physical features on an Ordnance Survey map.



The Kestrels have been immersed in their class book *Tyger* by S F Said. They were inspired to create freeze-frames of scenes from the book to help them understand how the boy - Adam - was being protected from a thief by the Tyger. Can you spot the Tygers?



Tomorrow is Holocaust Memorial Day and the Kestrels have been creating their own holocaust memorial inspired by Chelsea football club. They are going to write messages of remembrance and hope on the shells and create a small memorial. We will share the finished project with you soon.



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE



We are getting ready for Safer Internet Day next month but in the meantime wanted to ask you to check your children’s internet use. Did you know most social media sites have an age restriction of 13 years? (WhatsApp has a 16+ restriction.)

We know children mature at different stages but sometimes social media can create problems with friendships and this can affect school. If in doubt, please say no to your child joining the sites!

SAFEGUARDING
IN OUR COMMUNITY

If you have any safeguarding concerns to do with children please let us know. Our Federation has a designated safeguarding lead professional (DSL), Mrs Turner and a deputy DSL, Mrs Manders. Please contact school on 01472 869075 (M) or 01472 869035 (G).

If you have a safeguarding issue to discuss, you can contact Children’s Services directly on 01522 782111.

NSPCC
Online gaming and keeping children safe

Do you know your whispers from your skins? Your Fortnite from your EA Sports FC 24?

GamCare will be sharing expert advice, and you'll hear directly from young people.

As part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival, we're encouraging parents, carers and those working with children and families to have conversations about online gaming.

Our webinar will help you:

- understand how young people game online.
- learn about tools and resources that support safe play.
- gain the knowledge you need to keep children safe.

7 February 2024, 7pm-8pm, via Zoom. Book your place via this link: nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets

GAME SAFE FESTIVAL

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

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