

News from Stower Provost Primary School – Octavo April 2019

The March winds have certainly been blowing in the Blackmore Vale, and Storm Gareth has been brilliant for us generating electricity from our wind turbine; we're now looking forward to the Solar Panels sharing the load a bit more... With the recent spell of drier weather, though, at last the children have been able to get out on the field during playtimes. There is plenty of space on the playgrounds for them to play catch, improve their skipping or hone their football skills, but it is lovely to see their joy when they can run free on the grass. Daisy chains, handstands and cart-wheels, using the 'jungle gym' apparatus, and wide-ranging games of chase become order of the day, and regardless of what class they are in, they all enjoy playing together.

Inside, the children's hard work continues as they come to the end of their Spring Term projects. Easter always plays a big part in primary school education, with assemblies, (including those led by Richard and Anthony), and writing and drama lessons allowing the children to show their understanding of the Easter Story. The end of term Easter Egg Hunt, organised by the PTFA, is always quite a highlight!

The Spring Term is also the time when children in Chestnut Class receive extra music lessons, provided by the Dorset Music Service. Through Music for All programme, every child in Years 3 and 4 gets the chance to learn to play an instrument, read musical notation and experience performing in front of adults. Last year we had Brass Tuition, with the children learning to play trumpet, cornet or trombone with amazing success. This year, it has been Samba Drums, and it is wonderful to see how their understanding of rhythm develops over just a few weeks. They also learn a great deal about the discipline needed for performing in a group; the children lucky to have their turn on the Surdo, a big bass drum, know how important it is to listen to other members of the band for the Boom to be in the right place! The children are looking forward to the parents' concert at the end of term, and are very professional and sensible when performing and yet with obvious enjoyment.

Work on the refurbishment of the school continues, with the outside decorating starting to make a real difference, while the new toilets are almost complete. The PTFA has been busy again clearing, tidying and cleaning up outside, with impressive results. Our revitalised vegetable and flower gardens will soon be ready for planting, while the re-roofing of the Playhouse has helped make the patio areas much smarter.

If you would like to see the school in action, please contact the office and we will arrange a tour – the children would love to show you round! And finally, thank you, as always, to our band of volunteers who come into school to help – the children really look forward to your visits.

James Stanford