

Dear Parents

Welcome to our May edition of our school newsletter. Please see the following information which may be of interest to you. As it is a very busy time of year, we have also included key diary dates but please do remember to also refer to Arbor for calendar dates throughout the year as Mrs Lewis regularly updates this.



Arbor Reminder:

The office staff would like to remind you that all school correspondence is now delivered via the Arbor app, in the form of emails and in app messages. Please ensure you check the app on a regular basis (and your email spam). Thank you.



Eco Update:

Thingwall Primary School are working very hard to save our hedgehogs! The following information has been written by our Hedgehog Club pupils...

Year 5 and the Thingwall Hedgehog Club have been working hard to save the hedgehog, our only spiny mammal in the UK. We want to make sure that these very loveable creatures remain a common and familiar part of our lives.

We know hedgehogs are in trouble. We've lost a third of all our hedgehogs since the year 2000 which is very sad news indeed.

Year 5 and the Thingwall Hedgehog Club carefully set up a food station, two hedgehog houses and a wildlife camera to capture images of wildlife visiting our school grounds at night. So far, we have seen foxes, cats and a hedgehog! (Unfortunately, the images aren't clear enough to share with you on this newsletter, but we will try to load images on to the website and share with everyone in an assembly).

We have also researched lots of facts about hedgehogs and ideas about what we can be doing to help them.

Some facts that we have learned are listed below:

- *Our hedgehog is the West European Hedgehog (the African Pygmy Hedgehog is not native to the UK)*
- *Hedgehogs are nocturnal in the wild and eat the bugs and grubs often found in wild areas*
- *Hedgehogs need wild areas to feed, breed and nest – Why not keep an area of your garden untidy for the hedgehogs?*
- *If you want to put food out to attract hedgehogs, please feed them meaty cat or dog food. DO NOT give them bread, milk or cheese (Hedgehogs are lactose-intolerant)*
- *Don't forget the water and make sure that they can get out of any water containers. Use a shallow container so they do not struggle.*

- *Hedgehogs can travel up to 2 kilometres every night but cannot get through fences. Why not, make some gaps and holes in your fences for them to get through? These need to be 13cm x 13cm minimum.*
- *Hedgehogs usually hibernate in winter but reappear in Spring and will be very hungry!*
- *If you find a poorly or injured hedgehog in your garden, the first step is to ensure its safety and warmth. Line a cardboard box with a towel or newspaper, provide a shallow bowl of water, and place the hedgehog inside. If possible, offer some meaty cat or dog food, but avoid feeding the hedgehog directly. Call a local hedgehog rescue centre for advice and assistance such as Jackson's Rescue Centre on 0151 625 5464.*
- *If you need expert advice on helping these beautiful creatures, please do ask Elliot in our Year Three class, as he has become a hedgehog rescuing expert in recent months and is really committed to ensuring their welfare and safety.*
- *Alternatively, you could also ask our FS2 class who have been busy in their continuous provision this week raising awareness of the plight of Horace and Henrietta Hedgehog. They have been creating hedgehog habitats out of lego, writing posters to explain how to care for hedgehogs and creating hedgehog homes on the junk modelling table. Well done FS2.*
- *Year Five have also been busy litter-picking at lunchtimes this half-term, to ensure the environment is kept as safe as possible for our prickly pals. Well done Year Five.*



The whole school community enjoyed an assembly today all about hedgehogs which was delivered by Jackson's Animal Rescue. The Hedgehog Club will meet after half-term to generate even more ideas about what we can be doing to save our hedgehogs! Thank you to Jackson's Animal Rescue and thank you for reading our hedgehog report.



Congratulations Miss Kilikita:

We are thrilled to share some more lovely baby news from our school community – Miss Kilikita, our wonderful Year Four teacher, is expecting twins this coming autumn. This is gorgeous news and we are thrilled for her and Mr Fletcher. We are sure you will join us in congratulating them both and we can't wait to meet your little bundles of joy!



Celebration Corner (OR HUGGO - Huge Unbelievably Great Goals!)

This area of the newsletter is so we can celebrate children's achievements outside of school. If you would like your child to appear in this area of the newsletter, please let the school office know with the relevant details.

Freya (Year Four):

Congratulations to Freya, who took part in the Pretty Muddy 5k Race For Life at the weekend, raising £300 for Cancer Research UK. Well done Freya, we are all very proud of you! 🍷

Maisie (Year Four):

Maisie played in two football tournaments last weekend. Her teams played some really great games and they won the cup in both tournaments! Well done Maisie! 🍷



With best wishes to you all for a restful half term break,

Mrs D L Evans