



### Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a pleasure to have all of our students back in school and we are delighted to see how well they are settling back into the weekly routine. We have really enjoyed seeing the students re-establishing their friendships, playing sports, settling back into lessons and enjoying the Harry Potter day and 'Wear a hat day' where we raised money for brain tumour research.

Teachers have been looking at the curriculum this month, making adjustments and identifying targets for students and staff to work on over the next term. This is to help to provide more focus to classwork and engage students in conversations about their progress.

There will also be a whole school focus on reading next term, this will be through the following:



- An extra reading session in English working with a whole class text and some elements of independent reading
- Reading activity sessions led by a member of staff from the Bexley Borough Library Service
- A reading competition linked with Accelerated Reader
- Drop everything and read sessions, 15 minutes daily
- Form time reading comprehension short activities at the end of the day

I wish all of our students and their families a healthy, happy holiday and we really look forward to what we hope will be a busy, hard-working but fun summer term.

**Ms Juliet Morris**  
Head of School

### In this edition:



### Gardening....



### Careers Week....



### Agility training and more....

## International Women's Day

### #choosetochallenge

On the 8th of March we celebrated International Women's Day. With this year's theme: #ChooseToChallenge

We celebrated women's achievements and gender equality by designing our own Female Superheroes.







## What Parents & Carers Need to Know About

# SIGNAL



Signal is a multimedia messaging service (previously known as TextSecure) which provides secure chats between users. It is encrypted, so any intercepted communication cannot be read by attackers. Users can send one-to-one messages or set up group chats. The service is free, has no adverts and doesn't track users' location like many other messaging platforms. The app experienced a popularity boom in early 2021 as large numbers of users left WhatsApp over perceived privacy issues.

### Disappearing Messages

Messages on Signal can be set to disappear (from both the sender and the recipient's devices) a specified time after they are first opened – potentially as little as five seconds. So it is difficult to monitor the app and see what your child is talking about. Should someone behave inappropriately towards them, unless they record evidence instantly there is no way to prove what has happened – making it difficult to take the proper action.

### Risk of Screenshot

Because messages can be set to disappear on Signal, some young people assume that nobody else will ever see them and let their guard down as a result. But a recipient could still capture a screenshot of your child's message before it vanishes from their device. This screenshot – which might be of something inappropriate or deeply personal – can then be shared with others or even made public on the internet.

### False Sense of Security

The feeling of total privacy and security within the app can make young people feel like they are invulnerable – and possibly that they could get away with behaving in ways they normally wouldn't. This behaviour could range from the harmful (such as participating in cyber bullying or sharing age-inappropriate images or videos) to the extremely dangerous: perhaps chatting to strangers, who might potentially be predators.

### Vulnerability to Hackers

Like virtually any piece of software, Signal has been shown to have flaws in its security. One hacker was able to make a call to a target device using the app and could then listen in on the victim through their phone – without needing them to even answer the call. Afterwards, the hacked user was completely unaware that the eavesdropping had taken place.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Gather Any Evidence Quickly

If your children are old enough to use Signal, they will likely already know how to take a quick screenshot on their phone. It's best to confirm this with them, however, because if they're sent something inappropriate or offensive, they will only have a very short opportunity to screenshot it as evidence of misconduct before the message disappears. Once they've captured the screenshot, they should then come to you or another trusted adult.

### Talk about Online Bullying

Before your child downloads Signal, have an open discussion about the potential risks of this app and others like it. Ensure your child is aware of the possibility of bullying or hurtful messages on such platforms. They should understand that the app makers themselves do not help with investigating incidents – and that it may be difficult to prove someone has done something to upset them.

### Think before Sending

The messages a young person sends on Signal don't last forever, but the effects of those messages very well might – for your child and for others. You could suggest to your child that, if they're unsure whether to send a particular message, they should ask themselves if they would be comfortable showing the content to you. And if they wouldn't, should they really be sending it at all?

### Stay Updated

It's wise to make sure your child knows how to keep their software up to date by downloading the latest version. Developers will often release software updates that (as well as occasionally adding new features or improving functionality, etc.) help to fix any security flaws and stop hackers from exploiting possible weak points in the app.

### Consider Online Reputation

Talk to your child about the implications if a message they sent was made public without their consent. Remind them that once an image (for example) is out there, there's no way to control what happens to it or erase every single copy. It's a good way to get young people to start considering how their digital footprint might have repercussions on their future prospects.

### Meet Our Expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.



Sources: <https://smartdatalab.com/signal-app/>, <https://www.signal.org>



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Cleeve Meadow students were asked to complete the Big Garden Birdwatch during the 29th and 31st of January. Students who were completing their learning at home were required to watch out for birds for a period of 1 hour and document which birds they saw. Below is an example from Sophie in Easton Class.

Students from who were attending school during this time went for a walk through the local meadows to identify different birds. Students were able to learn how to use binoculars properly to sight birds in high trees or far away and a small research project was carried out.

## The Great British Birdwatch Friday 29th January - Sunday 31st January

Spend 1 hour in your local park, garden, balcony or out your widow looking for different types of birds and document your results below if you are unable to download and print the form attached.

Name of bird

How many seen

Blackbird

2



Collared dove

3

House sparrow

5

Magpie

2

Robin

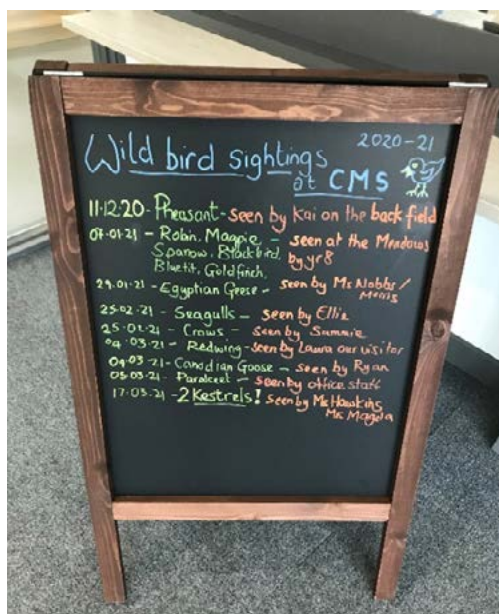
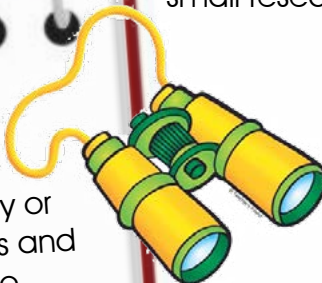
1

Starling

3



Recorded by Sophie. Easton Class



### Bird Watching

Name of Bird	Image	Where are these types of birds usually found?	What is the typical behaviour of the bird?	What does this bird normally eat/do to survive?	Describe 3 characteristics of the bird
Robyn		Robins are usually found in the UK woodlands, gardens, parks and fields.	The robin's behaviour is aggressive and the red breast is a bright colour.	Robins normally eat worms / fruit / seeds and insects.	Brown head, wings and tail, red breast and face, grey under parts.
Magpie		Magpies are found in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. They are found in open areas, often near roads.	Magpies are not afraid of stepping out into the open spaces often making noise.	Magpies eat more than most birds, such as wild fruits, berries and grains.	Black and white plumage and long tail. Seen to the wing feathers.
Blackbird		Blackbirds are found everywhere in gardens and countryside and from the coasts to hills.	They are not quite as aggressive as robins but very bold and noisy.	Soldiers / snails / berries / fruit / seeds / caterpillars / and beetles.	Male blackbirds have bright yellow beaks and eye rings. Females are brown with darker streaks.
Sparrow		It is native to Europe and North Africa / South America north and south.	The house sparrow is very common and is found all over the world.	House sparrows are found in gardens and parks. They eat seeds, fruit and insects.	They have brightly coloured with grey heads and blue cheeks.
Seagull		They are mainly on the coast in summer.	Seagulls usually mate for life, usually specific calls and courtship movements.	Seagulls eat fish and shellfish / eggs / insects and molluscs.	Seagulls are one of the few birds in the world that can drink fresh and salt water.
Goldfinch		Goldfinches can be seen anywhere where there are scattered bushes and trees.	Amazons, goldfinches are found in open areas, often near roads and fields.	Goldfinches eat seeds / fruit / caterpillars / and beetles.	This species of finch has one of the most strikingly beautiful and bright colours.
Parakeet		Parakeets like to be in warm countries like India / and Sri Lanka.	A parakeet is very noisy and often you will hear them singing a song.	Parakeets eat seeds / fruit and vegetables / nuts.	They have bright blue / green / and yellow / and cheerful disposition make them perfect pets.

By Ruby in Mary Yash



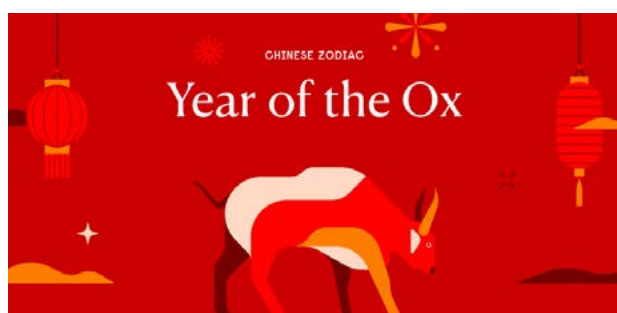


## GARDENING



During our outdoor session the students have begun starting work on our gardening project. We have already planted some pumpkin seeds in which we will be having a competition for the largest pumpkin at Halloween and letting the students design the carving they would like for their pumpkin.

We will be starting a Gardening Club after Easter for those students who are interested. We will be growing a variety of fruits, vegetables and flowers. We will be learning how to take good care of the plants and observe them as they grow. It will be a great opportunity for our budding gardeners to gain some experience in that area.



## Chinese New Year 2021

On the 12th of February we were celebrating the Chinese New Year – 2021 is the year of the Ox!

The year of the Ox brings career advancement, success in business, prosperity, and wellness for all zodiac signs.

Let's hope it's true.



On Friday 19th March 2021, Cleeve Meadow classes attended 'An Introduction to UK Parliament' for a virtual workshop. The live sessions covered:



- An introduction to how UK Parliament works
- What MPs do
- The work of members of the House of Lords
- How laws are made

The workshop lasted just over an hour and the students enjoyed the presentation and were able to have their questions answered. The presenter was really impressed with the great questions from Greta, Jaylen, Easton & Mary Ash classes.

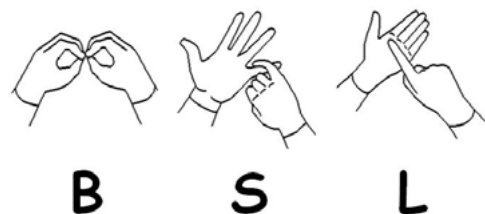


## BSL (British Sign Language) Friday

During this term, we have learnt how to sign different jobs in British Sign Language. These have included; actor, builder, chef, decorator, doctor, electrician, nurse, police, shop owner and teacher. The students were all very enthusiastic about this and picked them up very quickly.

I have seen some brilliant signing using lots of different vocabulary we have learnt throughout this term around the school from some of our students too, which has been fantastic!

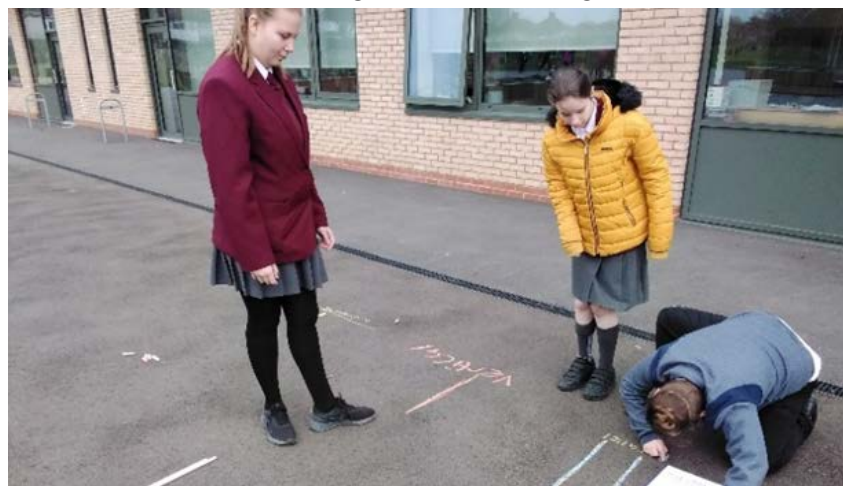
We hope to make BSL Friday a permanent feature at Cleeve Meadow School very soon.



## Maths Challenges

In year 8 maths lessons, students learnt about lines, angles and properties of 2D shapes.

Mary Yash and Easton classes carried out geometry investigation outside in the playground using chalk to draw their shape and measure angles on the playground floor.





1st - 6th March 2021

10  
YEAR ANNIVERSARY

National  
Careers Week  
2021

#NCW2021

During careers week the year 7 bubble explored different jobs, what they involved and the skills you need to do them. We also investigated what it would be like to run a small business.

We discussed what you have to think about when setting up a business, including designing what it is you want to sell as well as all the costs involved. As part of this we made balloon decorations which could be sold as gifts for celebrations like Mother's Day and birthdays.

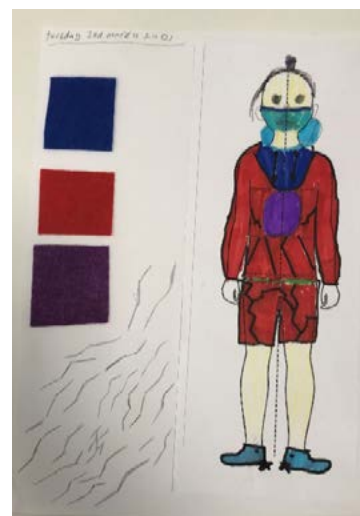
Throughout the day we got a real insight into some of the decisions you would have to make if you were running your own business"





## National Careers week – Fashion Designers

Year 8 Mary Yash class became fashion designers for the morning and designed their own clothing brands with logo and patterns. They were able to choose from a range of different materials and colours to help them become inspired on how their outfits would look in the real world. Students did a fantastic job creating some fabulous outcomes.



## Year 7, 8 and 9 bubbles - Paper making outfits

During National Careers Week students in Greta, Jaylen Malala and Easton classes designed clothes out of recyclable materials such as newspapers and cardboard. Students worked in small teams to come up with a creative and unique outfit. Students worked really hard to work as a team to produce some fabulous outcomes.







In English students are learning about the Midsummer Night's Dream comedy play by William Shakespeare.

In years 7 and 9 we have discovered some budding Thespians, who have all loved acting out a condensed version of the play to help them understand the rather complicated love stories that take place in the play!



A cheeky Puck getting into mischief and turning Bottom's head into a donkey's head!



Some of our Queen Titania's and King Oberon's!



Ralph playing a very stern King Theseus!



# COMIC RELIEF

On Friday 19th March, Greta class took part in a sponsored dog agility course with Baloo to raise money for Comic Relief.

They had to lead Baloo over a jump, weave him round cones and then make him sit at the end.

The students focussed really carefully on their verbal commands as well as body language to make sure that Baloo knew what he was doing and Every student successfully completed the course twice. Baloo loved the treats at the end of each course!



STUDENTS RAISED  
£101



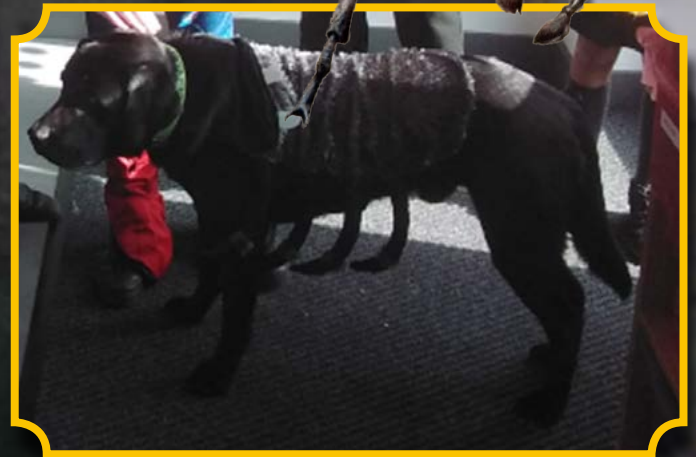


# Cleeve M Harry Book

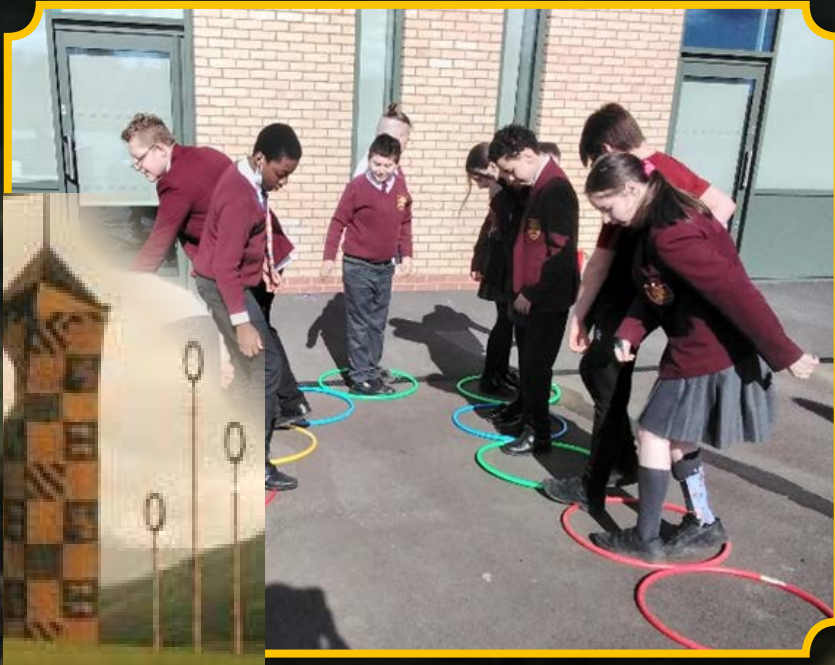


Students in Greta class made a huge effort for the World book day and we had some fantastic characters arrive at school!

Even Baloo joined in with the fun, and dressed as one of Hagrid's giant spiders.....



Team building outdoor activity called Caterpillar challenge. Children had to manoeuvre around a course, collecting objects whilst remaining in their hoop.







# Meadow School Harry Potter Book Day



We were Ravenclaw House, our challenge was to find to spell hidden around the school. Our spell was Wingardium Leviosa which makes things levitate. When the class chanted the spell, it worked, see for yourself SPOOKYYY!







# Reading competition



## Reading news.

Congratulations to **Iris**, who won the lockdown reading competition by reading for an impressive 24 hours in total!

Well done and we hope you enjoy your prize.

From after Easter we will be holding a reading competition every month



On the 26th of March we took part in the Wear a Hat Day fundraising event to support brain tumour awareness and research. Thanks to your help and generosity we managed to collect over £124!



## Cleeve Meadow School

### 020 8269 6523

[enquiries@cleevemeadow-tkat.org](mailto:enquiries@cleevemeadow-tkat.org)

[www.cleevemeadow-tkat.org](http://www.cleevemeadow-tkat.org)