

Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 20th November 2020

In this Edition:

- Hello from Mr Usher
- Diversity in literature
- Times Tables Rock Stars
- Online Safety
- What's been going on this week
- Conqueror Update
- What to do if your child is ill
- Christmas Cards
- Dates for your diary



Letters this week:

- PTA Raffle Tickets
- 5 Year Plan Feedback
- Year 5 Manor Presentation (Year 5 only)
- School Clubs Spring Term 2021
- The Willows Breakfast and After School Club – Potential Full Re-opening
- Wokingham Highways Alliance Survey
- Wokingham Food Bank Donations
- Wokingham Paper – online edition
- Christmas Cards
- School Meals Survey for WBC

Thank you from Mr Usher



I'm continually amazed by the generosity of our community. The contributions to the food boxes have been wonderful to see and will make a genuine difference to local families this Christmas and the funding we have received through the Conquerors Challenge is going to be put to good use in the school library (along with other areas). This is an amazing community that is both nurturing and supportive.

You may have seen an email asking you to complete a survey to help us develop our vision for the school. If you have already completed the survey – many thanks. If you have yet to give your thoughts – there is still time.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q8pkRCuPhk2xPScES2eI7O_4AuCIHoJDsDKOuBJos-VURU5XMPvCRkIEOUxGSVAyTDBWVIBGUEhEMy4u

I appreciate everyone's support in social distancing and wearing masks at pick up and drop off and **thank you in advance for keeping it up.**

One of our neighbours has asked us to remind you to park responsibly when picking up or dropping off at school. I understand there have been some disputes and that ultimately, we have no control over where people choose to park but it would help smooth relationships if you could **be as considerate as possible when parking in the area.**

Following a suggestion from our brilliant parent forum, we are pleased to advise that Dawkes in Maidenhead, a local supplier of brass and woodwind instruments, **are able to offer an assisted purchase scheme**, where instruments can be purchased without paying VAT if they are purchased via the school. Further details are attached for anyone interested in the scheme.

We have been doing some work on our school core values and with input from the children, staff and governors we are proud to share our new core values.

At Emmbrook Junior School, we are:



Adaptable



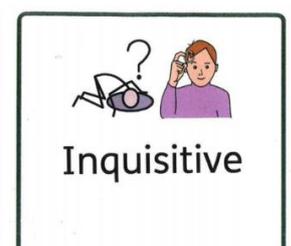
Kind



Inclusive



Courageous

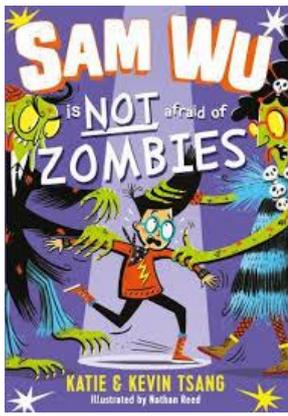


Inquisitive

We had a practise at signing these values today in assembly – perhaps you could get the children to teach you them at home. Thank you to everyone who helped us put these together.

Have a good weekend everyone and stay safe.

Anti-racism – Diversity in Literature

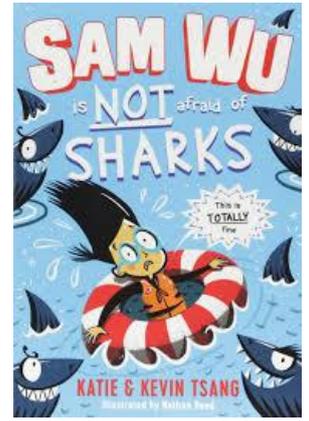


Sam Wu Series: Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark/Sharks/Spiders/Space/Ghosts/Zombies – Kevin & Katie Tsang

Perfect for reluctant readers and fans of Tom Fletcher, Pamela Butchart and Humza Arshad's Badman. There's hardly anything that Sam Wu is afraid of. Unless you count ghosts, sharks, the dark and maybe even spiders.

Author Info: Katie and Kevin Tsang met in in 2008 while studying at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Since then they have lived on three different continents and travelled to

over 40 countries together. Kevin was born in Copenhagen and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. Some of Sam Wu's experiences are based on Kevin's childhood. Katie was born and raised in Southern California. Katie and Kevin currently live in London.



Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's Top Earners

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jovan Sanghera	Abhinav Mannava	Jude Ashley	Emmeline Reid

Overall Most Correct Answers

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Oscar Earl	Isabella Jones	Aidan Thomas	Isabelle Mason

The overall most correct answers have not changed in a couple of weeks now. Can anyone knock these four off the top spot?

Online Safety

Abuse (online) - Some online behaviours are abusive. They are negative in nature, potentially harmful and in some cases can be illegal. It is worth explaining about the types of online abuse including sexual, harassment, bullying, trolling and intimidation. An explanation of when online abuse can cross a line and become illegal, such as forms of hate crime and blackmail can be very helpful in understanding abuse online. Children should know how to respond to online abuse including how to access help and support as well as how to respond when the abuse is anonymous. You could try discussing the potential implications of online abuse, including implications for victims. The most important thing is being clear what good online behaviours do and don't look like.



Google Meet is a video meeting app that lets you send written messages and share your screen. It's designed for businesses but can also be used for personal use. The free version lets you chat with up to 100 people. **13+ Official age rating**

Experts consider this to be a medium risk application and should be used only by those over the age of 13 and under supervision.

You can find out about a wide range of apps and online platforms at: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/>

What's been going on this week?

Last Friday, Pine class shared their class assembly on Diwali. Diwali is the festival of lights and took place on 14th November 2020. We made diyas out of clay and re-enacted the Story of Rama and Sita.

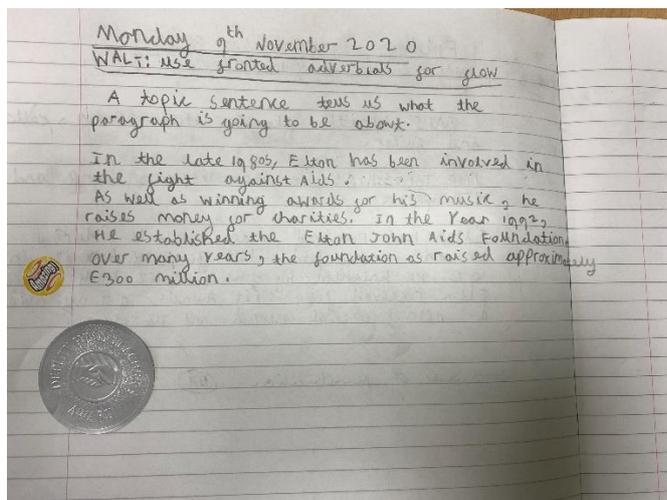
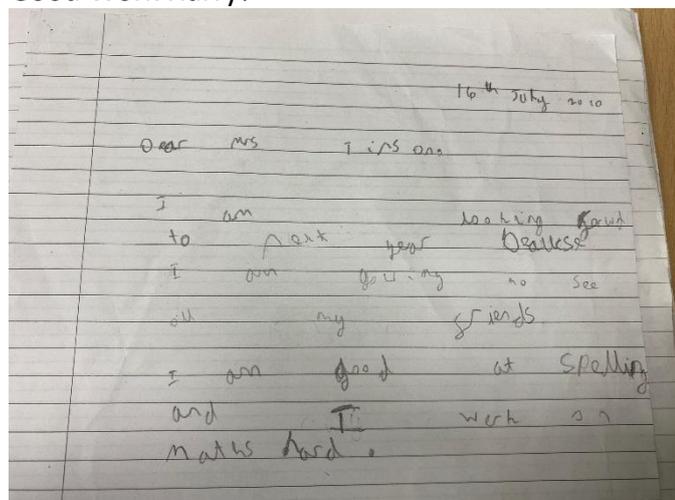
Pine Class are really enjoying our topic about Tudors. We played the Tudor edition of Through the Keyhole of Henry VIII's 55 homes including Windsor Castle, Hampton Court Palace, Tower of London and Whitehall Palace. As well as the Tudor edition of First Dates where two executors told us all about the punishments they do (we don't think they will be getting a date very soon!)

This week in 4 Cedar, the children have been busy writing their self-researched biographies about pop star Arianna Grande. Additionally, in topic they have been measuring the volume of sounds with data-loggers to see what happens to volume when we move further away. We have certainly been having fun learning the Christmassy songs in our up-and-coming Year 4 production - adults and children alike are finding them very catchy.

4 Elm, this week, have been investigating how sounds travel. We tested different instruments at different distances and recorded the results through a data logger. As we all hear differently, using the machine meant the results would be the same for everyone and it could produce an accurate number in decibels for each sound. Also, we made sure we were being fair by playing the instruments in the same way at each distance and making sure it was quiet before we began. We proved that sound gets quieter the further away it goes. Interestingly, high sounds (like a triangle) didn't travel as far as low sound (like a drum).

In 5 Maple, as part of our Learning Journey we had a passionate debate about whether Anne Boleyn should have been found guilty or not. There were some excellent arguments from both prosecution and defence but ultimately, the class felt that Anne was innocent. It gave us the opportunity to think about how our justice system works in Britain and in our own school.

Big Well Done to Harry Robson in Cedar - the progress in his handwriting from July to November! Incredible! Good Work Harry!



The Conqueror Challenge

It's been 6 weeks since the children and staff have taken the humungous task of completing the conqueror challenges. So far we have amassed 2770 kilometres and completing 5 challenges with 8 to go. The children have been amazing in putting the extra effort to complete these tough challenges. Thank you to all of those who have donated, so far we have a total of **£1325.00**, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you! If you wish to donate then please click on the link to help the children and the school

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/emmbrook-junior-school?utm_term=8Kd7NR6Bw

Some children have mentioned that their parents can not find the link for the online Conqueror form. The following link will take you straight to the form to fill and send.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q8pkRCuPhk2xPScES2el7HEgsR7Z5QVFtrlqb7B4okBUQVFPWTJOWVpIRzQ0MkdUQ0tRNDVONIuzWi4u>

Hope you all have a great weekend and remember to fill out any activities you do via the online form. Like Tesco always say, every little helps 😊 – Mr Fisher

Christmas Cards

Some parents have asked if we will still be allowing children to send Christmas cards to each other this year. We will be allowing the Christmas Post to take place although slightly differently under Covid-19. The post box will be placed in a safe communal area in the school and regularly sanitized. It will be emptied daily and the cards will then be isolated for 72 hours before being distributed to bubbles internally. Please make sure that cards are labelled clearly with **names and classes**.

Thank you.

What do I do if my child is unwell?

Wokingham Guidance -

<https://wsh.wokingham.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/535887.pdf>

Latest DFE guidance for parents –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 10th December – PTA Christmas Raffle Draw

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Friday 17th December – Last Day of Term

Tuesday 5th January – 1st Day of Spring Term