

Castlecroft News

Summer Edition!

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Goodbye Year 6!

By Mr Beddall

Our Year 6 children leave Castlecroft on Tuesday. I have loved teaching them. They have been a kind and caring class, looking out for one another and always willing to have a go. It's been wonderful to see them develop through the two years I have taught them. I will miss teaching them and wish them the best of luck as they set off for their new schools.

Thank you and Good Luck!



Nursery Chicks!

By Imogen Rhodes



We had 9 eggs in Nursery in an incubator to keep them warm so we would have some chicks. Our eggs all cracked and the chicks came out. When we first saw them, they were very small and slept a lot.

There were 2 boy and 7 girl chicks. They ate a lot of their food and grew really fluffy. When they were bigger they didn't sleep much, just played with each other. When they got bigger they got more yellow. We held the chicks, they tickled my hand a bit and felt very soft.

I loved having the chicks in Nursery because they were nice to look at and watch them playing.

Football Report Castlecroft v Springdale **By Alba Griffin**

On Friday 20th April, our girls' football team played a home match against Springdale.

We won the match with a final score of 5-1, giving us a comfortable win. Mia scored 2 goals, Saskia, Leila and Sophie all scored 1 goal each. I did score a goal which was disallowed as it was off-side.

It was an extremely challenging match as Springdale were a very determined team. Castlecroft played well as a team with excellent passing.

I enjoyed playing in the match because I like working on my team building skills but most of all I enjoy playing football.



Year 4 Bikeability

By Aurora Corbett-White and Jakob Stone

Year 4 did bikeability on the 24th and 26th of May. We split into two groups, one doing Monday and the other on Wednesday. The instructors were called Dan and Bob, Dan was the leader, he was really nice and Bob was so funny.

The first thing we did was a full bike check. We checked our brakes and our chains to see if they were rusty, if they were we would have to put oil on it. Finally, we made sure our seat wasn't wobbly.

As we rode around the playground, Dan would shout, "Red!" to stop, "Amber!" to get ready and "Green!" to go. We also played a game called 'Snake' going around the cones.

We learnt a lot about road safety and loved riding our bikes. At the end of our bikeability training, all of Year 4 were able to ride their bikes safely.



Bikeability Report

By Aleighza Bailey and Bobby Dodd

On Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th of April, Year 6 did bikeability. First we had to get on our bikes and put our helmets on. Then we all lined up on our bikes to do a bike check. We practiced riding around the playground doing various games before going on to the road. Whilst riding on the road, we learnt primary and secondary road positions to keep us safe.

Bikeability taught us how to stay safe on our bikes.

We had so much fun.



Reception-Come Dine with Me

Reception invited their grown-ups to come and have dinner with them on Wednesday 23rd May. Here are a few of Reception's memories:

"My Mummy had a roast dinner, I had a jacket potato and she sat by me. It was good." Sienna Barrett.

"It was good when Mum came to school. It was good to have lunch together. We ate all our dinner up." Ashley Heath.

"I was happy Mummy and Daddy came. They had a school dinner and they liked it. Mummy said it was delicious." Albert Crowther.

"I liked our special lunchtime because my Mummy and Nanny were here. I had the same as my Nanny." Bronagh Butterworth.

"When my Mummy came to school I felt so excited and I had some cakes with my Mummy." Lexi-Rae Thomas.

"I felt happy when my Mum came into school so I could eat my dinner with her." Aria-Rose Bailey.



Stand Up To Cancer Walkies Challenge

By Sophie Knott

On 1st April, I did a sponsored 2 miles a day walk for Cancer Research UK. My challenge was to walk 60 miles in April and people could sponsor me and my dog (Dexter).

The walks were very hard because we had to find time to walk each day, but it was worth it, as we raised a total of £250.



Maths Challenge

By Erin, Barnaby, Silvester and Freya

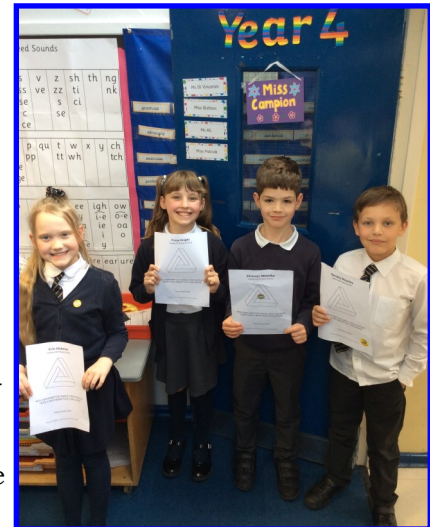
On the 28th April, four children from Year 4 went to the Girl's High School to take part in a Maths Challenge. When we got there, we were all very nervous as we had never done anything like this before. Barnaby told us jokes to try to relax us. We ate our lunch when we first arrived, then we got prepared for the challenge. When Douglas told us it was time to start the challenge, Miss Champion gave us a number and we went to find our table. When we were all seated, Douglas took charge and we weren't allowed to see our teachers until the challenge had finished.

Our first challenge was called 'Dicey, Dicey!' There were 2, 3 or 4 squares on the screen and we had to add up all the numbers. Each school marked another school's answer sheet.

We did different tasks with cards, dominos and geometry, where we had to make squares or rectangles out of a certain amount of squares and rectangles. Freya and Silvester worked as a pair and Erin and Barnaby worked together. Our last challenge was not our greatest achievement but we had a go.

The scores were all added up at the end of the challenge, while Douglas showed us an amazing card trick called 'I love ice-cream.'

We all enjoyed being part of the Maths Challenge because it was a good opportunity for us to do something new and made Maths really fun.



Year 1 Come Dine with Me

By Amaya Kaur

On Wednesday 3rd May, Year 1 had a 'Come Dine with Me.' My Mummy and Daddy came to have lunch with me at school. I ate my packed lunch and Mummy and Daddy had a jacket potato. They said it was yummy! My favourite part was sitting with my family and friends.

Computing Day

By Chloe Silvester and Darcy Quinn

On Wednesday 3rd May, Year 3 had a Computing Day with Miss Kinghorn. On our iPads we used 'Balloon Stickies', which is an app where you chose a picture and add speech bubbles on to it to make a scene. We didn't go to assembly so we could have more time on the iPads. Next, we did an activity where we created a diagram about volcanoes. We studied all about volcanoes for the day. After lunch, we created a poster about volcanoes, some looked like red fire and others were iced blue in colour. At the end of the day we created a story book about volcanoes which wasn't hard. We had so much fun and learnt to do a lot more activities on the iPad.



The King's Coronation Celebrations!

By Isla Myatt and Mya Rai

On Friday 5th May, Castlecroft celebrated King Charles III's coronation. We came to school dressed in red, white and blue and did various activities like decorating crowns. When lunchtime started, Reception to Year 6 went into the hall and had a 'Right, Royal Picnic', that included ham or cheese sandwiches, jelly, yoghurt, sausage or cheese and onion rolls, crisps, cupcakes and finally carrot and cucumber sticks. The picnic was delicious.

After we had eaten, we went outside to play. We even listened to the 'National Anthem'.

Our King's coronation celebrations were amazing.



Year 2 Come Dine with Me

By Jaden Mehmi



On Wednesday 17th May, Year 2 had their 'Come Dine with Me' day. Our Mums and Dads could come into school to have lunch with us. I was happy when I saw my Mum, Dad and little brother. We had to line up to collect our roast dinner from Mrs Spicer and Mrs Arnold. It was fun sitting next to my Mum and Dad. Our dinner was so yummy. We also had chocolate cake for pudding. It was nice to see lots of parents and grandparents enjoying their food too. We had a lovely time and I would love for my Mummy and Daddy to come for lunch again.

Wightwick Manor

By Daisy McBride and Zayn Toumi

Year 4 walked down in single file to Wightwick Manor on Thursday 18th May. We went on the track first which led us onto the canal. We walked along the canal for a bit, went past the Mermaid and we were at Wightwick Manor.

It is a very impressive old house. We split into groups of five and went around the house to look at all the art, there were hundreds of paintings. A lot of the paintings were by William Morris, he was a very good artist and that's why his paintings were hanging in Wightwick Manor because they looked really expensive and old fashioned. He also designed wallpaper with repeated patterns.

We had lunch, then walked back to school. It was really fun and exciting having a trip to Wightwick Manor, we learnt a lot of interesting facts about William Morris and his art.



Brecon Beacons

By Geogie Bohannan-Tran and James Bolus

Year 6 went on a school residential to the Brecon Beacons in Wales. We left school on Monday 22nd May. On our arrival at the Brecon Beacon Adventure Centre, we put our luggage in our teepees. Our first activity was called bouldering, followed by a delicious meal cooked by the centres' chefs. We loved sleeping in teepees even though the first night was freezing but over the next few days it got warmer.

Our Tuesday and Wednesday activities were 'Tree Top Challenge', this was a lot of fun but super scary. We also did a mountain rescue where we rescued a dummy dressed as King Charles, it



was very exciting and energy wasting. We also did archery and artificial caving. On Thursday, we did high ropes, abseiling and horse riding which were all awesome to do. In the evenings, the instructors came back to our village and entertained us. We did hill walking in the beautiful countryside, bottle shooting, ski-racing and orienteering. We had an absolutely amazing time and we were sad to leave but we had to return home.

Singing in the Rain

By Tommy Chalstrey and Billy Madden

At the start of Tuesday 23rd May, Year 4 and 5 were all extremely excited to get ready to go to Queen's Square in Wolverhampton town centre. We were going to sing in front of an audience. We waited until the end of break before we got onto the coach to take us into town. Everybody was really ecstatic and enthusiastic to sing and see our parents and grandparents. When we arrived, we were met by several other schools from all across Wolverhampton and Birmingham.



We sat down in the centre of town waiting for some more schools to arrive before we could start. Then, the lead singer introduced us to his band of musicians.

Before we sang, the singer made us do a quick warm up session, consisting of singing and dancing. Once we were all warmed up and ready to go, we sang the first song, which was 'What About Us' by P!nk. Then we followed it with 'Footloose' by Kenny Loggins. Next we sang 'Singing in the Rain' by Gene Kelly. A lot of people

were talking about how sunny it was instead of rainy, which we found funny because the only time it's not raining, it's supposed to be!

So far, everyone was really enjoying the singing, especially when it got to their favourite songs. We sang 'You're the Voice,' by John Farnham, after that, they played 'I am the Music Man' by the Wolverhampton Music Service (Paul Wilcox). Finally, the last song was 'Spaceman' by Sam Ryder. In our opinion, we think everyone enjoyed this song the most because when Paul Wilcox (the lead singer) said that the next song was going to be 'Spaceman', everyone cheered.

When we arrived back at school at 12:30, we luckily hadn't missed our lunchtime.

We were all really tired because of all the singing and dancing we did. We had a really good time and everyone loved the singing.

Year 3 Come Dine with Me

By Sienna Hughes and Jasleen Susch

On Thursday 25th May, we lined up with our parents to go into the dining hall to have our lunch with them. We all got our food which was a delicious roast dinner, jacket potato or vegetarian sausages. It was really fun eating our lunches with our parents and our parents enjoyed it too. It was a new experience eating school dinners with our parents and would be great if we could do it again very soon.



Year 4 Come Dine with Me

By Archie Evans and Harlee Hough



Today was so much fun as our parents came into school to have their dinner with us. Harlee's Mom and Dad came into school and had a BIG breakfast each, it was so yummy and good.

Archie's Nan came in to have her lunch with him, they both had the BIG breakfast. "I sat with my Nan, next to Barnaby and Erin. We all enjoyed our lunchtime and had a laugh. Then sadly, our lunchtime was over and they had to go home. I gave my Nan a hug and said goodbye." We are looking forward to when they can come and eat with us again.

Sports Wheelchair Activity

By Joey Barker and Freya Turner

Year 4 had an activity afternoon in the hall with sports wheelchairs. We hopped into the wheelchairs with a buddy holding the back of the chair for us. We zoomed around the hall, racing each other and then manoeuvring around cones. When we had finished we parked the wheelchairs up and jumped out with our buddy holding the back of the chair again.

Freya said "It is not as easy as walking, it's a lot harder being in a wheelchair, it rubs your hands when you are turning the wheels."

"It was a great activity; I was going to burst with excitement. I liked teaching my friends how to move the wheelchair. I felt like I wasn't being left out," remembered Joey.



It was an AWESOME activity.



Computing Day

By Dayle Birtles and Barney McBride

When Year 6 came into school on Tuesday 13th June, we did an activity on imovie, We had to remake, order and edit a video. The video was about a girl walking into her house. It was a good activity adding sound effects and changing the video to how we wanted.

After we came back into class from our break, we watched another video which was about a boy riding his bike past posts which we had to edit. Then, we had to plan our own

story boards. We got to use our imagination and had a lot of fun.

After lunch, we paired up in two's and then our pairs got into groups. We went outside to film our very own videos. Then we had to edit our video with sound effects, filters and trims.

We enjoyed the day because it taught us a lot of new things on the computer and the making and editing of films.

Year 5 Come Dine with Me

By Owen Hughes and Isla Myatt

On 14th June, our class were very excited to eat lunch with our parents as it was 'Come Dine with Me'. This was a very exciting day for all of us as parents could come and eat with us at school. We felt very special and had been looking forward to this day for a long time. There were three options on the menu, the first was an amazing roast, the second option was a wonderful vegetarian sausage and last but not least was a jacket potato.



Mini Netball Tournament

By Evie Metelko

On Thursday 15th June, the Year 6 netball team played a tournament at Woodfield School. We played 3 matches and won 1. We didn't count the scores because all that mattered was that we participated and tried our best. It was amazing to play and we all tried very hard. Thank you to Mr Morgan for organising all our sports events.

Kingswood Activity Centre

By Jacob Clarke

On Friday 16th June, Year 2 got to go to Kingswood again. In the morning, we went pond dipping. I caught a water snail and Charlie caught a newt. It was fun looking at all the creatures from the pond, there were some weird ones. Next, we played on the adventure playground. I liked using the ropes to climb the trees. After that, we had a picnic lunch and got to see the sheep. In the afternoon, we made smelly potions and went on a feely trail. We also had a material hunt and got to climb big trees. Before we came home, Mrs Russell gave us an ice-lolly treat. It was yummy on a hot day and cooled us down.

We had an excellent day at Kingswood.



Football Match
Castlecroft v Springdale
By Aleighza Bailey

On 22nd June, the girls' football team had their final match against Springdale. It was such an enjoyable experience. The score was 1-0 to Castlecroft. I scored the only goal of the match. Our whole team was happy that we had won our last match that we played for Castlecroft. We all really enjoyed the match.



Sponsored Walk
By Alexa Chetta

We had all been collecting sponsors as we did a Castlecroft sponsored walk on Friday 23rd June. We were raising money to buy some computing equipment for our school. First, we went into the hall where Mr Dyall told us what we could do and what we couldn't. After that, we went outside with our hats on and our water bottles, we started to walk around the Nature Reserve. Once we reached our class teacher they marked one of our laps off our sponsor sheet.



I really enjoyed walking with my friends, chatting and looking at the beautiful nature and all the different bugs. There were some very pretty flowers along the walk. Our class did a total of 84.6 miles.

We had a great afternoon raising a grand total of £2960.56 so hopefully now we can have some more computers in school.

Sports Day
By Bobby Dodd

Castlecroft eventually held their annual sports day on Tuesday 27th June, as it was postponed the week before due to rain. Year 1 to Year 6 came onto the field and walked past our parents to see where they were sitting.

The sports day started with the Year 1 sprint with much excitement and lots of cheering. Year 6 were Mr Morgan's helpers for the day. We helped him set up the equipment and ran the event with him by giving out stickers, holding the finish line and collecting the equipment once the activities had finished.

We had various events during the afternoon like; egg and spoon, three-legged, skipping, wheelchair race and relay. We finished our sports day off with the tug-of-war final, with Clee winning.

After all the points had been tallied-up, Wrekin came in first place, winning by 16 points, second place was Clee with 84 points, followed closely by Clent with 83 and Malvern coming 4th. I really enjoyed our sports day because it was full of fun activities and the atmosphere was electric with excellent sportsmanship.



Smestow Valley Nature Walk

By Sarrayah Ali

On Thursday 29th June, Year 6 went to Smestow Valley Nature Reserve to take photographs of the scenery. Mrs Dutton helped and showed us how to take the photographs. We took photos of the flowers, insects, trees and the sky. We all worked with a partner or groups of 3, taking turns to take the photos. After we had taken quite a few photos, we returned to school and went on the app befunky to edit them. We all had a great time and took some amazing photos.

Our photos were displayed at the 'Smestow Valley Celebration' open day on Saturday 8th July, along with lots of other stalls. The exhibition looked very professional and the Mayor was very impressed!



Smestow Valley Volunteers

By Annie Dickens and Delilah Prescott



Year 4 were asked to help the volunteers of Smestow Valley Nature Reserve to find out information. When our group got to our spot, we set up camp and David, the volunteer, who explained what we were going to do. After that, we got into the river next to our camp with our wellies on as we were going to get some water to see if there were any bugs in it.

Next, we got out of the water and put some of the water into sample tubes to see what the water would react to. We had to wait 10 minutes to find out the results, so we started looking in the trays for bugs to put in the magnifying pots. After a minute or two, we started to find loads of bugs in the trays, we saw things like wood lice, may flies, worms,

spiders and we even found a shrimp!!! We looked back at the sample tubes and they were a good colour. When it was time to pack up, we poured the bugs back into the water and returned to school with the other groups who had done some litter picking and looking at the dif-



French Café

By Dylan Castree

On Thursday 29th June, we had a French Café at school. It was lots of fun! I liked it when Madame Bradbury stamped our passports to say that we had visited pretend France. I enjoyed the croissants and baguettes but I didn't like the French cheese. I really loved sitting with my friends and trying the French food.



Reception trip to Hoo Zoo Friday 30th June

"We went to Hoo Zoo on the coach. It was really exciting because it was our first ever school trip in Reception", Lara Stephens.

"It was a bumpy ride on the coach" Aria-Rose Bailey.

"We all had partners and when we got there we walked from the coach park to the zoo and had a little snack." Lexi-Rae Thomas.

"I liked the Meercats best because they were so cute." Harriet McBride.

"I just loved all of the animals", Luca Franks-Wiseman.

"I loved the dinosaur world because the dinosaurs were huge and roared. It was like they were real but it was computers making them move really."

Kiera Paal

"The cat was lying asleep in its box and when he banged on the glass, I think he wanted to play with us", Reuben Deeley-Humphries.

"We saw the lemurs and they were jumping about and they had babies, they were eating apples and peaches. There was a mouse in the lemur cage" Harriet McBride

"I liked the whole trip it was a good day, it was exciting and really fun and I want to go again." Isabelle Corey.



Roman Day

By Sophia Hayes and Alfie wedge

At the start of Roman Day on Friday 30th June, Year 3 were split into two groups, one with a king (Alfie) and one with a princess. The princess (Sophia) was head of the Dabounie and the king's group was called the Ordogons. The Ordogons stayed in the classroom and the Dabounies went into the roundhouse in the hall. The king and princess chose their bodyguards. The king chose Jayden and the princess chose Imogen, then we were given our shields and spears. The king, princess and Jayden got special shields and Imogen got to pick hers before everyone else. The bodyguards got sharp, shiny swords and Jayden wore a chainmail shirt. Also, the king, princess and the bodyguards wore historical necklaces.

Then, the Ordogons went into the roundhouse for a meeting and both the groups made a promise to their gods not to fight each other. Next, the Ordogon's leader wanted the princess to get married to the king and have lots of babies together, but the princess didn't want to. The Ordogon's leader, had a speaking stick and when someone was holding the stick you had to listen to them and stay quiet. The druid gave the princess one more chance to prove why she shouldn't marry the king. After a lot of discussion, we eventually decided that the princess was going to marry the king. After lunch, we did some Roman writing, the Ordogons used a goose feather and ink and the Dabounies used beewax tablets. After 15 minutes we switched, then went back into the hall and got our shields. We had 5 seconds to make a battle line, if there was a gap the leader would pretend to slay us and say, "You're dead!"

Then Miss MacFarland and Miss Griffiths had one group each surrounding them in a circle, the leader checked around the battle line again.

Then we did the turtle formation with our shields.

We all had a fabulous day, full of lots of activities and interesting facts.



Year 1 Victorian Day

By Oscar Simmons

In class we had a Victorian Day. It was a little bit scary when I walked in because Mrs Shaw and Miss Wall were dressed as Victorian teachers and were strict.

I liked pretending to have strokes from the cane when Mrs Shaw said I was wearing the wrong coloured jumper. We did traditional Victorian lessons and made a thaumatrope.

I had so much fun!



Summer Fair

Our Summer Fair took place after school on Friday 7th July. It was wonderful to see so many family, friends and ex-pupils supporting the event.

A huge thank you to our PTA group for their hard work in organising the fair and to all those who helped with the event, to make it such a great success. Over £2,000 was raised on the evening.

THANK YOU!



City Athletics

By Nyla Aris and Elijah Webb

Eight Year 6 children represented Castlecroft in the Wolverhampton City Athletics on Thursday 6th July. On our arrival at Aldersley Stadium, Mr Morgan showed us where we would be doing our activities. We had fun getting used to the track, stretching and warming up. We also practiced the long and high jump. The first race was the girls' 600m. Georgie took part and finished in 2nd place. The boys' 800m was next with Toby finishing in 3rd place. Nyla came 1st in the girl's 300m race. Ollie ran in the 400m and 150m, Mia was in the 150m and Elijah and Leila were in the 800m. Saskia and Barney both finished in 3rd place in the obstacle race. Leila and Toby did the throwing.

Nyla reached 1.5m in the high jump, gaining 6th place and Elijah jumped 1.9m and finished 2nd. Georgie and Barney took part in the long jump. The girls' relay team; Georgie, Leila, Mia and Saskia came 4th and the boys, Elijah, Toby, Ollie and Barney also finished in 4th position.

Thank you to Mr Morgan, Mr Beddall and all the parents who came to support us. We made a lot of new friends on the track and enjoyed the whole experience.



VIP Day

By Keaton Dehil and Ben Stephens

Children who had finished their Superhero Reading Challenge at the library were invited to take part in a very special VIP day on Monday 10th or Tuesday 11th July. The afternoon was full of water activities.

First we played a game where you collected water balloons on a spoon, if we dropped the balloon we had to hop all the way back to the next person. Then the water fight began. We all scrambled for a water gun, then everyone squirted each other until we were soaking wet.

There was also a soap soaked waterslide which was great fun whizzing down. We all had a lot of fun and after we had changed we had an ice-pop.



Early Years Sports Day

By O'Shea Smith



Nursery and Reception went out onto the field in our PE kits where all our parents were waiting to watch us race in our sports day. The races were easy, apart from the sack race because you had to keep jumping which made you a bit tired. I liked the sack race the best.

Year 6 children came out to help us with all the races which was good because they cheered us on. The parents also cheered and smiled a lot as we raced.

I enjoyed our sports day because it was a lot of fun, the races were a lot trickier this year and I won a medal which was so good.

Rock Concert

By Rupert Broxton-Williams and Toby Foster

On Friday 14th July, our school had a rock concert where our Year 5 and 6 drummers played with Mr Clark's band. We all played a different song with Mr Clark's band, performing in front of the whole school in the afternoon, then in front of a sold out concert of our parents on the evening. We played songs like 'Smooth Criminal' by Michael Jackson to George Ezra's 'Green, Green Grass'. It was a brilliant experience and we all played amazingly. The large audience clapped and cheered at the end of the concert, so it sounds like they enjoyed it too.



Blist Hill

By Eduard Campanu

Year 1 went to the Blist Hill Museum on Tuesday 18th July. First we dressed up as Victorian children, the clothes were so tickery. Then the boys and girls lined up separately and walked quietly to the school with our teacher, Kitty. She told us that children should be seen and not heard. We wrote some of the alphabet on a chalk board, we also did our 10 times table, then we put labels on a drawing of an apple. I didn't enjoy the lesson because the teacher was very strict and it was hard to write on the chalk board.



Then we went into the bank to change our pound coin for 2½ pence in old money.

We went into a lot of different Victorian shops including the post office where we bought

a pencil for 1 old penny. We also weighed some parcels and sorted them into pigeon holes for posting. We watched the chemist make his own tablets by rolling them. The poisonous potions were kept in dark, ribbed glass bottles.

After lunch, we went to the sweet shop to spend the rest of our money on a lolly pop. I could have spent loads of money in the sweet shop as there were lots of yummy sweets in jars.

I really enjoyed going to Blist Hill as it was very interesting and I learnt lots about life in Victorian times.



Ukulele Concert

By Anya Ali, Raul Ceccarelli and Zarin Shamseer

On Tuesday 18th July, Year 3 performed a ukulele concert in front of our parents and the rest of the school with Mrs Lakin. Year 4 played the clarinet. We played songs called 'Green Cats, Eat Ants', to help us remember the strings. Next we did the Thumb Brush Strum and 'Stay with Me' by Sam Smith. Our last song was



'Little Birds' which we loved.

Everyone enjoyed the concert, they clapped and cheered a lot. At the end of the concert, we hugged our parents and thanked them for coming to our amazing concert.

What a great day!