

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## 'Fresh Air and Light'

Over half term we took delivery of a beautiful new 'outside classroom'. Situated just outside Kindergarten and Nursery, the classroom is intended to aid 'free flow' of the Early Years Foundation children from inside to outside so that learning takes place both in and out of the classroom. This is something in which the government, through Surrey County Council, are keen to encourage. As a result they provided the majority of funding through a grant with a generous 'top up' from the Coworth-Flexlands Social Committee.



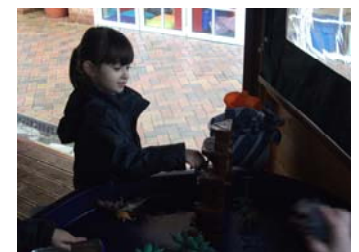
The classroom is designed to fit in with our existing building with terracotta tiles on the roof to match with the existing gazebo in the garden wall. There are also blinds which we can remove in the summer and seating inside so that teachers can still address the classes in the more traditional format. The space allows for all manner of activities from messy play, construction, creative and role play to story time. It is flexible enough to be used for social events like cake sales, match teas and picnics and is also likely to be used by our Toddler Group on Tuesday afternoons.



This is phase one of the redevelopment of the Early Years Foundation Stage. A further grant claim has just been submitted for the upgrade of the playground.



Finally, all the lights in the gym have been upgraded to improve the quality and safety of the lighting. Each light is now protected by a special cover which will minimise any damage from tennis balls, gym equipment etc. Funding for this came from the schools Health and Safety budget.



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## 'It's a small world after all'

Just before half term the school enjoyed an Assembly focused on different cultures and languages.

All of the children were captivated by the sounds and images presented by our guest speakers: Mrs Judith Blignaut, Mrs Katherine Flower and Dr. Saikat Banerjee. Judith (Chef at Coworth-Flexlands) invited the children to join her on a South African safari, naming the animals in Afrikaans and explaining the origins of that diverse language. Mrs Flower and Hannah (Year 4) recited a poem in Mandarin Chinese, demonstrating delicate and intricate sounds and symbols so different to those of English. Finally, Dr. Banerjee and Sreya (Year 5) spoke to the children in Bengali and took them on an uplifting and colourful tour of India, culminating with the mystical sounds of the ancient Sanskrit language. The presenters were all clad in their national dress and this gave the children a visual experience of the cultures and artifacts of the various countries – and they also had the opportunity to pronounce a few words of Afrikaans, Chinese and Bengali!

We want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our guests for participating in this assembly and for sparking the imaginations of our young students by offering them a small sampling of the magnificent breadth and wealth of world languages.

Mdme Howes

