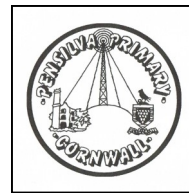


# Pensilva Primary School Newsletter

To Live, To Love, To Learn

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Friday 25th March 2022

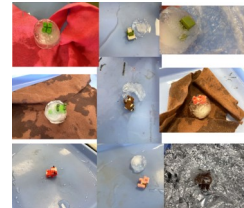
## Wrens class

Mrs Clinick has been teaching in Wrens class this week. The children have been learning about the Great Fire of London and about how things were different in 1666. They have shown real interest in learning and impressed Mrs Clinick with the information that they can remember.



## Doves class

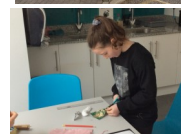
This week Doves have carried out the investigation that they planned last week. They had to rescue their Minecraft figures! We had some great ideas about how to melt the ice the figures were trapped in and this week we tested out those ideas to find out which ones worked best. Some were wrapped in felt, bubble wrap or tinfoil, while others had warm water poured over them, salt sprinkled on top or they were placed in a warm place. Here is what happened:



## Puffins and Buzzards Class trip to Wheal Martyn

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, we visited Wheal Martyn clay works in St Austell. The weather was glorious, and the behaviour of the children was impeccable. They all listened carefully to the tour guides and asked a number of inquisitive questions. We learnt so much about china clay or kaolin. It is formed as a result of decomposition of some of the feldspar in granite. The feldspar changes into a white powder, but the other parts of the granite, mica and quartz remain unchanged. Once refined, the white powder is used as an ingredient in all sorts of familiar products including:

- Ceramics – such as porcelain
- Paper – as a glossy coating or filling
- Rubber – for example, tyres
- Paint
- Pharmaceuticals – such as paracetamol
- Cosmetics – used by brands such as Lush and L'Oréal
- Toothpaste
- Aircraft components



As the traditional tin and copper mining industries in Cornwall started to decline in the late 19th century, the china clay industry grew and far outstripped those industries in size, economic contribution, mining technology and research into micro-mineralogy. The value of china clay sold to date is more than double the value of tin and copper sold from Cornwall, estimated at around £14 billion.

The clay works began at Wheal Martyn in the 1820s and were started by Elias Martyn on the Carthew Estate. Elias became one of the major clay producers in Cornwall and by 1869 he was producing 2,000 tons of clay a year at Wheal Martyn. After his death in 1872, the family kept the land but leased the works to other operators and the site continued to operate until 1969.

During the afternoon, Puffin class took part in a workshop learning more about rocks and soils. Gemma, our workshop leader, was very impressed with how much we already knew! We classified different rock types, made volcanoes and created our own fossils using clay. It truly was an amazing day!

Buzzard Class started the visit with a science focused workshop called 'A Material World and Soggy Socks'. First the children looked at different materials and talked about their properties. This was the first step to solving the issue of the clay miners who got very cold and wet feet whilst working! Once the materials were explored, each group selected three materials that they thought would be good for waterproofing and thermal insulation. Next, they cut samples of materials and wrapped them around thermometers before leaving them in ice water for five minutes and recording the temperature changes. They placed drops of water on each material sample and left them for 3 minutes to see if the water penetrated them. Finally, the groups applied their knowledge to design socks to solve the clay miner's problem.



Friday 8th April—Easter Service at 2pm at Millennium House

Friday 8th April—last day of term

Monday 11th—Friday 22nd April—



Easter holiday

Monday 25th April—children return to school

Monday 2nd May—bank holiday. School closed

Monday 9th May—Thursday 12th May—Year 6 SATs

Wednesday 11th May—Wrens and Doves trip to the Eden Project

Monday 16th—Wednesday 18th May—Year 6 Residential to Barton Hall

Tuesday 24th May—Class Photographs

Friday 27th May—last day of term

Monday 6th June—children return to school

Friday 10th and Monday 13th June—INSET days. School closed

Friday 22nd July—last day of term

Monday 25th July—INSET day. School closed

Tuesday 26th July—Platinum Jubilee (taken in lieu of 3rd June)

### Attendance

Wrens	72%	Doves	88.21%	Puffins	86.32%	Buzzards	91.72%
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Well done to Ailla, Grace, Ruby, Scarlett, Isla, Thomas, Cody, Leo and William who completed the Landrake cross-country run on Friday 18th March. A 'Cornish' three mile route through farm lanes, roads, fields, salt-marshes and many hills! All ran brilliantly and represented the school superbly.

### Easter Service

Friday 8th April 2022 2pm Millennium House

We are excited to be able to hold and invite parents/carers to our Easter Service this year at Millennium House on Friday 8th April at 2pm.

Parents/carers are welcome to take children home at the end of the service and they do not need to return to school. Any children not collected, will be walked back to school for normal collection at 3.15pm (unless attending the afterschool club).