



Great Gaddesden C of E (VA) Primary + Nursery School

February saw a variety of themes and activities in school. All the children celebrated **Chinese New Year** which a range of activities. These included making dragons, lanterns, lucky fish, New Year cards and learning Chinese writing. Prawn crackers were particularly enjoyed by EYFS and all the children had fun researching the animal year in which they were born. The animals are assigned based on a 12-year cycle, making 2022 the Year of the Tiger. The Tiger is known to be the king of all beasts, and is seated third in the Chinese zodiac order of animals. Do you know your animal?



As a school, '**Feeling Good week**' provided the children with opportunities to think about how we can grow together in a positive way. The children revised the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, which includes different ways of feeling positive about themselves. Examples were listening to music, getting some fresh air, reading a good book and playing sports. Each day, the children took a 'mindful moment' to help improve mental wellbeing. The children discussed the virtual assembly provided by Children's Mental Health Week and the children considered real life examples of how, as a community, they could actively 'Grow together' to enhance their lives.

EYFS had a great fun linking their learning to the **Queen and her Platinum Jubilee**. They drew portraits of her, learnt the National

Anthem and had a tea party in her honour making their own honey sandwiches and jam tarts, which were indeed, fit for royalty! The afternoon was completed by the wearing of crowns and the waving of flags whilst listening to Rule Britannia!



Recently, Years1 + 2 joined 6 other Dacorum school in an **athletics event**. The children worked as great ambassadors individually and as a team, to represent the school, participating in a range of activities which included javelin, standing long jump, hurdling, beam balancing and a relay race. Well done all!

The school was delighted to welcome back to the school, Mrs O'Brien, from Herts Music Service, who came to lead music workshops for the younger children. EYFS children learnt some new songs, which included using sign language for 'I can sing a rainbow'. They also used their drums and tambourines to demonstrate different musical skills. Years 1 and 2 enjoyed their ocarina workshop, playing a range of pitched notes on the ocarina to create a whole class piece of music. A fantastic afternoon for all!

Parent Café in St John the Baptist Church. The school held their first Parent Café in the church, which gave parents and younger siblings the opportunity to meet up for a cuppa before pick up. These cafés will be held on the first Friday of the month and we look forward to welcoming families and friends from both the local and wider community. Next café: Friday, 4th March 2 - 3 pm

<http://www.greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk/website>

Heather Tisbury on behalf of the School Governing Board.