

Dear Beech Class

It's been so lovely to read all your fantastic newsletters and poetry over the last two weeks. Thank you for having a go at the home learning tasks and trying your best – you are superstars! I hope you've had a chance to read all the haikus I put together and sent. Please do if you haven't – they are truly inspiring and such a special record of our time in lockdown. If you would like to write any more lockdown haikus and send them to me, please do and I will add them to our class book!

Last time I wrote to tell you about the cuckoo I heard in the woods. In case you couldn't open the media file to hear it, try this link: <https://vimeo.com/415882894>

Well this week I stumbled across something even more incredible....

...right there in Ashridge woods!



The picture with my shoe, gives you an idea of its size.

It wasn't moving – and was quite shiny so I thought it was a plastic toy snake....



....but then, it started to wiggle away!



Click here to watch!

<https://vimeo.com/415881603>

I had no idea what it was so went home to Google it. I was quite surprised by what I discovered. It's not a snake or a worm – but a reptile! It's a 'slow worm' and they're actually an endangered species in the UK. You can find out about slow worms – and why they're reptiles here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/other-garden-wildlife/amphibians-and-reptiles/slow-worm/>

I'm very pleased that Stanley didn't spot it – I have no idea what he'd do! Fortunately he was too busy racing through the trees.

So, if you're out walking, look out for slow worms! Spring is a wonderful time to spot wildlife so keep a look out. I'd love to know what you've seen.

I hope that you have all read the letter about our whole school art project and are busy collecting plastic bottle tops for our new school mural? Please get your whole family involved as we need thousands of plastic tops to make it work! Any size and colour will do. I'm looking forward to seeing your collections when we're back at school. (I have a feeling that Beech



class will collect the most!!) I would also love to see your design ideas. I have received a few already and there are some lovely ones. We're hoping we can include as many of your ideas as possible – so get designing!

You will see that I have included one more week of home learning for you on the website. This will take you up to half term – and then a week off! I hope you enjoy the tasks. As well as daily Maths, English and Curriculum learning, there are also some maths games. I haven't included PE activities but by the sounds of your Newsletters you're all staying fit and healthy by going outside and enjoying the fresh air. If the weather changes, you could keep going with Joe Wicks, or try BBC Supermovers (and learn your times tables at the same time!).

Please do email me with your news and send me examples of your learning. You're doing so well and I'm really proud of you for having a go at all the activities. Keep going!

Take care,

Mrs Bennett.



Tired....



...and hungry!