



New Horizons  
Children's Academy

# News

Dear Children, Parents and Carers

As a school community we have been through a number of adjustments through this period as we all try and navigate a change in our usual routines, but also juggling the balancing act of home learning, home working and ensuring that we are able to keep all of our families safe and well. We have had the initial changes at the end of Term 4, the Easter holidays and now trying to re-establish a routine and rhythm that fits our life at home now we are back into Term 5-it is really important to remember the challenges that we have all faced and continue to face. We are all working to try and achieve the very best for our children, both those at home with you and those members of staff who have their own children at home too. This is unprecedented! We have not been through something like this before- there is no rule book- there is no right answer or perfect solution- there is just trying your best in the circumstances.

To that end I wanted to base my message on this week's newsletter by thanking parents/carers for your support. You are all trying your best and doing exactly what we are all trying to do by reflecting on what is going well and making improvements/ adaptations if and when you can. I have been overwhelmed by the working coming through the year group email addresses- there is a pleasant mixture of school work and life skills. Images of children smiling and showcasing their learning has been a real boost to the staff and hopefully you have felt this at home too.

Now we can see the wonderful things that you are doing at home and correspond directly with the children, we wanted to find a platform to extend this to between families. We have created a New Horizons Twitter page for parents/ carers to share their children's proud moments. We felt that this platform could help create a school community where we can help with everyone's mental health through being able to share positive messages and proud moments. We will tweet challenges that you might want to try at home and of course we will tweet/retweet anything that we see that might of interest to our families. The twitter account is @NewHorizonsTSAT and should only be used to share proud moments and positive messages between parents/carers- please note that this is not a 'manned platform' and therefore we will not be responding to questions. Should you have any questions/queries please continue to contact office@newhorizonschildrensacademy and this will be passed onto the relevant person.

For those entitled to FSM – the e-vouchers have now been distributed. We can see that many have been redeemed but there a number that have not. Please check your emails carefully, the e-voucher will come from EdenRed and they do have an expiry date. Any problems please contact the school office. If you have received your e-voucher but are experiencing difficulty downloading them then please email EdenRed on freeschoolmealsparents/carers@edenred.com

Lastly, thank you for taking the time to read and look through the newsletter and we hope the resumption of the regular newsletter on a Friday afternoon is helping with the sense of routine.

Take care and stay safe!  
Mrs J Murphy, Executive Headteacher



# Thinking Healthily

## Nursery

This week the Nursery children have been working hard at home to complete the Tapestry challenges set by Miss Edwards. The children have been working hard to rapidly develop their vocabulary and learn new words when completing the challenges set. One challenge this week which showed high levels of engagement was the children having to sort healthy and unhealthy foods in their house. The children selected their favourite item and had to construct a sentence as to why using the conjunction because. Another challenge was children describing a range of different materials they found to use in their creative project! Brilliant vocabulary building Nursery!



## Year R



This week in Reception, the children have been completing their home learning around the traditional tale - Little Red Riding Hood. Children have been writing sentences about the story and have even started using conjunctions! We have been taking away and sharing in our Maths work, using our cuddly toys to help us. We have also been scientists and investigated the best objects around the house that could be used for rolling - we have loved seeing you complete this challenge on Tapestry. Please keep sharing your wonderful home learning through Tapestry so we can add it to your child's learning journal and share it in the Newsletter each week.

Mrs Wingrove writes: During my planning time this week, I have been helped by a new member of my family. Her name is Betty and she is a 10 week old Cockapoo. She is very inquisitive and loves looking at your Tapestry learning on the screen with me!

## Year 1



The Year 1 team have been really impressed with how all the children (and parents/carers) have engaged with our new topic Bright Lights, Big City. In Thinking Academically, we have been continuing our learning of London landmarks by creating our own leaflets – the examples sent in have been really creative – well done! We have also enjoyed seeing all your hard efforts paying off in your maths activities and it is great to see you using your purple thinking hat to check you have the right answers. In Thinking Healthily, we have received lots of work on what it means to be a good friend and to look after others, which is especially important whilst we are at home with our loved ones. In addition, we have also received some photos of you taking part in the PE Challenges – which one was your favourite?

The Year 1 team set their own high score in Challenge 2, reaching 14 – can anyone beat us? It was great seeing you all outside enjoying the weather and taking part in challenges set both inside and outside. We hope you are all safe and well. Please send a copy of your work to [year1@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk](mailto:year1@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk) and a member of the Year 1 team will reply with some feedback – well done Year 1, you are doing great!

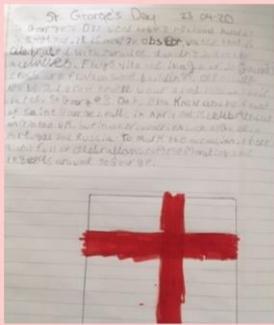
### Year 2



We have received such amazing work from all of you this week! We have now learned about pirate ships and Christopher Columbus in History, properties of materials that could be used on pirate ships in Science, and we are beginning to look at mindfulness and wellbeing in PSHE. I wonder how you are keeping your minds happy and healthy at home whilst we are stuck indoors? I (Miss Miller) have been doing some mindfulness colouring in my new Roald Dahl colouring book. There are lots of ways to keep our minds happy such as going for a daily walk or bike ride, spending time with our families, colouring or watching our favourite TV programme. It's important we have time for these things as well as our learning.

We have tried to make our home learning even better this week – I wonder if you can spot what has changed? The Year 2 team love seeing the work you are completing at home and sending into us on our email account. We can't wait to see what you send us next week! Keep up the good work, spend time doing some things you enjoy and stay safe!

### Year 3



I hope you've all been enjoying your learning about our new topic, Myths and Legends, and have noticed those familiar voices creeping into your learning packs! It's been lovely to be able to speak to you all again, even if it is from a distance! The Year 3 teachers have also been very excited to receive some examples of the hard work that you've been completing at home – I (Miss McCaw) have especially enjoyed sitting outside in the sun to read them after my daily exercise with my new puppy, Sadie! Keep up the great work. We hope to receive even more emails from more of you next week to showcase everything you've been doing at home. Perhaps you could send us a photo of how you've been staying active through your PE learning! Remember to keep active, keep learning but most importantly, keep positive!

### Year 4



Week 2 of Term 5 is now officially completed and what an exciting week it has been for the Year 4 team! I hope all of you enjoyed our little surprise in the form of our voice messages attached to your home learning activities. We understand, that it is not the same as being together in the classroom but we all need to play our part in keeping each other safe during this strange time. In our learning next week we will continue to explore topic of the Blue Abyss as well as following the footsteps of Laura Perryman in our novel *The Wreck of the Zanzibar* – I can't wait to find out what is going to happen next! Our whole school focus this term is Thinking Healthily, which means looking at relationships we have and emotions we could be experiencing, as well as keeping our bodies in a good health through the physical activities.

Now more than ever, it is important to think about how we are communicating with each other, how important relationships with the different people are to us and reflect on our feelings, so make sure you talk with people at home about your emotions – remember it's all new to us all! We all have been impressed with the quality and a variety of your home learning work that you have shared with us. It is an amazing feeling for us to be able to be part of your achievements and to see all the creative ways you have used when approaching your home learning – please continue to send work through!!

Keep busy, stay safe and be as amazing as you always are!



### Year 5



This week Miss Martin has been particularly impressed with Harvey and Andreaa from Laburnum class who have sent in so much home learning, as well as both engaging in extra enrichment opportunities learning about St George's Day. Keep up the good work guys. Mrs Babatunde has been particularly impressed with Frank and Ethan from Sycamore. Frank has engaged in green hat thinking and produced some lovely work to show his appreciation for the NHS whilst Ethan has been working on his vocabulary and his handwriting, as well as English and Maths test papers. Ethan has been striving for accuracy. Well done! A special shout out goes to Alex in Juniper who has produced some fantastic learning, as well as engaging in all the enrichment opportunities.

Mr Hall and the whole Year 5 team were so impressed with the amount of care and effort that was put into all Alex's learning. It was fantastic to see the video of a short scene Alex and her sister Sofie produced from Macbeth. It was lovely to hear from Alex and hear that she has been checking on her elderly neighbour and preparing pictures for him, as well as creating and displaying this beautiful wreath on her door (inspired by the Stephen Lawrence work). Have you been engaging in these lessons too? It would be fantastic to see more home learning from more students so please do email your learning and you will receive a response from your teacher. It brightens up our days to see you engaging in home learning and finding out about how you are doing. Our focus this term is Thinking Healthily so it would be fantastic if you could email in and let us know how you are staying healthy at home. Have you been keeping fit and active at home? Have you been playing games in your garden or completing the Joe Wick's work outs? Will you do his fancy dress workout on Friday? If so, we would love to see photos! As well as staying physically fit and healthy, have you been completing your PSHE or doing mindfulness activities to encourage a healthy mind? This is a great time to engage in some relaxing reflective activities and spend time doing the things that you really enjoy. This week, please email us to let us know what you've been doing to ensure you stay healthy.

Take care and stay safe - we really look forward to hearing from you!

### Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed another week of home learning and using this time to focus on being healthy individuals. In PSHE this week, Year 6 were able to think about themselves as social citizens, thinking about how they act and respond in online communities. I am proud to say that the children in Year 6 are responsible when using the internet and know how to be a good online friend. In our PE slots, the Year 6 children have had the opportunity to practice yoga and meditation as well as traditional exercise activities. This is helpful to start the day in a positive and focused mind-set. Riley has shown to be making healthy choices as he sent in some pictures of himself making Shepherd's Pie for his family – this was fantastic to see. Riley used the habits of taking responsible risks and thinking interdependently with other members of his family to make the delicious dinner. I am sure his adults also appreciated a helping hand in the kitchen. If you have been helping at home, creating art pieces based on our enrichment activities or working hard on your own projects it would be fantastic to see them so please remember to send them in to [year6@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk](mailto:year6@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk)

Stay safe and we will see you soon!





## Thinking About Their Thinking

This week in P4C, all the children have focused on this question: 'Do we think people will travel less in future?'. In Key stage 1, we have been looking at the way we travel by talking about maps. In Key stage 2, we have been looking at how COVID-19 has changed the amount of people travelling. Debating and discussing our opinion is such a fantastic way to develop reasoning skills, communication and listening skills and learn more about the world around us. It would be fantastic if you further the learning in P4C by engaging in these discussions with your children. You could plan out your thoughts together, identifying all the reasons for yes and all the reasons for no, do some research or watch some videos of how quiet the cities are currently and perhaps even have a family debate. We would love to hear some of your opinions or the things that you discussed so please send in your thoughts, any pictures of work you have done around this or a summary of your discussions.



## Enrichment

In our curriculum we offer the children opportunities to experience their learning in a wide range of ways including (among others) trips and visitors to our school. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this with everyone at home, however we would like to provide you with a range of enrichment opportunities which are popping up across Medway, Kent, The United Kingdom and globally.

**We are pleased to share the following opportunities:**

-  <https://www.youngvoices.co.uk> - check out their website, especially the YV at home tab.
-  The Book of Hope: words and pictures to comfort, inspire and Entertain children in Lockdown provided by the Literacy Trust <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>
-  Try taking a trip to a virtual castle – you can even complete a scavenger hunt at home. <https://www.leeds-castle.com/Visit/Education/Education+Resources>
-  Chester Zoo has opened its virtual gates <https://www.chesterzoo.org/virtual-zoo> The last live session was on April 24th but you can watch the virtual tours through their website and sign up for new daily tours and get to see a wide range of animals – from armadillos to elephants.

## Thinking Academically



### Lexia

Well done to Rylan, Isabella, Samuel, Ethan M, Finley and Harley for completing their minutes this week.



### TT Rockstars

Our top three on the leader board this week are Kairan (Year 5), Zohaib (Year 5) and Joseph (Year 3).



### Spelling Shed

Well done to Ruby B (Year 2), Hanna (Year 2) and Elliott (Year 3) for being our top spellers this week. Year 2 and Year 3 were our top spelling year groups this week.



## Thinking Inclusively

Please find below some helpful links that Mrs Studniarz has found that you may find useful!



BBC Bitesize has created SEND resources, activities and support to help you and your family during lockdown. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zh9v382>

SpeechLink has put together some games and activities for parents to use at home to encourage children's talking and listening.

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents/activities>



Also, Monster Phonics offers free activities for children in Reception and KS1

[https://monsterphonics.com/home-learning-in-the-covid-19-lockdown/?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=covid19&utm\\_term=homelearninglockdown&utm\\_content=week2](https://monsterphonics.com/home-learning-in-the-covid-19-lockdown/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=covid19&utm_term=homelearninglockdown&utm_content=week2)

