



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News



Dear Parent and Carers,

It is hard to believe that this is the final newsletter of Term 5! Over this term we have seen a positive shift in the engagement of the remote learning with many children and families accessing the learning on the website and emailing in their work when possible to their year group teaching team.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your resilience and your support of the New Horizons team. As a parent, the juggling act of managing this change is tough and no doubt draining as you work to do the very best for you and your family circumstances. Our key workers have continued to work in the community to keep essential services going for us all. We have seen a shift in society, where people value and appreciate the key work that people continue to do in this time, and I hope that this change is something that we see when the current situation improves.

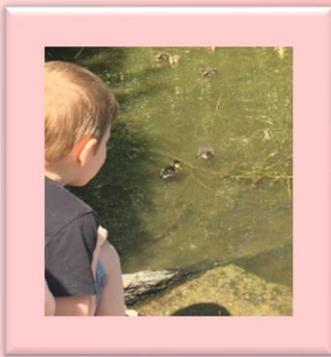
As we move into Term 6, the usual rhythm of the final summer term of the year will continue to look and feel very different. We will be welcoming some children back to school from the 1st June and maybe more year groups before the end of the year if the Government state it is safe to do so. We miss the children being in school greatly and are working hard to ensure that we can provide access to learning that will help the children to continue their primary school journey despite these unprecedented times.

Hopefully, the sun will continue to shine, and you will all be able to take a well-earned rest over half term

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



Thinking Healthily



EYFS

Nursery children this week have been enjoying the nice weather and identifying signs of the season 'Spring'. The children have been challenged to go on a daily walk and explore their local environment.

They have taken photos or collected natural objects that show the signs of 'New Life'. Some children have enjoyed using these natural resources to create their own Spring collage.

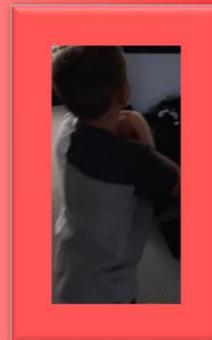
In Reception this week, we have been looking at the story of The Ugly Duckling. We have also been learning about the life cycle of a duck. Your Tapestry has shown us that you have learnt many interesting facts, so well done!

We have also been practising getting dressed, just in time for our return to school. In our Maths challenges, we have been practising telling the time and we are getting very good at reading o'clock times on our own now. We have also been very good helpers to our adults this week and have been making our bed, with great success! Mrs Wingrove – 'I have been going for a walk in the woods for my daily exercise. I have enjoyed hearing the birds singing and seeing (and smelling) the lovely bluebells along my woodland walk'.



Year 1

English this week has seen Year 1 making some fantastic crown jewels and pretending to be the Queen of their house. We have seen some great photos of your necklaces and crowns and it looks like you all had great fun when using your green thinking hat – what a creative year group! We also took part in some hot seating activities, answering questions about the text and getting into character through role-playing. We were not so lucky when a robber came in and stole our jewels but luckily we designed some amazing missing posters and some of us managed to get our jewels back. Mrs Cotton was not so lucky because her dog ate hers! In Maths, we have seen children completing their activities outdoors that have focused on counting forward and backwards to 100.



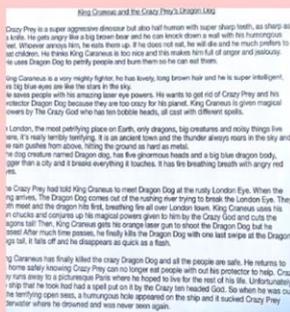
The Year 1 team have thoroughly enjoyed seeing you all take part in the weekly reading challenges and our favourite so far was Logan who was reading in the swimming pool – well done! Ella also had fun reading to her teddies. In Thinking Academically, we have been focusing on recognising our qualities as a person and as a friend. It is nice to see children are using their timetables they have made last week showing how they are going to be helping others while using their red hats to talk about how they have felt while helping others and being a kind friend. Well done to Dominic and Ella who had last week's highest score in side-to-side jumps in 30 seconds. Our P.E challenge this week was one leg stand. Miss Oravcova's score was 03:21. Which challenge will you take part in? Remember to send us your videos/photos of your challenges.

Year 2



It has been another busy week for the Year 2 children. We have continued to have lots of fantastic work and updates from the children. It is lovely to see all the hard work and activities they have been taking part in! The Year 2 team have been treated to stories about the wild adventures of an octopus character where the children used their imagination, drama skills and then writing to convey their own stories. We have also seen some brilliant responses to our Guided Reading text about Sam Silver, a pirate explorer. We have been impressed with the way the children have been Thinking Healthily at home and making use of their daily outside time! Lola in Birch class sent in a photo of her making the most of the good weather on her bicycle. Mihails in Spruce class has been busy cooking up some healthy homemade meals. We have also had some great thinking from Auburn in Pine class who use a flow map to help her during her PSHE lesson. Well done Year 2, keep up the hard work! keep up the hard work!

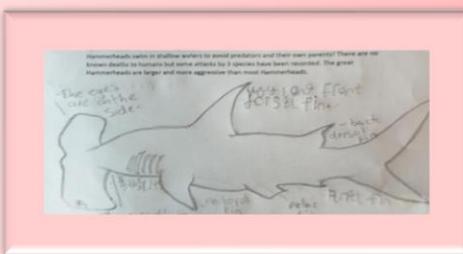
Year 3



Well done Year 3 for a successful term of home learning! The Year 3 teachers have enjoyed seeing your hard work again this week, especially reading some of the fantastic Greek Myths and newspaper articles that you have been sending in. In Science, we have also been impressed to see some fantastic examples of children using the correct scientific vocabulary that they have learnt over this term just like the example sent in by Max in Cherry class. Continue to work hard with your home learning and make sure that you stay positive and active – we're having some lovely weather at the moment to be able to go outside and get some exercise and fresh air! Please continue to send your work and photos into us as seeing your work really does make us smile!

As we move into term 6, we will be beginning our new topic, Flow. Flow is all about rivers, water, rocks and fossils. During the half term, please remember to take a well-earned break, enjoy the beautiful weather and spend some time with your families. The Year 3 teachers and TAs are missing you all very much but we hope that you and your families are all staying safe!

Year 4



The very last week of the Term 5 is now officially completed and what an exciting and unusual term it has been for the Year 4 team! We embarked on this Home Learning adventure and we did it in a great style! We hope you have enjoyed our little surprises in form of adults' audio and video recordings and that they brought some smiles on your faces – it certainly made us feel a little bit more connected!

As for this week's learning in Year 4, pupils were encouraged to make the most of this glorious weather outside and to take some of their learning outdoors. For example, as a part of Thinking Healthily, during PE lesson we asked them to remain open to the continuous learning and find balance between their bodies and minds while trying a varied Yoga poses such as a Chair, Downward Facing Dog or Warrior II in the garden. In Science lessons this term, pupils were exploring the life of the coral reef. They have produced some very informative non-chronological reports, from which we have learnt a lot about the fauna and flora of the coral reef – one of the most intriguing facts I have learnt was, that Hammerhead Shark babies are swimming in the shallow waters to avoid their own parents (as they can be very vicious!). Overall, in the course of this week and the whole of the Term 5, we all have been immensely impressed with the quality and a variety of the home learning work that you have shared with us. We admired your resilience and flexibility you have shown during this unique time and on behalf of the Year 4 teachers I can honestly say, that you all became our Habit Heroes!

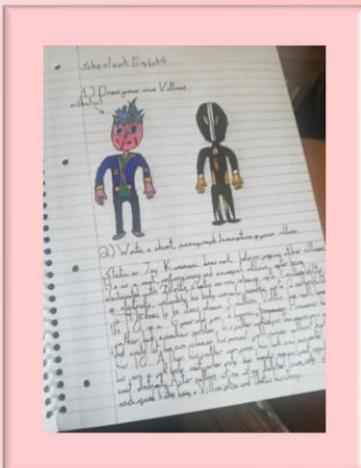
Year 5

This week in Year 5 we have been looking at volume in Maths, and it has been great to see all the work you have sent in, not only for this, but also your Maths challenge and timetables results. It is wonderful to see so many of you progressing and using your Habits of Mind to persist and beat your high scores. It has been lovely to see all of your work that you have been sending in for English, especially the creative writing pieces, Tayo (Juniper) wrote an excellent piece which showed great improvement in his presentation skills. It was also great to see Roman (Laburnum) persevering with his allotment, with the weather at the moment it is the perfect time for it to grow. He has also been expanding his cooking skills during this lockdown, the cheesecake looks amazing, it is nice to see people using different methods to relax during this time.



Next week is half term, I hope you use this time to relax and spend quality time with your loved ones, we would love to see what you get up to during this week. Please feel free to email year5@newhorizonschildrenacademy.org.uk with any photos and updates, we love reading them all.

Year 6



In Year 6 this week we can see how hard you have all been working on your home learning. Please continue to send your work and photos into us as seeing your work really does make us smile! You have all been working extremely hard and we are all impressed with the super work we have been receiving. It is brilliant to see your work, as we really miss seeing it at school every day. This term our book has been Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz and the children have been completing lots of home learning around the themes of the book. A special mention to Eghosa who has sent us in so much work, we were really impressed to see that he is working on his Maths, writing and Science at home. The quality of the work has been excellent! We really enjoyed seeing your villain and their lair! Well done Eghosa! In PSHE the children have been looking at how to stay safe online and Sophie sent us in a fantastic presentation on how to be safe online. Her presentation was really powerful and showed what to do if strangers contact you via social media. A really informative presentation on how to be safe and secure on social media.

Incredible work Sophie! In PSHE children were learning about how to be kind and had to use our thinking hats to do a variety of tasks such as write some poetry about kindness, create a script about promoting kindness and using a flow map to show different scenarios in school and how they could show kindness. We know that it can be challenging working from home but hearing how much effort you are all putting in and how you are applying your Habits of Mind makes us so proud. We are hoping many of our Year 6 children have been continuing exercising the mind and body with this week's PE suggestions and YouTube links for staying healthy. There are a range of different activities from outdoor exercise to yoga and mindfulness – challenge yourself to try something new this week! The weather has just been beautiful this week and we hope that you have been able to go outside for a while to enjoy the sunshine- why not bring a book out and read in the sun? This is a nice way to relax as well as helping your reading skills. Have a lovely half term Year 6! Stay safe and positive!



Thinking About Their Thinking

In response to Elon Musk's recent tweet about his company (SpaceX) providing internet access to certain parts of the globe within 6 months, we have been discussing satellites and outer space in P4C. Elon Musk wants to provide the whole world with high speed internet by using satellites to orbit the Earth - even remote parts of the Amazon Rainforest would have access to the internet. This leads to many questions which are fantastic to debate and discuss at home: Does everybody want the internet? How will this improve the world? What are the risks? Will one company sending satellites into space meaning other companies will follow - what could be the positives or negatives about this? Do we need to regulate what it sent to outer space? There are many different aspects to this story and it provides pupils with the opportunity to form their own opinion on whether SpaceX should be allowed to send satellites into orbit and how to protect our wider universe. Get your green hats on and be creative: have a debate, create a tree map of the pros and cons, write a letter to Elon Musk with your opinion or draw a world where everyone has the internet. Please send in your thoughts and any creations inspired by this debate to your year group email address. Happy debating!



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:

Rochester Castle Quiz



How much do they know about our castle? Take our quick quiz to discover a few thing facts to make you want to visit us soon to explore.

<https://www.visitmedway.org/attractions/rochester-castle-2436/>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A25JSdWvc3A&feature=emb_title

Guildhall Museum



History Talks - Dr. Jeremy Clarke, Educational Officer at the Guildhall Museum in Rochester has made three short 10-minute videos on The Stone Age, The Bronze Age and the Romans.

<https://www.visitmedway.org/whats-on/heritage-talks-quizzes/>

Thinking Academically



Lexia

Huge well done to Harley this week who has completed his level. Rylan, George, Isabella, Samuel, Ethan M and Finley have all completed their minutes this week, so big well done to them.



TT Rockstars



Zohaib and Kairan (Year 5) continue to dominate the leader board with Joseph in Year 3 in third place.

Something excited has happened...Times Tables Rock Stars has teamed up with Guinness World Records to create a new title, "The highest scores achieved on Times Tables Rock Stars in one minute." To make an official entry players need to record a video of themselves achieving their highest score in the Studio and send the video to support@mathscircle.com All the information on how to make an official entry can be found at the link below:

<https://trockstars.com/page/gwr>



We would love to see your entries too! Send in your official attempts to your year group email for us to see!



Spelling Shed

Ruby B (Year 2), Hanna (Year 2) and Alexander L (Year 1) are on top of the leader board this week, with Year 1 in first place, followed by Year 2 and then Year 3.



Thinking Inclusively

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



Oxford Owl has lots of free advice and activities to help your child continue building the skills and knowledge they need while schools are closed. Oxford Owl also offers storytelling videos including traditional tales, Winnie and Wilbur and Biff, Chip and Kipper. <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/school-closure-resources/>



TTS Group offers free to download activity packs that are combination of independent and collaborative learning activities. They provide a great opportunity for parents to learn with their children. <https://www.tts-group.co.uk/home+learning+activities.html>



Starters for STEM are activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science, technology, engineering and maths skills. These activities are easy-to-resource and provide children with the stimulus to talk about the world around them. <https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning/primary>