



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support with adjusting to remote learning at such short notice since the children have returned to school in Term 3. We have seen such a positive engagement from the children in their Teams live lessons and lots of high quality work has been uploaded to Seesaw.

Please be reminded that for safeguarding reasons, your child needs to be present at both register sessions in the day. We appreciate that some parents and carers are trying to manage working from home, childcare of other siblings and support home learning, which can at times be very challenging. Therefore, if you are unable to commit to the full timetable provided then please discuss this with your child's class teacher so that they are aware and can support you.

Please also ensure that your child takes regular breaks from the screen throughout the day.

Following a letter sent out this week, we have been informed by the Government that our Nursery must now open to all eligible children, not just critical workers. If you have not yet informed school if your child will be attending nursery, please do this as soon as possible.

Please be reminded to consider the necessity for your child to be in school. Whilst we appreciate that many families are eligible for critical worker status, where a family can support home learning they should try to do so. If your circumstances change regarding the need for your child to attend school then please inform the office.

We are aware that the current situation is affecting families in a variety of ways so please be reminded that our school staff are here to provide help and support. Please contact your child's class teacher or the office if you require any support and you will be directed to the relevant staff member to help you.

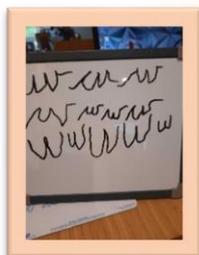
Have a great weekend!

Mr C Murphy
Headteacher



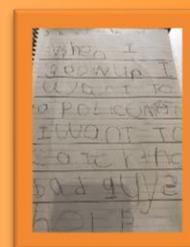
Thinking Inclusively

EYFS



We would like to welcome our Nursery students back to their second week of Term 3, whether you are accessing the provision in school or accessing the learning remotely from home. The Nursery Term 3 topic is called 'Where does snow go?'. Please use the Curriculum Newsletter SWAY link provided on Tapestry or the school website to find more out about this topic. The Nursery will be providing the children with a challenge a day for parents to access on the Tapestry learning journey app whilst learning remotely. Each challenge set will be from a range of areas of learning that we would have otherwise been supporting your child to progress with in school. Please do upload evidence of your child completing this so Miss Edwards can see. We are very proud of the children who have already completed the daily challenges and have uploaded pictures of videos for us to see. Keep up the hard work!

We would like to congratulate the Reception children on their hard work and engagement with our introduction to the Term 3 topic 'Are we there yet?' last week. Please use the Curriculum Newsletter SWAY link provided on Tapestry or the school website to find more out about this topic. We are very proud of how the Reception children have moved swiftly and seamlessly to remote learning and would like to thank parents for supporting their children to access the technology needed to engage in these sessions. This week the children have joined two registration sessions each day as well as engaged in phonics, writing and maths teaching sessions through the Microsoft Teams Software. Reception children have been introduced to phase 3 phonics this term and have begun to learn new sounds including: J, V, W, X, Y, Z. In English, the children have been writing about what they would like to be when they grow up and learning about real life heroes and job roles. In Maths the children have learnt how to add two single digit numbers together using manipulatives.



Year 1

Year 1 have worked hard in school and at home accessing our online learning through TEAMS and Seesaw.

Whether the children have been in school or at home, they have adapted well and we are seeing some fantastic learning with children striving for accuracy and still being their best self. In English, we have been focusing on describing settings from the book 'Charlie's superhero underpants'. We have used our green hats to be creative writers and our red hats to discuss different feelings throughout the story. In Maths, we have been focusing on tens and ones and how to represent different numbers using numbers, words and pictures. In Science, we have started to look at the human body, its functions and why they are so important. In Art, we have looked at the artist Stan Lee who was a comic book writer, editor and publisher. We have then used our green hat to draw a human form. We have also enjoyed our P.E activities with Dan.

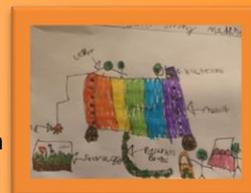
We would like to thank all of the parents for being supportive and we look forward to another exciting week seeing creative and imaginative learning from school and home. Well done Year 1 for all your hard work!



Year 2

Over the last two weeks, Year 2 have begun their live lessons and they have been fantastic! The children have all engaged really well within lessons and even remembered how to use the hands up and mute tools that we have been practising using in our assemblies in school! Although a very different start to the term, we have all enjoyed being able to virtually meet our classes again after the Christmas break!

This week, the children have been learning about how to use time adverbials to plan their instructions. They remembered lots of time adverbials that we have already learnt! The children were able to use their time adverbials to order events within their writing. Everybody has been very inspired by our new topic book, George's Marvellous Medicine and we can't wait to read more. We have even had a go at designing our own machine to help George make the medicine and the children were able to explain how their machine works. In Maths, the children have been learning all about statistics and data. They have been using their tallying skills and learning about how to read a pictogram to find total amounts. Everybody has worked hard to strive for accuracy in this and apply their times table knowledge to help with their counting. We have also been practising our written methods for our four operations.

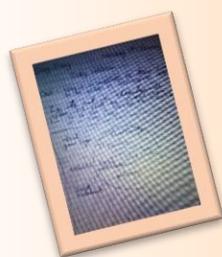


In addition, the children have also begun to learn about the Crimean War and created some amazing fact files to show off all the facts that they have learnt! They then moved on to presenting facts about Florence Nightingale on colourful posters. In Science, the children have started to learn about solids, liquids and gases by experimenting with materials that float. The children were able to design, and even make, their own solid boats at home! The children were particularly excited by the opportunity to draw their own animal pictures as part of their Art learning and produced some very successful work. It has been an exciting start to term and we all look forward to seeing you virtually again next week!



Year 3

Our Year 3 pupils have tackled this new learning experience with hard work, focus and determination. Our Year 3 pupils have been outstanding in self-evaluating their work and learning at the end of their lessons and have promoted their own independent learning by detailing their next steps to carry their learning further moving into the next lessons.



In English this term we are studying the popular Roald Dahl text 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The pupils have been planning and creating a diary entry expressing their thoughts and feelings if they had found a golden ticket like the character Charlie. Whilst planning their diary entry, the pupils have learnt how to implement key writing techniques such as first person, time adverbials and noun phrases to heighten their writing!

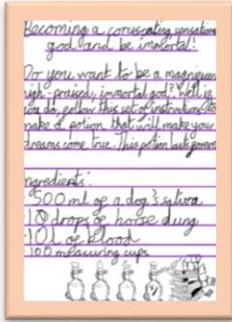
The Year 3 pupils have utilised their 'Thinking Inclusively' skills by participating on group discussions/activities and have been able to model their successful answers to the other groups in the class as well as their Class Teacher and Teaching Assistant. A big well done to all Year 3 pupils for this achievement!

In our Thinking Inclusively this term, our learning is focusing on our personal choices and how the decisions we make can impact another person around us both positively or negatively. Throughout this term our Year 3 pupils will look to develop a greater understanding of how they can implement kind personal choices and thoughtful decisions that can help and affect others in a positive manner.

In PSHE this Term our learning is focusing on 'dreams and goals' and how the pupils achieve their goals through effective planning, resilience, focus and a strong work ethic. Year 3 once again have participated in group discussions, role play activities and their own narrative writing to highlight the importance of having personal dreams and goals and the reflective feelings someone will have when they do achieve a specific goal or dream they have set out for themselves.

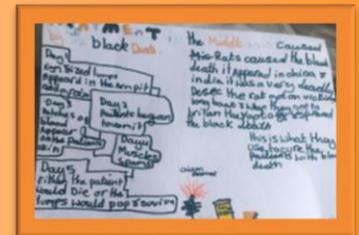
As we continue to move forward through Term 3, the Year 3 teaching and support staff are incredibly proud of all the pupils so far with their commitment, focus, resilience and work ethic to their online learning. We are also all excited to see more outstanding work being produced in all subjects in the upcoming weeks!

Year 4



This week, our first full week of online learning has been great! The children have really adapted to the learning on Teams and Seesaw. They have all been getting into the flow of learning and the work that is being submitted on Seesaw is getting better every day. Let's keep this up! In Guided Reading this week, we have been continuing reading Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. We have been looking in depth at the different chapters, but also we have been answering some detailed questions about the chapters we have been reading. We have continued to write our own instructions to make a potion and we have created some lovely published pieces that have been very detailed and beautiful. In our Maths learning, we have been continuing with learning about multiplication and applying our knowledge of multiplication to using the formal method and solving multiplication questions in a well organised way. The children have really been applying this learning well into the activities they have been submitting.

In Humanities, we have started to look at the history of medicine. This week the children were learning about the Black Death and creating posters for the possible different cures that they would have used. The children created some wonderful and creative posters that were full of all the gory details on how to cure the Black Death. In Science, we have started to learn about solids, liquids and gases - the three different states of matter. Whilst the children were on the Teams call with their teacher, they were able to act like the particles in the three different states of matter to help them develop their learning later on. In RE, we have been learning about Passover, learning more about the Kosher food and designing our own plate of food that is Kosher. We have been comparing what this looks like to our own plate of favourite foods. To finish off the week we have enjoyed a great PE lesson and have enjoyed learning about what is happening in the news in our P4C lesson.



Year 5

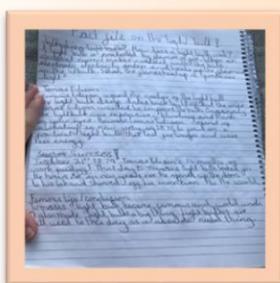
We have been so proud of our Year 5 children over the past two weeks and it is fantastic to see how well the children are getting on. The focus and participation in lessons has been fantastic and the uploaded work to Seesaw has been superb.

Well done Year 5!

Our topic in Year 5 is Time Travellers and what an exciting start to this topic we have had! Last week, in English reading we have been exploring the Victorians and reading fantastic comprehensions all about the life of Victorians. We also have been looking at Victorian Workhouses and we have been able to delve into what life was like for those workers. In writing, we have been looking at writing setting descriptions. We were looking at the use of the five senses when writing descriptions and how it is so important to engage the reader by using the senses to describe. We then planned our setting description using a flow map and then went on to draft our setting description. We wrote all about beautiful, enchanted gardens and the work was fantastic.

In last week's History lesson, we looked at the Industrial Revolution and how many things were invented in this time. The children spent time looking at some primary and secondary sources and discussing what they noticed about these items from the past. Children then did some research projects on various inventions and used their green hat to present their findings on Seesaw. Children have been thinking inclusively in their learning by reflecting on what they are grateful for this year. The children also created some SMART targets for themselves to motivate themselves to be their very best self.

Many children spoke about their goals and aspirations for the future in their responses. In early morning work, the children continued to shine and show their amazing ability to strive for accuracy by doing TTRS, Spelling Shed and also recording themselves read. In science this week, children had the exciting opportunity to do some tasks around the topic of the skeletal system. Children chose between home experiment and a research task and the work they uploaded on Seesaw was fantastic.



Well done to everybody in Year 5! We know that it can be hard learning from home but we are so proud of each one of you. You have shown incredible determination and perseverance and the work that you have all uploaded has been fantastic! Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support at home.



Have a nice weekend!

Year 6

We have been so proud of our Year 6 children over the past two weeks. We have been doing our remote learning since returning to school. and it is fantastic to see how well the children are getting on. The focus and participation in lessons has been fantastic and the uploaded work to Seesaw has been superb. Well done Year 6!

In lessons, we have started our new topic which is called "Frozen Kingdoms". In this topic, we will be exploring the Polar Regions and reading books inspired by these areas. Our book for this term is called Sky Song and it is centred on the adventures of Eska and the tribes of their snow kingdom. We started our week looking at the front cover of the book and exploring the possible themes of the book. We used our inference skills to help us to understand what the book is going to be about as well as thinking about what the main characters will be. We also had the opportunity to explore the wonderful vocabulary of the book. In writing, we have been thinking inclusively by writing descriptive pieces about the fantastic New Year's Eve firework display in London. We discussed vocabulary associated with the event as well as why it was a poignant and inclusive performance. We then continued to focus on setting descriptions in Week 2 and applied our knowledge to write fantastic setting descriptions about the book "Sky Song". We were blown away by the use of figurative language! Wow, well done Y6!

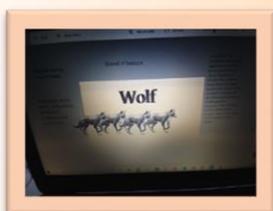
Last week in Science, we have been looking at classifying plants and animals. Children spent time learning how to identify and classify animals into these groups as well as exploring the scientific language associated. For our task, children used their green hats to create some informative posters, PowerPoints or magazines about invertebrates and vertebrates. In Humanities, we focused on looking at the animals in Polar Regions and the children created amazing work based on this.

In early morning work, the children continued to shine and show their amazing ability to strive for accuracy by doing TTRS, Spelling Shed and also recording themselves read. We also had a very exciting Thinking Inclusively lessons where children got to show off their knowledge of their local area. We got some beautiful pictures, drawings, photographs and information fact files all about lovely Medway! It was fantastic. I can't wait for our next lesson as I know that the children

are going to love it!

Well done to everybody in Year 6! We know that it can be hard learning from home but we are so proud of each and every one of you. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support at home.

Have a nice weekend!



Spelling Shed



Thinking Academically



Rockstars:

Well done to Kairan for being top of the leader board this week, followed in second place by Zohaib (both Year 6). In third place is Joseph from Year 4.

Spelling Shed:

Our top year group spellers for this week are Year 6, Year 3 and Year 4. Well done to them. If you need your log ins for Spelling Shed or TT Rockstars please ask your class teacher.



Thinking About Their Thinking

This week in P4C, we have been exploring how soldiers help us in times of need. The British Value this links to is, 'Individual Liberty' because our armed forces help us to exercise our rights and freedoms as citizens by protecting the UK. We are also exploring the different ways the armed forces can help us in times of crisis. At home, you can discuss the role of the soldiers in the current crisis and think about how they support us.





Thinking Inclusively

During the Covid-19 pandemic, and another lockdown, we are all feeling less secure and missing our usual routines. But just as doing exercise improves physical health, you and your child can do activities to boost their mental health.



Partnership for Children offers a list of activities that are based on their Skills for Life programmes. Parents can use them to help their child find healthy ways to deal with their feelings and reactions to the Covid-19 situation.

<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html>

BBC Teach offers Growth Mindset and Wellbeing resources and live lessons.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/five-ways-to-help-childrens-wellbeing/zfb2d6f>



<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/coronavirus-resources-for-mental-health-and-wellbeing-toolkit-1/> offers a toolkit of free resources and tips, for parents and carers, to help address anxiety arising from Covid19.

COVID-19 Support and Resources for Parents – Kent Resilience Hub

<https://kentresiliencehub.org.uk/>



Enrichment

This week, you have been sent a list of different websites and idea that you can use for enrichment opportunities. This has been sent as a whole school announcement and includes websites such as BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy. There are lots of amazing programmes on the BBC which will be fantastic for enrichment. Although they may clash with our live lessons, they are being uploaded to IPlayer and can be done as extra activities in the evenings or weekends.

We know that children are spending more time than ever in front of screens so for your enrichment opportunities, we recommend getting outside and exploring your local area. There are many ideas for sporting activities you can do on our school website enrichment page and don't forget the Friday Fun challenge from our sports coach Dan which is sent out each week via Seesaw, alongside weekly PE lessons. Next week, we will be sending ideas for keeping fit and active during lock down with some personal challenges to complete at home!