



New Horizons  
Children's Academy

# News



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been pleasing to see all of the hard work that your children have been doing this week.

There are some high quality pieces of work that are being on uploaded to Seesaw and lots of positive engagement via MS Teams. Thank you once again for your support during this time as I appreciate that balancing working from home, childcare and home learning can be challenging at times. Our expectation is that you just try your best and contact your child's class teacher if the full timetable offered is not manageable for your family.

Please be reminded that if you are eligible for FSM food vouchers and have not received them, then please contact the office who will be happy to help. These will be sent to you via email and they do have an expiry date so need to be used within the given timeframe.

There has been a number of articles in the media regarding the reopening of schools. I would like to reassure you that as a school, once we have received communication from the Government about this then we will share our plans with you.

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.

Mr C Murphy  
Headteacher



# Thinking Inclusively

## EYFS



This week in Nursery the children have been focusing on the topic 'Where does snow go?' The Nursery children have been provided with a challenge a day for parents to access on the Tapestry learning journey app whilst learning remotely. Each challenge set has been 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 or videos for us to see. Children have been singing nursery rhymes, practising their name writing in a variety of textures with tools, making ice, watching ice melt, designing their own snowflakes, going on a winter walk and role-playing part of their favourite stories. Keep up the hard work!

This week the Reception children have been busy continuing our topic by looking at different people who help us. We have been focusing on firefighters and fire safety. We have all been very sensible and practiced what we do if we hear the fire alarm. The children wrote a list of instructions of exactly what to do if there is a fire alarm. The children were full of wonderment and awe and such curiosity surrounding this superhero. To motivate their learning we wrote down all their questions and sent them to a local fire fighter. The firefighter answered all our questions on a video for us to watch! In Maths this week the children have been investigating with height ordering and measuring using a range of objects. They have been able to identify which objects are the shortest and which are the tallest and even order more than 3 objects by height! In Maths we have also enjoyed adding and taking away one from any given number - we are getting really good at it now!



## Year 1

As the children have been getting more used to live lessons and home learning this week, we have seen some excellent examples of work on Seesaw! For English, we have been looking at acrostic poems and started off the week practising writing them using our own names. Across the week, we built on our vocabulary and GPAS skills, working towards writing our own fantastic superhero acrostic poems! In Maths, we have been looking at place value and we have revisited skills from previous terms, such as using comparison signs but with higher numbers than we were used to. We are now excellent at applying these skills to numbers right up to 50!



In History, we have been looking at real life superheroes, starting with Rosa Parks. We have looked at her life achievements and discussed what makes her brave just like a superhero. We have listened with understanding and empathy when discussing her story and shared some lovely ideas about what we might have done if we were in her situation, or simply an observer on the bus.

In Art, we have been practising sketching superheroes of our own using colour!



In RE, we have continued our work on Christianity and considered what makes somebody kind, with inspiration from the bible story 'A Good Samaritan'. From this, we were able to suggest ways we can be kind to each other, even while we have to keep our distance at the moment. The children shared some lovely, thought provoking ideas.

Many of the children this week have been sharing ways they are keeping healthy at home. We have enjoyed discussing the different healthy lunches we have been having and the ways we have been keeping active at home. Some have been jumping on trampolines, going for walks and even practicing yoga at home! We have particularly enjoyed taking part in our PE lessons each week!

Year 1 have yet again wowed us with their commitment to learning and keeping positive and healthy this week! Keep up the amazing work!

## Year 2

We have now completed three weeks of remote learning, which means we already half way through this term! Year 2 have been fantastic in their live lessons, they confidently raise their hands, un-mute their microphones and use the chat function to share ideas. This is a very odd way of learning but it is our 'new normal' and we are amazed at how well Year 2 have adapted and engaged in our virtual classes!

This week, the children have been learning about how to plan a story. They now know a story has a beginning, middle and end and have planned and written their very own story based on our class text – George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl. In their stories, they used time adverbials, adjectives, conjunctions and a broad range of punctuation – we really enjoyed reading them!

In Maths, the children have been learning all about shape – this week they have learnt about 2D shapes, how to count the sides and vertices, how to draw them, find lines of symmetry, sort 2D shapes and make patterns.

We've been really busy!



We received some great photos from some students who even decided to paint their own 2D shapes or make them out of playdough, what a great idea!



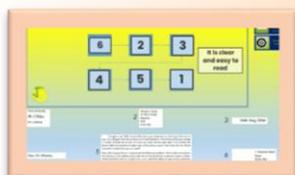
In addition, the children have continued to learn about Florence Nightingale and the changes she brought to hospitals such as cleanliness, hygiene and a new way of working. The children were able to match up problems with solutions and write paragraphs all about the differences that Florence Nightingale made. In Science, the children have continued to learn about solids, liquids and gases and have begun to consider how solids and liquids can be manipulated and mixed in order for them to change. The children have really enjoyed being able to draw in Art. They have done so well at listening carefully to a video and copying in order to draw their own pictures – well done Year 2! We look forward to seeing you virtually again next week and hope you have a very restful weekend. Try to do something to make your mind happy this weekend such as going for a walk with your family, baking a cake or playing your favourite game!

## Year 3

What another fantastic week Year 3 have had! We are really proud of their enthusiasm and persistence with their learning that they have shown over the term so far, even on our tired days and we hope this continues.

This week in Maths we have continued to develop and practice our times tables. We are now confident at creating arrays and can use these to solve multiplication questions. Our times tables knowledge has also grown this week during our Maths lessons and while using TT Rockstars during our early morning sessions.

In English, we have continued to read 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' and we have used the red hat to think about how it would feel if we had found a Golden Ticket to visit Willy Wonka's factory ourselves. Lots of us thought it would be very exciting. In our writing lessons this week, we have been writing a letter to Mr Wonka as Charlie, thanking him for inviting us to visit his marvellous, mystical factory.



We have looked at the features and structure of a letter and have been able to sequence these features in our independent learning time. This was a tricky challenge, especially trying to get the addresses and date around the right way. We have also thought about how to make our letter interesting for the recipient to read by using "wow words", similes and interesting descriptions.

This week in Humanities, we have thought about where in the world our food comes from. We found that lots of our food cannot be grown locally or in the UK all year round, so we have to import them from other countries. We thought about and discussed the yellow and black hats of doing this and decided it was a good opportunity to try new things, but transporting the food by planes could add to the climate change problem. The children have adapted really well to sharing their ideas in online discussions and we are really happy with how much they are engaging in the live lessons and with their Seesaw tasks.



## Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been using a range of techniques to create some fantastic narrative poetry based on 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen. We have been exploring the various figurative language tools such as personification, metaphors, similes and onomatopoeia to make our poems interesting and exciting reads. Our Potions topic has seen us move onto chapter 5 of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone where Harry has discovered he will be joining Hogwarts to start his wizard training. During mathematics, following on from the multiplication work last week, we have looked at division and how we can use the pictorial and part whole methods to find the answer to problems and calculations. Mr Howick has been setting TT Rockstars battles for the children to take part in as well as being available for a challenge himself so log on and show him what you are made of!

Within Thinking Inclusively this week the children have continued with the topic of hopes and dreams in PSHE. The children have been learning how although disappointment can hurt when our dreams and hopes are broken, there are many ways in which we can support each other through these darker times and find positives with the support of others. The children were introduced to the song 'Champion' by Carrie Underwood and looked at how the meaning of the lyrics could offer guidance when they are feeling down. Science this week has continued looking at the states of matter and how various materials and objects can share the same properties such as water and sand. Humanities has focussed on understanding how Edward Jenner made ground breaking discoveries in the world of medicine following on from the original theory of four by Hippocrates.

The dedication, commitment and support from all Year 4 children and parents has been overwhelming and we greatly appreciate everyone's effort during this period of online learning. We would like to give a huge shout out to Kezia who joined New Horizons at the beginning of term and although she has not met her class in person, she has hit the ground running with some truly exceptional narrative poetry as pictured. Well done Kezia and thank you to all in Hawthorn, Poplar and Conifer – you are doing amazing so keep it up!

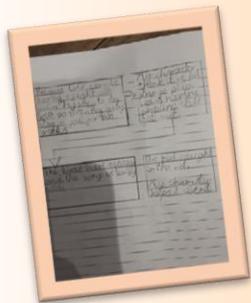


mimmm jollof rice,  
I am happily in my comfortable bed dreaming about Jollof rice.  
Why don't I go get some, nobody will know.  
Bang! Ouch! I stub my toe hard on the bed post. Open the door creeeeeak.  
Mimmm jollof rice!  
Try not to wake up Susie (my very annoying sister).  
Oh no! Too late!  
"KEZIA! What are you doing? Its 4.00am"  
"Nothing" I reply in a small voice. Phew!!  
MEEOW!! Oops, must have stepped on Tigger who's sleeping in his basket  
meowling in his sleep. Open the fridge.  
CRASH!!! Oh no! The jollof rice has fallen out of the fridge.  
It's a train wreck!  
Mum is going to ..... There's only one thing to do.  
EAT IT!!!

## Year 5

Year 5 have had another successful week of online learning! Well done to every single Year 5 pupil for their efforts in live lessons and the fantastic work that is being uploaded onto Seesaw.

Year 5 have continued in their learning about Time Travellers. In our book Secret Garden, we have been using our red hat to think about how the different characters would have felt in the chapter. Children came up with some really thoughtful insights into how and why characters were feeling certain ways. Year 5 also were able to answer content domain questions about the text and also make predictions about what they thought was going to happen next.



In Writing, the children have been writing adventure stories inspired by the Secret Garden. The children spent time planning their adventure story using a flow map and then the children worked on drafting their story using a range of literary devices. Their stories were so exciting to read and they worked so hard on them. In Maths, we continued to work on division and short division problems.

We have had lots of other exciting learning this week. In Science, we had the opportunity to do some cool experiments and investigations all about muscles. We also had the opportunity to research into the anatomy of their favourite animal and create a fact file of the animal. In our Humanities lessons, we have been looking at exciting inventions and we have loved learning all about the wonderful inventions of the past! We have been thinking inclusively this week in our RE lessons by learning all about Hinduism. We used our green hats to create some lovely learning about this.

Well done for a great week Year 5! We are so proud of you. Have a great weekend!

## Year 6

Year 6 have had another successful week of online learning! Well done to every single Year 6 pupil for their efforts in live lessons and the fantastic work that is being uploaded onto seesaw.

Year 6 have continued in their learning about Frozen Kingdoms. In reading, we are continuing to enjoy our lovely book Sky Song. This is a fantastic read all about the adventures of Eska and Flint and their encounters with the evil Ice Queen. We have enjoyed reading Chapter 3 and answering comprehension questions about this chapter. The children have furthered their knowledge of the reading by using their green hat to complete some tasks around the themes of the book. In writing this week, the children are still focusing on descriptive writing and looking at the different characters. Children focused on using figurative language to describe the physical appearance of the characters as well as using various techniques to show the personality of the characters of the book. In Maths, we have continued to learn about fractions and looking at how to find fractions of whole numbers as well as fraction word problems.



In Thinking Inclusively, the children have been learning all about Medway and their local area. Last week, children researched and completed projects all about the Medway towns and this week we focused on the art of Medway towns. We learnt about local artists and then linked this learning with communities in other countries. We took inspiration from Lahinch (Ireland) based artist Phillip Morrison to create some art work in his style. Philip is famous for his artwork of local Irish towns and he uses colourful techniques to create these scenic images. The children also had the opportunity to have their artwork featured in the Nucleus cafes magazine to show case young local artists. The art work produced by Y6 was phenomenal. Well done!



We have had lots of other exciting learning this week. In Science, we had the opportunity to do some cool experiments and investigations all about muscles. We also had the opportunity to research into the anatomy of their favourite animal and create a fact file of the animal. In Humanities, we learnt about the Arctic and compared this to the Antarctic. The children created some wonderful work!

Well done for a great week Year 6! We are so proud of you. Have a great weekend!



## Thinking Academically



### TT Rockstars:



Kairan is top of the leader board this week and Zohaib closely follows in second place - both Year 6. Joseph from Year 4 is in third place.

### Spelling Shed:



## Spelling Shed

Well done to Year 6 for being our top spelling year group this week. Year 4 were in second place, with Year 3 in third. Well done Key Stage 2!

As we all know, reading skills are vital to children accessing all areas of the curriculum and being successful learners. We appreciate that having access to books may prove difficult during lockdown, therefore, the links below gives free access to texts.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-55692137>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>



## Thinking Inclusively

To support children with development of speech, language and communication skills during current lockdown, we would like to provide a list of links that contain advice, activities and general resources for parents to use at home to encourage children's talking and listening.



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

<https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-free-speech-language-communication-and-send-resources-for-schools-and-parent-carers>

<https://www.speechworksservices.co.uk/>

<https://www.speechandlanguagekids.com/free-speech-language-resources/>

<https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/childrens-speech-and-language-resources/>

<https://eput.nhs.uk/our-services/essex/south-east-essex-community-health-services/childrens/speech-language-therapy/resources/downloadable-resources/>

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

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



## Enrichment

This week we have been really considering how we can offer the amazing enrichment experiences that the children usually engage with in school whilst we are working remotely. You will have had various announcements on Seesaw from Miss Martin, your child's phase leader and your child's teacher, directing you to a variety of resources you can use to further support your child's education. There has been Science resources and experiments set out with the opportunity for parents to join zoom calls with Empirbox. This week, teachers have also sent details to Yuma which is music activities, which children can participate in at home. As well this, recommended reading books have been sent out too. If you have any queries or would like to know more, please do message your child's class teacher on Seesaw.

Secondly, you will have noticed that the weekly time tables have an additional column at 3 o'clock. This is in place of an after school club and ensures that the children are still enjoying a wide and rich curriculum. From next week, your child's class teacher will be sending our details of these clubs each day as an optional extra at the end of the school day!



## Thinking About Their Thinking

Children across the school have been thinking about ways we can thank those who help us. This is prompted by the return of the 'clap for carers' which has been renamed to, 'clap for heroes.' Our younger children are going to be exploring why we thank people and the different ways in which we can show our thanks and appreciation. In the older years, we will be considering how to show our thanks but also analysing whether we think that 'clapping' is a good way or the best way to show our thanks, considering the advantages and disadvantages. P4C is a lesson which is heavily based on discussion and we use Picture News to help guide those discussions and ensure they are relevant to the pupils as they are focused on current affairs. We teach this subject to help pupils think about the world around them and form their own opinions. Although we cannot have the same level of discussion whilst working remotely, it would be brilliant if you could engage in these discussions at home. We know this is not always possible with work commitments so during these lessons, it would be brilliant if children record their thought processes and really consider what their opinion is and why!

