



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a lovely week to finish the term. It's been wonderful having everyone back on site for the last four weeks and I hope we can continue in this manner without any further disruption. Thank you as always for your support this term, particularly those of you who made huge efforts to support the final few weeks of remote learning in February and early March.

## TRACK AND TRACE OVER EASTER BREAK

Since returning to school we have continued to have a legal responsibility to implement a track and trace system within our school. We have not any positive cases for the children or staff working on site this term. However, as symptoms may potentially not appear until next week, we will continue to operate our track and trace systems until Wednesday 7th April.

➤ **If your child shows symptoms or tests positive before and including Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April you must inform the school via [office@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk)**

- As advised by the Government - if your child tests positive for Covid-19, or is identified as a close contact, we will inform parents of the legal responsibility to self-isolate for 10 days.
- If you or a member of your family tests positive for Covid-19 please email [office@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk) remembering to include:
  - Your child's name,
  - Date when they started showing symptoms,
  - Date you took the test,
  - Date of positive test result,
  - Last day your child was in school.
- We will contact you to confirm close contacts and self-isolation period.
- We will then notify the close contacts **via email** - only those impacted will be contacted.
- Please ensure you are regularly checking your emails as this will be the only official means of communication during this period.

While we will continue to remain vigilant, next term we hope to be able to gradually reintroduce some aspects of school life which had been put on hold, such as welcoming more visitors into school and planning visits/trips for the children.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing Easter weekend; let's hope that the warmer weather continues over the break and we are able to enjoy a wider range of experiences from now on.

Mr C Murphy



# Thinking Globally

## EYFS

In Nursery this week we have been concentrating on our assessments. We have looked at what the children have learnt over the term and all the exciting activities they have done. We have spoken to the children about what they have enjoyed about the topic and what new things they have learnt. In Maths this week we have been recapping our knowledge and understanding of shape, numbers 0-5, and matching numeral to quantity. This week we have introduced the celebration 'Easter'. We have learnt about what Easter stands for and why this is celebrated by some friends in our Nursery. We read the Easter story and created Easter cards for someone at home (some of us even signed our name in them all on our own!). We enjoyed creating and eating chocolate nests. We discussed the change of state when the chocolate was heated. Next term we will begin our new topic 'Can we explore it?' Please visit the school website for further information on this topic.



In Reception this week we have been learning about the celebration 'Easter'. We recapped our knowledge and understanding of previous celebrations that we learned about in Term 2. We reminded our friends that we are all different and some families celebrate different events over the year. We enjoyed learning about the celebration Easter which is celebrated by many and we read the Easter story as our focus book of the week. We enjoyed designing and creating Easter cards for our families; we are very impressed with the writing on the insert of the cards and we are sure you will be too! We have created some Easter cups and are very exciting to take these home on our final day of term. We have joined in with a whole school 'Design your own Easter Egg' competition and the winner received a yummy Cadbury Easter egg. Next term we will begin our new topic 'Will you read me a story?' Please visit the school website for further information on this topic.



## Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have been looking at dinosaurs in English. We have been collecting a range of facts and putting these into our own words ready to create our own dinosaur fact files! We had fun searching for facts and acting like the dinosaurs we were researching. We especially enjoyed taking a brain-break with the dinosaur 'stomp' song to follow along the actions and really get in character!



In Maths, we have been looking at the order of numbers and using number lines. We enjoyed learning outside this week, using a washing line to order numbers. We even had a number thief come and visit to steal some of our numbers! But because we are great mathematicians we could work together to figure out which numbers were missing from our line!

We finished off our Geography topic for this term on animals and their habitats. We took advantage of the lovely weather we have been having this week and took our learning outside to make our own animal habitats using natural resources. We considered the animal's needs to survive and tried to find everything to make a mini habitat using rocks, stones, leaves, grass and mud! We decided which continent our habitat would most likely be on and discussed why the animal would live in this type of habitat. Our Science lesson also took a big focus on animals. We considered how animals are adapted to live in certain habitats and chose an animal to research more about and present our information to the class. For RE this week, we have had a big focus on Easter, making cards and stained glass windows to present at our Easter service!



For Thinking Artistically, we have been using our knowledge and experience of stencils this term to make our own animal stencils using different material. We used felt and were able to cut this out very carefully using special scissors and a range of cutting techniques.

In Thinking Healthily, for PSHE we have been thinking about the best ways to take care of our bodies. We thought about amazing body facts and decided whether they were true or false! We then made our own body poster to show off all the amazing facts we had learnt!

Well done to everyone in Year 1 for having such a fantastic term back in school! We are proud of how well you have settled back into your learning and worked extra hard! Have a lovely Easter break!

## Year 2

We can't believe it is the end of term already - we have had a very exciting last week at school! For the last couple of weeks, we have all been learning some songs for the Easter Service and some children learnt some readings too and then we performed them all as a whole school via Teams! All of the children did amazingly. For the final day of term, we have been doing lots of Easter crafts including decorating Easter eggs and making stained glass windows so it has been very fun.

In Science this week, we designed our very own plant to go in a habitat that we chose, and we explained how our new plant was adapted for its environment. We applied all of the knowledge we have learnt this term about plant life cycles, what a plant needs to grow and how different plants are suited to different habitats. In RE, we planned an Easter party and considered what we would do and what we would need for a party. We then designed party invitations! In PSHE, we continued to consolidate all of our knowledge about food as we have been considering this term what foods are healthy and what foods are unhealthy. We have also gained a good understanding of the 5 different food groups, the types of foods in each group and how much of each food group we should be eating each day.



In writing, we have been writing non-fiction texts all about crossing the road. Last week, we thought about how to teach a hedgehog to cross a road but this week we were thinking about humans and the tips we would give people if they wanted to cross the road. We had lots of good ideas such as using a zebra crossing, wearing reflective clothing and only crossing with an adult. In reading, we have continued to read our book, 'The Hodgehog' and using a piece of this text to write questions, answer questions and complete a content domain task.



We hope you all have a lovely half term and have a well-earned rest - we can't wait to see you all again in Term 5, ready for our next topic 'Land Ahoy!'. From all the Year 2 team

## Year 3

The final week of Term 4 has been an exciting one in Year 3. Last week we created our own amazing creatures that could join the characters in The Iron Man. This week, we have been planning and writing a section of the story that involves our brand new characters, thinking about what could lead up to an altercation between them and the Iron Man and how this could be resolved. We have thought carefully about how the creature would react to what was happening and how we can make our narratives interesting and exciting.

In Guided Reading this week, we have been focussing on the final chapter of the book and ending with our own book reviews so that we can tell others what we think of it. Lots of us in Year 3 have really enjoyed The Iron Man and would love to tell you about our thoughts - please ask us!

Maths focus this week has been on perimeter - calculating the total distance around the edge of a 2D shape.

We have thought about ways we can describe what perimeter is. Some of our green hat creative answers is that perimeter would be the distance a spider would have to travel around the edge of a piece of paper, or the total length that fencing would need to be to go round a motocross track.



In Thinking Globally, our RE learning has focussed on Good Friday and the way in which this may be celebrated. It is certainly very appropriate for Holy Week. Science has seen us continue our focus on forces and Humanities has involved investigating bridges, and us creating our own perfect design for a bridge,

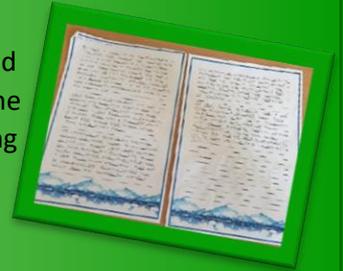
Have a lovely break Year 3 – you have earned it! Every one of you has made the Year 3 Team very proud. We look forward to seeing you in Term 5!

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic return to school this term! All of the children have persisted with their learning and they have strived for accuracy in all lessons, ensuring that their presentation has been of the highest standards at all times. The Year 4 Team have been very impressed with how well the children have settled back into our school routines this term and we have been amazed by the fantastic mountain themed work produced.



This week, the children have consolidated their learning, thinking about applying all of the facts they have discovered about mountain ranges in our newspaper report writing. The children have produced some very interesting reports, using time conjunctions to structure their writing and including extra details using brackets! We have also worked on producing mountain themed stories this term and the children have designed some very exciting plot twists for their characters. Well done to everyone for using some very sophisticated language in your writing this term!



Today, the children have explored the meaning of Easter, thinking about how Easter is celebrated around the world. Year 4 have discovered the history behind the traditions of some tasty Easter foods, finding out about the Christian reasons for baking hot cross buns and the reason why lamb is typically eaten on Easter Sunday.

We were very lucky to have a whole school service with Father Barry in the afternoon where the children joined in beautifully with singing the hymns.

We hope that you all have a fantastic Easter half-term, remember to stay safe and have a well-deserved break!

## Year 5

What a fantastic final week Year 5 have had for Term 4! We have really enjoyed all the learning opportunities that we shared and have produced some excellent work. The weather slowly improving, we have enjoyed our time even more outside- hopefully it will continue over the Easter break!

In Guided Reading, we have continued to enjoy reading our book Coraline. We are now up to chapter 7 and the action is coming thick and fast. We have continued to work on content domain questions and as we read, we are checking do we understand what we are reading. We will be moving on to a new text next term so we decided to read the rest of Coraline before the break because everyone was eager to find out how it ended.



In English, we have been looking at writing instructions, which is something that will be very helpful in nearly any profession. We started off, by recording the features we could spot in a circle map. We also magpie interesting imperative verbs we could use in our work. We then used a flow map to plan our instructions.

In Maths, we have continued to persevere and work on subtracting fractions with different denominators, changing from mixed fractions to improper fractions and working on our arithmetic skills. All of the students have gained so much confidence in this area of maths and it is excellent to see that confidence translated in their work.

Since it is the last week of term, we have been assessing our knowledge in all areas of learning: geography, science, music, art, PSHE, RE, French, computing and thinking inclusively. We were able to see that all our hard work has paid off. That knowledge gained will help us with all out future learning.

Many Year 5 students were also able to finish decorating our clay islands in art and peer assess each other's work. They will be going home so these masterpieces can be shared with family. Everyone is extremely proud of what they produced and thy learned special techniques along the way.

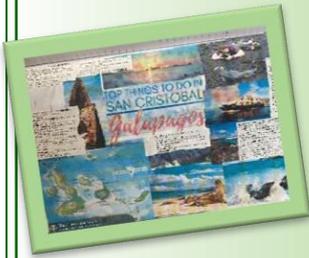


On Thursday 1st April, we participated in Easter celebrations. We looked at Easter symbols, created our own Easter egg designs, read about the Easter story and took part in the Easter service.

There will be no homework over the break but students should still practice times tables and read everyday for at least 20 minutes. Enjoy your Easter holiday!

## Year 6

Well done on a final fantastic week Year 6! You have all been working so hard in lessons this week and we are so looking forward to a lovely half term break.



In our Thinking Globally subjects, we have been looking at the Galapagos Islands in humanities, we have already learnt about how these islands were formed and now we are studying the flora and fauna of this area too. We are also applying our knowledge of the islands and learning about the human geography and the tourism industry. We linked this in our English writing lessons and we have been writing brochures and leaflets all about the islands and we used our persuasive writing knowledge to write these.



In Science, we have continued our learning about Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution. This week we have been looking at inheritance and adaptation. We learnt that there is a difference between acquired and inherited characteristics and these impact how an offspring develops. We looked at how genetics and DNA also has a part to play in this too. Children also completed some fantastic science homework on Seesaw and we were blown away by the brilliant work.

In Religious studies this week, we have been finishing off our learning all about the Christian Easter story. On Thursday, we had a special Easter celebration day and in our first lesson we learnt about signs and symbols, we went on to investigate religious symbols and looking more at the Easter religious symbols and what they mean. We discussed what traditions our families have on Easter Sunday. We then continued our learning by looking at the history of the Easter Egg and how it is linked to the Christian event. We had a phase design an Easter egg competition and the winner won an Easter Egg to take home!

We wish all of the Year 6 children and families a very safe and happy Easter. Enjoy the break and stay safe!



## Thinking Academically



### TT Rockstars:

Top of the Pops this week is Year 3 - well done Year 3. In second place are Year 4 and third place is Year 5.

### Spelling Shed:

Our top year group spellers this week are Year 2, well done to them. In second place are Year 3, followed by Year 4 in third.



Spelling Shed



## Thinking Inclusively

Easter is almost here. You can meet another household outdoors, but if you're tired of walks in the park, here are some family-friendly activities to celebrate the season.



<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/easter/>

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/things-to-do>



While Easter brings egg hunts and decorating, how can you ensure your child can participate in the Easter fun this holiday especially if they have SEN? We have gathered a list of easy and child-friendly Easter crafts that are sure to brighten up your home! Check out these egg-cellent ideas to get kids of all ages in the spring spirit.

<https://senresourcesblog.com/2018/03/24/our-3-favourite-easy-easter-crafts-for-kids/>

<http://www.centralpennparent.com/2016/10-tips-to-make-easter-activities-easier-for-your-special-needs-child/>

<https://www.parentingspecialneeds.org/article/easy-exciting-egg-activities-easter/>

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/3672/easy-kid-crafts-for-easter/>

<https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/easter>



## Thinking About Their Thinking

This week for Thinking about Thinking, we want to remind you about the Thinking tools and Cognitive education that we offer at New Horizons. As you are aware, we are a Thinking School. On our school website, we have provided a video of the children explaining what this means and how they use the Thinking tools within their lessons and in their daily life. There is also further guidance on the school website of exactly what all of the different Thinking tools mean. It's a fantastic way to encourage flexible thinking and looking at things from different perspectives, as well as problem solving. To support your child, you could use the Thinking language at home and it can be great fun for creative conversations. Here are some ideas:



When considering the positives and negatives of things, you could use the yellow and black hat. The yellow hat is positives of the situation and the black hat is possible dangers or issues.



You could use the alphabet key to brainstorm lots of ideas. You write out the alphabet and then write an idea for each letter of the alphabet, for example, a child could do an alphabet key of items in their bedroom or everything they know about Easter.

The construction key is about constructing something from unrelated materials. Could you collect some materials from the garden and together work out what could be built from them?



We'd love to see what you do so please tweet us or upload to your child's Seesaw

## Enrichment

With lock-down restrictions easing over the half term and we can meet in a rule of six outdoors, more gardens are opening across the country. Visiting gardens is a fantastic enrichment activity as many have the opportunity to learn about the local environment and history of our local area, alongside enjoying the outside and giving us the opportunity to, 'Think Healthily'.

Some of the gardens now open are Penshurst Place Garden near Tonbridge which has a play area and a woodland area. Places will need to be pre-booked to ensure social distancing can occur and can be booked via [Penshurstplace.com](http://Penshurstplace.com)

Lullingstone Castle and the World Garden is open in time for the Easter weekend and there will be activities for families. After Easter Monday, the garden next reopens in June. Find out more on [lullingstonecastle.co.uk](http://lullingstonecastle.co.uk)

There are also fantastic places closer to home. White Horse Wood Country Park in Detling has views over the countryside and if you venture down the hill you'll find the ruins on Thurnham castle to explore for some local history too! Cobtree Manor Country Park in Aylesford is the site of the old Maidstone Zoo and has space for walkers and picnics, as well as sculpture trails to enjoy. You can also see parts of the old zoo and the old information boards which would be fantastic for children to explore. Blue Bell Hill Picnic site in Chatham offers breath taking views of the Medway Valley as well as Rochester Castle Gardens where you can marvel at the English Heritage 11th Century Norman Castle and even doing a walking tour to learn more about the local history.

## WE NEED YOU!



WE NEED YOU! Here are our Trust's proposed plans for the brand new secondary school; Maritime Academy, due to open in September 2022, it looks great! Join us and visit the consultation website to see details and share your views. Champion the education of tomorrow, today.

CTA: BACK OUR BUILD: <https://publicaccess1.medway.gov.uk/online-applications/>  
| SEARCH MC/21/0302 | COMMENT with your support |



# Golden Tie & Achievement Alley

TEAM POINTS		
This week the 'Holcombe Cup' has been awarded to Brook.		
Attendance Ace	Hazel, Apple & Juniper	
Punctuality Penny	Birch, Hawthorn, Conifer & Laburnum	
<b>Golden Tie</b>	<p><b>Beech</b> – Harry for being persistent with his learning</p> <p><b>Hazel</b> – Thomas for persisting with all learning this week</p> <p><b>Maple</b> – Tommy for persisting in his learning and not giving up.</p> <p><b>Birch</b> – Charlie for persisting with all learning this week</p> <p><b>Pine</b> – Zack for managing impulsivity and persisting</p> <p><b>Spruce</b> – Adam for remaining open for continuous learning</p> <p><b>Apple</b> – Aston for always persisting with his learning</p> <p><b>Cherry</b> – Dylan for outstanding effort, resilience and focus in all of his work this week. Well done!</p> <p><b>Damson</b> – Florence for communicating her ideas clearly in class discussions</p>	<p><b>Conifer</b> – Finley for always striving for accuracy</p> <p><b>Hawthorn</b> – Narhngua for being kind and helpful towards his peers</p> <p><b>Poplar</b> – Conor for persisting with all of his learning</p> <p><b>Juniper</b> – Keegan for working really hard to improve his resilience</p> <p><b>Laburnum</b> – Tommy for persisting in Maths and managing his impulsivity on the playground</p> <p><b>Sycamore</b> – Sofia for remaining open to continuous learning and taking sensible risks in all of her learning this term</p> <p><b>Aspen</b> – Bella for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p><b>Cypress</b> – Yasmina for your wonderful Science homework you submitted</p> <p><b>Elder</b> – Frank for striving for accuracy in all lessons</p>
<b>Achievement Alley</b>	<p><b>Beech</b> – Jaime-Lea for striving for accuracy in Maths</p> <p><b>Hazel</b> – Ava for a great use of the White Hat for her animal facts</p> <p><b>Maple</b> – Anaiya for showing wonderment and awe in Science</p> <p><b>Birch</b> – Emily for striving for accuracy in Maths</p> <p><b>Pine</b> – Esmee for communicating with clarity in Maths</p> <p><b>Spruce</b> – Aiden for striving for accuracy</p> <p><b>Apple</b> – Jesse for a great flow map planning his narrative in Writing</p> <p><b>Cherry</b> – OJ for outstanding use of length and perimeter in lessons this week</p> <p><b>Damson</b> – Alfie for hard work on perimeter</p>	<p><b>Conifer</b> – Alayna for some fantastic humanities work this week, revisiting your learning</p> <p><b>Hawthorn</b> – Viktorija for excellent use of bar model when solving fraction calculations</p> <p><b>Poplar</b> – Oliver for producing a wonderful climate change poster</p> <p><b>Juniper</b> – Chantelle for her clear and thoughtful work in thinking inclusively</p> <p><b>Laburnum</b> – Kisali for showing creativity and persisting when creating her own sculpture of alchemy island</p> <p><b>Sycamore</b> – Isabella for showing a great imagination and precision when designing and sculpturing her own Alchemy Island.</p> <p><b>Aspen</b> – Aiden for his art work inspired by our new topic Tomorrow's world</p> <p><b>Cypress</b> – Demar for managing language barriers and competing a substantial amount of work independently</p> <p><b>Elder</b> – Lily for striving for accuracy in Maths</p>

# Attendance Matters!

