



New Horizons  
Children's Academy

# News

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. Thank you for your support in making the return to school a success, the children have settled back into school life and have made a great start to their topics this term. Staff have been busy preparing for the new term, so look out for details of this term's curriculum, trips and visitors coming soon in each class' communications over the next few weeks. The children all have an exciting year ahead and the learning is already well underway.

A special welcome to those children, families and staff who have joined the New Horizons family this term, we look forward to getting you know you all over the coming years. Our new Reception children begin on Monday, we've had some visits from children and families this week, and everyone is raring to go for those first days of school!

Thank you for your support in presenting the children in correct school uniform. This is an important part of our identity as a school, wearing the correct uniform shows pride in and respect for the school. We look forward to presenting our Year 6 children with their Year 6 ties in assembly next week- we would usually do this during the first week back, but like many sectors we have run into a few issues with delivery dates!

The weekly newsletter will keep you informed of key dates for events and show what the children have been learning in school. We are planning for events throughout the year where we will be able to invite parents/carers into school to take part in and see your child's learning and discuss their progress.

Please note the section in our newsletter later which contains details of a change to our term dates for this year. The end of the school year has been brought forward by a day due to the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The last day of term six for the children will now be **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022**.

Finally, a reminder of my letter sent last week, outlining the removal of many of the COVID measures we had in place across the school. While many restrictions have been lifted, we will remain cautious, and be mindful of the local and national statistics. If we were to see a spike in cases in either the local area or in school, we would look to reintroduce some measures at that point, we will keep you fully informed of any decisions we make.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Regards,

Mr Murphy

## Dates for Diary

*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September – Year 1 – Memory Box Workshop - £2.50 to be paid by 17<sup>th</sup> September*

*Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6 – WW1 VR Workshop - £7.50 to be paid by 20<sup>th</sup> September*

*Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Year 2 – Wriggle & Crawl Workshop - £3.20 to be paid by 8<sup>th</sup> October*



## Thinking Academically

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### COMING SOON!

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception and Nursery children on Monday

#### Year 1

We have been extremely proud at how well the Year 1 children have settled back into school. It has been a fantastic first week! The children have thoroughly enjoyed bringing in their bags of memories that they have been collecting over the summer. Our topic this term is Memory Box. The children were very confident in showing their friends in their classes their special memories and speaking about them. This has led to lots of great discussions about different memories the children have.



We have used our special memories that we have shared to create writing pieces. The children have been sequencing their memories to retell it in a piece of writing. The children have been using their phonics knowledge to help them create the sentences. In Maths, the children have been exploring place value. The children have been using our outdoor area to sort different objects and count objects. We have also been representing numbers in different ways.

Well done year 1 for a brilliant first week!



#### Year 2

It has been a fantastic start to the new school year in Year 2! The children have settled into their new classes and are enjoying exploring their new learning! Our new topic is Wriggle and Crawl, which is all about minibeasts. We began the week by making a range of different minibeasts to decorate our classroom doors. We made butterflies, spiders and snails and they look fantastic on our doors. They make our corridor so colourful! We then went on a hunt for minibeasts in the forest school to look for different minibeasts in Science. We learnt all about the habitats of minibeasts and why they are suitable for their needs.

Elsewhere in the curriculum, we have started studying James and the Giant Peach in Reading and Writing. We have enjoyed learning all about the story, especially the mean aunts! In Writing, we have been writing setting descriptions, imagining that we are James, walking through the giant peach. We have explored different adjectives to help us explain exactly what the peach might be like on the inside. In Maths, we have begun our work on place value and the children have been representing two digit numbers with different resources such as ten frames and dienes.

Well done Year 2; we are really impressed with how you have settled in and hope you have enjoyed your first week like we have!

### Year 3



Year 3 have settled brilliantly into their learning this week and we have had many fun memories as we have settled into our Stone Age topic. In Maths, we have been reminding ourselves of the place value of key numbers and the importance of using this to help us add and subtract. We have also started to solve reasoning problems about place value and explaining how we know our answers are correct. In English this week, we have been writing a diary entry about our summer holidays. We have worked extremely hard to ensure our diaries include the past tense, time adverbials and conjunctions. We have also practised finding synonyms so we can describe our feelings in the best way possible. This week we were also excited to start our term text, Stig of the Dump, and we have made many similarities between the character Stig and the cavemen we learnt about on our hook day.

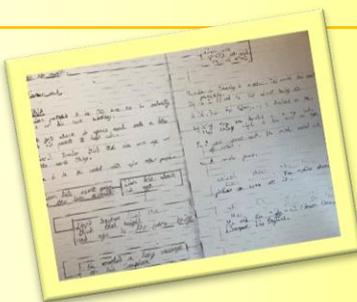
### Year 4

We have had a fantastic first week in Year 4! The children have all settled in well and they have worked incredibly hard in their lessons this week, sharing some great facts that they have been able to recall from Year 3.



This week, we have started to look at the novel 'The Thieves of Ostia'. We have explored some new, interesting terminology and the children have been able to use some of these words in their writing, beginning to think about the life of the main character Flavia in order to write some detailed diary entries. We were also able to link this into our afternoon learning, discovering how and why the Romans invaded Britain and considering how the changes made to Britain have affected our lives today. The Year 4 team look forward to seeing how the children use this information in their writing next week.

### Year 5



What an amazing start to the year! Year 5 have been brilliant in the first week of school and have all settled back into learning wonderfully. This term, we are learning all about space and have created some different pieces of art work to cover our doors in, including aliens, astronauts and rockets.

Space has also inspired both our reading and writing. We have started our new book 'Cosmic' about a boy called Liam who accidentally ends up in space. After looking at the front cover and making our predictions, using the prediction key, we have read the exciting first chapter. We have then answered questions about the first chapter and generated our own questions. In writing, we have been planning and writing a setting description all about space!

It's been a great first week, have a lovely weekend and we can't wait to see you again on Monday!

## Year 6

What a fantastic start to the year! Year 6 have impressed us so much in the first week of school. This term, we are learning all about World War 1 and have created some beautiful silhouette art work alongside Poppies to decorate our doors. We have also started to learn why World War One started, focusing on the large global events as well as the short term triggers.



World War One has also inspired both our reading and writing. We have started our new book *Private Peaceful*. After looking at the front cover and making our predictions, using the prediction key, we have read the very action-packed and exciting first chapter. From this, we have acting like lawyers in writing lessons to decide whether or not Tommo is guilty. We have really worked on our speaking and listening skills and engaged in excellent debates.

In Maths, we have been showing the Habit of Mind applying our previous knowledge to new situations by revising place value, recognising, saying and writing numbers up to 10 million - we need to be able to spell them too! Children have enjoyed creating their own numbers and identifying the value.

It's been a fantastic first week and we look forward to the rest of the term to delve deeper into our new topic!



## Thinking Academically



### TT Rockstars:

Well done to Joseph (Year 5) in first place this week, followed by Ali (Year 4) in second and Hanna (Year 4) in third.

### Spelling Shed:

The top year groups this week are: Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5. The top spellers are Rokas (Year 3) in first place, Nathan (Year 3) in second place and Ruby (Year 4) in third place.



## Thinking Inclusively

We would like to welcome our new SENCO Mrs Campbell to the New Horizons team.

Mrs Campbell will be arranging some drop in meetings for any families that have any queries or would like to chat to her about any ongoing concerns.

A letter will be going out next week with further details and information on how to book a time slot.

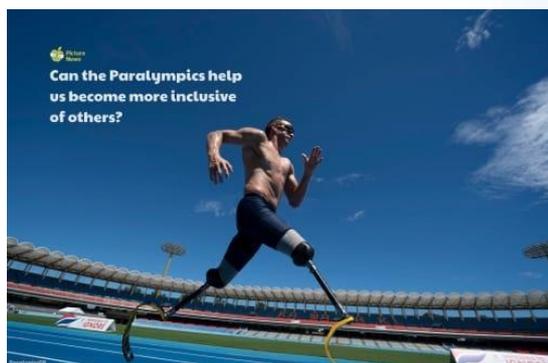
## Notices

Please note there should be no smoking on the School grounds, and we kindly ask that if you are smoking outside the school gates/grounds that you are courteous of those around you.

We also ask that now that the drop off zone is open in the morning, please be aware of children getting out of cars and adults moving around in the car park.



## Thinking About Their Thinking



**This week in P4C, we are looking at a story around the paralympics.** At the start of the Tokyo Paralympics, Paralympics GB launched a campaign to change perceptions of those with disabilities called, *Impossible to Ignore*. We have been exploring the question within our classes: Can the Paralympics help us become more inclusive of others?

## Enrichment

Each week, as well as providing enrichment opportunities within school, we provide suggestions and opportunities to our parents via this section of our newsletter. This involves making you aware of engaging and exciting enrichment opportunities online or in the local area that you can take part in a family.

This week, we want to tell you about the following opportunities:

Firstly, an upcoming opportunity in the Pentagon Chatham:

Medway Fun Palace - 2nd Oct - 10am–4pm - Pentagon Shopping Centre

Come along for a fun and exciting mix of activity including science shows, art workshops, interactive installations and more.

Find out more on: <https://medway.gov.uk/funpalace>

Secondly,

Festival of Chatham Reach - 18th - 19th September - 10am-16.00pm - Sun Pier House, Medway street, Chatham, ME4 4HR

Located alongside and on Sun Pier in Chatham, which is currently the only available public river access point in Medway, there will be:

Steam Tug Barking offering free ship tours,  
Free sailing trips on board Sailing Barge Edith May,  
Sailing Barge Blue Mermaid offering free tours and demonstrations,  
A Whitstable Oyster Smack attending on display,  
Jetstream Tours attending with 'Jacob Marley', running short river excursions,  
Free history walks, covering the wharfs and west end of Chatham High Street,  
Live music throughout the day, including sea shanties and folk music  
Have-a-go activities for all to try and learn about river vessels,  
Demonstrations of traditional river skills,  
Costumed characters  
An arts market, local produce and food stalls,  
Exhibitions inside The Riverside Gallery at Sun Pier House, inspired by local history  
Drop in family friendly art workshops  
Traditional carnival games for all ages,

To find out about more opportunities within our local area, visit @enjoyMedway on Twitter or

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/>



## Thinking Inclusively

We are proud that these children have demonstrated excellent Habits of Mind and as such have been rewarded the Golden Tie or have their work presented in Achievement Alley. These children have used a Growth Mind-set, worked hard and have achieved excellence in effort and achievement – well done!

| TEAM POINTS   |  |
|---|--|
| This week the 'Holcombe Cup' has been awarded to River. |  |
| Attendance Ace  | Beech, Hawthorn & Elder  |
| Punctuality Penny                                       | Beech, Birch, Spruce, Cherry, Laburnum, Elder & Cypress  |
| <b>Golden Tie</b>                                       | <p><b>Beech</b> – Riley for remaining open to continuous learning<br/> <b>Hazel</b> – Johnny for responding with wonderment and awe<br/> <b>Maple</b> – Jack H for responding with wonderment and awe<br/> <b>Birch</b> – Jaime-Lea for remaining open to continuous learning<br/> <b>Pine</b> – Ella for remaining open to continuous learning<br/> <b>Spruce</b> – Charlie for remaining open to continuous learning<br/> <b>Apple</b> – William for striving for accuracy in all of his learning<br/> <b>Cherry</b> – Parushi for thinking with clarity and precision in our RE lesson<br/> <b>Damson</b> – Nathan for always being ready to listen and learn</p> <p><b>Conifer</b> – Karen for striving for accuracy in all of her learning this week<br/> <b>Hawthorn</b> – Logan for his consistent 'above and beyond' attitude to learning and being an exceptional role model for other Hawthornians<br/> <b>Poplar</b> – Alfie for persisting with his learning over this week and not being afraid to ask when he is stuck<br/> <b>Juniper</b> – Kiera for persisting in all areas of learning<br/> <b>Laburnum</b> – Preston for persisting in his Maths<br/> <b>Sycamore</b> – Albie for striving for accuracy in Maths<br/> <b>Aspen</b> – Blake for being open to continuous learning in all subjects and always having his hand up<br/> <b>Cypress</b> – Jenae for striving for accuracy across the curriculum<br/> <b>Elder</b> – Rose for persisting in Maths</p> |
| <b>Achievement Alley</b>                                | <p><b>Beech</b> – Walter for persisting in Maths<br/> <b>Hazel</b> – Gurkaran for striving for accuracy in Art<br/> <b>Maple</b> – Ollie for listening and posing questions<br/> <b>Birch</b> – Lily for creating, imagining and innovating<br/> <b>Pine</b> – Kai for responding with wonderment and awe<br/> <b>Spruce</b> – Ariana for striving for accuracy with presentation<br/> <b>Apple</b> – Alexia for a great circle map about Diwali in RE<br/> <b>Cherry</b> – Jase for striving for accuracy with his multiplication<br/> <b>Damson</b> – Elsa for striving for accuracy with our place value work and presenting it well</p> <p><b>Conifer</b> – Nikolas for some fantastic partitioning in Maths<br/> <b>Hawthorn</b> – Angel-May for her excellent application of prior knowledge in Science beautifully presented in a circle map<br/> <b>Poplar</b> – Mayson for a clear understanding of what it takes to make a Roman soldier<br/> <b>Juniper</b> – Maci for amazing guided reading work using retrieval<br/> <b>Laburnum</b> – Victor for fact checking so his poster was brilliant<br/> <b>Sycamore</b> – Millie for planning her setting description<br/> <b>Aspen</b> – Finn for striving for accuracy, particularly with his presentation<br/> <b>Cypress</b> – Zara for excellent presentation of her place value work<br/> <b>Elder</b> – Mona for superb portioning and presentation of her maths</p>   |

# Term Dates

| Term                         | Dates   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <i>Staff Development Day</i> | <i>Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September 2021</i>                                   |
| <b>Term 1</b>                | <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021</b>   |
| Autumn Break                 | Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2021         |
| <i>Staff Development Day</i> | <i>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021</i>  |
| <b>Term 2</b>                | <b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>  |
| Christmas Break              | Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 – Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2022         |
| <i>Staff Development Day</i> | <i>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022</i>  |
| <b>Term 3</b>                | <b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b> |
| February Break               | Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2022 – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022       |
| <b>Term 4</b>                | <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</b>      |
| Spring Break                 | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2022              |
| <b>Term 5</b>                | <b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>         |
| Early May Bank Holiday       | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022   |
| Late May Bank Holiday        | Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022  |
| May Break                    | Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022                 |
| <b>Term 6</b>                | <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022</b>         |
| <i>Staff Development Day</i> | <i>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022</i>   |

# Attendance Matters!

