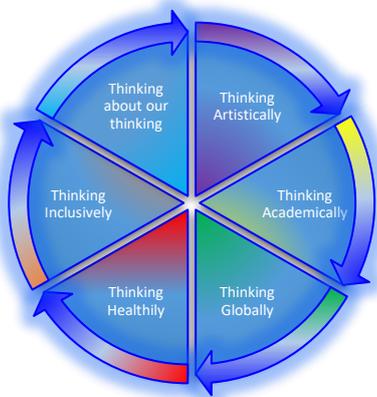




Dear parents/carers,

At the beginning of the school year, we have added some new elements to our curriculum, which drives the learning that the children take part in day to day. We continue to have an exceptionally broad offer for our children, with a particular focus on the Arts. Children across the school took part in dance workshops this week and it was great to see some of the performances created. A reminder of what our curriculum sets out to achieve is below:



'Thinking Artistically' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge skills and understanding of how the arts enrich the world around us. Children will participate in a range of artistic learning opportunities to develop an appreciation of visual and performing arts.

'Thinking Academically' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge skills and understanding of how to be literate and numerate.

'Thinking Globally' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge, skills and understanding of the world within they live. Children are taught to appreciate and respect the world around them; they are able to reflect on how humans have impacted on the world that we know today and how they can play a vital role in the development of the world for years to come.

'Thinking Healthily' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge, skills and understanding of how to keep themselves physically and mentally healthy. Children use their learning to make healthy choices; demonstrating the ability to know how their choices impact on themselves and the people around them.

'Thinking Inclusively' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge, skills and understanding of how society is enriched by the people in it. They will learn to appreciate how diversity positively impacts on the community and how they can respectfully demonstrate the Fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance.

'Thinking about Thinking' teaches our children to be their best self through the knowledge, skills and understanding of how to be an active thinker. Thinking tools are used to enable children to control and structure their thinking. Children will use a range of tools through a progressive structure, increasing their knowledge, skills and understanding of how the tools aid and develop their thinking. Throughout all aspects of school life, including the curriculum, children develop effective dispositions to be successful learners

Dates for Diary

Friday 24th September – Year 1 – Memory Box Workshop - £2.50 to be paid by 17th September

Monday 27th September – Year 6 – WW1 VR Workshop - £7.50 to be paid by 20th September

Friday 15th October – Year 2 – Wriggle & Crawl Workshop - £3.20 to be paid by 8th October



Thinking Academically

EYFS

Nursery

In nursery this week the children began their first full week of school. They are all looking really smart in their new school uniform and are proud to be part of New Horizons Children's Academy school. All children have settled in really well and have enjoyed spending time exploring their new environment and making friends with peers in their session. The children have particularly enjoyed playing in our recently developed outside area and playing with the musical instruments. All children have enjoyed joining in with whole class phase 1 phonics where we have been listening to different sounds and matching them to the sounds we can hear in the environment, in addition to singing familiar rhymes and songs. We have sat with each child individually to find out all the things they already know including recognising their own name, numbers, letters and colours. This will help us to plan our learning for next week.



Reception

Children have completed their first week in reception - what a fantastic achievement. They have settled in brilliantly. The children have spent the week becoming familiar with their new classroom, learning the classroom rules, establishing relationships with their class teachers and making lots and lots of friendships. The children have been working hard to show the teachers all the things they already know or can do! We have experimented with writing our names, drawing pictures, recognising numbers, naming shapes, painting a rainbow and much more. The children have learnt their first phonics sound 's' and been recognising this letter in their learning environment. A very successful start to school life has been had by all.



Year 1

This week Year 1 have been striving for accuracy in their lessons, especially in Thinking Academically. We have been looking at story 'Elfa and the Box of Memories'. We have been using adjectives to describe the characters in the story as well as our red hats to think about the character's feelings during different stages of the story. In Maths, we have been counting forwards and backwards from a given number up to 20.



In Thinking Artistically, we focused on Picasso. We have created our own art piece focusing on Picasso's Guernica. In Music we have been learning a new song 'Hey, you!'. We have also participated in dance workshops, which we were all being persistent in. In Thinking Globally, we have been learning about the human life cycle, how humans change during this cycle and what humans are able to do during different stages.

Well done for all the amazing homework we have received on Seesaw! Keep up the hard work!

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have enjoyed continuing reading James and the Giant Peach in English and Guided Reading. We have been looking at writing a diary entry as James, focusing on using the 1st person and including lots of conjunctions for more detail. In Maths, we have been partitioning numbers to 100 using a range of resources and part-whole models.

Next, we will be looking at adding and subtracting numbers up to 100.

In PSHE we have been discussing how we feel to have started Year 1. It has been a good chance to talk about any anxieties we may have had, recording these on our own worry monsters.



We have been thinking artistically this week in our dance lessons, moving like animals in the jungle and imagining we are jungle explorers. We have considered how humans can damage the jungle by cutting down the trees. We took it in turns to perform a dance as the trees getting cut down by machines. In our art lesson this week, we have been looking at print, taking inspiration from artists like Andy Warhol and Max Ernst. We created our own print images by using colourful crayons to make rubbings of leaves.

Year 3

This week in Guided Reading, we have continued reading Stig of the Dump, following Barney as he invents fabulous things using Stig's rubbish. We have been focusing on our 2a Content Domain 'Define' which looks at the meaning of words. We have carried these thoughts into our writing work as we imagine that we are Barney, writing a diary entry as him to recount his initial discovery of Stig and his den.

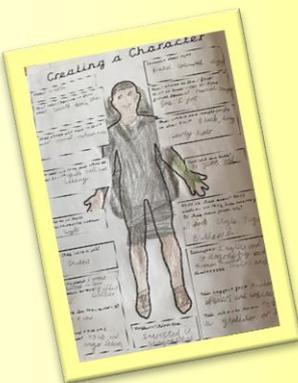
We have thought carefully about the features of a diary entry and have ensured that we write in the past tense and use personal pronouns to show it is written in first person. In Maths we have been continuing to learn about place value, introducing hundreds and showing numbers represented using place value grids.



We have been so impressed with Year 3's learning so far – well done and keep it up!

Year 4

We have had a superb second week in Year 4. The children have been demonstrating their persistence when getting even more into the flow of our Year 4 lessons. They have impressed us with the application of their new roman knowledge to all elements of their learning throughout the week.



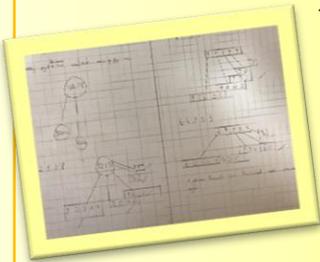
This week, we have continued to look at our novel of 'The Thieves of Ostia' and we have been looking at developing our skill of summarising by exploring the different ways that we can summarise a text in our own words.

We have been applying our new roman vocabulary to create detailed character and setting descriptions. In our afternoon lessons, we have continued to explore the key parts of being a roman soldier and we have been applying these across many lessons. We look forward to seeing how the children can create their own detailed descriptions

Year 5

The Year 5 team have been incredibly impressed with how quickly the children have re-learnt routines and maintained the high expectations we have always had of them.

This week we have delved further into our 'Stargazers' unit linking it to our writing. Focusing on writing a non-chronological report, the children have been organising information into categories in order to ensure the reader of their finished piece will be able to quickly find the facts they need to know.



In Maths, we have continued to review our prior learning around place value and stretch our understanding of number. We have used various models including partitioning, number lines and other pictorial methods to show the value of numbers individually and when comparing them to others.

Please remember to continue checking Seesaw weekly for homework, well done to the children who have logged in and completed all activities. Please also remember to log in to TTRockstars and Spelling Shed to keep practising your tables and spellings!

Year 6



Year 6 have, have once again, had a superb week diving into the novel of 'Private Peaceful'. We have explored whether Tommo was guilty, or not, by writing a persuasive speech to win the jury over using our red hats to drive our persuasive features. Some were very persuasive! We have also focused a great deal on vocabulary in the past week to ensure our dictionary skills were up to scratch to support the definition of un-known vocabulary.

In Maths, we have applied our place value learning to the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. As some of these skills are almost mastered by members of our cohort, we have focused a great deal on word problems by digging deeper in to a wide range of strategies.

In Art this week, Year 6 have made a start on designing a World War 1 uniform and exploring what stitching is within sewing. A very tricky, fine-motor skill concept!

Finally, some of our cohort also sat the Medway Test this week. We just want to share how exceptionally mature they were throughout the process and as a team, we are extremely proud of them. Those children that did not, were also very sensible with the change of routine (and location) with the other adults developing their coding learning.



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 2. The top spellers are Gabrielius (Year 3) in first place, Ruby B (Year 4) in second place and Lilah (Year 2) in third place.



Thinking About Their Thinking



This week in P4C, we have been looking at, 'How does facing disaster change us?' This is because of the trail of devastation that was left by Hurricane Ida across parts of North America. US President Biden has blamed climate change for what's happened and believes the country needed to be better prepared for extreme weather. We discussed our opinions on this and how a country can prepare.

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.

Following on from last week, we want to remind you about the following exciting local enrichment opportunities, that you can enjoy with family and friends: 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-4pm - Sun Pier House, Medway street, Chatham, ME4 4HR. Located alongside 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 Brook.		
Attendance Ace	Beech, Cherry & Cypress	
Punctuality Penny	Beech, Cherry & Aspen	
Golden Tie	<p>Beech – Deborah for taking responsible risks</p> <p>Hazel – Viril for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Maple – Finley for persisting in his learning</p> <p>Birch – Harry for striving for accuracy to use his sounds in writing</p> <p>Pine – Alessia for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Spruce – Ted for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Apple – Zach for responding with wonderment and awe to our cooking workshop</p> <p>Cherry – Dom for striving for accuracy in all lessons</p> <p>Damson – Eleanor for always being ready to learn and striving for accuracy</p>	<p>Conifer – Darcey for striving for accuracy in all lessons</p> <p>Hawthorn – Archie for his continuous perseverance in a new school and striving to be the best version of himself and a great example to others</p> <p>Poplar – Grace for responding with empathy and understanding</p> <p>Juniper – Oliver for always striving for accuracy with his work</p> <p>Laburnum – Xander for striving for accuracy by adding to his NCR circle map facts</p> <p>Sycamore – Nicoleta for persisting in answering inference questions</p> <p>Aspen – Gracie for persisting in all areas of her learning</p> <p>Cypress – Faiz for thinking flexibly with problem solving in Maths</p> <p>Elder – Jake for thinking flexibly with problem solving in Maths</p>
	Achievement Alley	<p>Beech – Lara for striving for accuracy in Art</p> <p>Hazel – Gurkaran for striving for accuracy in Art</p> <p>Maple – Akira for showing wonderment and awe</p> <p>Birch – Tyler-James for striving for accuracy in his Maths</p> <p>Pine – Daniils for creating and imagining in Art</p> <p>Spruce – Aarna for creating and imagining in Guided Reading</p> <p>Apple – Arina for a great bubble map describing Stig in writing</p> <p>Cherry – Esme for striving for accuracy with her number line work</p> <p>Damson – Harrison for being systematic and striving for accuracy in Maths</p>

Term Dates

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

Attendance Matters!

