



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News

Dear Parents/Carers

We've had another lovely week in school. Last week I shared a reminder of our school curriculum and while we are passionate that our children achieve academic success, we are determined to offer our children many learning experiences beyond the classroom as well. We had a group of children go sailing as part of the Chatham Reach festival since our last newsletter and today our children in Years R, 1 and 2 had a visit from an author, Tola Okogwu, who read from some of her books. The children really enjoyed the interactive session and we have purchased some of her books so we can follow up this visit back in class. We are currently arranging for an author to come visit our KS2 children in Term 2, so that they too get the chance to take part in an author led session. Clubs are now starting again, and we will be starting to take part in some inter-school sports competitions once more. We have some children taking part in a golf festival next week and many of our Year 5 and 6 children will get the chance to represent the school in the Medway Mini Youth Games which restart this term. Such events compliment learning that we already have built into our school curriculum in many ways and we will continue to strive to offer such a wide ranging curriculum to our children.

We are continuing to build even closer links with local TSAT schools, especially the Victory Academy and Holcombe Grammar School. This will allow us to provide even further opportunities to New Horizons children, and enable us to access the amazing staff and facilities that they can offer. This is very exciting support for us to have on our doorstep!



I hope you all have a lovely weekend,
Mr Murphy



Dates for Diary

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

Thursday 30th September – Year 5 – Science lesson at Victory Academy

Thursday 7th October – Year 5 – Astronomy Roadshow - £4.00 to be paid by the 30th September

Wednesday 13th October – Year 6 – Art lesson at Victory Academy

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

Thinking Academically

EYFS

Nursery

In nursery the children began their first full week and they are looking really smart in their new uniform. All children have settled in well and have enjoyed getting to know their new environment. We have continued to learn and follow the school rules and nursery routines. All the children are enjoying building relationships with peers and adults in the class and making lots of new friends. We have continued our baseline assessments where the children have been continuing to show us all they already know and so teachers can assess where they are and identify next steps for each individual child's learning journey. All friends have really enjoyed our story time session at the end of each day. We are looking forward to starting our new topic next week 'How much do you love me?'.



Reception

All reception children are now at school full time and are in their second week! The children have been continuing to show us what they already know and so teachers can then assess where they are and identify next steps for each individual child's learning journey. The children are now familiar with their classroom, their teachers and the friends in their classroom. The children this week created detective masks and went on a tour of the whole school. They very much enjoyed being detectives and snooping about and on the way, we met the reception staff, office staff and head teacher! The children were given their first reading book this week and had to use their imaginations to re-tell the story using pictures. They will take this book home with them to read on a daily basis.



Year 1

In Literacy this week, Year 1 have been creating, imaging and innovating, planning and writing their own story based on 'Elfa and the Box of Memories'. We are continuing to strive for accuracy in our writing, using adjectives to describe our characters as well as our red hats to think about how they feel. We have also been striving for accuracy in Maths, comparing numbers using the greater than, less than and equal to signs.

In Thinking Globally this week, we learned about artefacts. Specifically, we had the opportunity to play with some old toys and compared these to the toys we play with today. We are also making fantastic progress in computing, creating algorithms for our Bee-Bots and identifying and correcting any bugs.

In Thinking Artistically, we are continuing to learn the old school hip-hop song "Hey You!", playing musical instruments in time to the pulse and rhythm. In dance, we are learning the terms 'lead' and 'follow', using our understanding of these to create the illusion of a string puppet.



Thank you again for the brilliant homework we are receiving on Seesaw – keep up the good work!

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have enjoyed reading more of James and the Giant Peach in their Guided Reading lessons. The children have been excited to also look at 'A Bug's Life' within their English lessons to inspire their writing. We have been writing a recount of the story and working on our editing skills to ensure that we use the correct punctuation within our sentences. We have also been using adjectives and time adverbials to sequence events in detail. In

Maths, we have been using place value charts to read and represent numbers. We have also been ordering numbers correctly, ensuring that we check the tens digit carefully first. Some children have even been showing off their problem solving skills to solve problems involving place value!



This week, we also had the exciting opportunity to attend a bread making workshop! The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about different breads from around the world, as well as seeing how a loaf of bread is made. We were all fascinated by how the bread dough grows before it can be cooked and we now cannot wait for our DT days when we will be making our own bread in class! We have been thinking artistically this week in our dance lessons too, moving like trees and animals in the jungled whilst also working in unison. In Art this week, we have built upon our skills of taking leaf rubbings by creating wax resist paintings using candles to draw with and watercolour paints over the top!

Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have continued to explore place value in Maths. We have used the skills we have built up and practiced over the past few weeks to compare three-digit numbers. We have also explored and used the vocabulary of comparison: greater than, less than and equal to.



In English, we have been writing newspaper articles based on our text 'Stig of the Dump'. We have written a report of when Barney meets Stig and explored different features of this writing style. We even tried writing in column like a real newspaper! The children have also explored speech in these lessons and it has been great to see them trying to apply their understanding to their own writing. We have also used the text to develop and explore the 2c summarise skill this week in our Guided Reading sessions. Well done Year 3 for another great week!

Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been using a range of techniques to create some fantastic scene descriptions based around our romans topic and the 'Thieves of Ostia' book. The children have thoroughly enjoyed our text so far and are considering all things Roman across a variety of topics including Mathematics, Dance and History. This week in guided reading the focus has been on how to make accurate and relevant predictions using evidence from the text. Following on from our roman themed diary entries and character descriptions, the children are fully in the swing of using rich and powerful vocabulary in the form of similes, metaphors and expanded noun phrases to really simulate the 5 senses in descriptive writing.



During mathematics, following on from our number and place value input we have continued to look at the value of numbers and how to manipulate larger numbers to smaller less daunting ones that can be represented in various forms. Try playing the 'Speed Rounding' game with your Year 4 legends at home to help improve their rounding knowledge. Simply find a number generator on the internet and see who can round to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 or even 10,000. If you are like Mr Jessup-Smithers and prefer to use the good old pen and paper, then this works just as well.

Year 5

This week has been a busy and productive week for Year 5. In English, we have been working hard to complete our non-chronological reports all about 'The Space Race'. We have researched and learnt some very interesting facts like because of The Space Race, Neil Armstrong was the first man on the moon.

In Maths we have been working on multiplying by 10, 100, 1000, 10000 and 100,000. This has been tricky but we are managing to see the patterns, which are helping us to understand it more. We also started learning our Roman numerals.



Art has been fun this week where we got to design, create and use our stencils to make amazing artwork.

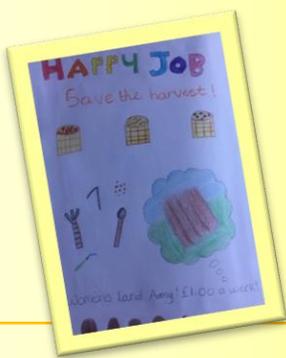
This week we celebrated recycle week and we thought about an item of rubbish that we usually throw away and came up with new, creative ideas for re-using it.

It has been a great week, have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Year 6

Year 6 have been working very hard this week, using our Habits of Mind of creating, imagining and innovating our descriptive writing, linked to characters in our novel 'Private Peaceful'. We have explored the features of descriptive writing, focusing on the figurative language of 'Show don't tell' when describing characters and settings. Some quality vocabulary has been applied to our writing this week, both from our anchor words and magpie list.

In Maths, we have been striving for accuracy, applying our place value learning to the four operations, with a focus on short and long multiplication. As some of these skills are almost mastered by members of our cohort, we have focused a great deal on applying the fluency of these skills to reasoning problems, giving our learning a real-life context. In Art this week, Year 6 have continued on designing a World War 1 uniform and exploring what stitching is within sewing.



Finally, in Humanities, we turned our attention to the impact women had during World War One. We were learning about the Women's Land Army and how their exceptional work during a time of crisis, not only helped Britain triumph in the war, but led to a massive change in women's rights by 1918, when the first British women earned the right to vote.



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



Thinking About Their Thinking



This week in P4C, the children have been learning about who Emma Raducanu is and what she has achieved. We discussed why her victory in the tournament surprised so many people and we have discussed lots of amazing facts about Emma. P4C gives us a fantastic opportunity to discuss what is happening in the world around us, form our own opinions and be given the opportunities to share our thoughts and ideas.

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 as 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, why not soak up the last of the sunshine this Sunday 26th September at Capstone Park. There's free homegrown fun for all the family celebrating:

- being outdoors
- enjoying the natural environment
- promoting local rural crafts, arts, farming and local food and drink. For more information see:
<https://www.medway.gov.uk/capstone>

Or for those of us interested in climate change, check out the first Electric Vehicle (EV) Event in Medway at the Rochester Castle Gardens between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 25 September 2021. To find out more see:
<https://www.medway.gov.uk/evevent>

As always, 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 Fort.		
Attendance Ace	Hazel, Apple and Elder	
Punctuality Penny	Spruce, Apple, Poplar & Cypress	
Golden Tie	<p>Beech – Carter for striving for accuracy in his lessons</p> <p>Hazel – Viril for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Maple – Ava for persisting in her learning in all areas</p> <p>Birch – Brooke for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Pine – Jasmine for listening with understanding and empathy</p> <p>Spruce – Ted for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Apple – Murtaza for striving for accuracy with all of his learning</p> <p>Cherry – Taila for responding with wonder and awe to all learning</p> <p>Damson – Jensen for rising to the challenge and being the best version of himself</p>	<p>Conifer – Riley for striving for accuracy in your Maths this week</p> <p>Hawthorn – Stafone for his attitude to learning and being a phenomenal role model</p> <p>Poplar – Kennedy for responding with empathy and understanding</p> <p>Juniper – Dillan for striving for accuracy in all his learning</p> <p>Laburnum – Kai for thinking creatively when providing responses in class conversations</p> <p>Sycamore – Duru for persisting in her learning across all subjects</p> <p>Aspen – Isabella for thinking flexibly and being open to continuous learning</p> <p>Cypress – Zara for striving for accuracy across the curriculum</p> <p>Elder – Jamie for creating, imagining and innovating in RE</p>
Achievement Alley	<p>Beech – Aiden for striving for accuracy in Maths</p> <p>Hazel – Gurkaran for striving for accuracy in Art</p> <p>Maple – Jack S for striving for accuracy in his learning</p> <p>Birch – Amelia N for striving for accuracy in her Maths</p> <p>Pine – Swayley for thinking flexibly in Maths</p> <p>Spruce – Aarna for creating and imagining in Guided Reading</p> <p>Apple – Annie-Mae for a great double bubble map in PSHE</p> <p>Cherry – Ella for striving for accuracy when ordering numbers</p> <p>Damson – Amelia for striving for accuracy when ordering numbers</p>	<p>Conifer – Yaseen for a great cubist self-portrait</p> <p>Hawthorn – Melanie for excellent portrait skills, in particular her attention to detail</p> <p>Poplar – Darius for a beautiful presentation within his maths learning</p> <p>Juniper – Scarlett for persisting in Guided Reading during partner read</p> <p>Laburnum – Vincent for thoughtful responses in our French lessons</p> <p>Sycamore – Brandon for brilliant and creative ideas for Recycle Week</p> <p>Aspen – Elisha for taking pride in all her learning and her beautiful books</p> <p>Cypress – Charlie K for amazing green creative hat learning in Humanities</p> <p>Elder – Anaya for successfully completing tricky reasoning problems</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!

