



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News

Dear Parents/Carers,

October has arrived and we've definitely noticed a fall in temperatures this week as Autumn makes its presence felt.

The children have had another exciting week of learning- Year 6 enjoyed a World War 1 Virtual Reality experience on Monday, transporting themselves back to the trenches and setting the scene for their cooking project this term, which was to make 'Trench Stew'. Thankfully it tasted better than it sounds and I had the pleasure of sharing some stew with Elder class.

Yesterday, Year 5 visited the Victory Academy to take part in Victory Day, where they had the opportunity to take part in a number of workshops across the curriculum. Year 6 will also be visiting Victory next week to us their Art Rooms- a fantastic example of how we can utilise the growing partnership between local TSAT schools.

This month all TSAT schools will be celebrating Black History Month. We will be delivering lessons across a range of subjects and welcoming visitors into school throughout the month as part of our learning. We look forward to sharing some of these experiences with you in the newsletter and via our social media channels.

We have our first parent consultations of the year this term, which we will deliver virtually as we did last year. Further details will be sent next week, appointments will take place during the week beginning 18th October., offering slots at various points throughout the day. Please do take the time to make an appointment, as we are keen to celebrate all the successes that your children are enjoying.

We have our first parental workshop of the year next week, when we welcome our new Year R parents into school for a Tapestry workshop. Hopefully this will be the first of a number of events this year where we can have our wider community back inside the school building.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mr C Murphy

Dates for Diary

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

Thursday 7th October – Eco Committee – Climate Change debate

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

Tuesday 19th October – Year 4 – VR Roman Workshop - £9.50 to be paid by 15th October

Friday 22nd October – Yrs 1-6 – Black History Month Celebrations - £2.50 to be paid by 20th October



Thinking Academically

EYFS

Nursery



In the nursery this week we have introduced our topic “ Why do you love me so much?”. We have been thinking about who is special to us including our family, friends, teachers and many more. We had a class discussion about who we love and why we love them. Children identified some of the kind things that the people they love do for them. In an adult led activity, the children enjoyed practising how to hold a pencil and draw for a purpose. The children drew a picture of who was special to them. The children practised using lines and circles to draw for a purpose and we had some very impressive mark making skills. The children put into a sentence why they love this person and what they do to help them. This week in Maths we have been trying really hard to carefully count objects. We have been practising reciting numbers in order and saying one number name to each object that we count. The children have really enjoyed continuing their learning outside in child-initiated play.

Reception

This week Reception have started learning about 2D shapes. We have been on a shape hunt to find shapes in our environment and got messy printing with shapes and paint! We are learning the name of 2D shapes and we even began to count and recall some of their properties. We began our literacy learning this week sharing the story of ‘Spot and Stripe’. From this, we have been identifying things that make us unique, and how we are all so lucky to be individuals. After discussing what makes us special, the children have had a go at becoming artists by creating self-portraits. The children continued to practise recognising their name and copying their name from their name card. We are beginning to see some recognisable letters. This week we introduced the ‘Wobble Monster’; sometimes we feel we can’t do something and we get a ‘wobble feeling’. The Wobble Monster is to help us improve on the things we find tricky. We discussed strategies to help us overcome this ‘Wobble’ moment.



Year 1

This week the children in Year 1 have really shown persistence in their learning. We have been continuing to explore the book Elfa and the Box of Memories. A special letter arrived at each of the classes on Monday from Elfa! The children have explored the features of a letter and what we need to write a letter. We have been planning and writing a letter back to Elfa describing some of our special memories using adjectives and letter features. The children have been very excited to write the letters and hopes Elfa writes back again!

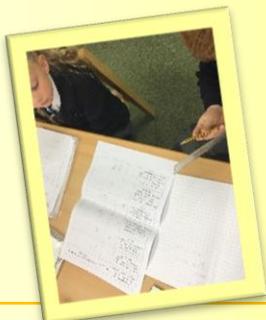


In Maths we have been using comparison signs, ordering objects, numbers and ordinal numbers. The children have been using a variety of Maths resources to order objects and numbers using the outdoor area to support this. In Art this week the children have been using their knowledge of primary colours to mix and make secondary colours to use in their Artwork. The children were able to build on their black and white painting from last lesson to add colours inspired by the artist forming an abstract painting.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a really busy week this week! We have enjoyed learning more about minibeasts as part of our topic Wriggle and Crawl! We have continued our work about A Bug's Life in writing and have used our green hat thinking to design a machine that Flik, the main character, could use to help him harvest the grain. We had some fantastic ideas- from Hoover arms to conveyor belts!

We were lucky enough to have a visit from an author last week who shared her books with us. We loved hearing her stories and asking her lots of questions about being an author. We also had the opportunity to think about our own imaginations and start to consider settings for our own stories. She inspired us so much that her stories are a new favourite for us during story time! We are even starting to learn some of the stories off by heart!



In Maths, we have been beginning to look at addition and subtraction by building on our knowledge of place value. The children have applied their past knowledge well and picked up the new methods we are teaching really quickly!

Year 3

This week we have continued to work on our place value knowledge and been investigating how to add and subtract tens and hundreds from a given number. We have also been working on doubling and halving, using our 2 times tables. In Guided Reading we have been working on the 2e:

Predict content domain and made accurate predictions about a photograph of a young girl.



In English, we have been writing a play script based on a part of The Stig of the Dump we have read so far. We have really enjoyed writing in this new style, and using punctuation such as colons and brackets in a new and exciting way. The children did a fantastic job at producing their plays and used adverbs in their stage brackets to show the actors how to behave. We had such a fun Friday performing our play scripts to our peers. Well done Year 3 for another fantastic week of hard work!

Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been exploring narrative, specifically character descriptions, using our topic 'The Romans'. We linked our Guided Reading skill to infer details we could find about characters based on the way they look and act. We then used this to create our own character that would fit within our Roman setting created last week.



We have spent a little more time on the planning stage of our writing to ensure we up-level our language as much as possible, striving for accuracy in our word choices to paint a vivid image in our reader's minds. To do this, we have added to our knowledge from last week 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. Our text for Guided Reading, 'Thieves of Ostia', has moved onto Scroll IV in which we have focused on finding evidence to support our answers. This skill, 2e, helped us when writing about our character within our writing. During Mathematics, following on from rounding to 1000 we are now comparing and ordering numbers using the language greater than, less than and equal to which are shown using the symbols $>$ $<$ $=$. We challenged ourselves to use this magpie language when thinking about greater than and less. In Science, when we explored pitch, how far sound travels and how we hear sound from the sound source to our brain.

Year 5

Year 5 has had a fantastic week of learning! One class earned their marble treat showing how hard they have been working for the adults that have been teaching them.

Our book 'Cosmic' has been a massive focus in both our Guided Reading and Writing this week, we have been using figurative techniques to describe the key character as well as summarising everything we've read so far using comic strips. In Maths, we have moved from place value to addition and subtraction. Our recall of partitioning has really helped us understand how and when we need to exchange based on the value in a column.



Excitingly, we had our Chartwell's workshop early in the week where we learnt some of the skills that we will need in order to make cakes later in the term and at the end of the week our Harvest festival where we enjoyed singing along to the Harvest Samba.

We cannot wait to see what learning we will enjoy together next week!

Year 6



This week in Year 6, we have had such an exciting week! We kicked off the week with an amazing World War 2 VR workshop. The historical interpreter told us all about life in the trenches, showed us some World War 1 artefacts and transported us to the trenches and through No Man's Land through the VR headsets. It was an amazing enrichment experience and allowed us to really understand what life was like in the trenches. The historical interpreter quizzed us on our knowledge of WW1 and was very impressed with how much knowledge the children had. We used this experience to then inspire our writing. Last week, we had been doing character descriptions, so we applied our previous knowledge, alongside our World War 1 VR experience, to write descriptions of the trenches. These have been absolutely fantastic!

Following on from our day in the trench, we embarked on our DT project. Whilst we were 'in' the trench, we learnt about how the soldiers cooked food and the kind of food they would have. We linked this to our science work this term as we have been learning all about healthy eating and the food pyramid; we really considered what healthy meal a soldier could make within the limitations of a trench that would give them the required nutrition. This led to us designing, creating and even cooking our own nourishing meal: A Trench Stew. We learnt fantastic DT skills such as preparing food hygienically, prepping the food, chopping and even using a slow cooker!

It's been such an exciting and engaging week in Year 6 and we were so proud of how the children embraced this challenge.



Thinking Academically



TT Rockstars:

Well done to Joseph (Year 5) in first place this week, followed by Ali (Year 5) in second and Hasan (Year 6) in third.

Spelling Shed:

The top year groups this week are: Year 3, Year 1 and Year 2. The top spellers are Gabriellus (Year 3) in first place, Micah (Year 1) in second place and Rokas (Year 3) in third place.



Thinking About Their Thinking



This week, we have been discussing how many petrol stations have been forced to temporarily close due to a shortage of delivery drivers. The government has said people should continue to buy fuel as normal, though many petrol stations have seen lengthy queues with people trying to fill up their vehicles whilst they can. Government ministers have met to try to find a solution and have agreed to allow 5,000 temporary visas for foreign fuel tanker and food lorry drivers, which means they will be able to work in the UK for three months, until Christmas Eve. Children were informed of this situation, explored the reasons why this may have happened and discussed the importance of lorry drivers. They had the opportunity to watch the life of an HGV driver video clip and really consider the benefits and difficulties of being a lorry driver.

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 take the family to visit the exciting new 'TOGETHER' Project

Date: 24th September 2021 - 10th October 2021

Every day

Location: Chatham Riverside, Dock Road

Chatham

Kent

ME4 4SL

Time: 08:00 - 22:00

Cost: Free

In partnership with Lucid Creates, TOGETHER is a spectacular pavilion filled with video, light and sound in which audiences can feel part of an immersive, collaborative experience. Made up of three huge rings suspended between four giant pillars, TOGETHER is breath-taking in its scale, sound and visuals.

For more information see: <https://www.medway.gov.uk/together>

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 Brook.	
Attendance Ace	Beech, Apple & Elder
Punctuality Penny	Spruce, Poplar & Aspen
Golden Tie	<p>Beech – Aleyna for striving for accuracy in her lessons Hazel – Cassia for remaining open to continuous learning Maple – Erica for responding with wonderment and awe Birch – Brooke for remaining open to continuous learning Pine – Lilah for persisting and working independently Spruce – Efren for remaining open to continuous learning Apple – Dexter for persisting in all of his learning Cherry – Christopher for persisting in all learning Damson – Zack for striving for accuracy and maintaining focus</p> <p>Conifer – Khiantae for striving for accuracy in her learning this week Hawthorn – Rhys for his continued artistic flair across Dance, Art and Music Poplar – Florence for responding with wonderment and awe within your learning Juniper – Jack for always trying his best in his learning Laburnum – Viktorija for communicating with precision especially in her evaluation of artists this week Sycamore – Joseph for persistence and striving for accuracy in his learning Aspen – Oliver for managing his impulsivity and taking responsible risks this week Cypress – Kate for striving for accuracy in every lesson across the curriculum Elder – Tommy for persisting in Basketball</p>
Achievement Alley	<p>Beech – Nancie for striving for accuracy in Maths Hazel – Kayin for striving for accuracy in Science Maple – Lucas for striving for accuracy in Maths Birch – Amelia N for striving for accuracy in her Maths Pine – Isabella for remaining open to continuous learning in Maths Spruce – Grace for thinking with clarity and precision Apple – Lola for a neat tree map sorting nouns in Writing Cherry – Joshua for striving for accuracy when adding and subtracting 10s Damson – Seke for striving for accuracy when finding 100 more and less</p> <p>Conifer – Alex for striving for accuracy in Maths this week Hawthorn – Jacobi for his excellent gladiator knowledge in Humanities Poplar – Luke for striving for accuracy when ordering numbers Juniper – Connor for striving for accuracy in English Laburnum – Carolina for phenomenal focus and accuracy in our Maths work around addition and subtraction Sycamore – Alayna for a fantastic comic strip summarising our text in guided reading Aspen – George for a fantastic effort during our DT days and reflective recording of his learning throughout Cypress – Chantelle for outstanding presentation of her DT project folder Elder – Esme for excellent knowledge of comparing decimals</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!

