



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News

Dear Parents/Carers,

Term is passing very quickly and I can't believe we are at the half-way point of Term 3 already! The children have lots of knowledge about their topics for this term. Please do discuss the topics with the children, the more they discuss what they have learned this term and previous terms, the more likely it is that they will remember the knowledge long-term and make connections to future learning. Children in Years 4-6 now have access to 'Carousel' as part of their weekly homework, which is a quizzing software package designed to support long-term memory retention and retrieval.

You will probably be aware that government guidance around isolation periods changed this week- we are still experiencing a trickle of cases across the school, and are happy to advise/support if your child tests positive. Hopefully we are now past the peak in Medway and can start to reduce restrictions in line with guidance from next Thursday.

Over the coming weeks we will be having a focus on ensuring everyone is coming to school in the correct school uniform and would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child comes to school wearing only approved items. A tie is part of our school uniform, and we have noticed a growing number of children without a tie this term. Please ask your child to check lost property if they have misplaced a tie recently or speak to the school office if you want to know how to place an order for a tie or have not been able to replace a missing tie for any reason. We want all of our children to wear the uniform, with pride, every day. Our school uniform helps children with their sense of belonging to our school community, and we always have some spares available if needed, so please speak to the office if we can be of any assistance.

We will be taking part in a 'Times Tables Rockstars' competition across our trust over the next two weeks, providing an opportunity for the children to show off their knowledge! We will be encouraging the children to take part in school and at home, so please encourage your children to take part. Every correct answer contributes to our total score!

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend,

Mr Murphy



Thinking Globally

EYFS

Nursery



In Nursery this week we have continued our topic “Where does snow go?”, we have read the story one snowy night by Nick Butterworth and have spoken about all the different animals in the story, we have sequenced the story in the order that the animals arrived at Percy’s door. We have also been learning names of different animals and the climates they live in. We have created circle maps to show cold and hot climate animals and have used construction materials to create a home for them. In Maths we have been learning all about 2D shapes. We have played with shapes in our construction projects and spoken about their properties, we have also described shapes.

Reception

This week the Reception children have been busy continuing our topic looking at different people who help us. We have been focusing on firefighters this week and fire safety. We have all been very sensible and practiced what we do if we hear the fire alarm. The children were so sensible that in Literacy we decided to write a list of instructions of exactly what to do if there is a fire alarm to share with the rest of the school. We were very lucky to have a visit from a real-life fire fighter too, we got to see his uniform and learn all about the safety in each piece of clothing. In Maths this week the children have been investigating with height ordering and measuring using a range of objects. They have been able to identify which objects are the shortest and which are the tallest, and even order more than 3 objects by height!



Year 1

This week Year 1 have been using the book ‘Charlie’s superhero underpants’ to write a diary. The children have designed their own superhero underpants that blew away in the wind just like Charlie’s did in the book! They wrote their diary’s describing how they tried to find them around school. The children have really been thinking interdependently to achieve their final diary, working on their handwriting skills. In Maths the children have been problem solving with subtracting using different methods and resources to take away. In Thinking Globally this week the children have really explored the different body parts naming them and what the function is.



In computing we have been exploring Paint on the computers to create shapes and colours and using the different icons. The children have been excited to learn about superheroes but also some real life superheroes such as Rosa Parks.

Year 2

In our core topics this week we have been enjoying exploring shape in Maths, looking at 2D, 3D and symmetrical shapes. We have been enjoying writing up our instructions from when we made our very own medicines last week, inspired by George's marvellous Medicine! We have been continuing to enjoy exploring our Thinking Globally topics. In History, we have been looking at Florence Nightingale and her impact on hospitals. We acted out soldiers trying to recover in the terrible conditions of their hospitals. Watch out for the mice! We considered everything that needed changing and then investigated how and why Florence Nightingale made these changes, using a range of historical sources such as pictures and letters. In RE, we have been look at the 5 pillars of Islam and considering how prayer makes some people feel closer to their god. We thought about our own rituals in life and compared them to the rituals of others, including how Muslims pray.



We had a very special visit this week from a real fire fighter! He talked to us about how important it is to stay away from any fires, lighters or matches. He also told us all about his job and showed us some lovely pictures of the dogs that help them! We had a competition on who could shout 'FIRE!' the loudest. We will also be remembering to remind our adults that they need to change their fire alarm batteries often!

Year 3

This week we have continued to read our text for this term 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We have been thinking about how to summarise the extract from the text in which Charlie finds his Golden Ticket. To help us think about what the key points of this section are, we have been using our acting skills to rehearse and perform our own versions of Charlie's discovery. In our Writing lessons we have been imagining what it would be like inside Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. To help us with this, we have considered each of our five senses. In Maths we have been starting work on statistics, learning about tally charts and pictograms.

In Thinking Globally, we have continued learning about food groups in Science. As well as considering which foods are in different food groups, we have thought about why each one is important and the role that they play in keeping our bodies healthy. In MFL, we have learnt the names of different body parts in French and RE has seen us continue to learn about miracles in the Bible.



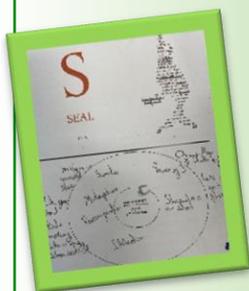
Year 4

"Danceious" a favourite spell this week created by Auburn for getting people on their feet and busting out some moves – Mr J-S has shocked everyone in Hawthorn with his unbelievably awesome groove. As we continue with our Harry Potter text, the children are being introduced to more wonderfully wizarding characters and learning the differences between the human and magical worlds.

English has moved onto poetry this week with the children being immersed into the world of rich vocabulary, emotive language and Michael Rosen's 'Chocolate Cake'. The children will be planning a creating their very own picture poems which are written in the shape of the poem topic.

In Maths, we have started to look at fractions – WOOHOO! (is not what the children said) but do not panic as across Year 4, Hawthorn, Conifer and Poplar are absolutely SMASHING it! Are you having pizza for dinner this week? Take the opportunity and test your child's knowledge by getting them to cut it into fractions of your choosing. This also works with cake, so feel free to send some examples in for Miss Chawner and Miss Hopson!

During our Thinking Globally topics such as Science, the children have been discovering the construction of particles that make up the 3 states of matter – solids, liquids and gases. Our question for the term 'Is custard a liquid?' has sparked various conversations about the particle make up of custard along with a variety of other materials such as jelly, chairs, steam and, yes you've guessed it, the inevitable pop offs! So, if your child has a little toot toot and they tell you its fine because it's a natural gas that can consume the space it is in and moves freely, they are simply becoming tomorrows scientists



Year 5

This week we have really begun to delve into the story beyond the story in 'Tom's midnight garden.' Thinking about how we might feel being transported into an alternative world or backwards in time has helped in beginning the writing in our Portal stories whilst raising the question again, is Tom seeing ghosts or could he be the ghost? In Maths, we have begun our exploration of fractions and made huge progress in recalling content from earlier years as well as learning new methods to solve the reasoning problems we faced.

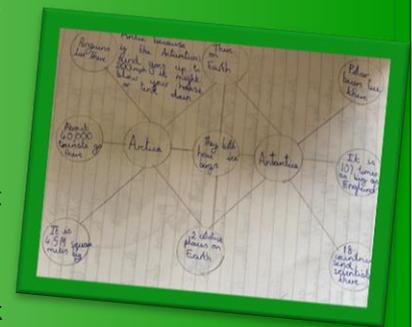


In our Globally learning, we have begun to explore the impact of inventions over time. We have considered how objects that we know and love like the telephone and computer have developed over the last few centuries and thought about the problems the world still faces and potential inventions that are yet to be conceptualised. From the discussions had, one of our children may one day create a robot to cure loneliness, a system that can recognise you are poorly before you know it or even a way to enable animals to speak to us!

Year 6

Year 6 have had a very successful week continuing with their globally learning.

As we dive further into our text for this term - Sky Song - the children are beginning to make more and more links from the setting of the text, to our humanities research. Last week, the children spent time researching further into the Antarctic. The children used their thinking tools to compare and find contrasts between the two polar regions (they focused on the Arctic region last week). Lots of White Hat facts were accumulated and retrieved. Furthermore, we have been focusing on different apps in our computing lessons where we have explored the polar regions using google maps, focusing on the apps black and yellow have structure features.



Thinking Academically



TT Rockstars:

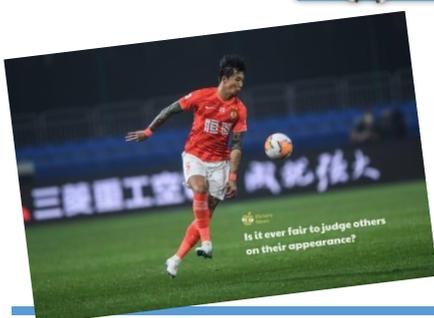
Well done to Joseph (Year 5) in first place this week, followed by Ali (Year 5) in second and Hasan (Year 6) in third.

Spelling Shed:

The top year groups this week are: Year 6, Year 3 and Year 1. The top spellers are Dinulya (Year 6) in first place, Hasan (Year 6) in second place and Logan (Year 3) in third place.



Thinking About Their Thinking



In P4C this week, we have been looking at the question is it ever fair to judge others on their appearance? The Chinese authorities have banned footballers from getting tattoos and instructed national team players, who already have tattoos, to remove them or cover them up to set a "good example for society". A growing number of Chinese players have tattoos, including the international defender Zhang Linpeng, who has previously been told to cover up while appearing for the national team and his club, Guangzhou FC.

Enrichment

Each week, the purpose of this section of our newsletter is to provide suggestions and enrichment opportunities to our families, that can be enjoyed in our local community.

Why not start the new year getting fit and healthy at Chatham Football Club. Every Saturday morning the club have 'Chaturday' coaching sessions for boys and girls aged 4-12 from 8.30-9.30am. Come along and enjoy the first football session for free! For more information, visit: <http://www.chathamtownfc.com/pages/chaturdays>

You can get our youngest children active and engaged with Toddler shake and boogie - Rochester

Date: 5th February 2018 - 1st January 2023 - Every week

Location: Rochester Community Hub, High Street, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1EW – Time: 10:45 – 11:15 - Cost: Free

An energetic, fun-packed activity session will get any toddler moving, with rhymes, songs and movement. Musical instruments, scarves and parachutes are often included!

Toddlers are naturally musical and studies have shown that babies absorb music even while in the womb. Before they learn to speak, children learn about language, rhythm and sound.

Pre-schoolers love singing songs and moving to music. It helps their language development and physical skills.

There is no minimum age.

As always, to find out about more opportunities within our local area, visit @enjoyMedway on Twitter or <https://www.medway.gov.uk/>

Notices

Attendance

Please note the following things regarding attendance

- If your child has an appointment, please ensure that you inform the office and provide evidence e.g. letter, appointment card etc. This can be a screenshot and sent via MyEd
- If you suspect your child has Covid i.e. has symptoms, please could you ensure that when you test your child you register the results and send us a screenshot either via the office email or MyEd

Cars

- Please be aware that no vehicles are to go past the yellow gate at any time, as this is for staff only. We have had a number of vehicles parking in the area/using it as a drop off area, which is unacceptable as we have lots of families with children who not expecting cars to be in a pedestrian area.

Lost Property

- We have a large amount of un-named lost property in the office, if this is not claimed by the end of Term, it will be passed over to the PTFA
- Following on from that please could we ask that you name all of your child's belongings including the class if possible, as this will help staff to ensure it is returned to them

A note from Medway Council

With the start of the New Year and the colder weather drawing in, we have received a number of complaints from concerned parents and members of the public, regarding parents leaving their car engines running while dropping their kids off, or picking them up at the school gates.

Leaving the engine running while the vehicle is not moving is a big contributor to air pollution at school gates. In addition to the reduction in air pollution, reduced associated health risks and environmental noise, by turning the engine off when not moving, drivers can reduce green house gas emissions and save money, An idling car is the least efficient car on the road getting zero miles to the gallon. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than simply restarting the engine. It is cheaper to turn the engine off while you wait.

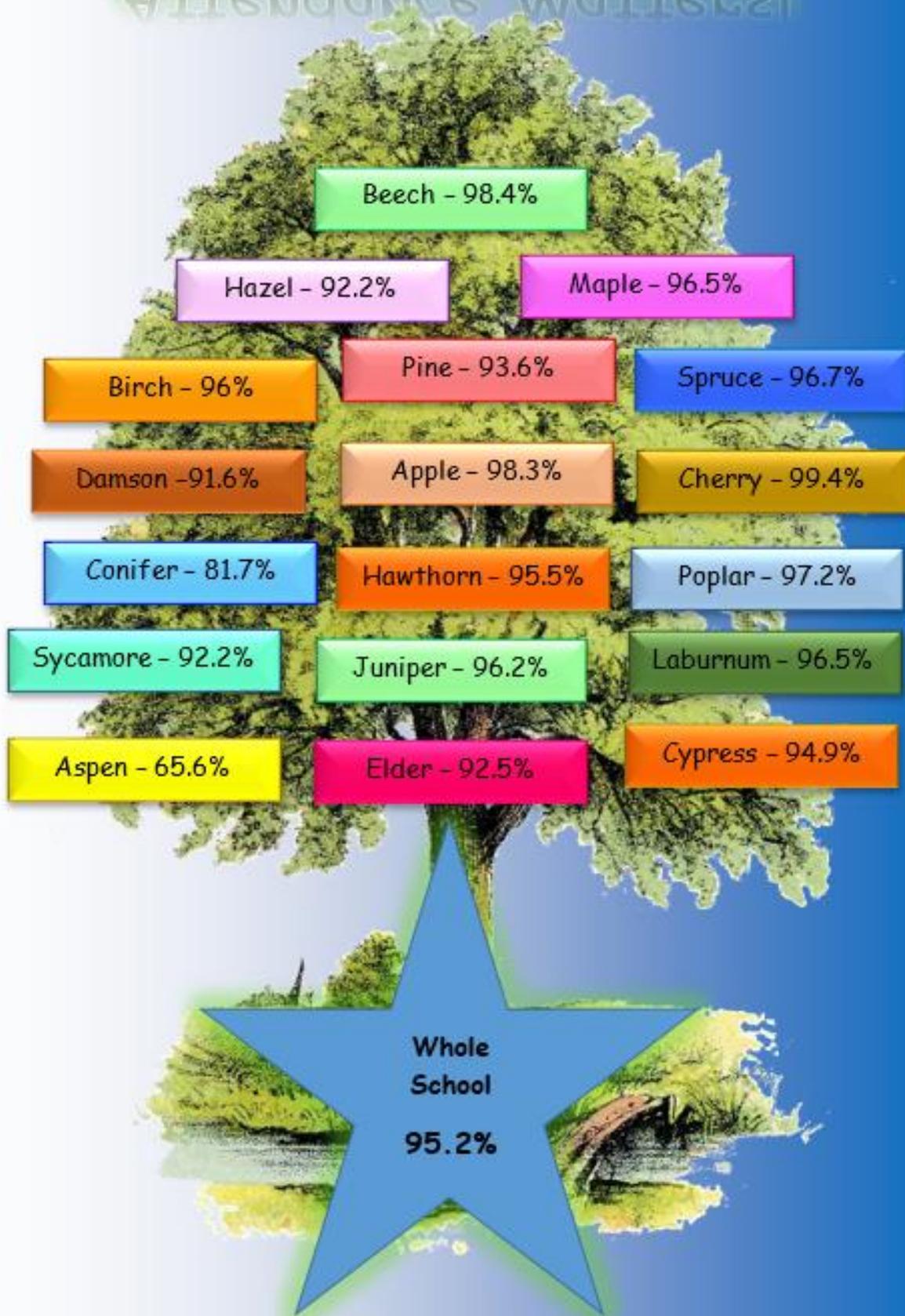


Thinking Inclusively

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	Beech, Cherry & Laburnum
Punctuality Penny	Birch, Cherry, Poplar and Laburnum
Golden Tie	<p>Ash – Ella for being kind and showing empathy to her friends</p> <p>Elm – Arianna for a fantastic first week</p> <p>Oak – Zavier for always persisting with his learning</p> <p>Beech – Leyla for creating, imagining and innovating</p> <p>Hazel – Charlotte W for responding with wonderment and awe</p> <p>Maple – Margo for persisting in her learning</p> <p>Birch – Ocean for questioning and posing problems</p> <p>Pine – Harry M for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Spruce – Muaaz for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Apple – Jack for striving for accuracy in all learning</p> <p>Cherry – Dominic for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Damson – Amelia for persisting with all areas of learning</p> <p>Conifer – Riley for persisting with all his learning this week</p> <p>Hawthorn – Avi-Rose for maintaining high presentation in all subjects</p> <p>Poplar – Kennedy for responding with wonderment and awe.</p> <p>Juniper – Jack for his persistence with handwriting</p> <p>Laburnum – Tyler for reflective questions in our discussions around inventions though history</p> <p>Sycamore – Isla for persistence and remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Aspen – Gracie for being open to continuous learning</p> <p>Cypress – Millie for managing impulsivity- always puts her hand up and is an active listener</p> <p>Elder – Ethan M for managing his impulsivities with others around him.</p>
Achievement Alley	<p>Ash – Eliana for working independently in Maths</p> <p>Elm – Alistair for striving for accuracy when measuring</p> <p>Oak – Honey-Ray for working independently in her Maths work</p> <p>Beech – Talya for persisting in Maths</p> <p>Hazel – Dorothy for striving for accuracy in Maths</p> <p>Maple – Evie for thinking with clarity and precision in Maths</p> <p>Birch – Georgina for thinking with clarity and precision</p> <p>Pine – Harry C for remaining open to continuous learning</p> <p>Spruce – Eliora for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Apple – Bryony for a great tree map of food groups in Science</p> <p>Cherry – Myla for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Damson – Evie May for an informative and creative Science poster</p> <p>Conifer – Rishi for striving for accuracy in Maths</p> <p>Hawthorn – Zara for continuous presentation in all subjects</p> <p>Poplar – Grace for persisting with Maths this week</p> <p>Juniper – Oreoluwa for the drive for success in the use of Science vocabulary</p> <p>Laburnum – Bobby for his accuracy in converting mixed fractions to improper fractions</p> <p>Sycamore – Joseph for showing improved understanding of our work on fractions.</p> <p>Aspen – Callum for his brilliant investigation into icebergs</p> <p>Cypress – Jacob for excellent improvement in converting measures in maths</p> <p>Elder – Kisali for her creativity and risk taking with her setting description</p>

Attendance Matters!



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>