



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of another learning filled term. The children have had an enjoyable final day in school, celebrating the end of a successful term with in school activities and at St Stephen's Church for an Easter Service. We are already looking ahead to next term, with some exciting visits and events planned across the school. Please support your children with their reading and other homework over the next fortnight. We sent curriculum Sways which outline the learning we intend to cover next term, please read these with your children so you are aware of what we will be learning in school.

Term 5 sees the return of statutory tests for children in Year 2 and Year 6 this year, after two years of absence. We will be continuing to prepare for these in school, reassuring the children that they are not something to worry about. If you or your child do have any questions or worries, please speak to their class teacher.

A huge thank you to all the staff, who have worked very hard and been very flexible this term, ensuring that learning has continued on site for all our classes. The children achieved a lot over the term, and we have some fantastic displays around the school which showcase what the children achieved.

We wish Miss Morrish well as she embarks on the next stage of her career, undertaking a role at another local school. We look forward to seeing her when she comes back to visit.

Finally, may I wish you all a safe and restful break; I look forward to seeing you again after Easter, when there will be a number of opportunities to come into school to share learning with your children.

Mr Murphy

Dates for the Diary

Last Day of Term – Friday 1st April

First day of Term 5 – Tuesday 19th April

Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th April - Yr 4 & Yr 5 Residential Trip



Thinking Artistically

EYFS

Nursery



In Nursery this week we have been concentrating on our assessments, we have looked at what the children have learnt over the term and all the exciting activities they have done, we have spoken to the children about what they have enjoyed about the topic. In Maths this week we have been recapping our knowledge and understanding of shape, numbers 0-5, and matching numeral to quantity. This week we have introduced the celebration 'Easter'. We have learnt about what Easter stands for and why this is celebrated by some friends in our nursery. We read the Easter story and created Easter cards for someone at home (some of us even signed our name in them all on our own!). We enjoyed creating and eating chocolate nests. We discussed the change of state when the chocolate was heated. Next term we will begin our new topic 'Can we explore it?' please visit the school website for further information on this topic.

Reception

In nursery this week we have been learning about the celebration 'Easter'. We recapped our knowledge and understanding of previous celebrations that we learned about in Term 2. We reminded our friends that we are all different and some families celebrate different events over the year. We enjoyed learning about the celebration Easter which is celebrated by many and we read the Easter story as our focus book of the week. We enjoyed designing and creating Easter cards for our families, we are very impressed with the writing on the insert of the cards, and we are sure you will be too! We have created some Easter cups and are very exciting to take these home on our final day of term. Next term we will begin our new topic 'Will you read me a story?' please visit the school website for further information on this topic.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 have been striving for accuracy in their English lessons, learning how to use the prefix "un" as well as how to check and edit their work. In maths, they have been consolidating their understanding of subtraction, including how to find a missing part as well as the difference between two numbers.



In Art this week, the children have enjoyed becoming textile designers! Inspired by our termly topic – Paws, Claws and Whiskers – they have designed and created their own stencils to use to print onto fabric. Whilst this was tricky at times, we were really impressed by the children's persistence and openness to continuous learning.

We hope you have a lovely Easter holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back in Term 5!



Year 2

This week has been another great week in Year 2. After our DT days last week, in which we made some very successful lavender bags using our sewing and textiles techniques, we began to write a set of instructions for the next Year 2 pupils when they make their lavender bags. We drew on all our expert knowledge from our sewing experiences as well as applying some of the grammatical features we have learnt this year.

In Maths, we have been looking at 3D shapes. The children have consolidated their knowledge by identifying the number of faces, edges and vertices of each 3D shape. They have also been problem solving to sort and classify different shapes based on their properties.

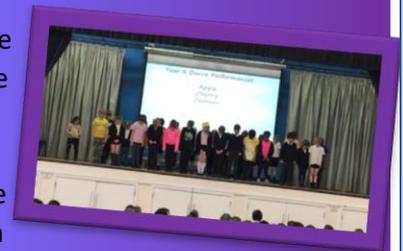
This week, we have also had the opportunity to consolidate our learning by using the online platforms Spelling Shed and Times Table Rockstars. We have enjoyed spending time in the Computer Room and have grown in independence when using this technology. It has also been brilliant to see the children enjoy these platforms and applying their knowledge to new situations. Well done Year 2 for another fantastic term!

Year 3

This week in our Writing lessons, we have been drafting and publishing our narratives. We know from reading the Iron Man book that nobody knows how he came to be, so our narratives are all about the Iron Man's origin story. Year 3 have created some amazing settings and plots for these, they have been a delight to read! In Maths we have been continuing to learn about fractions, thinking about how a half is equivalent to two quarters.

In Thinking Artistically lessons this week, we have been reflecting on this term's learning. Reflecting is very important as it allows us time to think about that has gone well, what we have learnt and what we are going to do differently next time. We use

lots of our thinking tools to do this, including our yellow hats to think about the positives and blue hats to decide on next steps. We were also extremely proud to perform our dance routines to the school and to parents and carers on Monday - we have worked so hard on our performances; it was fantastic to be able to share them with others. We're sure you'll agree that Year 3 looked brilliant up on the stage, they are indeed true performers!



Have a lovely restful break from school Year 3, you have worked very hard this term. We're looking forward to sharing our Gods and Mortals topic with you next term, learning about the Ancient Greeks.

Year 4

Well that's all folks! Another fun filled and exciting term completed. Now it's time for us teachers to hand over these little legends so you can celebrate in their successes this term.

If you have chance, please indulge yourselves and your children by continuing to read The Hobbit as it is a fantastic story and well worth a watch as well. English has finished this term with our persuasive letters that have explored many topics such as allowing the children to get a class pet to asking Boris Johnson if we can undo Brexit! Careful, these children have got their persuasion skills mastered! Mathematics this week has been focussed around graphs and tally charts – this means that not only can your children write you a letter listing why they should stay up later, they can now support this with mathematical charts and graphs that will astound you to the point that you rally won't have a counter argument good enough.



Thinking Artistically this term has been exactly that – artistic! The Year 4 classes have thoroughly enjoyed their art project this term of sketching and using water colours to create some truly awesome mountain landscapes. The children in music finished their music project this term by performing in the end of term arts assembly with a stunning rendition of 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers. Why not treat yourselves to a Bill Withers day during half term – some gospel soul to keep active! Finally, our dance topics of Samba, Irish dance and Jazz will be returning next term in preparation for the performance at The Victory School in the Summer, so, please stick on some music that matches your child's dance style and get them practising. Thank you to you all for your support this term, your children are a credit to the school and we wish you all a very happy Easter!

Year 5



As we come to the end of the term, we have finally found out what happened to Coraline and how she escaped the other mother. Though we have our answers we are not happy with the resolution, some of our children think the hand could come back to cause devastation and disaster in the future. Our writing this week has been focused on the genre of poetry, looking at comparing famous poetry and drawing out our own preferences in composition and form. In Maths, we have continued to look at decimals considering the relationships between them and fractions and percentages, we have also been practicing how to add and subtract decimals with varied numbers of digits.

Many of our wider curriculum subjects have been brought to a close, with painting of islands in Art, an exploding experiment in Science and creating our own island game in our Geography session. It has been a whirlwind of a week for sure!

As we say goodbye to the children so they can go and enjoy their Easter break, we look forward to their return so we can begin a whole new sequence of learning around 'Allotments.' I wonder whether our children can come prepared with some interesting facts to share with their classes.

Year 6



Year 6 have been working incredibly hard - once again - this week. After working on their grammar and punctuation skills in writing, we challenged them to a short write using a range of clauses: embedded, relative and subordinate. They were beautiful! In Maths, we have continued our learning on angles, applying them to a range of polygons. Whereas in Reading, we have further embedded our domains, but specifically focusing on retrieval style questions.

Our creative learning this week has consisted of introducing our sewing DT project and sketching in the style of Charles Darwin whilst he made observations on the Galapagos Islands. The children created a range of sketches, simulating the movement of animals using a one medium of different depths. Upon reflection, the children have really enjoyed learning about Franz Marc this term and even though we studied this artist a couple of weeks back, his name is still in conversations around the classroom. We are extremely proud of Year 6 this term and we hope they have a lovely Easter break!



Thinking Academically



TT Rockstars:

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

Spelling Shed:

The top year groups this week are: Year 4, Year 1 and Year 3. The top spellers are Walter (Year 1) in first place, Hanna (Year 4) in second place and Oluwajuwon (Year 4) in third place.



Thinking About Their Thinking



In P4C this week, we have been looking at the question if you keep trying, will you always succeed? The shipwreck of Sir Ernest Shackleton's ship, Endurance, has been found 107 years after it became trapped in ice and sank off the coast of Antarctica. The Falklands Maritime Heritage Trust said the ship, which had not been seen since it sank in 1915, was found by a robot at a depth of 9,868 feet (3,008 metres). Footage of the wreck shows it has been very well preserved, with the ship's wheel still intact and the name 'Endurance' still visible on the ship's stern.

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 improve your fitness and health 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>

The Great British Spring Clean is back! This year the message is simple. Join our #BigBagChallenge and pledge to pick up as much litter as you can from 25 March - 10 April 2022.

Pledging to take part in the Great British Spring Clean couldn't be easier, simply pledge as an individual, a group or a school, and let us know how many bags you pledge to pick up. Every individual act to protect the environment makes a difference, but when we all come together, the difference we make is huge.

Why not get active over the holidays with MedwayGo- Move, Eat, Learn: Book

Take the hassle out of holidays with MedwayGo. Choose from hundreds of fun activities for children aged 5 to 16 years old, including sports, dance and drama as well as arts and crafts. Children will have a great time making friends, keeping active, mastering new skills and enjoying a tasty lunch! If your child has benefits-related free school meals, you can book these clubs totally free of charge. All staff and volunteers are experienced and DBS checked, peace of mind for you and guaranteed fun for your family! To find out more visit: <https://go.medway.gov.uk/#>

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

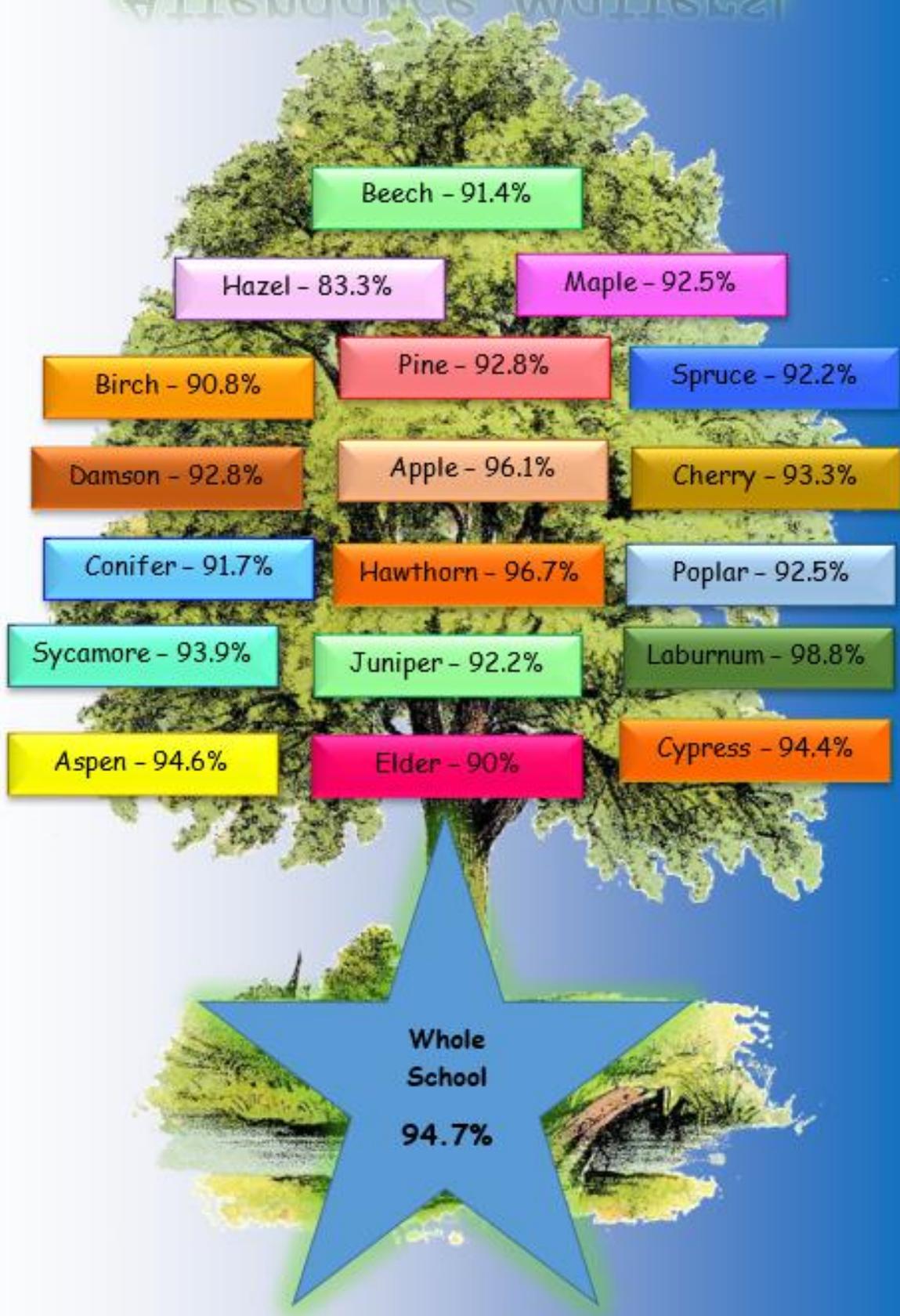


Thinking Inclusively

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 Castle.	
Attendance Ace	Pine, Hawthorn & Laburnum
Punctuality Penny	Pine, Apple & Aspen
Golden Tie	<p>Beech – Kara for taking safe risks</p> <p>Hazel – Sophie G for taking safe risks</p> <p>Maple – Keanu for continuing to keep trying</p> <p>Birch – Ionela for continuing to keep trying</p> <p>Pine – Basiah for continuing to keep trying</p> <p>Spruce – Thomas for thinking independently</p> <p>Apple – Jessica for working well with others</p> <p>Cherry – Shannon for striving for accuracy in all learning</p> <p>Damson – Lewis for persisting and trying to be his best self.</p>
	<p>Conifer – Yvie for taking safe risks with your learning</p> <p>Hawthorn – Keyemo for being a positive role model and persevering with your learning</p> <p>Poplar – Demi for thinking before she acts at playtime and lunch</p> <p>Juniper – Nieller for communicating with clarity</p> <p>Laburnum – Viktorija for always making good choices and managing impulsivity</p> <p>Sycamore – Albie for following all of our school rules and being a fantastic role model to his peers</p> <p>Aspen – Varvara for always being a role model</p> <p>Cypress – Remy for being an example of all our school rules</p> <p>Elder – Harrison for thinking before he acts</p>
Achievement Alley	<p>Beech – Grace for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Hazel – Micah for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Maple – Evie for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Birch – Sam for persisting</p> <p>Pine – Harry C for striving for accuracy in writing</p> <p>Spruce – Jade for persisting</p> <p>Apple – Amy for a great tree map in Science</p> <p>Cherry – Esme for great fraction work</p> <p>Damson – Seke for working well with others and neatly recording his science experiment.</p>
	<p>Conifer – Dylan for persisting with your maths</p> <p>Hawthorn – Nia for remaining open to continuous learning and having a positive attitude</p> <p>Poplar – Luke for an creating excellent graphs in maths this week</p> <p>Juniper – Dylan for his efforts with decimals, % and fractions</p> <p>Laburnum – Aila for her care and precision for painting her sculpture</p> <p>Sycamore – Millie for being resilient and supporting her peers in Maths</p> <p>Aspen – Finn for an excellent informative poster</p> <p>Cypress – Charlie K for his excellent effort in finding missing angles in maths</p> <p>Elder – Lillyann for her sketching using just one medium</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>