



New Horizons
Children's Academy

News

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been nice to have a bit of summer sunshine at times this week, some children are now opting to wear the summer dress/ short sleeve shirts uniform option and we'd expect that these options will now be an appropriate uniform choice until the end of the summer term. We monitor expected temperatures and if we feel that a particularly hot day is due to arrive, we will let parents know that we are relaxing uniform expectations slightly for that day e.g. no need to wear a school tie. Ties continue to be part of our uniform expectations on all other days and should continue to be worn every day unless a heat related uniform relaxation has been announced by the school.

Congratulations to Mr Jessup-Smithers and his signing choir, who claimed 1st place at the national competition in London last Saturday. Please visit <https://www.revolutionsigning.com/> if you would like to find out more about becoming involved- practice sessions are held on site here at New Horizons every Friday evening.

Congratulations to our Year 6 Girls football team, who took part in a football competition yesterday, winning every game on their way to coming 1st out of 16 schools.

Next week is the final week of Term 5, which culminates with our Platinum Jubilee celebration on Friday, please see further details later in the Newsletter.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,
Mr Murphy

Dates for the Diary

Friday 27th May – Jubilee Celebration Day – Dress in Red, White or Blue – £1

Friday 27th May – Last Day of Term

Monday 6th June – First day of Term 6

Wednesday 22nd June – Year 6 – Mayan Workshop – £5.70 to be paid by 13th June

Wednesday 22nd June – Year 1 – Wingham Wildlife Park - £27.00 to be paid by 13th June

Wednesday 6th July – Year 2 – Minnis Bay - £19.00 to be paid by 29th June



Thinking Healthily

EYFS

Nursery



In Nursery this week we have been exploring magnets. The children have been learning new vocabulary associated with magnets, including the key word of the week 'attract'. The nursery children have been exploring their indoor and outdoor learning environments looking at different objects that attract using a magnet. The children in the nursery have continued to explore numerals 0-5, securing their knowledge and understanding of ordering numerals. Nursery this week have had an excellent cooking experience provided by Chartwells. The nursery children welcomed their families into the nursery for a 'Stay and play' afternoon. Where they enjoyed looking through the children's books and celebrating the great progress they have made over this academic year as well as exploring and playing in the learning environment. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

Reception

In Reception this week the children have been applying all their knowledge and understanding of 'Traditional Tales' they have been learning throughout this term, to create and write their own traditional tale. The children have been identifying all the key features of a tale and have been encouraged to use a select few in their own story writing. We have seen some excellent creative writing and are so proud of the progress in children's handwriting practise.

In Maths this week the children have been doubling using manipulatives, fingers or even some mental addition. Reception this week have had an excellent cooking experience provided by Chartwells. The Reception children welcomed their families into school for a 'Stay and play' afternoon. Where they enjoyed looking through the children's books and celebrating the great progress they have made over this academic year as well as exploring and playing in the learning environment. Thank you to all who were able to attend.



Year 1

Year 1 have continued to work really hard this week in all their lessons and have created some brilliant pieces of work.

This week in Writing, we have continued to read the story "Coming to England". Inspired by Floella Benjamin's description of London, we drafted, edited and published our own poem titled "I Love London".

In Maths this week, we have been learning to double. We now know that doubling means to add two of the same number together.

In PSHE this week, we have been reflecting on our personal qualities, including how we can help others and how this makes us feel. In PE, we have continued to learn about athletics, specifically focussing on jumping in different ways.



We had a very exciting RE lesson this week, leading our own Shabbat-inspired celebration! Shabbat is the Jewish day of rest. The children enjoyed eating bread, drinking squash and sharing stories with one another.

Year 2

This week in Year 2, we have been writing reports on the fearsome and fearless pirate, Blackbeard! The children can tell you all about him and his strange (and sometimes crazy) ways, like putting gunpowder in his drinks!



The children have enjoyed creating their final art piece- an observational drawing of a shell. We have used lots of different drawing techniques, such as hatching and shading! We've got some budding artists in Year 2!

They have also been working so hard in our SATs, trying their best and persisting, even when they find things tricky!

We are all very proud of them.

Year 3

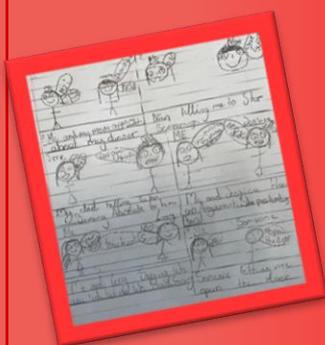
This week in Year 3, we have started a new unit of work in Maths and are now focussing on time. We have thought about how many hours are in a day and how this means an analogue clock will show each time twice in a day. We have also considered how many days are in a year and how this is affected by leap years. Year 3 were fascinated by the idea that some people are born on February 29th and have their birthday on this date only once every 4 years! In writing we have been writing our own myths, starting with an intriguing setting description, and creating and describing our own mythical characters.

In Thinking Healthily, we have learnt about the UN Rights of the Child. We learnt that these apply to all children across the world. We spoke about which rights surprised us and why and then made posters showing the 10 rights that we considered to be the most important.



Year 4

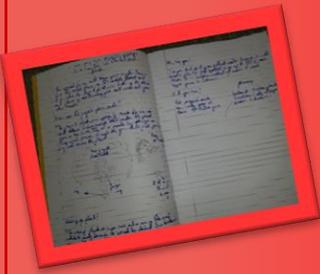
I suppose we should have seen it coming when you consider the name of the book! 'Song of the Dolphin Boy' has finally reached the point where Finn discovers from his father that his mother was a selkie (that's half human and half seal in case you were wondering). Find out next week what happens when the other children discover Finn is alive!



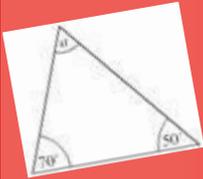
English this week has been focused on the new 2 week topic of persuasive writing so if your little legends seem a little more convincing with regards to negotiating a later bed time, all we can say is "sorry about that!" Mathematics this week revisited time and recapping on basic knowledge whilst learning new concepts and practising worded problems with both 12 hour and 23 hour formats.

Across thinking healthily this week, the children have been able to consolidate all their cricket skills and put them into practice with a whole class cricket match. Next week, the children will be teaming up into pairs where the winners from each class will then go head to head for the cup! PSHE has now started to explore that special someone. The children have considered how relationships can progress and how the emotion of love is a powerful contributor to the break ups and make ups.

Year 5



This week has been a busy week for learning. In English we have written our non-chronological report about plants and flowers. Most of us invented our own flower or plant and have really thought about the features we wanted it to have and how best to look after it. We ensured that we have included all of the features found in all non-chronological reports into our own ones and thought about the best way to present it to the reader, honing in on the layout.



In Maths this week, we have been learning about quadrilaterals, including parallelograms and rhombuses. We looked at their similarities and differences before comparing them other four-sided shapes. We have been using our knowledge of angles to work out the missing angles in shapes. We know that there are 180 degrees on a straight line and in the triangle so we can use that knowledge to work out the missing angle in the shape. Can you work it out?

Another aspect of our Maths learning has been regular and irregular polygons. We looked at what they all have in common and discussed the features of all regular polygons. Finally, we looked at the nets of 3D shapes.

In Guided Reading, we have continued to read Bloom and are working on chapters 40 and 41, focussing on content domain 2G – language. We looked at different words inc context and thought about how we could use those words in our own sentences. The book is now getting quite exciting as there is now an epidemic where people have trees or plants growing out of their heads.

Year 6

Year 6 have had another brilliant day.

We have been preparing for baking our cupcakes for the jubilee. We have applied our knowledge of ratio to work out how many of each ingredient we will need in order to make 300 cupcakes. We have recapped nets and volume in order to create boxes for our cupcakes. We also research profit and loss when working out costs, finding the cheapest ingredients to maximise lessons - this are all brilliant experiences which don't only improve our maths knowledge but also children's understanding of Heathily Me, providing them opportunities to learn about economists and real-life cooking!

In English, the children have drafted their narratives based on the scary story of Francis Brandiwine - this has helped us to learn how to create atmosphere, build suspense and add tension into our stories. We have written some fantastic pieces in the run up to our story, showing a fantastic understanding of how we create atmosphere. We are really impressed with how the children have worked and continued to preserve with their writing.

In PSHE, we have been talking about mental health and how we can ensure that we are mentally heathy, considering the techniques which make us happy and techniques we can use to help us calm down and manage our impulsivity. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to work on this, as well as beginning our new production: Darwin Rocks!





Champions!

On Thursday a group of our Y6 girls competed against 16 other schools in a football tournament and took home the 1st place trophy as champions!

They went the whole day unbeaten and only conceded 1 goal! Their effort, attitude and commitment were a credit to the school. Definitely a couple of future stars in the making! Just shows some of the talent we have!



Thinking About Their Thinking



In P4C this week, we have been looking at the question should you always be allowed to choose your own breakfast? Cereal company, Kellogg's, is taking the UK government to court over new rules that would stop some of its cereals being put at the forefront of supermarket shelves, as they have high amounts of sugar. It is challenging rules that are set to come into effect in England in October and would restrict the promotion of food and drink that is high in fat, salt and sugar. Kellogg's has said the new rules don't take into account the nutritional value of milk, which is usually added to the product. The government's new rules, which follow other restrictions previously put in place, aim to encourage people to make healthier food choices.

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>

If football is not your thing, then let's get active at Medway Park! Not just home to the England wheelchair rugby league team, Medway sport centres offers so much. From mermaid and shark swim sessions, to the Big Splash and Medway Mile. Sport events | Medway Council

Interested in art? Let's get creative, with beautiful butterfly mask making.

- Date: 28th May 2022 - Time: 10:30 - 12:00 - Cost: Free for 4 to 10 year olds

Location: Cuxton Library, Bush Rd Cuxton Rochester Kent ME2 1EY

Create beautiful paper butterflies. To book, phone 01634 337 799 or visit any Medway community hub or library.

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



Thinking Academically



TT Rockstars:

Well done to Kardin (Year 5) in first place this week, followed by Elliott (Year 5) in second and Alexander (Year 3) in third.

Spelling Shed:

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



Jubilee Celebrations

On Friday 27th May, the children and staff will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Children will be completing activities throughout the day, including baking food items and creating decorations. In the afternoon, the whole school will come together for a street party style picnic.

Children are invited to wear red, white or blue clothes (no football kits) on this day for a donation of £1. This donation will cover purchasing the cost of the picnic food and an ice cream (non-dairy will be provided if required).

If your child has a picnic blanket that they can bring into school on this day then that would be really helpful! – Please ensure that the blanket is labelled with the child's name and class.

Attendance

Appointments

If your child has a medical/dentist/opticians appointment that will take place during the school day, please ensure that you notify the school office and provide an appointment card/letter.

Lateness

The school gates open at 8:30am and will shut at 8.40am. Registers open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am. Pupils arriving between 8:40am – 8:50am will be marked as late using an L code. Any child arriving after 8:50am will be marked as an unauthorised late using a U code. The U code marks your child's morning session as unauthorised and this subsequently affects your child's attendance and accumulates your child's unauthorised absences.

Holidays

Amendments to the 2006 Education Regulations means that absence for a holiday during term time cannot be granted except in the most exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher. An absence for a holiday is unauthorised and could result in fixed penalty notices from the local authority.

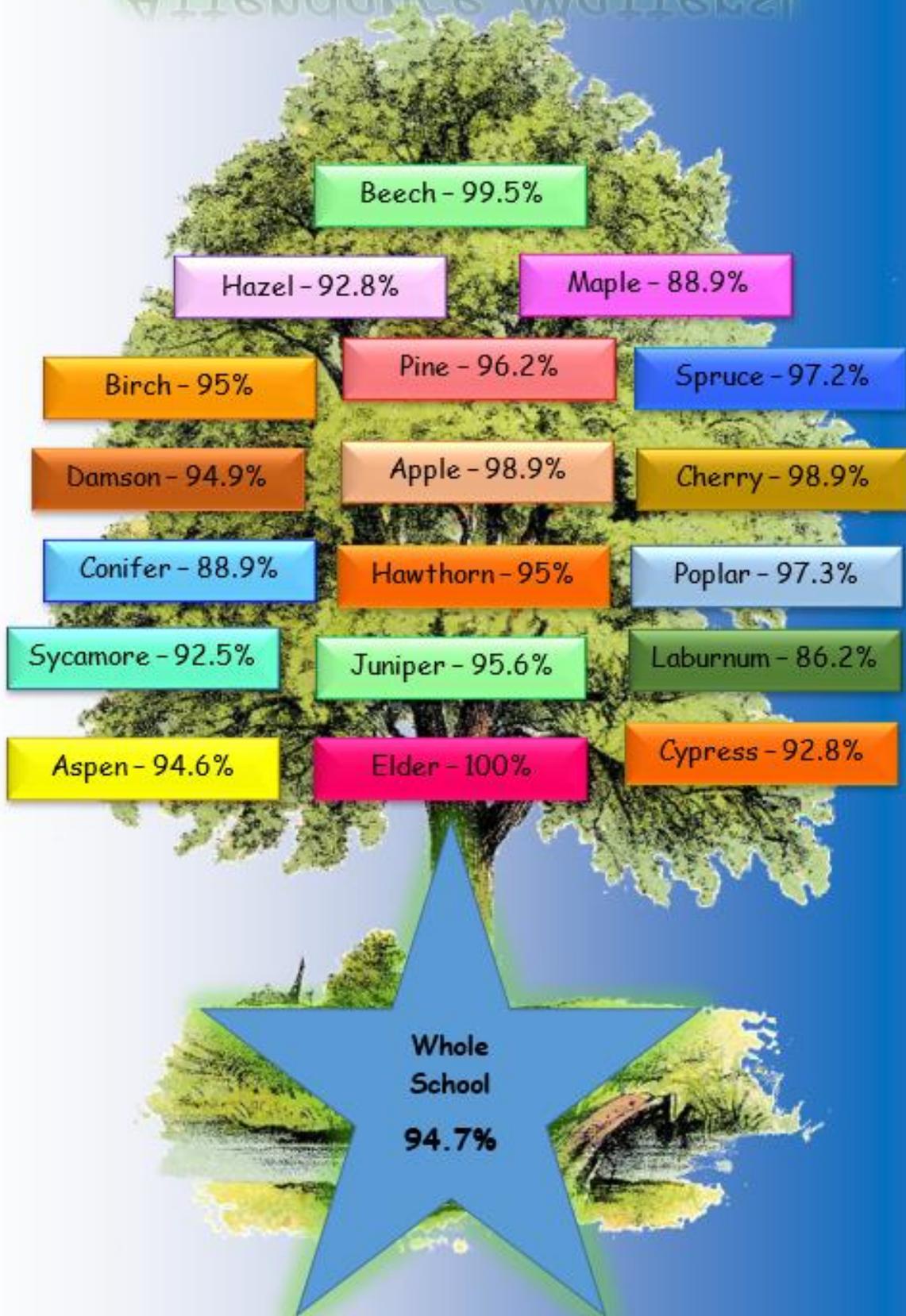


Thinking Inclusively

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 River | | |
| Attendance Ace | Beech, Apple, Cherry & Elder | |
| Punctuality Penny | Pine, Cherry, Conifer, Laburnum & Aspen – All with 0 lates! | |
| Golden Tie | <p>Ash – Eliora for persisting in learning</p> <p>Elm – Kelly Marie for persisting in learning</p> <p>Oak – Jemima for persisting in learning</p> <p>Beech – Grace for working well with others</p> <p>Hazel – Sofia B for working well with others</p> <p>Maple – Cooper for persisting in his work</p> <p>Birch – Jenson for working well with others</p> <p>Pine – Safa for working well with others</p> <p>Spruce – Grace for taking safe risks</p> <p>Apple – Ethan for always working well with others</p> <p>Cherry – Christopher for striving for accuracy in all lessons</p> <p>Damson – Ava for working well with others</p> | <p>Conifer – Elizabeth for working well with others</p> <p>Hawthorn – Hunter for persisting and continually improving</p> <p>Poplar – Mayson for working well with others and being willing to support them in different ways</p> <p>Juniper – Rylan for his positive attitude and thinking before we act.</p> <p>Laburnum – Jenna for always helping and supporting her peers</p> <p>Sycamore – Jenson for really following the school rules and applying them to his learning.</p> <p>Aspen – Varvara for her great team work, particularly as part of the football team</p> <p>Cypress – Izabel for constantly following all of our school rules</p> <p>Elder – Mira for persistently trying with her writing this week.</p> |
| Achievement Alley | <p>Ash – Julian for being imaginative and expressive</p> <p>Elm – Rumi for having her own ideas when creating a story book</p> <p>Oak – Sorefunmi for having her own ideas when creating a story book</p> <p>Beech – Isaiah for being persistent</p> <p>Hazel – Jessica for being persistent</p> <p>Maple – Sophia B for being creative in her work</p> <p>Birch – Georgina for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Pine – Oliver for striving for accuracy</p> <p>Spruce – Chase for questioning and posing problems</p> <p>Apple – Jack for a great bubble map in writing</p> <p>Cherry – Taila for a fantastic creative art piece</p> <p>Damson – Eleanor for a well presented report on the life cycle of a flower</p> | <p>Conifer – Rishi for persisting with his Maths this week</p> <p>Hawthorn – Stafone for persisting with his Maths</p> <p>Poplar – Ruby A for persisting with her Maths learning even when she finds it tricky</p> <p>Juniper – Gabriels for his great input and recall in our RE lesson</p> <p>Laburnum – Jovan for producing a brilliant and productive flow map in English</p> <p>Sycamore – Jazmine for really applying herself to her learning this week, in particular guided reading.</p> <p>Aspen – Quinn for his amazing poetry</p> <p>Cypress – Charlie W for his amazing poetry with rhyme</p> <p>Elder – Ruby for her own Wikipedia entry of Steve Jobs.</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> |