



Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

Issue 22 March 6th 2020

Website: www.haslingfieldschool.co.uk

Learning to achieve excellence

Dates

- Mon 9th - CVC Dance Share
- Mon 9th and Tues 10th – Parents Evening
- Weds 11th – Parent Drop In session with Clare Merrington
- Thurs 12th – Eco Council Gardening
- Fri 13th – Willow Class Assembly and Bun Day
- Weds 18th – Tag Rugby Festival
- Thurs 19th – Football away to Melbourn
- Fri 20th – Hawthorn Class Assembly and Bun Day



Letters Home

- Eco-Council - Gardening



E-Safety Talk

E-Safety Parent Briefing, 23rd April 18:30.



KS2 Art

Phil Butcher, photographer and former director of IT at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute came in to talk to Oak and Willow last Tuesday about what inspired him to becoming a Space photographer. It was a fascinating talk assisted by some really interesting animations and images about space. The pupils were captivated by the talk and his work. They will be producing artwork inspired by his photographs over the next month. This week Beech and Hawthorn looked in at the watercolour illustrations from the book 'Lost Words' as inspiration for their own watercolour studies of animals in Cambridgeshire. They produced some amazing studies and are starting to understand the technique of watercolour painting.

Headteacher's Bulletin

This week I have been working with school business manager to begin building our school budget for next year: you might be interested to know that the school's annual combined electricity and gas cost is anticipated to be approximately £13000 and would be higher still if we had not invested in solar power last year. Covid-19 continues to occupy everyone's mind and the school refers daily to the advice given by CCC, the DfE and Gov.uk. Thank you all those parents that gave up their time to read to children in school this week and for helping them join in with the fun activities we have been doing; including, the costume parade, KS1 sleep over and story sharing. I would also like to say thank you to our staff for, as usual, bringing learning to life and especially to Miss Peck for planning and organising a great book week!

Graeme McLeod

Morning Activity Club

Activities this week have included making mouse finger puppets, colouring clay models, folding origami dogs and producing pipe-cleaner pencil toppers. "I'm going to do a fossil hunt" – Gian (sand clay)



Spanish

!Hola todos! May I just say how AMAZING all the children looked in their World Book Day costumes!!! There were some really funny ideas and an incredible amount of imagination! In Hawthorn class today we continued to learn about: la cara- Los ojos, las orejas, la nariz, la boca, el pelo y los dientes. We learned another Spanish song with only pictures in place of the facial features, to ensure comprehension -we had great fun! The children also drew faces and labelled them and we chose pictures based on the descriptions I gave in Spanish. In Oak class today we continued with our work on el pelo y los ojos, but learned to describe someone else in the third person - Tiene los ojos..... y el pelo..... We also used some of Picasso's masterpieces to ensure a cultural aspect! In Beech class today we continued our geographical theme and learned how to say 'is famous for'. We learned what Irlanda, Alemania, Francia, Inglaterra y Espana are famous for and picked the odd one out! In Willow class we did some work on syllables and pronunciation, in line with world book day. I hope you all have a fabulous weekend and mucha suerte to anyone running the Cambridge Half!!

Hasta luego, Senora Anderson



Family Fitness Fun

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our family fitness event last weekend, which raised **£170** for the school. Over 20 families turned out on a lovely sunny Sunday morning and joined in enthusiastically with the activities. A big **thank you** to **Howard Loraine** for leading the session.

From the PTFA

Early Years and Key Stage 1



Ash – Mrs Lightfoot and Mrs Symmons:

This week, Ash class have really enjoyed joining in with all the reading week activities. Miss Peck came to read to them on Monday during the 'teacher swap' and thank you to all our mystery readers for coming in to share a story with the class as well. We worked with Beech class to think of ideas for the whole school story and the children shared books with their buddies. We produced a fantastic whole class acrostic poem about forest school based on the book 'The Lost Words' which the whole school were focusing on. The children looked fantastic on Thursday dressed as their book characters and they wrote about these characters too. What a fun week!

English: to attempt to write short sentences.

Maths: to order objects by weight and height.



Birch – Mrs Noble and Mrs Stephenson:

Thank you so much to all of the mystery readers who came in to read with the class over the week. All of us really enjoyed and appreciated it. We would also like to congratulate the children on their fantastic reading rivers and reading homework. They have all tried so hard and produced some lovely work. Well done.

During Book Week this week we have been so busy. We have explored the book *The Lost Words*, by Robert Macfarlane. We have explored many of the spells and beautiful illustrations within it and used them as inspiration to write our own poems, to write stories, and to create some beautiful artwork.

We have also read other stories about nature or animals to help with our work including *Is This Panama*, *Rumble in the Jungle* and *Owl Babies*. We have also created our own collective nouns for groups of animals. The children have used *The Lost Words* to help practise their counting, data recording skills and telling the time in maths. We have also enjoyed the exciting other opportunities that book week brings, including the book swap, the whole school story writing, World Book Day and the book quiz.

English: to create a comparative poem.

Maths: to record data.



Hazel – Mrs Chapman Burton:

This week Hazel class have been taking part in Book Week. They started off the week by being read the book called *Green Eggs and Ham* by Mrs Kimberley. The children really enjoyed this book and were keen to read more stories by Dr Seuss. The class were then introduced to the book called *The Lost Words*. We looked at the front cover and thought about what it told us and what we might discover inside. They read the poem called *Adder* and felt inspired to go outdoors and create snake sculptures. They used natural and man-made materials to create the snake designs on the playground. The children created their own Acrostic poem using a word to describe a snake for example *Slither*. They then published their poems and created a border inspired by the book *The Lost Words*.

In Science, we furthered our understanding of materials by thinking about what materials we already knew, their properties and how that material can be used to make something useful. We also discussed objects that are made of more than one material. On World Book Day, the children looked incredible dressed as their favourite book characters! The teachers really enjoyed dressing up too!

The class also took part in the whole school book quiz, shared buddy reading, the book swap and a 'Catch me reading' assembly. This week has been really wonderful watching the children's love of reading grow!

English: to write an acrostic poem.

Maths: to order and compare intervals of time.

Lower Key Stage 2



Hawthorn – Mrs Lees and Mrs Keen:

For book week this year we have been using the poetry book 'The Lost Words'. The concept of this book is that as modern life has changed many children unfortunately no longer spend as much time outside surrounded by nature therefore they don't know the names of all the different plants or animals, hence the words are becoming 'lost' from language. After looking at the cover and discussing what the book was about we went outside looking for different plants, birds and insects and learning the names of new species. We have explored the language used in several different poems and identified different poetic forms such as repetition, rhyme, alliteration, similes, kennings and the layout of acrostic poems. We have written shape poems about adders using adjectives and verbs. Also we have discussed the life cycle of a dandelion and used the different ideas of behind this to help us write cinquain poems. Library books and the internet have been used to research facts about traditionally British plants with some surprising facts found. Did you know, sweet peas originally came from countries around the Mediterranean? This plant information was then used to write their own poems.

In Art we explored the use of watercolour. With Mrs Siddall they painted animals and then on Wednesday we painted dandelions to be used as a background for the cinquain poems. A few painted their own flowers as well which we will finish next week. On Thursday we did some super observational drawings of ivy and used water colour pencils to good effect.

Thank you to all our wonderful mystery readers for giving up their time to come in and read, the children, and us, really appreciated it. It was fantastic seeing all the amazing costumes and guessing who was who!

English: to write an acrostic poem.

Maths: to compare lengths in mm, cm and m.



Oak – Miss Kimberley and Miss Houghton:

We have had a wonderful Book week this week. The book we have been focussing on is called *The Lost Words*. It is the most beautiful book of poetry and spells with magnificent watercolour illustrations. The premise behind the book is to draw attention to *The Lost Words* that have fallen out of use from our vocabulary and with it the ability to name the plants, trees and creatures, large and small all around us.

I think maybe it is harking back to a different time without computers, I-pads and phones when children would spend all day long exploring the open spaces around them. I'm not saying the children at Haslingfield have forsaken the great outdoors but it's a different world today and children don't have the same freedoms as I did when I was a child. However, all the children were able to regale me with their close encounters with nature and loved writing about them and then sharing them with the rest of the class following our nature walk around the school grounds on a beautiful spring Wednesday morning (before it poured down). It was fantastic seeing the children getting so excited to find a worm, see the new buds and the first blossoms, bracket fungi, lichen and mosses close up. It just goes to show.

We have read and looked at the vocabulary and structures of different poems and spells in the book and then the children have written their own nature poems and spells taking different forms including a blackout poem, an acrostic poem and shape poems, culminating in creating their own watercolour painting, in the style of *The Lost Words*, to illustrate a poem about a plant, tree, mammal or bird of their own choosing.

We will be continuing with the poetry theme into next week inspired by *The Lost Words*, as there are so many wonderful inspirational activities based on the text.

English: to identify the key features of a poem, to identify the themes running through a poem or an anthology of poems, to use a thesaurus to up level my vocabulary and to write poems in different styles.

Upper Key Stage 2



Willow – Mr Brown:

This week in Willow Class we have had a very enjoyable book week as we have been basing a lot of our work on the Lost Words, a collection of poems/spells that help you to remember forgotten words linked to traditional nature found in the English countryside. The children began the week by predicting what the book would be about based on the front cover and then began to explore some of the poems, analysing their poetic features. Following this, the children began their preparation for writing their own poem by choosing a different animal/plant found in the countryside and mind mapping ideas for descriptive expanded noun phrases and then suitable verbs and prepositional phrases. This then allowed the children to progress onwards in writing their own acrostic poem based on their chosen animal/plant and spent part of their afternoon learning time writing it up to presentational standard and illustrating their poem.

Later in the week the children were asked to write a setting description where they used their imagination and shared ideas as a class about what could they see and what sounds could be heard. They then were challenged to write a letter to the Lost Words where the children were able to express their thoughts, feelings and opinions to state how they felt the words would feel to be forgotten.

The children have been taking part in various exciting activities such as book swapping, writing the beginning of the whole school story, shared reading with their buddy, drop everything and read, the buddy book quiz, teacher story swap where they were visited by Mrs Chapman and of course the dressing up event for world book day where everyone looked brilliant in their wide range of costumes. I also want to thank the many adults that came and volunteered to be mystery readers during the week, the children enjoyed your stories very much.

English: to write a poem inspired by the Lost Words, to write a setting description, to write a letter to the lost words.



Beech – Miss Peck:

We have had a fun filled week in Beech class this week which has been full of reading, writing and teamwork. In English, we have continued to look at the book 'The Lost Words.' The children planned their own acrostic poem around British wildlife linked to the book and thought of different verbs and prepositions that they could use. The children worked incredibly hard on their poems ensuring that they included a wide range of punctuation, ambitious vocabulary and other poetic features. They are all very unique and truly wonderful.

In art, the children used watercolours to produce an illustration for their poem- Mrs Woodard was wowed by what they produced and incredibly proud of how hard they worked. The children enjoyed contributing to the whole school story and worked well with the younger children in the school; encouraging them to share ideas. The children all looked wonderful on World Book Day and enjoyed dancing around the hall and showing their costumes to the rest of the school. During the same day, the children read to their buddies and visited Little Owls Pre-school to share a story. It was lovely to watch the children interact so well with the younger children and the smiles on the pre-schoolers faces showed us how much they enjoyed it too.

We have been lucky enough to have had some mystery readers visit us and the children have enjoyed the opportunity to talk about their favourite books. We managed to squeeze in some maths this week amongst the book week fun and have started our unit on area and perimeter. The book swap and quiz was an exciting end to the week and lots of fun was had by all. Thank you, Beech class, for being so amazing this week and putting 100% enthusiasm into everything that we have been doing.

English: to write an acrostic poem about wildlife.

Maths: to calculate the area of a shape.