



# Newsletter

Autumn Term 2019

Issue 13 December 6th 2019

Website: [www.haslingfieldschool.co.uk](http://www.haslingfieldschool.co.uk)

*Learning to achieve excellence*

## Dates

- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:45 KS2 Dress Rehearsal
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – 13:45 KS2 Christmas Concert
- Weds 11<sup>th</sup> – 18:00 KS2 Christmas Concert
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – Infant Shopping Morning
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup> – KS2 Party
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Carol Concert 9.30am
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Musical Theatre Performance – 3.30pm
- Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Party
- Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – End of Term
- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan – Spring Term starts



## Letters Home

- Infant Shopping instructions and labels
- KS2 Christmas Performance Tickets
- Christmas Lunch Volunteers



## Instrument lessons

To assist children's learning, particularly for English and Maths, it is important that instrument lessons work in conjunction with all areas of learning. For this reason, after Christmas, children's instrument lessons will last up to 20min; with the exception of having longer lessons in preparing for imminent exams.

## Headteacher's Bulletin

Our KS1 and EYFS children enjoyed performing Christmas with the Aliens to their parents; thank you for your kind donations following the shows, most of which will go to support children with complex learning needs at specialist schools. I think there were a record number of budding pianists, thirty two in total, performing to parents beautifully - thanks to Mrs Mayo and Mrs McElroy for all their excellent preparation. I very much appreciate Mr Golden and Ms Lindenbaum along with Professor Adam Green from Cambridge University, for the work they have been doing with children in school - linking humanities and computing as part of the children's curriculum work. I would like to welcome Elliot Martin who is taking over as leader of our evening 'out of school club' and providing children with lunchtime games and sports opportunities.

**Graeme McLeod**

## Morning Activity Club

Christmas crafts started this week. We have made woolly hat tree decorations, lolly stick snowmen (including an 'alien' version!) and gold or silver scratch art scenes. Ella said that making the mini hats was "therapeutic".



## Spanish

Hola todos! Well Christmas is growing ever nearer and the festive preparations are well underway!! This week across all the classes we had a very cultural lesson learning all about some important dates in the Spanish festive calendar!! Did you know that in Spain the children leave not stockings, but their own shoes outside their bedroom doors on 5th January to be filled, this is the day of the 3 Kings!! On 22nd December el gordo - the fat one, a huge Spanish lottery is drawn; the title referring to the huge/fat prize on offer. On 31st December Spaniards await the clock in the main square in Madrid, just as we await the chimes of Big Ben in London, but in Spain a grape is eaten at each stroke! I am sure your children will be thrilled to share the other dates with you: 28th December, 1st January and the 6th January.

Feliz Navidad! Senora Anderson



## Early Years and Key Stage 1



### Ash – Mrs Lightfoot and Mrs Symmons:

We hope you have enjoyed watching our performance of 'Christmas with the Aliens' this week. We were very proud of all the children and how well they remembered the words to the songs and their dances.

In English the children have written about the part they played in the performance. In phonics we have learnt the new sounds 'e' and 'u' and practised to write these and all the sounds we have learnt so far. In maths we have been learning what one less than a given number is. We have been learning to mix different colour paint to make new colours in order to paint our own aliens. At Forest School we cooked lots of campfire toast today and Michelle read us a wonderful toast poem.



### Birch – Mrs Fallon and Mrs Stephenson:

What an exciting week in Birch. Thank you to everyone for their tremendous support during the Nativity performances. We absolutely loved sharing it with you and all of the children enjoyed the experience. Thank you for your donations too, we can wait to see where the school council decide to donate to, watch this space.

We have continued with our Maths and English this week, despite the excitement! In English we wrote character and job descriptions for our parts in the play and we also wrote reviews of our favourite moments. We have had the important task of writing a letter to Santa, this will be coming home for you to post, put up the chimney or whichever way your family usually delivers this very important document.

In Maths the children have been partitioning tens and ones numbers. We have been using tens frames, part part whole models and lots of equipment to demonstrate our understanding. We have been inspired by our favourite class book of the moment, Vivaldi's four season's orchestra book! We are using ideas from the story to create our Calendars. We also enjoyed a fantastic Piano assembly this week where over 30 children had the chance to share their skills. I think some of Birch class were inspired by Rafi's skills.

**English:** to write for different purposes about our Christmas play

**Maths:** to find the tens and ones in a 2 digit number.



### Hazel – Mrs Keen:

Thank you very much for the excellent feedback on our "Christmas with the Aliens!" concert and thank you for your help with the costumes. The children in Hazel class have really enjoyed the preparation and performances. They have worked hard to learn their lines, stage directions and remember the songs with actions.

As we have been working with money in Maths we counted up the collection from the Tuesday morning performance which was an amazing £102.87! In other Maths this week we have been looking at equal groups, repeated addition and how this is linked to the multiplication sign. In English we have been looking at suffixes including -ly, -less and -ful, letters to Santa and the characters in our play.

**English:** to check what is needed in a letter to Santa.

**Maths:** to make equal groups and add them together.

## Lower Key Stage 2



### Hawthorn – Mrs Lees:

This week in Hawthorn, as with the rest of key stage 2, a lot of time has been spent practising for the concert next week. After not seeing it for three days I was really impressed with how well everyone had managed to learn the lines to the poem and say them clearly, sing enthusiastically and get on and off the stage in an ordered manner. Well done everyone, your parents are in for a treat next week.

In English we've finished reading chapter 4 of the Iron Man. They acted out the part of a conscience alley to help the Iron Man to decide if he would help the people of Earth. In Maths we have used our tables' knowledge to compare different times tables. We've used arrays to form different tables that end up with the same answer. In DT we have been looking at different types of lights and identifying how they're powered, their design features, who would use them and why. I look forward to seeing everyone's Stone Age to Iron Age projects next Wednesday (11th December).

**English:** to explain the reasons for their opinions.

**Maths:** to compare mathematical statements.



### Oak – Miss Kimberley and Miss Houghton:

Preparations for Christmas and the end of term are now in full swing. On Monday morning we were all treated to a preview of the EYFS and KS1 Christmas performance. Although it was technically a dress rehearsal, it was excellent and really got everyone in the mood. KS2 have notched up the rehearsal schedule for our Christmas concert next week. It is shaping up to be a good one and guaranteed to make you feel Christmassy (if you're not already).

We've also been treated to a Piano Assembly this week. So impressed with the continuing high standard of the children learning the piano and they also injected a bit of Christmas spirit. We've managed to squeeze a little bit of maths in this week with our tables and division quiz and for a change Ralph and Esme recapped for the class, the work we have done on Multiplying 2 digit by 2 digit numbers using partitioning and the grid method. They even made their own differentiated worksheets. In English we have been organising our research notes into paragraphs for our booklets on the daily lives of the Ancient Indus valley people. In science Mrs Siddall has been looking at how sound travels and the children have been making their own string telephones.

Next week will be a busy one with the performances, dress rehearsal on Tuesday morning and afternoon performance for parents then the evening performance on Wednesday evening. It is the Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> and then Christmas shopping day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>.

**English:** to group themes and ideas into paragraphs in my writing.

**Maths:** to use the grid method to multiply numbers up to 3 digits by a one digit number.



## Upper Key Stage 2



### Willow – Mr Brown:

This week in Willow we have finally been able to get into the hall and practice our poem and songs in preparation for the KS2 Carol Concert taking place next week. It has been brilliant to see that the children have been putting in lots of effort to learn their lyrics and are getting more and more confident on stage in order to put on an excellent performance.

One of the main highlights from the week has been having Phil and Jo back in the classroom in helping deliver the next stage of our Indus Valley project. They were both on hand to support the children in assisting with making the children's 2D drawings come alive and build their Indus Valley city using Minecraft. The children were thoroughly engaged with this and came up with some very creative ideas to independently develop a basic city into a thriving one. We were also lucky to have Professor Adam Green from Cambridge University to talk about his work and experience of visiting the Indus Valley. The children listened attentively to his fascinating first-hand knowledge and joined in by asking lots of thought provoking questions.

In Maths we have been learning a method to calculate from mixed numbers to improper fractions. The children were able to interpret visual diagrams, solve word problems based on their understanding and answer true or false statements.

**English:** to write questions for an Indus Valley expert.

**Maths:** to calculate from mixed numbers to improper fractions.



### Beech – Miss Peck:

We have had a very busy and exciting week in Beech class. On Monday, Beech class were lucky enough to have a KAPLA workshop in the hall. This workshop involved the children working together as a team to produce a very impressive structure using a range of techniques. It was wonderful to see the children represent many of our core values throughout the afternoon by persevering and supporting others when they found it tricky. The children enjoyed looking through the photos from our KAPLA workshop and evaluated what they think went well about the afternoon and what they thought could be improved. The children also wrote a paragraph to describe to others how to take part in the workshop and how it would benefit them.

In English, the children finished writing their non-chronological reports and illustrated them. It was lovely to see the children all choose a different element of WW2 to write about. In maths we have continued our unit on multiplying fractions and mixed numbers. It was great to see the children use the range of strategies that they have learnt to help them.

Towards the end of the week, the children designed and produced their own war inspired Christmas plaque using watercolour and acrylic paint. Using these as inspiration the children then wrote a letter in English either from a soldier to his family or a family to a soldier. We talked about how even though it is Christmas the war still continued and soldiers and families spent the festive season apart. Our Christmas Concert rehearsals have been in full swing this week and the children are all very excited about sharing it.

**English:** to write a war inspired letter.

**Maths:** to multiply fractions and mixed numbers.