



Weekly Newsletter 13th May 2022

Headteacher's Bulletin

The second week of May can only mean one thing... Year 6 SATs! I would like to say an enormous well done to our Beech class children for completing their Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, and maths statutory assessments this week. Each time I saw them they retained smiles on their faces and stayed positive. I know they all tried their best and were observed using the many taught strategies to support them as they completed their papers. Well done to Mr Brown and the wider school team for supporting the children through this week and the work put into the children's learning from Reception to this assessment point – it all matters! We had a full attendance from Beech class this week, which is wonderful! Thank you to all parents for preparing them well.

Listening to the views of parents is vitally important to our work. Here is a link to the Ofsted Parent View. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>. I ask that you all complete the survey. This will give us public data that we all will be able to see. The school will use your views to analyse against our performance so far this year and help feed into future development plans. The survey requires a quick email sign-up and will take only a few minutes to complete.

Have a wonderful weekend. I am a Liverpool fan and, as a family we all enjoy Eurovision Song Contest. So on Saturday I'm hoping for a Liverpool FA Cup victory and for the UK to (*at least*) not finish last at Eurovision. Whatever you are up to, I hope it is an enjoyable one.



1 - Headteacher's Bulletin

Governor Bulletin



This week, the Governors have been busy carrying out visits to the School and attending training to make sure we are Ofsted ready.

I very much enjoyed meeting Miss Peck to discuss the PE provision at the School. It was great to hear about the progress that the children are making across a wide range of sports and that the children can engage in a wider variety of sports as we move on from the pandemic. I learnt about the Schools plans

for developing the sports curriculum and ensuring the sport is inclusive and accessible to all pupils. It won't be long before the swimming pool is open and the pupils can enjoy that facility too.

I would encourage parents to give feedback about our School on the Ofsted's parent feedback survey ParentView <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/how-to-use>. Your views are important.

Poppy Short

Parent Governor

Diary Dates



May

- **Tues 17th** Y3 and Y4 Tennis festival
- **Wed 18th** Jubilee Big Draw
- **w/c 16th** KS1 SATS week
- **w/c 23th** KS1 SATS week
- **Thurs 26th** Jubilee Royal Tea Party
- **Fri 27th** SCHOOL CLOSED - Jubilee Holiday

Mon 30th May - Fri 3rd June Half term holiday

June

- **Mon 6th** SCHOOL CLOSED - Staff training day
- **Tues 7th** Y6 Maths Challenge
- **Thurs 9th** Y6 Deep Water Swimming (1)
- **Thurs 9th** Y4, Y5, Y6 QuadKids Athletics

- **w/c 13th** Science Week
- **Thurs 16th** Y6 Deep Water Swimming (2)
- **Mon 20th** Y6 Deep Water Swimming (3)
- **Tues 21st** Y4 Mini Olympics
- **Fri 24th** Sports Day and Family Picnic
- **Tues 28th** Y3, Y4 Dynamos Cricket
- **Wed 29th - Fri 1st** Y6 Residential Trip

July

- **Mon 4th** Y6 Enterprise
- **Tues 5th** Y6 Enterprise
- **Thurs 7th** Whole School Move Up morning
- **Thurs 7th** Y6 Comberton Transition Day
- **Fri 8th** Y6 Comberton Transition Day
- **Tues 12th** Y6 Performance (Evening)
- **Wed 13th** Y6 Performance (Afternoon)
- **Wed 20th** Y6 Leavers Party
- **Fri 22nd** Y6 Leavers Assembly
- **Fri 22nd** END OF TERM

Important Notices



- **Wraparound Care Survey**

We are seeking parent feedback about our wraparound care provision and would be grateful for your feedback by Friday 20th May:

<https://forms.gle/VFJx3GcSR3j7PW7V9>

- **JS Sports May Half Term Camps**

Camps are now bookable:

<https://www.jssports-education.co.uk/holiday-activities-v1>

- **Uniform**

As the weather warms up, children are discarding jumpers and cardigans during their play. Please ensure all school uniform items are **named**.

MyChildAtSchool - Update



Getting Started

1. Invitation Email to Sign Up to MCAS (MyChildAtSchool)

You should have received an email with an invitation code to redeem (via a link). Please follow this link, ideally on a PC and not a smartphone, to register for the MCAS Parent Portal.

2. Download the MCAS App

If you would like to view the MCAS Portal on your phone, there is an App available which you can then use your login details to access.

School Code: 13043

3. Username

This is not your email address! On your original invitation email you will have received a designated username for logging in.

There is further information on our website; [My Child at School](#)

What can I see on MCAS now?

- Attendance

- Announcements from the School Office
- Dinner Money Balance
- Dinner Details

Whats to come on MCAS?

In time, we will start to use the Behaviour and Assessment areas of the system and further data will be visible to you.

NOW LIVE - Online Payments on the MCAS Parent Portal/App

Click on Products and then select Trips or Wraparound Care to pay for:

- Morning Activity Club
- Out Of School Club
- Kingswood Residential Trip 2022

Dinner Money payments

Click on the Dinner Money widget on the dashboard to add funds to the Dinner Money balance then select Add to Basket.

N.B. Balances have now transferred from the SIMS PAY system into MCAS

School Communications

- **Email**

We are currently sending letters and information via the School Office email account while parents continue to sign up for the MCAS Parent Portal.

After the **May half term** we will move to sending all letters and information via the **MCAS Parent Portal only**.

- **MCAS Announcements**

We are still trialling the MCAS Announcements functionality and have shared limited information via this (as well as via email) over the past week.

Going forward, this will be the primary source of communication from school to parents.

- **Website**

A PDF of the latest newsletter will continue to be made available at [Haslingfield School](#)

House Points



News from the classroom



Cherry Tree Class: Mrs Lightfoot

There have been lots of changes of routine and adults in Cherry Tree class this week as we have helped to support the year 6s complete their 'special work'. The children have adapted brilliantly and show a real maturity and understanding for others in our school and I'm very proud of them. Well done Cherry.

In English this week we have started work on a new text, a lovely book called 'The house that once was'. This has evoked a lot of discussion on the differences between a house and a home and the children have thought of and written about all the special things they have in their houses which make them into homes, including family, love and of course toys!

They also predicted what they thought might happen in the book by just looking at the front cover and what sort of person might have lived in the house and where they are now. To help them with this, the children performed freeze frames of what might have happened in the house before it was deserted and then we questioned each character, asking them to tell us how they were feeling.

In Maths, the year one children have continued their work on fractions, finding half of an amount and knowing that some numbers can't be halved exactly. We then moved on to quarters of shapes and quarters of amounts and knowing that when we want to find a quarter of an amount we are sharing by 4. This was quite tricky and so we will do a bit more work on this next week. The reception children have looked at and named 3D shapes and their properties. They have also looked at shapes within a shape and made different 3D shapes using multilink cubes and other construction materials.

In Science this week, we looked at different types of plants and wild plants that grow. We had a lovely afternoon looking around the school grounds to find and draw the wild flowers in our field and environmental area.

Next Wednesday is our whole school art day - **The Big Draw**. We'd be grateful for any offers of help for the day to work with the children in Cherry Tree class. The main sessions are 9.15 - 10.30am, 10.45 - 12pm and 1.15 - 2pm. Please let Mrs Chadwick or I know if you are able to help.

Next week in maths:

We will consolidate our work on finding a quarter of an amount and then move on to direction and position. The reception children will be looking at direction and position too.







[Apple Tree Class: Miss Peck](#)

Another super busy week in Apple tree class.

This week in English, we have moved away from the big bad pig and started our new text 'A house that once was.' We have described the house and explored who used to live in the now abandoned home. We built sentences together and up levelled them using ambitious vocabulary. The children were very imaginative thinking up ideas of who lived there and we role-played how they maybe feeling. We looked at the illustrations of the book and created our house paintings. On Friday, the children used their five senses to describe what it would be like to live in the abandoned house.

In maths, the year two's are looking at mass, capacity and temperature. This week, we have looked at mass, measuring in grams and measuring in kilograms. The children used their own scales to find out the mass of different objects. One question that fascinated the children was: which is heavier a kg of feathers or a kg of coins? On Friday, we looked at the capacity and volume of different objects.

The year one's have continued their unit on fractions. The children have been looking at halves and quarters of shapes and quantities. Towards the end of the week they solved problems linked to this.

This week, through our PSHE lessons, we explored feelings. Together, we learnt about different feelings; what they look like and how they might effect us day to day. Building on this, we identified strategies

that we could use when we are experiencing different emotions, there were some amazing ideas including drawing, colouring and exercising. To further understand ways to balance emotions, particularly those that sneak up on us like anger, stress or anxiety we completed a mindfulness session. The children absolutely loved this and were extremely relaxed afterwards. We regularly complete mindfulness activities and really enjoy observing the wonderful benefits.

In science, we continued our work on germination. Our current investigation on the beans seems to have paused and we therefore made our way into the garden to plant some new beans using soil. We identified a range of reasons as to why our beans didn't germinate and created a list which looked at the general conditions the beans were in. Because of this, we planted our new beans in soil. The children are super excited to watch these beans grow (hopefully) and have even named them. Let's hope our green fingers will triumph!

We have started learning the songs, in preparation for our 70th Jubilee celebrations. You are all in for a treat, the children are sounding amazing already!

Next week in English:

The children are going to be busy preparing to write their diary entries from the perspective of the person that lived in the abandoned house.

Next week in maths:

The children in year 2 will be looking at capacity and temperature. Towards the end of the week the children will begin their statistics unit. The children in year one will be continuing their unit on fractions.











Hawthorn Class: Mrs Noble and Mrs Williams

What a busy week we've had this week! The children started their new English unit on writing a non-chronological report on Volcanoes, by watching a video on Vesuvius and the destruction of Pompeii. The children then role-played the event conducting 'freeze frames' at various points. They then made a senses map to think about what people at the time would have seen, heard, smelt and felt whilst Vesuvius erupted. The children used this knowledge to write expanded noun phrases about volcanoes. Later in the week, we collected information to include in our report.

In maths, the children extended their learning of time by discussing am and pm and the 24 hour of clock. They made a clock which displayed the am hours and the pm hours, looking at the pairs e.g. 1 and 13, 2 and 14. They also read digital times on the 24 hour clock and converted analogue times to digital. During our fraction learning, we introduced the concept of writing tenths as fractions. We used place value grids to help us to convert the fractions to decimals, recognising that the numerator of the fraction was the same as the digit in the tenths column.

In topic this week we have been exploring volcanoes, understanding how they are formed, where they are and finding out about the most dangerous ones. In Science, we have learnt about voluntary and involuntary muscles. We looked at how voluntary muscles work in pairs in order to help us to move, by constructing a model of an arm with a bicep and tricep so we could explore how one contracts whilst the other relaxes.

Note: We politely request that children do not bring trading cards into school. We accept that children can get some of these cards within items in their lunch, but they will be asked to keep it in their bag/packed lunch box to take home and leave it at home. Thank you.

Next week in English:

We will be preparing to write a non-chronological report

Next week in maths:

Time: we will look at duration and compare them

Fractions: we will be placing fractions on a number line and to start to look at fractions of a set of objects





Oak Class: Miss Busby

Yet again, I have heard nothing but positive comments about how hard Oak class have been working this week. It has been lovely to finally return for the latter half of the week and hear all about their wonderful learning. As noted from the team, Oak class were absolute superstars during their Bikeability morning on Tuesday. They showed great enthusiasm, commitment and gained new, important skills when riding a bike. Hopefully, the children feel safer when riding a bike now and have heightened their confidence. The children were rewarded from the Bikeability team with a certificate and badge for successfully completing the course and they've said they can't wait to see them back again in Year 6.

In English, children have been busy planning and writing their Big Write of an adventure story. They used story mountains to carefully consider the different plot points in the book 'The Explorer' and used this as a guide to plan their own exciting ideas. I am super intrigued to read their stories as I have heard lots of wonderful plans such as some have landed themselves in New York, the Amazon Rainforest and even the Sahara Desert!

In Maths, children have learnt how to round amounts of money written in decimal notation to the nearest pound. They used their estimation skills to successfully estimate the total of two amounts and moved on to estimating with more than two amounts. Children discussed underestimating and overestimating and linked this to rounding down or up and applied it to real life scenarios such as buying food in the supermarket. The class moved onto recapping over converting between pounds and

pence using the knowledge that £1 is 100 pence. They used grouping 100 pennies into pounds, applied their place value knowledge and used their number bonds to 100 when counting money.

In Science, the class discussed their own habitat and the changes that humans exert on the environment around them. They then looked at different living thing's habitats and explored that plants and animals are unable to make big changes to their environment, and therefore are very vulnerable to changes in their habitat. Children also learnt about the habitat threats in the local environment and what dangers they pose. They were given the task to create a leaflet informing others of what habitats are, some examples of habitats, examples of environmental dangers to habitats and wildlife and ideas of how to help a local habitat and how it will help protect the local living things. I've been truly impressed with the effort put into making their leaflets. They are super informative and have been made with great detail and care.

In Topic, children have studied a map of Cambridgeshire and used this to identify the location of Haslingfield. They have also carefully been using a map of Haslingfield to explore and plot different places known to them such as, where they live, shops, the school and landmarks. In Art this week, Oak class were introduced to 'Mark Making'. They followed simple steps from a video tutorial to create their own pieces of mark making artwork using Indian ink and skewers. They experimented with different techniques like scratching, dots and lines and they thoroughly enjoyed noticing creative effects a simple mark can make. This has provided them with confidence in preparation for next week's Big Draw day.

Next week in English:

The children will be publishing their stories and assessments will begin.

Next week in maths:

We will be adding and subtracting money and giving change, alongside assessments.









Willow Class: Miss Kimberley

The children of Willow have been amazing this week showing real respect for the Year 6 children sitting their SATs next door to our classroom. They have shown such consideration and maturity. Well Done Willow Class and Thank you.

We have been beavering away. In English the children have been looking at organising their writing in paragraphs, grouping their sentences around common themes and ideas, using adverbials for time, place, frequency and tense choices to bring greater cohesion to their writing. They have been developing simple sentences to create more complex and detailed sentences, using parenthesis to describe the beginning of a journey in preparation for the BIG Write.

The focus for fractions this week has been on subtracting mixed numbers and breaking the whole. This has been a tricky concept for some so we have taken our time in making sure that they are secure before continuing. We have also started looking at multiplying unit and non-unit fractions by an integer.

On Wednesday 18th May we will be collapsing the curriculum for the BIG draw and very much look forward to working with the artist Helena Perry. In preparation for this Helena has suggested setting a Moth trap. See the link for some ideas as to how you could do this at home.

<https://www.lancswt.org.uk/blog/charlotte-varela/moth-trapping-beginners>

More information will be sent home. This is an optional activity.

Have a wonderful weekend. I hope the sun shines.

Miss Kimberley

Next week in English:

We will be completing our end of year assessments for Reading, Spelling and Grammar

Next week in maths:

We will round fractions off with multiplying mixed numbers by an integer and calculating fractions of quantities and amounts.



Beech Class: Mr Brown

Beech class have been absolute superstars throughout the week completing their SATs. Naturally, there were a few nerves early on in due to the anticipation of completing the tests but you could see all of the children becoming more comfortable and confident in sharing all of their knowledge that they have covered across the year. They approached their learning with maturity and worked their hardest

throughout. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of them and I am excited to find out how well they have done later in the term.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs Woodard organised a visit to Haslingfield river in preparation for the Big Draw event taking place next week. The children behaved impeccably and did some lovely sketching and also had the opportunity to use a hydrophone to record sound under water which will be used in our class's final installation piece. In one of our afternoon sessions in class, I also set the children some river related work as they were challenged to replicate a picture which had been cut into thirds or quarters. The children were assigned a section each and had to work together to form the picture together using oil pastels – they worked well as part of a team and really concentrated to ensure they blended the same colours and matched to the quarter / third that was next to their own image to make the picture match as close as possible.

The class also pursued further work related to the Big Draw but with a geography focus. The children learnt about the different parts of a river and where they successfully annotated and defined the key parts. This lead to the children working on a piece of creative writing describing a journey down a river using lots of relevant topic language where some children developed complex metaphors which I found really entertaining to read.

In topic the children began work in pairs to create a presentation about a given U.S state. They used the internet to research the state and then applied their PowerPoint presentation skills to make their facts eye-catching. We will further complete this next week and begin to share with each other our facts we've found out.

Have a wonderful weekend, you have definitely earnt your rest Year 6!

Mr Brown

Reminder:

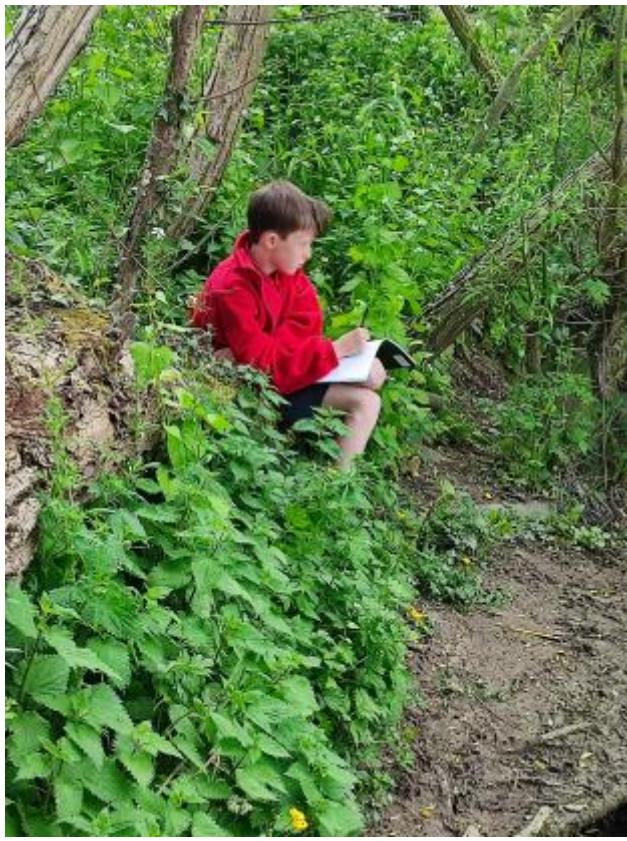
I have sent home a hard copy of a letter sent out by email from Miss Peck about creating a reading river for the classroom. This can be presented in a variety of different forms (see letter for suggestions) and I would like all children to participate in helping to share the different texts you have enjoyed reading over the year.

Next week in English:

We will begin writing based around the book Holes.

Next week in maths:

We will complete additional work on shape.







Letters home this week



- Jubilee Royal Tea Party
- PTFA Jubilee Stalls
- Wraparound Care Survey

Contact Us



Please direct all enquiries to the School Office at the email address below.

We will get back to you as soon as we can and ask for 3 days to action and reply.

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