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# HECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence for Bears

20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – Issue 241



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, and Fellow Bears,

We've completed another week - yay! With schools all around Reading having to ask Bubbles to self-isolate, we are so pleased and grateful that we've been able to remain fully open. It isn't by chance and I'd like to thank all the staff for their incredible hard work and yourselves for all your continued support. Here are just some of the achievements that we'd like to celebrate over the past 10 weeks, despite having had an average of 6 staff members out every week:

- ❖ We have a 'warm', positive and welcoming environment for the children... who are happy!
- ❖ We lead PE lessons and a significant number of after school clubs.
- ❖ Children are enjoying wraparound care at KOOSA Kids.
- ❖ Year 4 children participated in 2 days of outdoor adventure activities at Longridge.
- ❖ We've developed a virtual video tour of the school for the website (many thanks to Daryl Bramley).
- ❖ We've held Q&A sessions over Zoom for prospective parents.
- ❖ We've held Parent Consultations over Zoom for all parents.
- ❖ We've had school photographs taken of all children and siblings and the Henley Standard took class photos of our Reception children - all socially distanced and COVID secure.
- ❖ Year 6 visited the Cenotaph in Caversham on Armistice Day and continue with Guitar lessons.
- ❖ We've held School and Eco Council meetings.
- ❖ We're providing remote learning for children who are self-isolating.
- ❖ We're continuing to build our new school and the windows are being fitted!



All of the above and more, during a Global Pandemic!

## Reception

We've continued to learn the story of the Gingerbread Man and made actions to go with it. We loved our scientific investigations with Professor Fallon which helped us answer the question 'Why did the Gingerbread Man not want to get wet?' and we had fun making long paper chains. We're really proud of the phonics and words we've learnt and our counting one more and one less of numbers between 5-10.



## Year 1

We've done so much this week! We've learnt about adjectives, verbs and nouns and how they help to structure a sentence. We've been looking at money, identifying different coins and notes and developing our understanding of their different values. We've been using the iPads to play a money game and have started to learn how to give and receive change. Our wooden Tudor houses are really coming along - as are our sawing skills!

## Year 2

Thank you so much for all the cardboard box donations. Did you see the Motte and Bailey Castles we designed and made out of them? Weren't they brilliant! Some even had a working drawbridge! In Science, we've started to investigate different materials and discussed what they could be used for and in Maths we've been adding and subtracting a 1-digit number to and from a 2-digit number.



## Year 3

We couldn't believe it when we were contacted by the Museum of Mummies this week, asking for some help in creating a text that explains how to make a Mummy. We were very happy to help! We really enjoyed learning about Howard Carter, Lord Carnarvon and their discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb. We can now imagine what it felt like to discover his tomb after so long and wrote diary entries to describe this. We've been counting in halves and quarters on a number line and finding unit and non-unit fractions of numbers. What week!



## Year 4

We are really proud of the persuasive letters we've written to our MP, Matt Rodda about deforestation and hope he does take our concerns about the conservation and preservation of the Amazon Rainforest, to his fellow MP's. We've been learning about the different types of teeth and their functions in Science and have been developing our coding skills using code.org.

## Year 5

We are thrilled to have published our Beowulf adventure stories. Mrs Thomas and Mr Alcivar said that they are really exciting with lots of figurative language. In Science, we've enjoyed investigating irreversible changes and explaining that new materials can be formed eg, by burning. In French, we've learned how to describe ourselves, for example, 'J'ai les cheveux blonds et courts et les yeux bleus' and we've been rounding decimals to the nearest whole number or decimal place in Maths.

## Year 6

Our topic gets more interesting as the weeks move on! This week, we've been looking at the contributions made by animals to the war effort. We've explored the roles played by pigeons, dogs and horses and even one baboon. Can you believe that? In Science, we've looked at the standard form of Scientific Classification, the Linnaean System and created our own mnemonic devices to help us remember the different tiers. In Maths, we've been learning about ratios and how we can use them to solve problems.



## Travel Plan Working Party

Thank you so much to all the parents, Governors and Trust Members who are part of our Working Party. We had another constructive meeting this week and we will be in touch soon to survey parents to understand access routes and likely mode of transport to and from the permanent site.

## Dates for the Diary

Year 3 Ancient Egypt Day	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November
Flu Immunisations	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
Year 2 Phonics Assessments	Week commencing 7 <sup>th</sup> December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December
School Christmas Dinner - Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December
School Christmas Dinner - Reception, Year 4-6	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December
Travel Plan Working Party	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Start of Term 3	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021

Lots of bearhugs,  
Hector

