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HECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence ~~for Bears~~

9th October 2020 – Issue 236

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, and Fellow Bears,

What a strange week it's been without Mrs Edwards - though I think I might be a ~~step~~ paw closer to a promotion to Headship myself. How do I look at the desk I've occupied all week?

To be honest, I'm not really looking forward to her returning but she says she can't wait to be physically back in school. Mrs Edwards wants me to thank Mrs Fallon and all the staff for their efforts and support in her absence. Right, that's enough about Mrs Edwards - let's tell you about what the children have been up to this week.



Reception

In Reception, we've been learning some more phonemes and have even started to blend them together to read words like m-a-t. How brilliant is that?! After learning the words and actions to The Little Red Hen we retold it this week and drew our own story maps. We used a pestle and mortar to grind and make flour just like The Little Red Hen and have been talking about what harvest means. We really enjoyed printing a hen using our own handprints and have been counting and sorting objects in Maths.

Year 1

In Year 1, we've continued to discuss the tale of 'How the Fox Stole Fire' and have started to plan our own story about an animal who stole fire. We're really proud of how our pre-cursive writing is coming along! In Maths, we've been concentrating on 2D and 3D shapes and learning about their different properties. We've explored the different tool used to put out the Great Fire of London and are loving creating silhouettes of the fire. In Science, we've been investigating why the days appear to get longer and shorter throughout the year.

Year 2

In Year 2, we've begun to plan and write a non-chronological report about the dragon we imagined last week. It's been really fun! We've been concentrating on sequences of numbers in Maths and investigating habitats, both in the UL and globally in Science.



Year 3

In Year 3, we've been continuing to write our diary entry from Sennapod's point of view and are getting better and better at editing our work. We've been looking at mental strategies for subtraction in Maths and have really enjoyed learning about hieroglyphs and using them to write topic based words and our names.

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we've been developing our reading skills, including skimming to find information and answer retrieval questions. We really enjoyed our walk to View Island, looking at habitats and ecosystems and the living things that can be found there. We're going to be investigating threats to them and their habitats and the impact of human interaction with them. As part of our topic, we have been researching rainforest animals using the Chromebooks and have started to plan our 3D rainforest diorama.



Year 5

In Year 5, we've been writing newspaper reports about the defeat of the monster Grendel in Beowulf. We've really enjoyed investigating the properties of numbers, including square and cubed numbers in our Maths lessons and in Science, investigating the best material use for food bags that may contain greasy food. In French, we've been exploring the similarities and differences between the pronunciation of letters in English and French and in RE we've been reflecting on the role of music as part of worship.

Year 6

In Year 6 this week we finished off our Autobiographies and moved on to Biographies, looking at the differences between the two. We're really pleased with how we've learnt to apply BODMAS to our Maths and how to add and subtract with negatives. As we continue with our study of the First World War, we've started to explore life in the trenches and the differences in day to day experiences between officers and enlisted men. We were surprised to learn of the ingenious (and rather unpleasant) methods they used to make life bearable. In Science we've continued to explore evolution, focussing more on the evolution of humans and how the characteristics of our ancestors changed over millions of years and what drove these changes. In Computing, we've started to look at some coding, working on a coding game called Lightbot to revise our understanding of basic algorithms and procedures.

Welcome Q&A Meetings

Thank you to all the teachers for leading virtual information sessions over the past couple of weeks. We do hope you found them useful.

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place in November. Please note the different dates for 2DK - consultations for **2DK only** will take place on Wednesday 11th November and Wednesday 18th November. Consultations for all other classes will take place on Thursday 12th November and Wednesday 18th November. Consultations will take place over Zoom and appointments will need to be booked via ParentMail. Further details including Zoom links to follow.

Thank you

Thank you to all those parents who have offered to volunteer time with supporting break and lunch duties in school. We are very appreciative of your support.

Walk to School Week & Clean Air Day

Thank you for helping us to support Walk to School Week and Clean Air Day. We've just learned that following the achievement of our Gold Modeshift Stars Award in March, there are now two new awards to aspire to:

- Green and Platinum

We're looking forward to continuing to reduce our carbon footprint as a school community and our impact on the environment.

PTFA - Annual General Meeting

Mrs Edwards says she is very much looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the forthcoming PTFA AGM next Monday 12th October at 8pm.

Dates for the Diary

Reception Welcome Meeting for Parents	Tuesday 13 th October 6.00pm - 7.00pm
Half Term	Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th October
Term 2 Starts	Monday 2 nd November
Individual/Siblings School Photographs (Tempest)	Provisional date of 4 th November (TBC)
Children in Need Week & Reading Climate Week	Monday 9 th - Friday 13 th November
Parent Consultations - 2DK ONLY	Wednesday 11 th November 4.40pm - 7.30pm
Parent Consultations - All Classes EXCEPT 2DK	Thursday 12 th November 4.40pm - 7.30pm
INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	Friday 13 th November
Parent Consultations - All Classes	Wednesday 18 th November 3.40pm - 6.00pm
Flu Immunisations	Thursday 3 rd December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Thursday 10 th December
Panto Production in School - Wizard of Oz	Friday 11 th December
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th December

Lots of bearhugs,
Hector

