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# HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence for Bears

27<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – Issue 242

Email:  
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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Edwards

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, and Fellow Bears,

The power struggle is finally over - I've told Hector that enough is enough, he's had his fun and I'm reclaiming Highlights!

We were so sorry to have been forced to close a Bubble this week but pleased we have been able to contain it to one bubble and a handful from another class. Thank you so much for your support and understanding and to Mrs Reiker, Ms O'Regan, Mrs Bird and all the other volunteers who have helped at short notice. It has been a challenge over the past few days to have enough staff to teach in the rest of our Bubbles (we had 9 staff out on Wednesday), but we made it to Friday.

The children have continued to delight and inspire us with their achievements across all areas of school life. I have attached a piece of writing from one of our Year 6 pupils as I wanted to share it with you. I challenge you not to be moved by it. Wow!

## Reception

We started our Phase 3 Phonics this week, learning some really tricky sounds and are really proud of ourselves. We started to create our own Gingerbread Story Maps and decorated our Gingerbread designs. Mrs Edwards was so impressed with our work that she gave us ALL a Headteacher Award Sticker! We really enjoyed using the iPads to complete one of our Maths activities and also practiced our fine motor skills making patterns on whiteboards.

## Year 1

Boy have we been busy in our English lessons. As well as learning how to use adjectives, verbs and nouns more readily in our own sentence writing. We've continued to focus on pre-cursive handwriting, punctuation and vocabulary. We've also been working on finding evidence for our answers to comprehension questions in our whole class reading. In Maths, we've enjoyed exploring repeating patterns, symmetry and how patterns can rotate and in Science we've really developed our understanding of materials and their properties and how these suit one purpose more than another.

## Year 2

It was a shame so many of us had to self-isolate from Wednesday, but we've really got into our tasks and work on Google Classroom. Thanks to Mrs Kingshott, Mrs Powell and Mrs Miller for all your help and comments. In school, we've loved writing our innovated stories and considering what might have happened before the story started, ie, what made the dragon attack the castle and kidnap Prince Ronald? In Maths, we've been adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers and in Computing, we've continued working on our posters about someone who has been involved in or affected by a war.



### Year 3

We absolutely loved celebrating our Ancient Egypt Day on Monday! We had so many fabulous arts and crafts activities to participate in, including creating a pyramid scene, making a cartouche for our names and beginning to make our own Tutankhamun death masks. Wow! We also continued to write our mummification explanation texts for the Museum of Mummies which included us using technical language, organising our work into paragraphs and using time conjunctions to structure our work. In Maths, we worked on recognising and counting in tenths and then thought about tenths as decimals, which helped us move on to multiply and divide by ten by looking at the position of the digits on the place value chart.



### Year 4

This week, we've been looking at the features of diary entries and practicing writing in the past and present perfect tense. We conducted an experiment on tooth decay in Science, using our scientific enquiry skills and making predictions. In Maths, we've started to work on length and perimeter and in Computing we've been working on code.org and learning how to troubleshoot when our algorithm doesn't work first time.

### Year 5

In English this week, we recapped what a myth is and learnt about the mythical King of England, King Arthur and wrote a King Arthur tale which focussed on techniques for creating mystery and suspense. In Science, we've explored oxidisation and the chemical process that occurs as part of this irreversible change and in Topic, we've been researching different aspects of Viking life. In French, we've been learning verbs and phrases linked to different actions and in Music, we've continued to study Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker' and learnt to perform a rhythmic pattern to a pulse.

### Year 6

We've been working on our editing skills and are really proud of some of the poetry and narratives we've written recently. Take a look at Tom S's powerful piece which is at the end of Highlights. We've continued to work on measurements and solving real life problems involving metric units in Maths. We've been analysing propaganda posters from WWI and will be creating our own in the style of the time and exploring how the Christmas Truce happened in 1914. In Science, we looked at how the different layers of the Linnaean system indicate the relationships between animals and in IT we're trying to create a scoring system for our gaming projects.

### Dates for the Diary

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
Flu Immunisations - Catchup session	Wednesday 16 <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

Kind regards,  
Karen Edwards

Date: w/c 23/11/20

LO: I can write a final draft of my narrative inspired by an animation film.

- I can write an improved version of my narrative having edited my punctuation, vocabulary choices and sentence structure.

Ext: I can add new ideas that come to me as I re write my work.

Learning review: I feel like I have really explored something for a while about me, and have really enjoyed writing this.



Teacher comment:

### The Melody

I love that was what he needed. More time. He still had so much to do, so much he hadn't done. People to thank, a grandma who needed a goodbye. They were hounding him, and he was ready to join her. But not yet. He had one last song to play. He sat down ~~on the~~ on the crashed, dusty, weathered stool, which was left empty without her next to him. He did not play a single key. He was searching for the memory. He stood at the top, one leg higher than the other, as if during the days for play. He knew he would see them all again, at one or two of them. So he gently placed his left hand on the keys, and began to play. It was his time.

It felt like a dream. It felt like his hands were moving over clouds. He played glowingly, an old song, for song. He could feel her - almost see her. She was with him, joining him from a great distance. He felt her hand on his, loved her playing alongside him. The melody was solemn, mournful. He felt her gentle kiss, her delicate lips resting on his cheek - and the memory washed over him. He was back at Brighton Beach, all those years ago. He saw her, so young and sparkling, sparkling and around with their dear one. They were so young then, so free. That was before she got sick. He went back to the ground, almost 20 years ago. He remembered, that was the last time he had played. He felt her spirit leaving him once more. He wanted to follow her, she was calling him. But not yet. He wasn't done.

The piece quivered ~~and~~ quivered like quinine. The man was transported back, for the first time since his mind, for that night, over 20 years ago.



I felt a weight on my head. A halo. My head. Oh No! I thought. I tried to escape - to let her stop - but I was back on that dreadful night. The ground, 1916. I saw my grandma, my grandma, my grandma. I wanted to run, to say 'NO!' I knew what was coming, I saw the man there, looking for me for a reason. I felt myself rock, I was prepared to stop it, I saw my grandma, I saw her come over me - CRACK! I heard the shot, amplified above all else, saw it make contact and knock the man to the ground - all on my instant action. I held the flying man, unforgettable noise of keys rushing down my face. I took my grandma's hand, held it in a tight grip - my grandma's hand, my grandma's hand, my grandma's hand, my grandma's hand. I felt my head in my hands. I'm trapped, trapped in my own mind. Why couldn't it have been me?!



The man opened his eyes. His palms were spread in awe. He had stopped playing - stopped thinking. He took a deep, rattling breath, and began to continue playing.

The melody continued, returning to its traditional tone. In the play, the man returned to a more simple time. He saw himself as a young boy, being greeted by his mother, by his father, by his grandma. It had been a simple, simple world, and he had lived it. He continued around as it was, played with it all around the house. He remembered, standing it down to his own, who had brought it just as much. He could see himself, now, reflected in his grandma. The man, who was his grandma, who joined him. The man was there, they were his grandma - or his grandma, his grandma, his grandma, his grandma. He remembered his hand, as his grandma played the great keys, smiling up at him. The man smiled back, showing his eyes, remembering. He could finally join them. He was at last at peace. It was time.

A brilliant white