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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a super second week at school, topped off with a lovely coffee morning in the Hall for our new Reception parents today. Many thanks to the PTFA for organising it and for the wonderful contributions of cakes and biscuits from the parents. We hope that those who were able to attend enjoyed it.

We also celebrated the National Jeans for Genes Day today, with many children and staff coming into school wearing something denim. We also focused on the aims and some of the work the charity does to support children and families affected by genetic disorders. Thank you for your donations - we've raised nearly £400 so far and there's still time to donate if you wish at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theheightsjeansforgenesday>.



More of our after school clubs started this week. I was particularly excited to lead my Year 5/6 Netball Club on the MUGA on Monday. It's the first time in 7 years that we've been able to run the club on a full sized Netball Court. What a luxury and what a joy!

Parent Class Reps

Thank you to all the Class Reps who joined Mrs Fallon and I, physically and virtually for our first meeting of the new academic year. It was really helpful to discuss some of the different points and questions raised by parents. Many thanks to Tiffany Fisher, for writing the lengthy minutes which will be winging their way to you shortly.

Reception

We've had such a busy week in Reception this week! We stayed for lunch for the first time on Monday and apparently blew the staff away with how well we managed all the lunchtime processes. We really enjoyed eating in the Hall with our friends and having the Year 6 Playground Ambassadors play with us afterwards. We've learnt about so many of the school's routines and different areas already and are so excited that we're now in school for full days.

Year 1

Mrs Powell and Mrs Abraham said we've been superstars, both last week and this. We've started our 'Great Fire of London' topic and have so many things we'd like to find out about the event. Take a look at some of the Fire Collages we created. We've been sharing and re-telling the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' and completing work on number identification in Maths. Our Tag Rugby sessions with Performance Sports have been lots of fun too!



Year 2

We have had a rather exciting week in Year 2! On Tuesday, we went out to the Sensory Garden and found a letter for us from Zog. We were all pleasantly surprised to hear that he had left us a treasure hunt in the garden. We had to find 4 items and then unscramble some letters to find out where a present was hidden for our class. We solved the clues and found a copy of the Zog book and a gorgeous Zog soft toy in the hall!

On Wednesday, we held our elections for the student and eco councils. The adults were extremely impressed with all of the children that stood up to explain why they wanted to be on their chosen council. They spoke so well and they made it a very difficult decision! We held a democratic vote where we got to select our choices in private and place our papers in the ballot box. We are sure that our elected officials will do an amazing job for the school!



Year 3

As we said last week, our topic is Fantastic Pharaohs. So this week in English, we started to read 'There's a Pharaoh in our Bath' by Jeremy Strong. We started to design our own eye catching book cover using only the blurb to inspire us and started writing a descriptive paragraph about the main character, Sennapod. We looked at a website using the Chromebooks to find out about the geography of Egypt and learn why parts of Egypt were called the 'Red Lands' and 'Black Lands'. We've started a Forces and Magnets unit in Science and are experimenting with different resources to see how objects can move in different ways and identify the force making this happen.

Year 4

We had a messy start to the week, creating a 3D map using salt dough to show the different physical features of South America and the Amazon Rainforest. We've used a range of materials to create rainforest art depicting the different layers of the rainforest and in Science are grouping living things in a range of different ways. We've begun to look at 'Just So' stories, starting with the tale of 'How the Whale Got It's Throat' and in Computing we're looking at Internet Safety. We're also really looking forward to the activities on our trip to Longridge next week!

Year 5

We're really enjoying our class book 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo. The gruesome content has captured our imagination and we've used it to plan a newspaper report on the horrors that the Danes have been facing. This links with our topic and exploration of how Britain changed in the time between the invasions of different groups of people. We've been talking about pro-social and anti-social behaviours in PSHE and debated the difference between perseverance and resilience.

Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we've been exploring different drawing skills and practising different techniques in how to represent our observations in graphic form. We've begun looking at Evolution and Inheritance in Science, starting with how characteristics can be passed down from parent to offspring and making observations around our own traits. We're looking forward to exploring the concept of nature -vs- nurture; explaining how some traits may not, in fact, be controlled inheritance. We've been writing our own autobiographies in English and focussing on the formal methods of arithmetic in Maths.

Secondary Schools Information Fayre

We will be holding an Information Fayre for children and parents in Years 5 and 6 on Monday 27th September between 7-8.30pm in the Hall. Representatives of lots of local schools will be present, including Highdown, Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge, Gillotts, The Abbey, Shiplake College, Bluecoat, St Josephs and Queen Anne's.

Parents and children will have the opportunity to chat with representatives from these schools, gather information and be able to make informed choices about which secondary schools to consider beyond Year 6.

Twitter

The school has a Twitter Feed - please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Year 4 to Longridge	Wednesday 22 nd - Friday 24 th September
Cross Country at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge	Saturday 25 th September
Year 6 to Skern Lodge	Monday 11 th - Friday 15 th October
World Mental Health Day	Monday 11 th October
Flu Immunisations (Rescheduled Date)	Friday 5 th November
Children in Need	Friday 12 th November
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 10 th December

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Edwards