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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Well another week has raced by and we're all settling into our different routines and remembering that the children have moved up a year group! As you can imagine, the children are quick to remind us if we get it wrong. I'm really enjoying running the Yr 5/6 Netball Club after school, teaching Years 5 and 4 Gymnastics every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and leading the two Key Stage Assemblies every Friday with Mrs Fallon. It is such a privilege to be able to spend so much time with the children.

It was lovely welcoming our new Reception parents to a Coffee Morning in the Activity Studio this morning. Many thanks to Laura Mines, Michelle Nand, Sarah Magor, Emily Hale, Alex Busby and Simon Hill for organising and running this and for the wonderful cakes and biscuits they and other parents made and donated.

Reception

We have really enjoyed being in school this week. We have been building up our time in school, learning about where all the classrooms and shared areas are and playing in our classrooms and outside areas. We visited Mrs Edwards, Mrs Fallon and the Admin team in their offices and ate our lunch in the hall with other children in KS1. We were so excited to have our first full day in school today and can't wait to come back to school on Tuesday!

Year 1

This week, we have continued to explore more books by the author and illustrator, Christian Robinson. We revisited the self portraits we drew last week in the style of Christian's illustrations and have begun to create a list of words we could use to describe ourselves. We're then going to use these to create sentences that will serve as captions for our self-portraits.

In Maths, we've been focusing on foundational place value understanding, identifying and representing numbers using pictures and objects, as well as revising our counting skills.

We've begun our termly study of plants in Science and are focusing on making close observations & exploring different types of plants and seeds. It's really fun putting this into practice when we have our Forest School sessions. We've started to learn Tag Rugby in PE and are really enjoying playing with children from different years at lunchtime.

Year 2

We've had lots of fun reading the story 'Zog' together and getting to know the characters. It's a book by Julia Donaldson and one that we're going to be using as a stimuli this half term. In Maths we've begun our unit on place value and have been investigating different ways of representing numbers using a variety of concrete and pictorial resources. We completed our first 'Big Write' of the year based on the book, 'The Egg' by M.P Robertson, have been developing our Tag Rugby skills in PE and learning about how to keep safe online in our IT lesson.

Year 3

As we said last week, our topic this term is Fantastic Pharaohs. This week we started to read 'There's a Pharaoh in our Bath!' by Jeremy Strong. We designed our own eye-catching book



cover using only the blurb to inspire us and then used expanded noun phrases to write a descriptive paragraph about Sennapod, the main character. In Maths we've been using our place value knowledge to solve problems and in our Forces and Magnets Science unit, we've been experimenting with different resources to see how objects can move in different ways and identifying the force making this happen. In our topic work, we've explored what an ancient civilisation means, looking at an overview of different worldwide civilizations (such as: Shang Dynasty, Indus Valley, Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece. We used a world map to try to find these ancient civilizations and thought about questions we'd like to find the answers to about our study of Ancient Egypt.

Year 4

Last week we looked at the key features of recounts. We then used this knowledge to help us plan, write and edit recounts about our summer holidays. In Maths we've been placing 3 digit numbers on number lines with various scales and rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. We've had great fun creating a 3D map using salt dough to show the physical features of South America, focussing on land borders, mountain ranges and rivers and in Science we learnt how to generate questions to use in a classification key by identifying vertebrates and observing their similarities and differences.

Year 5

Last week, we read the introduction to our guided reading book, 'Beowulf' and used the front cover plus some illustrations to infer that the genre is a historical adventure horror story. This week, we continued to read the story and used the text to make inferences about the main character, Beowulf. We then wrote a character description of Beowulf and a letter from Beowulf to his father. In Maths we've been partitioning numbers up to 1,000,000 and developing our understanding of the powers of 10. Our topic this term is 'Invasion' and we're going to be exploring how Britain changed in the time between the Romans and the Normans and why this period is sometimes referred to as the 'Dark Ages'. In IT, we're developing our coding skills, using Scratch and in Science we've been exploring the vocabulary used to describe properties of materials.



Year 6

It's been a busy week! In English we've been focusing on the features of writing that we need to produce coherent, creative and purposeful writing. We've completed a number of short writing tasks and tried to demonstrate all the different features, including using correct paragraphing and conjunctions to expand our ideas. In Maths we're concentrating on the foundational skills that underpin all the maths we cover in Year 6 and in Science we've been learning about the scientific concepts of evolution and inheritance, starting with exploring how physical traits can be passed down from parent to offspring. We've been identifying the main characters involved in the event that triggered the First World War, (our Autumn Term topic), as well as which countries made up the Central powers and Allied forces.

In Art we've been exploring different drawing skills by developing effective 'looking, seeing, noticing' skills and practicing different techniques in how to represent our observations in graphic form.

What do you think of our portraits?



Cross Country Dates

Please note that the first Cross Country event of this academic year is tomorrow morning at Greys Court, Henley. The races start at 9am for Years 1, with subsequent year group races following every 15 minutes apart. Mrs Edwards hopes to be there to support the Heights children who may be running.

Saturday 1st October, Saturday 5th November, Saturday 3rd December - Chiltern Edge for Years 1-6 between 10am and 11.30am.

Twitter

Please follow [@AtHeadteacher](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

National Bank Holiday - School Closed	Monday 19 th September
Nasal Flu Immunisations - Whole School	Thursday 22 nd September
Jeans for Genes Day	Friday 23 rd September
Secondary Schools Information Fayre (School Hall)	Monday 26 th September 7-8.30pm
Year 4 Trip to Longridge Outdoor Education Centre	Wednesday 28 th to Friday 30 th September
Poetry Week	Week commencing 3 rd October
PTFA Golf Day	Thursday 6 th October
Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge	Monday 10 th October to Friday 14 th October



Mrs Edwards