



Newsletter

Spring Term 2021

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Website: www.haslingfieldschool.co.uk

Learning to achieve excellence



Diary Dates

- Fri 19th March - dress up to make someone smile
- Fri 26th March – Last day of term



Letters Home

- Red Nose Day
- Reception Vision Screening



Penelope's Winning Design



1st Prize Future Workplace Winner!!

The Cambridge Independent teamed up with COEL, Bidwells, Allia Future Business Centre and Cambridge Science Centre for the competition, which invited young people aged 7-18 to show their ideas for new working environments.

Entries flooded in from across the Cambridge region and even nationally, with hundreds of entries received from more than 80 schools and from pupils being home-schooled.

Oak pupil, **Penelope Robinson March** won the 7-11 years category! The judges described her work as "captivating and colourful". Penelope has won £150 Amazon Vouchers and a donation of £50 to her nominated charity which is a fundraising platform for the Museum of Cambridge. Haslingfield School will also get £150, which is very much appreciated. Congratulations and thank you from everyone at Haslingfield School Penelope!

Headteacher's Bulletin

This week, we have been so happy to welcome, into school, all those children who have been working marvelously from home during lockdown. I must say, parents, you have been amazing as well, instilling confidence and reassuring your children; it really shows, and is evident from the speed they have begun reintegrating into class-based routines. Needless to say, children have been so happy in and around the school, catching up and delighting in the face-to-face company of their friends. Currently, class bubbles are continuing to maintain distance from each other, in designated zones throughout the school; including, the hall, play areas, classrooms and toilets - children will hopefully have full access to corridors, rooms for music etc, before too much longer.

Graeme McLeod

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Ash – Mrs Lightfoot:

It's been lovely to see the children back in school this week and we have all been very impressed with how quickly they have settled back into routines and friendships. We started the week talking about how they felt being back at school and anything that they were looking forward to or were worried about. We continued our topic of animals with the story 'Rumble in the Jungle' and guessing which animal was which by listening to the descriptions. The children then went on to write their own 'what am I?' riddles, giving clues to their chosen animal.

In Maths we have revisited some of the maths concepts we learnt during lockdown including one more and one less, number formation of teen numbers, addition and selecting the correct numeral to match the number of objects. In phonics we have learnt the new digraphs **or**, **ur** and **ow** as well as recapping those covered during lockdown. In PE we focused on throwing and catching, we have looked at what makes a healthy meal and the children have also made something for a very special person, ready for the weekend! A great first week back Ash Class and I have enjoyed seeing you via the big screen!

English: to begin to write sentences in meaningful contexts.

Maths: to say the number one more and one less than a given number.



Birch – Mrs Noble and Mrs Williams:

What a fantastic first week back we've all had. It's been so nice to have the whole class back together. We started the week reading a book called The Invisible String, which explains how, even when you're not with your loved ones, we are still tied together with love (the invisible string). We made a friendship string joining all of the class together, then made an invisible string sheet for ourselves including everyone we love. We then made beautiful beaded hearts with the names of our loved ones on. Everyone made such beautiful hearts and really understood the importance of love and knowing that we're all joined together by it.

We then spent two days completing a DT unit investigating how moving toys work, planning and making our own moving toys, racing them against each other and then evaluating how successful they were. We were so impressed with everyone's design and toy.

We have continued learning about the countries in the UK this week, by finding out about Scotland and Northern Ireland. We had a go at weaving our own tartan and heard the legend of Fin McCool, the Giant of Giant's Causeway. We then measured 12m, the height of some of the columns. We have also played lots of games practising the phonics and maths we have learnt recently. It was lovely to see all the children enjoy our first few days back together.

Maths: to revise our addition and subtraction skills

English: to revise our Phase 5a phonics.



Hazel – Mrs Chapman Burton:

What a super week back we have had! This week, you all wrote me a letter persuading me to give you a classroom job! We now have Snail, Library, English, Maths, Cloakroom and Merit monitors! I was really impressed by your persuasive skills and you will have another opportunity to write me a persuasive letter at the end of this term!

In Maths, we have focused on recognising 2D and 3D shapes. We will do more of this over the coming weeks. The new vocabulary for maths this week is: - sides and vertices. I wonder if you can explain to your grown-ups what these words mean? In Science, we have got our very own micro-habitat for our snails! We have provided them with a tank, compost, water and food! I wonder what will happen in the next few weeks.

We've also spent time thinking about our class rules and routines as well. We have revisited the book, 'The invisible string' and created our own string hearts to hang up around the classroom. On Monday, we made our Alexander Calder sculptures too! They look amazing and will be coming home in the next few weeks.

Before home schooling, children were being set activities on Purple Mash. For the remaining few weeks of this half term, the children will bring home some consolidation worksheets to complete. These are to embed the learning that's been done in school and do not need to be returned. You've been super stars this week Hazel class. Well done!

English: to write a persuasive letter

Maths: to identify the sides and vertices of a 2D shape

Lower Key Stage 2



Hawthorn – Mrs Lees and Mrs Keen:

It is wonderful to welcome you all back to school this week, everybody has been so happy and quickly settled back into the school routine. Until the end of term we will now be joined by Miss Reed each morning. In English we have started to read another Flat Stanley adventure, this time 'The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery.' We have been really impressed with everyone's use of speech and punctuation when writing their conversations and all the use of different grammatical features when describing the Egyptian bazaar. There are new spellings, the short u sound spelt with ou. Let's see some full marks next Wednesday.

In Maths we have continued working on fractions and everybody has worked confidently adding and subtracting fractions within a whole and focusing on the use of tenths. Next week we will be moving on to measuring length. In Science we have summarised all their knowledge about our topic this term (animals including humans). I was very impressed with how much and the amount of detail they can recall. Our next science topic is plants.

In RE we have continued with the Easter story by looking at Lent and in P.E. we enjoyed races outside and a game of netball even if it was rather blustery!

Maths: to recognise fractions of a whole

English: to use speech punctuation, adverbs and adjectives in written tasks.



Oak – Miss Kimberley and Miss Houghton:

It was lovely to welcome back all the children in Oak Class this week. At first they were a little subdued and quiet, but that didn't last long. We actively encouraged them to reacquaint themselves with their friends and classmates. We held a little tea party on Monday and allowed the children to mingle (safely) and it really didn't take them long to look and sound more comfortable and at home.

The children enjoyed a practical Science lesson on Monday afternoon with Mrs Siddall, involving some melting and dissolving, decorating biscuits.

We have spent quite a lot of time allowing the children to reflect on Home Schooling and being away from their friends, giving them the opportunity to share any worries or anxieties they may have and ask questions. There has been mindfulness activities and lots of opportunities to participate in physical activities including dancing to Go Noodle. Most of the children expressed how pleased they were to be back at school and there have been lots of smiles and laughter.

We have actually done some work as well. The Children did spellings and handwriting and we have revisited formal methods of multiplication in Maths. The children also resumed their twice weekly tables quiz and from this week we will be testing them on their division facts, starting with divide by 2. The children were a little rusty but I am confident that when we get back into the swing of things it will all come flooding back.

In Art with Mrs Siddall, the children continued with their work on developing different types of lettering and over the next few weeks they will be making coil pots in the Ancient Greek style. We have also been doing some seasonal related crafts. Over the next two weeks we will be learning about the Christian Easter Story and the children will be encouraged to produce a booklet, cartoon strip etc. retelling the story and learning the symbolism and significance for Christians.

To round off our Topic on the Ancient Greeks together I have planned to Greek Themed afternoons. Next Wednesday afternoon, 17th March, we will be staging a Mini Greek Olympics with running, javelin, discus, shot put, chariot racing with presentations and everything. Then the Following Wednesday, 24th March, we will be having a Greek Day. The children may dress up (an old sheet to fashion a Toga, no sewing required) and an Ancient Greek feast in the afternoon.

It's great to be back, not quite normal, but a step closer. Have a lovely weekend.

Maths: to multiply a 2 and 3 digit number by a 2 digit number using the expanded method.

English: to write an acrostic poem.

Upper Key Stage 2



Willow – Mr Brown

We have had a lovely first week back in Willow Class where the children have come back with lots of energy and enthusiasm for their learning. Having spent a lot of time completing English based tasks last week during Book Week, we have been focusing on fractions in our Maths work. The class have been brilliant at recalling on previously learnt skills of calculating equivalent fractions and applying them to ordering and comparing fractions with different denominators with some particularly tricky questions involving both division and multiplication in order to find the common denominator. The children have also become confident at converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers and have learnt how to accurately draw visual diagrams in order to help them switch between the two formats.

In the afternoons we have had fun tinkering with a programming app called Sonic Pi where the children experimented with different ways of programming different musical beats. The children were able to successfully program and debug any errors that occurred and moved onto adding in loops so that they were able to repeat their musical sequence to their desired amount.

In Science we continued learning about forces and learnt more about the contact forces air resistance, water resistance and friction. We discussed how the strength of forces meant that they became balanced or unbalanced and drew diagrams to explain the movement of objects. Having watched myself demonstrate how to use Newton meters in last week's Zoom lesson, the children had an opportunity to use Newton meters themselves and enjoyed experimenting with them by measuring the force of friction by dragging objects across various surfaces.

In Topic we learnt about how crimes and punishments had begun to change in the 19th Century. We learnt about how science was used as evidence to fight crime and how the police force was first established. We also discussed how imprisonment was used more frequently and less people were hanged which lead us to write about our opinions of the different punishments that were given whilst in prisons.

It has been so wonderful to have the class back in and I look forward to seeing all their smiley faces again after a well-deserved restful weekend.

Maths: to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions, to order and compare fractions smaller and greater than 1.



Beech – Miss Peck

Wow, we can't believe how quickly this week has gone. We have absolutely LOVED having our lovely Beech class all back together again and our classroom full of fun and laughter. The children have had lots of opportunities this week to talk, work together and get back into the swing of school life. We have spent a lot of time using the KAPLA this week; creating Viking boats, settlements and completing challenges as a team. We have been so impressed at how wonderfully the children have all worked together, sharing ideas and listening to each other. Well done Beech.

We have started our two week project called 'The Island.' The children were shown a picture of an uninhabited island that nobody had ever been on before. They then spent time thinking about where in the world the island would be and what it would look like. Following on from this, the children had the opportunity to design their island, thinking about what they would call it and what natural features would already be on the island and what man made features they could add. On Wednesday, the children wrote a description about the island thinking about how they felt when they stepped off of their boat. Miss Houghton and I were so impressed with the range of ambitious vocabulary and detail the children used throughout. The children edited their work to make it even better and wrote it up ready to display in the classroom. They truly do look very impressive.

In maths, we have spent some time recapping the units of work that we have covered over the last couple of months during Lockdown ready to move onto finishing our ratio unit next week. We have been so impressed with the children's perseverance and hard work during maths both in school and throughout their home learning experience. Towards the end of the week the children created their own identity for an environmental agency to protect the flora and fauna that is currently on the island. The children thought carefully about their designs and what it represents.

The children have made some very special cards this week, ready for Sunday. We hope you like them. Wishing you all a wonderful restful weekend together, fingers crossed for some sunshine.

English: to write a description of the island.

Maths: to recap previous learning on decimals, percentages, measure and algebra.