



Haslingfield Endowed Primary

Newsletter

Spring Term 2021

Issue 17 March 26th 2021

Website: www.haslingfieldschool.co.uk

Learning to achieve excellence



Diary Dates

- Tues 13th April – First day of Summer Term
- Thurs 15th April – Year 5 Football Club
- Thurs 22nd April – Year 6 Football Club



A message from the Governing Body

The Governor's would like to extend their gratitude for the support they have received this week by children, staff and parents whilst undertaking recruitment for a new Head teacher. At the point in which you receive this newsletter the Governing body remain confident of a successful outcome.

Letters Home

- Summer Term - Arrival and Departure Times
- Haslingfield Easter Trail
- Winter Support Grant (Easter) and Free School Meals
- Haslingfield and Harlton Food Hub poster
- Summer Term Menu
- Thursday Football Club - After School - Years 5 and 6
- PTFA - Nearly New Uniform Sale!
- PTFA Easter Events



Headteacher's Bulletin

Over the years some truly amazingly talented people have come to Haslingfield School to share their passion with the next generation - your children. While many staff and volunteers continue to do so, others have naturally moved to new pastures, friends and colleagues, finding new opportunities and challenges to enrich their lives and the lives of others. Ophelia Redpath, is one such person, involved in many of the arts events at Haslingfield School; including, painting our playground mural, with children: this month she won the Sky Arts Landscape Artist of the Year! Her prize was to complete a £10,000 commission to commemorate Dinas Oleu for the National Trust. Last weekend, Katherine Woodard, our KS2 Arts coordinator, was asked to give a presentation to 160 artists and teachers from around the UK and Europe, about the sketchbook journey of pupils from Haslingfield School; spreading the good news about the work your children get involved with. Feedback about the children's work was very positive.

This term once again included much uncertainty regarding COVID, but it has been an incredible triumph of what can be achieved: our staff are such a credit to the school. More than ever, the strength of our team and the flexibility staff demonstrate, has had a massive positive impact on the children's learning and well-being. I am pleased to say that once again Haslingfield School is in the top 3% of schools, with low COVID incident rates across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire - which is in part testament to the approach taken by parents and the school's in reducing risk.

I hope you all have a great Easter and where you can, enjoy some quality family time together.

Graeme McLeod

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Ash – Mrs Lightfoot:

Ash class have had a busy week full of Easter activities. We started by looking at why Christians celebrate Easter and read the Easter story. The children thought about something special they could do on Easter Day like Jesus did - there were mentions of helping with the washing up so it might be worth asking what they thought of!

In Phonics we have recapped the digraphs learnt during the term and have worked on reading these within words as well as spelling words containing them. We have also recapped the tricky words and practised reading and writing these too. We wrote an acrostic poem together and the children had a go at their own based on an Easter theme. Ash class, along with the rest of the school, completed a 'cold write' writing about a special box and what they thought might be inside. The children came up with lots of fantastic ideas including a real talking cat and a unicorn bouncy castle!

In maths the children have reinforced their number recognition and ordering by completing Easter dot to dots and have recapped work on addition with Easter eggs. They have also worked hard on creating some Easter crafts and cards. There is a Haslingfield tradition of Ash class performing 'Spring Chicken' at the Easter service. Unfortunately, the service wasn't possible this year, but we couldn't let Easter pass without them learning and singing this song which is on tapestry for you to watch.

It has been a very strange Spring term and I'd like to thank Mrs Chadwick, Mrs Williams and Mrs Siddall for their support of me and your children during this last three weeks since they returned to school. Whilst not ideal, the combination of zoom teaching and their amazing in class support has enabled the children to continue to make great progress. We all wish you a very Happy Easter and a restful break.



Birch – Mrs Noble and Mrs Williams:

We have had a lovely Easter themed week this week. We have done some Easter themed maths, which has practised a lot of the skills we have learnt so far this year: our numbers to 100 in numerals and words, our shape knowledge, simple addition and subtraction and problem solving. We also practised simple addition and subtraction word problems in the form of an Easter Maths Challenge hunt.

We have also practised our tricky words using an Easter theme, this week. We did a piece of writing of their choice about a very unusual wooden box. We had some lovely interesting stories, descriptions and pieces of information about the box. In addition to this, we have assessed the children on their maths, reading and spelling.

We completed our sculptures inspired by the work of Alexander Calder and the children made a fantastic job of them. We are going to hang them in our classroom for everyone to enjoy. We concluded our Science this week by performing an experiment about our 5 senses whereby they predicted what they thought would happen in the experiment, completed the experiment and recorded their results, which they then evaluated. We also talked about the Season of Spring and did a Spring Hunt in the school grounds looking for signs of spring.

Lastly, and by no means least, we said a fond farewell to Mrs Noble this week and sent her on her way to enjoy her family with her new baby. Mrs Noble would like to send you a massive thank you for all the generous gifts and lovely messages and conversations she has had from you. She has assured us she will keep in touch and send us photos and updates of her new arrival. We would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Easter.



Hazel – Mrs Chapman Burton:

WE MADE IT! That Spring term went by in a flash and now it is time for us to have a well-earned rest over the Easter holidays.

This week, you have completed your assessments in reading, writing and SPAG - I am so proud of you for working hard on these! They are really going to help me plan what skills we need to learn in the Summer term. You completed a cold write this week too all about a mysterious wooden box. I was so impressed by your writing and I know Miss Peck will be too when she sees them! In Maths, we finished our unit of work on Geometry, and we are now masters of 2D and 3D shapes even knowing the lines of symmetry both vertical and horizontal. Next term we will begin fractions, time and measure! Over the Easter holiday, it would be great if you could start finding halves and quarters of shapes around the house or even halves and quarters of amounts!

We have spent time this week being creative by making our own invisible string pictures as well as making Easter Cards. We also took part in an Easter egg hunt around the field! We had so much fun! Thank you so much for your hard work this term. Have a wonderful Easter break.

Lower Key Stage 2



Hawthorn – Mrs Lees and Mrs Keen:

It seems strange to think that it is the holidays already, when everyone has only been in school for three weeks. We've been really impressed with the way everyone has settled back into school routines and learning in school. Everybody has been motivated and keen to volunteer answers with some great ideas.

This week we have been doing some assessments in Maths and English and there has been a real sense of perseverance and 'let's get on and do this the best I can' attitude, which has been great. In English we enjoyed finishing Flat Stanley and enjoyed the twist at the end which nobody expected - Stanley was wrapped in bandages and then posted back to his brother, so Arthur got a real mummy after all! We were impressed with the quality of the writing that was done about a mysterious box. Some fantastic vocabulary and a huge range of ideas about it.

In Science we have been out in the garden twice. The first time we dug the vegetable beds over, digging up weeds and looking at the structure of plants, especially the different size roots some of them had! In our bed we have also planted potatoes, carrots, radish and spring onion. Hopefully there will be lots of green shoots starting to appear when we come back after Easter. We have also scattered wild flower seeds on the newly grass seeded area.

In Art they have been working with Mrs Woodard and have mostly completed the paper mache for our canopic jars now ready to finish and paint after Easter. In topic we had a 'fantastic finish' to our Ancient Egyptian topic finding out about Queen Cleopatra – the last ruler of this time. She was a remarkable queen speaking several languages, had a good knowledge of maths and astronomy however she did anything to keep power! See what everyone can remember. Finally, we have completed our week with the Easter story, retelling it with a comic strip and having an Easter egg hunt.

Have a wonderful, relaxed Easter and we look forward to seeing everyone in April. Our new topic will be Great Britain.



Oak – Miss Kimberley and Miss Houghton:

Another term has whizzed by and here we are at the end of the spring term. Strangely home schooling is a distant memory now since the children have returned and it has been a real joy actually resume to face to face teaching in the classroom. The children don't appear to have lost any of their enthusiasm, curiosity or joy for learning and we have had a great three weeks since our return, with many fun and practical activities including the Greek Olympics and the Greek Feast Day.

The Greek Feast Day was a huge success. I was so impressed that everyone managed to come up with a Greek costume, they really looked the part. The children delighted us all with their entertainments. We enjoyed mini drama's both, comedies and tragedies, with such titles as 'The Goat and His Love' and 'Keep your Hair on Zeus!' We had songs and instrumental pieces. We ended our Greek Day with a Feast of olives, feta, pitta, hummus, carrot, cucumber and celery sticks. And finally some Greek dancing to some authentic Greek music. It really was great fun. Thank you to all the children for entering into the spirit of the day.

In Art this week the children started their coil pots in clay. The inspiration was the ceramics of Grayson Perry. The brief for the children's pots was to create a coil pot that represented 'You, Now'. We completed the pots, adding their own embellishments and scraffitto on Wednesday morning. They are all very impressive. The children will be painting them after the Easter Holidays.

In maths we learnt how to subtract fractions with the same denominator; use the inverse operation to solve missing number fraction problems and subtracting fractions from a whole number and mixed numbers. On the lead up to the Christian festival of Easter, the children looked at the events of Holy Week, the Crucifixion and Resurrection and completed an illustrated booklet.

It has been an eventful term. I am looking forward to the gradual relaxation of the covid restrictions in the summer term and hopefully returning to some semblance of normality in the hope that we can participate in more of the whole school events traditionally enjoyed. Wishing you all a very happy Easter.

Upper Key Stage 2



Willow – Mr Brown:

We have had a rather busy week over the last 5 days where the children have continued to show off their best selves and put in 100% effort right up to the end. In English, the children wrote some excellent diary entries, which we all found very entertaining, from the perspective of Tim the Ostler. The class included some great ideas in capturing his heart break and anger of seeing Bess (his one true love) in love with the Highwayman and came up with plans of how Tim will break them apart. We then read more of the poem with the class and the children found out what happened to Tim, Bess and the Highwayman as they wrote questions to interview Tim about how he was feeling now that Bess is dead and the Highwayman was close to being captured and then role-played being Tim to give a response. Lastly we wrote a trail of thought from the Highwayman to share his final moments before being killed by the King's guards. The children also thoroughly enjoyed completing their cold writing task where they had to base their writing upon a mysterious box. The class loved having the free choice of writing genres and styles and it was brilliant to see such concentration and enthusiasm as they were able to guide their writing to how they desired.

In Maths the class swapped from addition to subtraction where they subtracted fractions with different denominators with the children choosing between direct and indirect multiples. The children then called upon these and previously learnt skills to subtract fractions away from mixed numbers and then moved onto mixed numbers subtract mixed numbers.

The children also completed end of term assessments for Maths and Reading which will help me to assess their progress over the school year so far and highlight what skills we need to work on further after Easter. The children showed great concentration and will complete further assessments in spelling and grammar when we return to school.

In PE over the past few weeks we have been practising skills for forehand and backhand strokes in tennis where the children worked on body positioning, back swing and the control of shot. In gymnastics the children were challenged by working together to design their own equipment set up in the hall. After their initial discussions they worked well in a team and then were able to show various elements of symmetry in pairs using various apparatus.

The children have been working exceptionally hard during their last week of learning before Easter and have definitely earned their time off to relax and have fun. I hope you all have a lovely break and I look forward to welcoming you back for our summer term in school. Stay safe!



Beech – Miss Peck

End of term! Wow! We can't quite believe how quickly the past 3 weeks have gone. You have consistently been wonderful and have made the transition back into school life so easy! Thank you!

This week we have completed our assessments and whilst we know that for so many of you this was very daunting you were all superstars. You all tried your very best and that is quite simply all we ask. We use these assessments to help us understand what you have learnt and where you need more support, they do not make up your whole selves, remember to take any assessment as the opportunity to show off how totally awesome you are!

When each of your assessments were done, you got well and truly stuck into creating your islands. You used glue (lots of it) papier mache, mod-rock, so much cardboard, paint, glue guns and many different natural materials. The results were outstanding, all so different and imaginative! Although the tidying up took us a really long time, we absolutely adored having a messy classroom, because that to us means we had all 29 of our happy children back in Beech Class.

Once we had created our islands, we complete a cold write. A piece of writing inspired by a physical or visual stimulus. This time, you were shown only a wooden box, small in size with an ornate pattern on the top. That was it, your only objective was to let your imagination run wild and you definitely achieved that! We had stories, diary entries and descriptions which were all so different. Your vocabulary and use of external resources was brilliant- well done. We then did some blue buddy marking, which you all took very seriously- definitely some future teachers amongst us!

To celebrate our last day of term, we went outside and completed an Easter egg hunt- we decided you are never too old for that! You all loved it and it got rather competitive! Thankfully everyone found their prize, we hope you enjoy your sweet treats over the holidays! Easter holidays are now upon us and we know that it will still be a little bit different but we hope you manage to get outside, play games but most of all, relax, enjoy some downtime doing lots of different things that make *you* happy! This is the reason we are not setting any formal homework for the Easter break, we figured you may have had enough of home learning for a little while. However, if you would like to, you can complete some research in preparation for our new topic 'South America' and as always, please do lots of reading, independently and with your grown-ups or siblings.

Well done Beech class, you really are superstars!

