

NEWSLETTER 14.01.2022

Dear families,

It may be a chilly week but we have hit the ground running. My visits to classrooms has seen engaged children, lively classrooms and that real sense of purpose that is the hallmark of learning environments at Little Hadham. One of the highlights of the week was getting a chance to see Willow children taking part in their boxercise lesson- wow they have some quick feet!

I'd like to make a plea regarding attendance. At Little Hadham we have always bucked the national trend with attendance being above national levels and targets. For the first time, we are seeing it slip this year. Whilst Covid is of course a factor, in a school that has been less hit by the virus than many others, our attendance should be higher. I know many families do already, but please endeavour to avoid unnecessary absences such as unauthorised term time holidays. Your support in helping children be in school helps our ethos of "every minute counts". In addition, please also note that our classes start with learning activities from the very start of the day, so lateness means that practise of key skills such as handwriting, number facts or spelling will be missed as well as being disruptive for the rest of the class.

Have a great weekend

Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

**Diary Dates**

- 08/2/2022 Safer Internet Day
- 09/02/2022 Willow Class trip
- 11/02/2022 Half term begins
- 21/02/2022 Inset
- 22/02/2022 Return to school
- 30/03/2022 Parents' Consultations
- 01/04/2022 End of Term

More to follow...

**Don't Be Late!**

There is only one day left...Tell all your friends! This is a reminder that children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 need to apply for a new reception school place by midnight on 15th January 2022

**COVID UPDATE - Please Read**

***If your child has symptoms of COVID, they should get a PCR test and isolate until the result is known. If a child does not have symptoms of COVID but tests positive on a lateral flow test, they no longer need to get a PCR test. Please inform the office as soon as your child receives either form of positive test. We will now inform classes each time there is a positive lateral flow test within the class.***

***From Monday 17th January, if your child tests positive, the isolation period has been reduced to 5 days after the day they tested positive or first showed symptoms. If they get a negative lateral flow test in the morning of Day 5 and Day 6, they can return to school ON Day 6 (after the negative test result is known). If your child continues to test positive after day 5, they should continue to isolate for up to 10 days. If they get 2 consecutive negative lateral flow tests during days 6, 7, 8, and 9, the isolation period can end earlier than day 10. Children can return to school on the day of the second negative test. If your child is currently isolating and Day 5 of their isolation falls on or after Monday 17th January, they can return to school on Day 6, provided they have the negative test from Day 5 and first thing in the morning on Day 6. We would advise that everyone in the household where there is a positive case should do daily lateral flow tests for 7 days. We will continue to follow government guidance in relation to hand hygiene and ventilation around the school. Children in classes or households with positive cases who have no symptoms MUST continue to attend school. Any absence will be counted as unauthorised.***



News from the classes...

This week the Early Years children have been enjoying the visits from Jack Frost! We have loved making crunchy footsteps on the frozen mud, finding different ways for ice to melt, and even made some frost angels on the field! We also started our new topic all about traditional tales, and made a castle to



go at the top of our beanstalk!

Beech class have thrown themselves enthusiastically in to their new topic about castles. They really enjoyed learning about William the Conqueror and have enjoyed using the laptops to research different castles around the country.



Their work in literacy at the moment is traditional tales and this week has been concentrating on the Three Little Pigs. The week has ended with role playing the story where we met some very scary wolves!



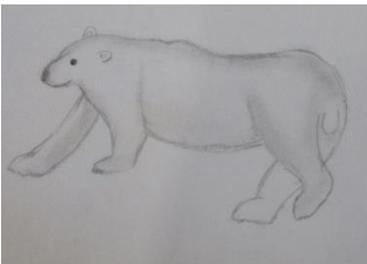
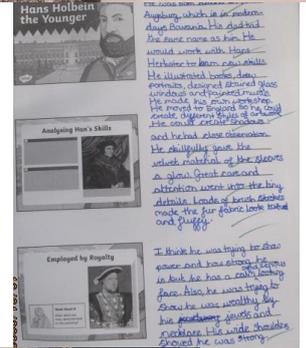
Lime class's topic this half term is 'Mighty Metals' and through this we will be learning about forces and materials. We have started by talking about push and pull forces and then we tried a great fun friction investigation using books, which made us all laugh! Ask us about it and we will try it out on you!



Our class book is, 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and we are already wondering who he is and where he came from. In PE we are keeping fit and having fun as usual. In music we have listened to a famous Abba song and we now can't stop singing it, I wonder if you can guess what it is? Maybe you have heard us...



Maple's first topic for the Spring Term is called **Off with her head!** We will travel back in time to the 1500s and meet the terrifying Tudors, a domineering dynasty that changed our history. This week, we started learning about Henry VIII and wrote his biography. We collected snippets of information from a range of sources, including the web and books. We used this information to make brief, effective notes for a short biography aimed at children of their age. We also looked at his portraits and discussed what messages he was trying to portray about his power, strength and wealth. We looked at portraits by Hans Holbein and learnt about this artist. We then created a portrait of Henry VIII.



A chilly start to the week was perfect for Year 6 as we began our new topic: Frozen Kingdom. We have been researching facts about icebergs and made some interesting discoveries. Did you know that some icebergs are called 'Growlers' because of the animal-like growl they make as pockets of air escape when the ice begins to melt? In Art, we used different



drawing and shading techniques to draw polar bears. We are justifiably proud of our fine-looking polar bears. In Maths, we translated and reflected points in all four quadrants, and revised some properties of shapes.

