Little Hadham Primary School
Stortford Road, Little Hadham, Herts SG11 2DX
Tel: 01279 771285 **Email**: admin@littlehadham.herts.sch.uk
Head Teacher Ms S Connolly

Little Hadham Primary School
'Believing and Achieving'

Week 3

NEWSLETTER 18.09.2026

Diary Dates

28/09/26 Learning Together PM EYFS-2:45
29/09/26 Learning Together Morning Willow
30/09/26 Learning Together Morning Maple
01/10/26 Learning Together Morning Lime
02/10/26 Learning Together Morning Beech
06/10/26 Phonics Meeting EYFS and Year 1 Parents @9:00
13/10/26 Willow Class Bletchley park
19/10/26 Flu Jabs
20/10/26 Poetry By Heart
21/10/26 Parents' Evening 1-7pm
22/10/26 Golden Morning
22/10/26 Half-Term begins 3:15
23/10/26 Inset- staff only
31/10/26 Year 7 Admission Deadlines
02/11/26 Back to school
More to come…watch this space!

Dear Parents & Carers,

Drum roll, please… 🥁

What an exciting couple of weeks it has been here at Little Hadham! The school has been buzzing with anticipation as our pupils have been preparing for and taking part in elections for our School Captains, School Council and Green Team. A huge round of applause must go to our wonderful Year 6 pupils, who did an incredible job speaking in front of the whole school. Their confidence, creativity, humour and enthusiasm really shone through. It takes real courage to stand up in front of your peers and share your ideas, and we could not be prouder of every single one of them. Their speeches were certainly memorable—you could have been forgiven for thinking we had a room full of future politicians rather than primary school children!

And now, the moment you have all been waiting for…

🥁 Our brand-new School Captains are: Eloise and Libby

Cheered on by their fantastic Vice-Captains: Rupert and Joshua

Huge congratulations to them all! We are sure they will make a wonderful team and will represent our school with pride, enthusiasm and kindness.

But that's not all…

🌱 Our brand-new School Council is: Freddie, Rafe, Jules, Olive, Kali, Marcus, Rafael and Isabelle

And of course, we mustn't forget our fantastic…

🌿 Green Team: Shea, Mason, Arthur, Eva, Evie, Aidan, Tilly and Otis

With such a mighty group of young leaders, I have no doubt that we are going to be kept on our toes this year—and perhaps even a little bit bossed around along the way! Most importantly, we know they will bring plenty of ideas, energy and enthusiasm as they help to make a difference across our school.

Every pupil who put themselves forward for one of these important roles deserves an enormous well done. Standing up, sharing your ideas and putting yourself forward takes confidence, bravery and determination. We hope every child feels incredibly proud of themselves for having the courage to have a go. They have shown us just how many wonderful young voices we have here at Little Hadham.

A huge thank you also goes to all the parents and grandparents who have generously given up their time to help us peel away that rather *awful* green wrapping from the bus! Your help has been very much appreciated, and we are getting closer and closer to seeing our exciting new space come to life. We cannot wait to welcome you onto the bus over the next few weeks once it is ready to open. There will, of course, be a cup of tea and a slice of cake waiting for you as a little thank you for all your hard work!

And finally, a huge shout-out to Mr Rutty and his fantastic team. They have worked incredibly hard putting in shelves, creating storage and, most importantly, bringing to life many of my rather creative ideas! They have done a truly wonderful job, and we are so grateful for all the time, skill and effort they have put into transforming the bus.

What an exciting time to be part of Little Hadham. We are incredibly lucky to have such enthusiastic children, supportive families and a community who are always willing to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in.

Here's to our new young leaders, our Green Team, our School Council and, of course, our very special reading bus. We have a feeling this is going to be a very exciting year! 🎉📚🌱

Have a lovely weekend,
Sinead Connolly

Rights Respecting Schools



This week, our whole school assembly took inspiration from the beautiful picture book *The Artist* by Ed Vere. Our School Captains, Eloise and Libby, helped to deliver the assembly and encouraged us all to think carefully about which of the UNCRC Articles the story might make us think about.

Our discussion focused particularly on Article 13 – the right to share our thoughts and ideas freely and Article 2 – the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. Our Captains reminded us that we are all good at different things and that being different is not a problem to fix. In fact, our differences are what make our school such a special place.





The Artist teaches us that we don't all have to see the world in the same way, be good at the same things or express ourselves in the same way. What matters is that we have the freedom to be ourselves, develop our talents, share our ideas and respect the differences we see in other people.

Our Captains left us with a wonderful final thought:

Be proud of what makes you different. Give others the space to be themselves. And never be afraid to share your own ideas.

A huge well done to Eloise and Libby for helping to deliver such a thoughtful and thought-provoking assembly.

Mrs Tweedale,

Deputy Head

Rights Respecting Schools Co-ordinator





It has been another busy and exciting week in Early Years! The children have continued developing their dance this week. We have been practising moving to a count of eight and exploring how we can move like different animals. From speedy cheetahs to slithering snakes, the children have loved using their imaginations to bring our animal movements to life! We have been so impressed with how well the children are listening and responding to instructions during our sessions.

In Literacy, we have been enjoying the story *So Much!* by Trish Cooke. We talked about the baby's family and how much fun they have together as they celebrate a family birthday party. The children noticed that the baby felt sad when it was time to go to bed. It turns out that lots of our children could relate to this feeling! The children in Ash Class then had a go at writing this feeling down as a caption, thinking carefully about the sounds they could hear in sequence. Our Saplings children responded to the story by drawing scenes from their own lives when they have felt happy or sad. It was lovely to see them making connections between the story and their own experiences.

In Maths, we have been exploring early counting and sorting skills through lots of hands-on play. The children have enjoyed using a range of different manipulatives, from counters to loose parts, to practise counting, sorting and comparing. We have been encouraging the children to notice what is the same and what is different, developing their mathematical vocabulary and helping them to spot patterns and similarities within their play.

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In PSED, we have been thinking about the special people in our own lives, as well as the special people who help us within our community. We explored different objects and resources linked to a range of community professions, including firefighters, dentists, builders and doctors. The children loved sharing their own experiences and talking about people in these professions who they have met in their own lives. Following our carpet session, the children launched straight into some very enthusiastic firefighter role play when the teacher's house caught fire and they had to work together to put it out! Interestingly, the children also noticed the smell of the bonfire from After School Club, which led to lots of fantastic discussion about fire safety, and how the forest teachers were also people who help us!



During Music, the children had the opportunity to explore creating different rhythms through movement. Using cups, they tapped on the floor to recreate the rhythm of their friends' movements. We used slow taps to represent stomping and fast taps to represent running, helping the children to explore how the speed of our movements can affect the rhythm we create.

The children really enjoyed taking turns to move and tap along with their friends in the circle. They had lots of fun experimenting with different speeds and listening carefully to each other's rhythms.

Following on from our work about the special people in our lives, the children had the opportunity to think about what makes their friends in class special. Each child chose a 'mini me' of a friend from the basket and shared something they particularly liked or valued about that person.



It was lovely to hear such thoughtful and kind reasons from the children. Some of their responses included, "Because you are so kind," "You have a lovely smile," and "You are special because you play with me."

It is wonderful to see the children getting to know one another better, recognising the special qualities in their friends and developing such positive and caring relationships within the class.



It has been another busy and exciting week in Beech Class. The children have continued to develop our knowledge, skills and understanding across the wider curriculum, with plenty of opportunities to ask questions, share ideas, work together and learn through practical experiences.



In Science, our learning has focused on animals and how they can be grouped and described. Year 1 have been learning to identify and name common animal body parts, including heads, eyes, ears, mouths, noses, legs, wings, fins and tails. We have compared different animals and thought carefully about how their body parts are similar and different, as well as considering how particular body parts help animals.



Year 2 have been exploring the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates. We have learned that vertebrates have a backbone, while invertebrates do not. The children have sorted animals into groups and explained how they know which group an animal belongs to. Throughout our science learning, the children have been encouraged to observe carefully, ask questions, identify patterns and make comparisons.



In Geography, the children have been learning about Little Hadham as a settlement. We have identified Little Hadham as a village and explored some of the features that make up our local area, including houses, roads, the church, school and community buildings, green spaces and local facilities. The children have used geographical vocabulary to describe what they can see and have considered how a village differs from a town or city. They have also begun to represent their understanding through simple maps and pictures of the local area. This learning has helped the children develop a stronger sense of place and belonging and recognise the community around them.



In Art, we have been inspired by the work of Paul Klee. The children have explored how artists use lines, shapes, colours and patterns to create pictures. They have experimented with simple geometric shapes, different types of lines, a range of colours and repeated patterns. We have particularly focused on developing careful control of our marks and taking pride in our finished work. The children have had opportunities to make their own creative choices and talk about the artistic decisions they have made.

Through our PSHE learning, we have continued to think about relationships, feelings and how we treat other people. The children have been encouraged to recognise the importance of listening to others, understanding different feelings and developing positive relationships. This links closely with our Rights Respecting work, particularly the understanding that everyone has the right to be treated with dignity, kindness and respect. We are encouraging the children to understand that everyone matters and that we all have a role to play in making our classroom a safe, welcoming and inclusive place.

Across the week, our learning has continued to promote the values of respect, kindness, inclusion and responsibility. We have encouraged the children to listen to different viewpoints, participate in discussions, work cooperatively and recognise that everyone has an important contribution to make. We are particularly proud of the way the children are developing their understanding that rights come with responsibilities and that we all have a role in helping others to feel safe, included, listened to and respected.

It has been another busy and exciting week in Lime Class, with lots of opportunities for the children to learn, create and share their ideas. In English, the year threes have continuing their work on the fable ‘The Fox and The Crow’ by adapting it to create new characters and a new situation, whilst keeping the moral the same. The year fours focused on writing diary entries and sentences for a newspaper article, carefully using noun phrases and fronted adverbials to add detail, description and structure to their writing. In maths, year three and four have continued developing their understanding of place value by representing and partitioning numbers into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones, before recombining them to make whole numbers. The children are becoming increasingly confident at explaining the value of each digit and using this knowledge to solve problems.

In geography, we have been exploring maps of our local area. The children enjoyed locating our school and trying to find their own houses, helping them to understand how maps represent real places and how we can use them to find locations.

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We have also been learning about how to solve problems in the playground, thinking about the importance of listening to others, taking turns, communicating clearly and finding fair solutions. These discussions have helped us to think about how we can be responsible and considerate members of our school community.



This week also saw the children taking part in our School Council and Green Team elections. Those who wanted to stand for election prepared and delivered speeches to the class, explaining why they would make good representatives and sharing their ideas about how they could help make our school an even better place. The children listened carefully to each candidate before casting their votes. It was fantastic to see them speaking confidently in front of their classmates and taking this opportunity to experience democracy in action.






It was a close run thing and well done to everyone who stood up and gave a speech, but special congratulations must go to our councillors Marcus and Kali, and our Green team Evie and Aiden.

We have also been enjoying singing some lively ska songs in assembly, while PE has involved plenty of running — and, thanks to the unpredictable weather, occasionally running out of the rain!

Our Christmas preparations have also begun, with the children designing their own careful pictures to be sent to the printers and turned into Christmas cards and gifts. They put a great deal of care and creativity into their designs and were extremely proud of the finished results. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm across the week, from creating new characters in fables and tackling tricky place-value problems to confidently sharing ideas in speeches and producing artwork they can be proud of.



Our week in Maple Class started with a calming yoga session, where the children practised new postures and took part in games designed to improve their concentration, listening and focus. They also enjoyed their usual weekly PE sessions, including hockey and tag rugby. During hockey, the children worked hard to apply their attacking skills under pressure, showing determination and teamwork.





In History, the children learnt about religion in Ancient Greece and discovered that the Ancient Greeks were polytheistic, meaning they believed in many gods and goddesses. Using what they had learnt, the children wrote engaging speeches in role as an Ancient Greek god or goddess, adopting a chatty and informal tone. They used similar skills when writing persuasive speeches as candidates for the School Council and Green Team. This time, they particularly impressed us with the clarity of their voices, their confidence and the range of thoughtful ideas they shared.



In Art, the children created vibrant pieces of abstract artwork. To achieve their final designs, they had to listen carefully to instructions, use rulers with precision and create different shades and tints of warm or cool colours. The finished artwork was beautiful, and the children were very proud of their creations.



In Maths, the children continued developing their understanding of numbers by ordering and comparing numbers, using the correct mathematical vocabulary to explain their thinking.



In English, linked to their book, Year 4 focused on writing diary entries and sentences for a newspaper article, carefully using noun phrases and fronted adverbials to add detail, description and structure to their writing. Linked to our Ancient Greece topic, Year 5 used precise and powerful vocabulary to create vivid descriptions inspired by Pandora's Box. The children also explored the Ancient Greek myth Persephone and the Pomegranate Seeds, which explains a natural occurrence. They then wrote wonderful diary entries in role as Demeter, focusing particularly on her emotions and thoughts. We were very impressed with the empathy, imagination and creativity they showed in their writing!



In Science this week, Year 5 became flower detectives! 🌸 The children carefully dissected flowers and explored their different parts. They were able to identify the male and female parts of a flower and explain the role of each part. The children thoroughly enjoyed this hands-on investigation and were fascinated to examine the flowers closely and discover how each part contributes to the plant's reproduction.

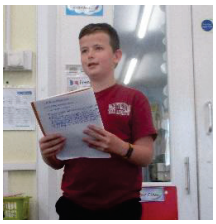
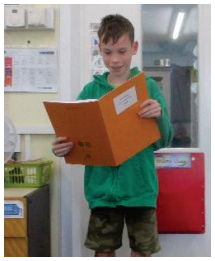
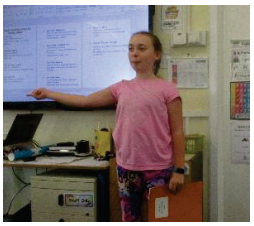
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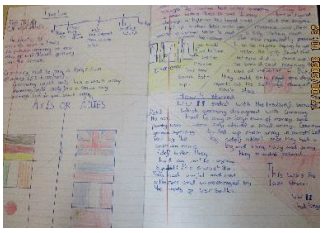

In Year 4, children were grouping animals based on their characteristics. They sorted animals into groups such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish, using features such as body coverings, how they reproduce and where they live. Through hands-on grouping activities, pupils discussed their ideas, explained their choices and developed their understanding of how animals can be classified.

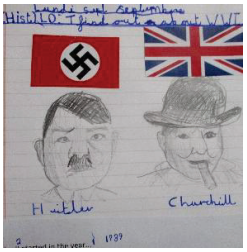
From elections and evacuees to sharks, circuits and even a little bit of Christmas magic, we have had a busy week in Willow Class! The votes are in! Our School Captain, School Council and Green Team elections have all now taken place, and our teams are ready for the year ahead. We think it is going to be a very bright one! A huge well done to everyone who put themselves forward and gave a speech. We were incredibly proud to see so many of you speaking with such confidence, enthusiasm and passion. Standing up in front of the whole school takes courage, and you should all be very proud of yourselves. Whether you were elected or not, remember that having the confidence to put yourself forward and share your ideas is a fantastic achievement. Well done, Year 6!

In History, we have been stepping back in time to the Second World War and investigating what life was really like for children who were evacuated. We looked at primary sources, including photographs and other evidence from the time, to help us answer an important question: *Did all evacuees have the same experience?* We discovered that the answer was not as simple as it first seemed. We looked carefully at photographs of smiling, happy-looking children in newspapers and began to think like historians. Why were these particular photographs chosen? We concluded that the government at the time would have wanted mothers to see evacuation as a positive and successful experience. Showing happy children in newspapers would help reassure families and encourage people to continue supporting the evacuation scheme. There was lots of thoughtful discussion as we considered what photographs can — and sometimes cannot — tell us about the past.





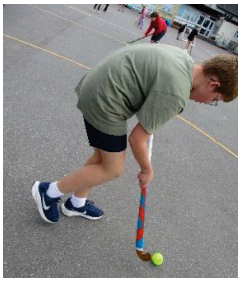






Our football skills have been getting a workout this week! We practised our skills through small-team games, focusing particularly on passing the ball with greater control. We worked on using the side of our foot to make accurate passes and began thinking carefully about where we should move after passing. There was plenty of running, passing, teamwork and, of course, a few determined attempts at goal!





Things became rather more dangerous in Hockey when...SHARKS APPEARED! Luckily, these sharks were only part of a game, but they certainly kept us on our toes! We had to dribble the hockey ball, dodge the sharks and keep possession at all times. Easier said than done when a hungry shark is heading your way! It was great fun and definitely tested our hockey skills, speed and reactions. We discovered that keeping control of a ball while trying to escape a shark is surprisingly tricky!

Is it too early to mention Christmas? Absolutely not! We have been busy designing and making our Christmas cards, which are now ready to be sent off to the printers. We have put lots of thought and creativity into our designs, so watch this space for order forms coming your way in the near future. We explored colour mixing using the primary colours, and we have to say... we think our results are rather beautiful!







Working as scientists, we have been learning how to draw electrical circuits accurately using universal symbols. We have also been learning some important scientific vocabulary. So, from now on, it's a lamp, not a bulb, and a cell, rather than a battery, when we are talking about the individual source of electrical energy in our simple circuits. We have been practising using the correct symbols and terminology so that our circuit diagrams can be understood clearly by other scientists.

