

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term, I hope that everyone had a relaxing week with their families! Well the first week back after half-term has certainly flown by - it is hard to believe that we are edging towards spring when the weather has been so awful.

It has been fantastic to see the children working so hard this week - during classroom visits and my hot chocolate chat this morning, I got to see and hear all what the children have been learning. I am so lucky to have such a fantastic job. And you can read all about it in the class news section!

Thank you to the members of our Friends who came today to organise the presents for the International Women's Day stall. The gifts are absolutely beautiful and I can't wait for this event to go ahead next Friday. With such a short half term, there is a lot going on in a short space of time, so do keep your eye on the dates section of the newsletter.

Congratulations to Willow Class who have been allocated their secondary school places this week- we will miss you all! As a school we work closely with our local secondary schools to support transition and arrange extra visits as needed. If you are concerned about your child's allocated school or their transition to secondary school please come and speak to me.

As always, have a lovely weekend.
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Diary Dates

- 05/03/24 Willow Class Workshop National Gallery-Monet and colour
- 07/03/24 World Book Day
- 08/03/24 International women's day- sale in school
- 12/03/24 Lime Class Workshop National Gallery-Sketching seasons
- 14/03/24 Year 5 and Year 6 Science Workshop with The Boys High
- 18/03/24 EYFS Workshop National Gallery- Make a story
- 19/03/24 Lime Class Performance 6:00pm
- 26/03/24 Poetry by Heart
- 27/03/24 Parents' Consultations - starting at 1:15- school will remain open for children
- 28/03/24 Golden Morning
- 28/03/24 Humanities Quiz KS2
- 28/03/24 End of Term- 1pm

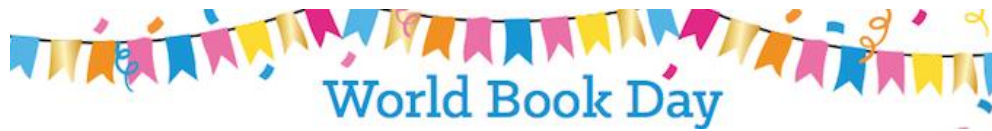
Eyesight:

Is your child complaining of headaches and eye strain. Did you know eye tests are FREE under the NHS for children under sixteen, as well as those aged 16-18 in full time education. Children in these groups will also get a voucher towards the cost of a pair of spectacles. We advise all parents to get yearly check-ups to avoid any long term medical concerns.

Safeguarding at Little Hadham Primary - a reminder of 'Online chat and etiquette'

We encourage all parents to **continue to oversee the online behaviours that your child engages with at home**. It is important that the message we share in school is echoed at home- children need to be reminded of their 'expected behaviours' whilst chatting to their friends online and what to do if they hear or see something that makes them uncomfortable. Do **remind them of their responsibility** to behave in the same respectful and kind way that they would when they see their friends in school - being 'virtual' is no excuse for poor behaviour or inappropriate language! Did you know that WhatsApp has a 16+ age restriction? Follow the QR code for more information.





Dear Parents and Carers,

Vocabulary on Parade: Dress as a word

As you know, this year World Book Day is **Thursday 7th March** with the theme 'Read your way'. We would like to invite you to join us in helping your child to make the most of this special occasion as we celebrate books and a love of reading with the children.

On Thursday 7th March, we will hold our very own Vocabulary Parade. Children are invited to dress as a word on this day to help us celebrate our rich and varied language. Children could include a piece of card with their word written on it and a 'child friendly' definition. They might like to include synonyms and antonyms for their chosen word. This will be an exciting opportunity to explore vocabulary and develop children's love of language. We know what a creative bunch you are!

Did you know...?

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. It is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. The first World Book Day in the UK and Ireland took place in 1997 to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading.

There are lots of connections between World Book Day and your rights, especially your rights to access reliable information, the right to develop your talents and abilities and the right to relax and play.

Article 17 - access to information from the media

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.



Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.



Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities. Try some of the activities below to help understand how the above articles can relate to World Book Day.



Lucy Tweedale
Deputy Head

World Book Day is about promoting reading for enjoyment. This ties in with your right to relax and play (Article 31), so what type of books do you enjoy most? What is your favourite book? Who is your favourite character? Talk to someone in your home about your answers or write a book review about your favourite book.

"We don't need books anymore because we have the internet."
Do you agree with the statement? What reasons do you see, for and against? Maybe you could have a debate with people at home?

Article 17 isn't just about your right to information, it's a right to *reliable* information. Which of these sources would you trust more: Facebook, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Wikipedia or a tabloid newspaper? Not all words and opinions are equal.

Do you know the character Stanley from Holes, Auggie from Wonder, or even Cinderella? You can look at most characters in books from the point of view of whether or not they get to enjoy all their rights. Choose a character from a book who made an impression on you and create a word cloud about their rights.

News from the classes...

Ash and Saplings have had a super start to their second half term and were all ready and excited to be back in class. We have started our new topic of Transport and began the week listening to the story of We're Going on a Bear Hunt. The children came up with some wonderful words to describe the grass in the story. Whilst Saplings talked about the different words they could think of, Ash class were busy writing sentences describing the grass. The children used their robot arms to help them sound out and spell the words.



There is plenty of transport inspired play during choosing time, including the use of diggers in sand and the bikes are back outside, much to the children's delight. The bikes and scooters are a great opportunity for them to develop their gross motor skills, balance and core strength.

In Maths, we have been working on one less than. We have had toy boxes and a cheeky mouse who likes to take a toy away. The children had to work out how many toys would be left once the mouse had taken one away. They were very good at predicting the number of toys left.

In Phonics, Saplings class are continuing to learn their sounds and spot them in books and

poems. They are super sound detectives! Ash class are working hard on their tricky words and learning how to spell them, as well as say them.

Our detective work carried on into the forest during our Forest School session as we searched for signs of Spring. There were cheers of joy that "Spring is coming!" when we found buds and blossom on trees, flowers growing and even some sleepy bumblebees.



In gymnastics, the year 2 children mastered their standing jumps, learning to leap from both feet and land steadily on both feet. They utilised their hands for added momentum and aimed to land on the balls of their feet before their heels. Meanwhile, the year one children have been exploring various gymnastic body shapes, from the bridge to the star, and they have carefully refined their techniques.

In English class, the children have been composing recounts of our half-term holidays. To start, they orally recounted our experiences by engaging in a time-word dice game. Each child had to formulate a sentence starting with a time word indicated by their rolled dice. We refined these sentences, incorporating words like "eventually," before integrating them into our written narratives.



In Design and Technology (DT), the children have been exploring the impact of various wheel sizes on the distance and direction of their vehicles. Additionally, they have conducted experiments on axles. These activities are in preparation for designing their own fire engines.

In mathematics, the focus for the year one children has been on understanding place value, extending their knowledge to numbers up to 100 and beyond. They've been engaging deeply with the concept, grasping the significance of each digit's position within a number. Meanwhile, in year two, the children have focussed on multiplication and division. Through the use of arrays and hands-on materials, they've been dissecting the fundamental principles behind these operations, gaining a solid understanding of how they work and their practical applications.

Here in Lime Class we have been thoroughly enjoying innovating our traditional Kenyan stories, changing the characters and ideas whilst keeping the story setting and structure.

In maths we have started to look at fractions, learning about numerators and denominators and how we can order fractions that are greater than 1.

Our science this week was all about the functions of leaves and we found out all about the process of photosynthesis.

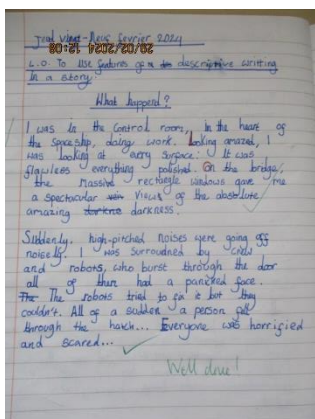
In PHSE we discussed the difference between fact and opinion, and in French we were introduced to les legumes! The first few words were easy as they are almost the same in English..... les carottes, les courgettes et les aubergines.

We began our new Geography topic by working together and finding the world's deserts on a map before discovering that the definition of a desert is all to do with rainfall. We weren't surprised to find out how much rain falls on the UK in an average year – it feels as though this year has been a record though.

Even though the rain was falling (surprise, surprise!) we still managed to get our exercise in PE by playing bench ball and in computing we learnt about communicating online and how we can make sure that we are kind and stay safe.

In Maple, this week, we impressed with our powerful, vocabulary choices. We chose and used precise vocabulary for a description and in a story; we included vivid sensory details to create a mood and used figurative language such as similes, metaphors, personification and hyperbole. Using a range of figurative language in our descriptive writing gives it more richness and depth, and helps to paint a picture in the reader's mind.

This week, we summarised what we learnt about the lives of rich and poor Tudors by working in a group and sorting statements and fact cards. What an amazing topic; we loved learning about the Tudors. We learnt lots of interesting facts about Henry VIII and his wives as well as the lives of rich and poor Tudors, about many different aspects such as: society, food, clothes, homes and family life.



In PSHE, we described some of the health risks caused by smoking. We had so many things to share in the lesson and we could explain some of the reasons why less people nowadays smoke: people are getting well-informed of the harms of tobacco and smoking is not allowed in a public spaces. It was impressive that some children already knew

that it's a government aim to make the UK a smoke-free society by 2030.

In PE, we explored different methods of travelling, linking actions in both canon and synchronisation. We worked collaboratively, listening and sharing ideas, and created a routine that included travelling actions and balances.



This week's update from Willow Class has been written by Kitan and Darcy, Yr 6.

We begin each week in Willow Class with a relaxing Yoga session. This week was no different. We focussed on the sun sequence. Dog, Proud Horse and Cobra (without the hiss!) were the poses we chose to concentrate on. Although it was a relaxing session, we had fun by playing an 'odd one out' game. Even though Mrs Tweedale tried her best to catch us out, Kitan was the overall winner! We usually finish the session with ladybird relaxation which helps us feel calm and releases any stress we might feel.



You might think decimals are daunting but not for Year 6! We've added, subtracted, divided and multiplied and we think decimals are delightful. Our top tip when working with decimals is to always remember to line up the decimal point when solving the calculation.



When we think of net sports, volleyball might not be the first sport that comes to mind. However, this week we began learning some of the rules of volleyball and how to pass the ball. We practised throwing the ball high and catching it above our head. This is called the 'set'. We learnt that the ball must never touch the ground on your side of the court or the opposing team will win the point. As always, cooperation and teamwork is key to being successful!

In English, we have been learning how to write persuasively. We have revised persuasive features and begun to learn about Iceland as a holiday destination so we can write a persuasive travel article. Iceland has many activities suitable for everyone. We think it is the most magnificent country to visit in the Arctic Circle. When we use the word 'most' and describe it in this way, this is called a superlative!



In Computing we have been busy creating VR Worlds. This week we had the chance to explore our world using a VR headset! Although the game was not interactive, it was a fun experience. We learnt more about each other through the activity because our VR worlds had to be about us.





In Science, we learnt about Marie Maynard Daly. She was the first black woman to get a PhD in Chemistry in the USA. Marie was researching how cholesterol affects the body. There are two different kinds of cholesterol. One is made by the liver and is good because it helps clean our blood. The other kind is not good and comes from animal food sources. Too much of this kind of cholesterol can narrow the arteries. At the end of our lesson, we made butter by shaking cream vigorously. It was delicious spread on a cracker! We know butter is high in cholesterol, but eaten occasionally...what a treat!



Thank you, Kitan and Darcy, for a super review of a week in Willow Class! Great job!

HFL Education annual Year 5 Mathematics Challenge at Little Hadham Primary



For the 3rd year running, eight Year 5 pupils were invited to attend the HFL Education annual Year 5 Mathematics Challenge. The HFL Education Year 5 Maths Challenge competition gives Year 5 pupils the opportunity to test their mathematics and teamwork skills to solve questions and problems.



Last year, 260 teams, from Herts and all over England, both State and Independent Schools participated in this friendly competition.



This year, more than 1000 children participated! Children had to work in two groups of four and answer to a variety of questions. A huge well done to Little Hadham Team A (Belle, Thea, Lochlan and Finlay) and Little Hadham Team B (Leo, Caden, Max and Sachin) for challenging themselves with problem-solving, reasoning, estimation, visualisation, memory and arithmetic from across the mathematics curriculum.



Skip 2 B Fit...

Thank you to all for supporting our Skip 2B Fit. The children really showed their competitive side and were extremely good at beating their previous score! This has been brilliant for the children to keep fit and they are still skipping away when they can! You'll be pleased to know (I'm sure) that Ms Connolly beat her last score and now holds the record of 339 skips in 2 minutes- so if you want to sponsor her well done please don't hesitate! Here's the link for the last time!

https://www.gofundme.com/f/sponsored-skip-2b-fit?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=chat&utm_source=whatsapp