

NEWSLETTER 20.10.2022

Week 7

Dear Parents & Carers,

Can you believe we have reached the end of the first half term already? Thank you all for attending Parents' Evening last night. It was so lovely to see so many of you here and spending time with your children looking through their books. As you heard from your child's teachers, the children are settled well in class and they are producing super work across the curriculum. It is a key part of the school leadership to ensure that standards are high across the school and there is a lot of evidence that is telling us that! And from positive results in our initial assessment period of the year to seeing how engaged children are in classes, Little Hadham is working very well.

Also, we were busy completing pupil progress meetings these last couple of weeks as these are also a key part of our monitoring. It always impresses me how well our staff know your children. From these meetings, a number of adjustments are considered and we are also able to offer a range of proven interventions that can make a huge positive difference to your children.

The children joined together to learn from vicar Steve what the local church does during harvest. Each class performed a song which they had prepared, and we thought about being thankful for the food we have, as well as doing what we can to share with others. A huge 'thank-you' for the donations for the food bank which you have so generously sent in. These are being brought to the food bank by Lyndon, our brilliant cleaner. Thank you everyone and thanks to Lyndon for helping us out again.

Next half term is always one of our favourites with lots of winter magic to sprinkle across the school! With pantomimes, performances, Christmas Jumper Day, Crazy Hair day, Odd-Sock Day and Remembrance Day to name just a few of the important events taking place.

A polite reminder to please keep children by your side before and after school, this is to help keep everyone safe. Children should not play on our equipment, tinker with apparatus or play in the forest area. Your support with this is very much appreciated and helps keep our school environment calm and safe for all.

Wishing you all a restful half-term,
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Diary Dates

21/10/22 Inset

31/10/22 Year 7 Admission Deadlines

31/10/22 Back to school

31/10/22 BMX workshop Year 4/5/6

25/11/22 Christmas Bazaar

14/12/22 Christmas Jumper day bring a £1

09/12/22 Beech Class performance 6pm

20/12/22 Christmas Lunch

21/12/22 End of Term 1pm

More to come...watch this space!

Golden Morning

Sometimes, in just one week at Little Hadham, it feels like we have one hundred magical moments. We could probably do a newsletter every day to celebrate what is happening in our lovely school! This morning was one of those moments, we saw the return of Golden Morning. This was an opportunity to practise, to enjoy and to learn something new like a sport, cooking, paper plane launching, clay, arts and crafts, and lots more! It is also where the children get to mix with children from all classes. Apparently, the school was a hive of activity, unfortunately I missed it as I was on a Heads' Update! But when I returned, I heard that classrooms were buzzing with the sound of children laughing and learning together. Thank you to those parents who volunteered to help and our governor, Keith Hutt, who amazed them all with paper plane launchers!

Thankfully, Mrs Tweedale took lots of brilliant photos and I will add these wonderful memories to the website tomorrow.



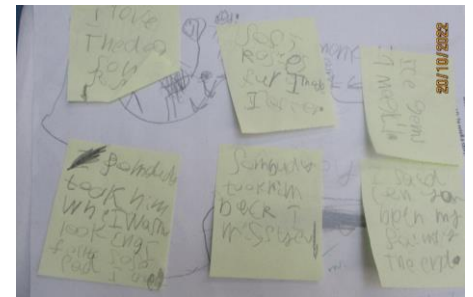
The children in Early Years have been hard at work setting up a new role play area in the garden! In place of our police station, the children chose to put together a garage for their cars to use. We made road signs and road markings to help us move safely around our outside area, and even included zebra crossings for people to cross the track safely!



We have also enjoyed noticing the seasonal changes that are taking place all around us. We had discussions about how many leaves change colour at this time of year, but some don't. We really liked spotting evergreen trees around our outside area and also reading Leaf Man and creating leaf collages during choosing time.



Beech class have been reading the book Handa's Surprise. We learnt the story from memory and performed simple actions. We then drew a story map with the key parts of the story. After that, we put Post-it notes over the top of the parts of the story that we wanted to change. Our version of the stories were amazing and we could retell them in our own way.



In Maths we have been working on addition and impressing our teachers with our skills and knowledge.

Also, we found time to make a weather station and collected and recorded data about the weather in winter.



Lime class have been busy measuring the movement of shadows during a sunny day by observing a shadow stick. They recorded the position of the sun and the shadow every hour throughout the day.

They had fun creating routines using the shapes, rolls and movements they have learned in gymnastics.

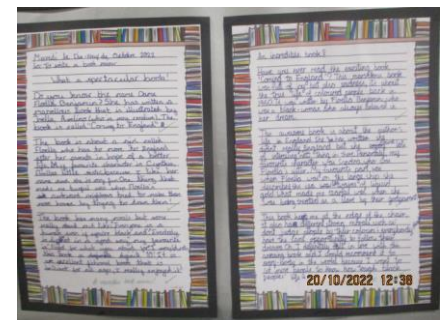


They also researched, designed and made and evaluated model Mayan pyramids out of air dry clay.



Maple class children finished their class reading book 'Coming to England', drew their own book covers and wrote book reviews! What an uplifting story, what a beautifully written book that lights a very important social issue: racism! We had the opportunity to discuss about love, hope, determination. The book definitely has many messages such as:

respect others; show kindness; everybody is different; everybody special. It has taught us to believe in our dreams, communicate our feelings and to work hard to achieve our goals!





In Willow Class we have been celebrating a variety of past and present Black stories, as well as Black figures from all walks of life who have acted as inspirational change-makers for future generations.

We researched our own chosen Black significant person and then used what we had found out to help write an interview with them. We thought about what questions we would love to ask our significant person and asked them how they would like to be remembered.

After writing our interviews, we had lots of fun working with each other to record our interviews. You can enjoy listening to one of our interviews by scanning this QR code.



In Art, we produced some beautiful posters to help raise awareness of Black History Month. The theme this year is *'Time for Change: Action not words'*. What a powerful message!



In History, we debated the possible triggers of the start of the Second World War. We worked in groups to discuss which events we thought were more significant and then arranged our thoughts as a 'diamond nine' – the most significant trigger being placed at the top of the diamond. We presented our ideas to the whole class before we formed our own conclusions. In addition to using our knowledge of the War, we used our awesome oracy skills to explain and justify our reasoning.

Philosophy For Children from Mrs Lawrence

We are very excited that Connor will be introducing a new lesson with the children in KS1 and KS2 after half term. Philosophy for Children (or P4C) allows the children to explore the big ideas that arise in all areas of education and life experience. From discussing whether they prefer lunch or dinner, to debating how they can best look after the environment, the children will share their thoughts and lead their own 'enquiries'.

P4C gives the children the chance to expand their vocabulary, through listening to others and justifying their opinions, to increase tolerance and resilience, through disagreeing with one another in a respectful way, and it also improves understanding, through deep thinking and reflecting.

We think the children at Little Hadham will really embrace P4C and we can't wait to get started to hear their views! If you would like to learn more about P4C, please visit <https://www.sapere.org.uk/why-sapere-p4c/>

Volunteers

At Little Hadham, we encourage and welcome parental support. We are looking for parent volunteers who are enthusiastic and share our love of reading who can support us in our efforts to promote the subject. If this sounds like you, we would like you to come in, listen to children read and discuss their books with them.

Grandparents, aunties, uncles, you too! Come in, play games, give talks, speak at assemblies, share oral histories, sing...Our children need memorable learning experiences and you are a mine of knowledge and expertise we would like to excavate further. Contact us and we will do all the necessary checks so you can be an active member of this strong learning community.