

Diary Dates

- 23/09/24 Learning Together Morning Lime
- 24/09/24 Learning Together Morning Willow Class
- 25/09/24 Learning Together Morning Maple Class
- 26/09/24 Learning Together Morning EYFS
- 27/09/24 Learning Together Morning Beech Class
- 08/10/24 Bletchley Park Visit Year 6
- 23/10/24 Parents' Evening 1-7pm
- 24/10/24 Half-Term begins 3:15
- 25/10/24 Inset- staff only
- 31/10/24 Year 7 Admission Deadlines
- 04/11/24 Back to school

Dear Parents & Carers,

It's amazing to think that we are only three weeks into the new school year, yet so much has already happened! I've had the pleasure of spending a lot of time in classes throughout the school this week, and I've seen fantastic engagement from all our learners. Challenging activities have been planned for everyone, and teachers have been tailoring learning to suit each child.

Our Nursery and Reception learners are continuing to settle in wonderfully and are building strong friendships with their new classmates. We love to see how they embrace the daily routine of school life with such enthusiasm.

Drum roll please...

It's been an incredibly busy and exciting week at school, with elections taking place across the classes. A special mention goes to our Year 6 pupils. A record number of them stood up in front of the whole school to deliver their speeches, all in the hopes of becoming a school captain. They spoke with such confidence and style, you could easily forget they're still in primary school! It was truly a proud moment for everyone.

After much anticipation, we are delighted to announce our new school captains: Belle and Dylan. They will be well-supported by our vice-captains: Max and Abigail. A huge congratulations to them for this well-deserved achievement!

In addition, we'd like to introduce our new school council members: Jacques, Sachin, Joe, Hugh, Wilf, Walter, Rosie and Evie, and our dedicated Green Team: Caden, Harrison, Alice, Michael, Louis, Ellie, Charlie and Kali.

I have a feeling that with such dynamic teams, we'll all be kept very busy this year!

It's important to acknowledge and appreciate all of the pupils who put themselves forward for these leadership roles. Running for a leadership position takes great courage, and their hard work and dedication shone through in their speeches—they could give any politician a run for their money! We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them, and we know the future looks bright with these young leaders at the helm.

As the weather is set to change, please ensure your child is dressed in suitable clothing for outdoor activities. It's important to label all of their items clearly with their name to prevent any mix-ups or lost belongings.

Also, a friendly reminder that next Saturday, the 27th, we'll be hosting the Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market is raising money that is helping to pay for lots of equipment outdoors so please be sure to stop by and enjoy some delicious treats!

Have a lovely weekend!

Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Ash and Saplings have been very lucky and had a couple of special activities this week. Firstly, they visited a PSHE workshop where they had to help Harold the giraffe decide which foods he could put in his lunchbox for school. The children were very knowledgeable and knew which foods were healthy and would be a good choice for school. They also helped him brush his teeth and get ready for school. Later on in the week, the two newly appointed school captains from Willow Class came to see the children and read them a story. It was wonderful to see the children listen so carefully to the story and they really enjoyed seeing the older children.



In maths, we have been thinking about matching objects, according to their colour.



They were all so helpful at sorting foods into colours, after cheeky monkey had made a real mess of everything in the classroom.

We are continuing to look at the story, *So Much* by Trish Cooke in our Literacy lessons. Ash and Saplings discussed the emotions of the characters, how they were feeling at certain times in the story and why. Ash class then wowed their grown ups with some incredible sentence writing. We are so impressed with their writing already, and we've only just begun!

During one of our carpet time sessions, we have been thinking about what makes us special and the children shared why they thought their friends were special. They took it in turns to give reasons, including thoughts such as, they are kind to me, they play fun games and they are good at tidying up.



It has been a fantastic week in Beech Class, filled with creativity, discovery, and lots of exciting learning! In English our Year 1 children have been exploring the beauty of autumn through poetry. The classroom has been filled with discussions about the sights, sounds, and smells of the season as the children gathered ideas for their poems. We began by going outside to observe the changing leaves and hearing the crunch of leaves underfoot. The children then used these sensory experiences to mind map descriptive words, which they wove into their very own autumnal poems. The results have been stunning! Meanwhile, our Year 2 children have been diving into diary writing, but with an exciting twist! They imagined themselves as Victorian children attending a strict Victorian school. We discussed what life might have been like for children in those times—what they wore, how their lessons were structured, and even what they might have had for lunch. The children eagerly took on the role of these Victorian students, using their imaginations to write detailed diary entries. They especially enjoyed writing about the differences between then and now, with some expressing relief at being modern-day students!





In Maths, both Year 1 and Year 2 children have been building their skills and confidence. Year 1 has been focusing on addition using ten frames, helping them to visualise numbers and better understand the concept of "making ten." They've loved using counters and physical manipulatives to solve problems, and it's been wonderful to see them gaining confidence as they grasp this essential skill. Year 2 has been hard at work mastering number bonds to 100 and investigating place value. This has involved breaking numbers down

into tens and ones, exploring different combinations that make 100, and playing games that reinforce their understanding. The children have really enjoyed the hands-on activities and are beginning to apply these concepts more independently in their calculations.

In Geography, we've been learning about our local area by studying aerial maps. The children were fascinated by the bird's-eye view of familiar places like our school and nearby landmarks. They practiced recognising features such as roads, rivers, and parks, and it was exciting to hear them point out places they know. We discussed how maps help us navigate and understand the world around us. The children have been developing a real sense of place and are eager to continue exploring more about their community.

We were also very lucky to have a special visit from the SCARF team, where the children participated in a workshop on resilience. They were introduced to Gerald the Giraffe, who taught them all about "bouncing back" when things get tough. The children learned strategies for coping with challenges and had fun role-playing different scenarios where they could show resilience. They particularly enjoyed the interactive elements of the workshop, and several children shared how much more confident they feel about handling difficult situations. It was a lovely reminder of the importance of emotional well-being alongside academic growth.



This week, Lime Class embraced the holiday season early by designing stunning Christmas cards, which will soon be available to purchase online. The students used their artistic talents to create fantastic 3D reindeer faces, drawing on skills they've honed in class. With careful shading and splashes of festive colour, their designs are truly eye-catching – we can't wait to share them, and we're sure you'll love them!

In Maths, the class delved into partitioning numbers in creative ways, while in English, they continued refining their biography writing skills. French lessons took them on a virtual journey through French-speaking countries and iconic landmarks, while History explored how the powerful poem *Invictus* served as a beacon of hope for Nelson Mandela during his imprisonment. Over in Science, they got hands-on, classifying and sorting animals like a toad and rabbit found in the forest, learning to recognize their unique features.



The excitement didn't stop there – in PE, students took advantage of the autumn sunshine to enjoy hockey and football lessons outdoors. In music we learnt some Latin dance steps and took our plasticine person for a 'voice walk' – ask us to demonstrate!!



A highlight of the week was a special PHSE lesson from the SCARF workshop team. The class had a fascinating virtual tour inside the human body, learning about how to be a good friend and stay safe, all with the help of Harold the Giraffe!



What a week! Where shall we start from? This week, the children in Maple class participated in an interesting PSHE workshop by SCARF, called 'It's great to be me!' Children identified similarities and differences between them, celebrating individualism. They learnt about the functions of specific parts of their bodies and about some of the potential health risks caused by smoking and vaping. They now know

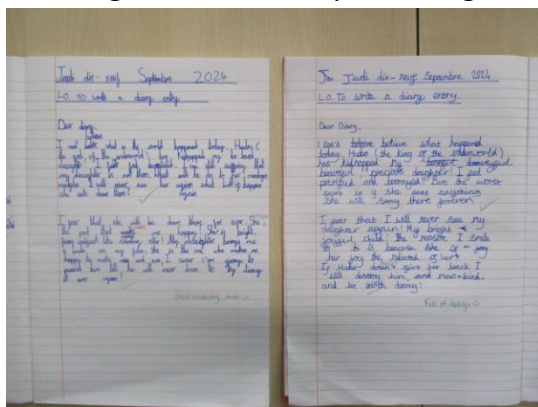


that they need to sleep more hours than adults, as they are in the process of growing, for their physical and mental development.

In art, the children have been exploring the world of **abstract art**. They created vibrant, colourful pieces by carefully following instructions and applying various techniques. The process involved using rulers with precision, mixing primary colorus, and experimenting with shades and tints to achieve their desired effects. The results were truly beautiful, showcasing their creativity and attention to detail. We are proud of their hard work and the fantastic artwork they've produced!



In English, children explored a myth which explained a natural occurrence, the 'Persephone and the Pomegranate Seeds' myth. To begin with, they explored the characters in role and they then wrote wonderful diary entries in role of Demeter, focusing on her feelings and thoughts.



In History, they learnt about the religion in Ancient Greece, which was polytheistic. Children used the information and wrote engaging speeches in role of the gods or goddesses, in a chatty and informal tone. They used similar skills when they wrote persuasive speeches as candidates of the School Council and Green Team. This time, they impressed with the clarity of their voices, their confidence and their ideas.

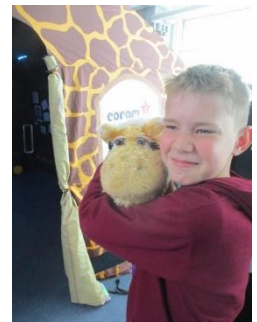


This week in Willow Class, we have been exploring colour. In our Art lesson, we learnt how to make a tint of a colour by adding white. We used this skill to paint our beautiful Christmas cards. Using only yellow, blue and white we mixed different shades of green to paint holly leaves. We were impressed with how many different greens we could make, and we are excited to see our designs once they return from the printers. We hope you love the finished designs too. Details of how to order our Christmas cards will be shared in the upcoming weeks. The sun is shining but some of us have begun the countdown to Christmas already!



Decisions, decisions! That was the theme of our PSHE workshop on Tuesday. During our activities, we discussed influences and how these affect our everyday and long-term decisions. Using a fictional scenario, we explored peer pressure and talked about the possible ways of dealing with difficult situations. At the end of our session, we couldn't resist meeting Harold the Giraffe one last time – as Year 6,

this was our final PSHE workshop with Harold.



"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it." (Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*) With this in mind, we donned our empathy glasses during our Reading lesson to really understand how the characters in our class text are feeling. We created an empathy map for chapter 3 of 'Goodnight, Mister Tom' and this helped us to understand the range of emotions experienced by William Beech, one of the main characters. On first reading of this chapter, we had described William as feeling sad and at the end of the chapter happy. After using our empathy glasses, we were able to recognise when in the chapter William experienced embarrassment, shame and humiliation. Later in the chapter, we understood William's curiosity, pride and delight. What fabulous vocabulary from our empathy session!



Rights Respecting Schools



In this week's whole school assembly, we focussed on Articles 1, 4 and 41. We were reminded of the purpose of the Convention for the Rights for Every Child.

Article 1 makes clear that everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

Article 4 states that governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights, and last but not least

Article 41 states that if a country has laws and standards that go further than the present Convention, then the country must keep these laws.

We thought about the many ways in which we are able to enjoy our rights at school and in the UK. These included the many ways our school listens to our views and ideas and the opportunities we have to play, rest and enjoy the arts.

During the assembly, we were introduced to some new vocabulary – 'rights holders' and 'duty bearers'. We learnt that we, the children, are the rights holders and adults are the duty bearers. Duty bearers are responsible for making sure children's rights are met.

Our assembly concluded with a reminder that all children are special and important, and governments have to do all they can to make sure that each child enjoys their rights. We enjoyed listening to the book [Every Child a Song](#) by Nicola Davies and Marc Martin which helps show us what makes each child special.

You can use the link provided to listen to this beautiful picture book online.

[Every Child A Song - Read Aloud story about Children's Rights \(youtube.com\)](#)

We hope you enjoy sharing it.

Mrs Tweedale,

Deputy Head

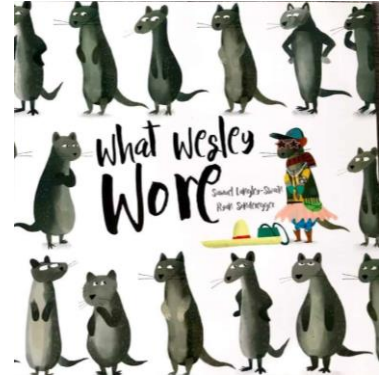
Rights Respecting Schools Co-ordinator



Our Empathy Assembly at Little Hadham Primary: A Journey of Understanding

Last week, we held our first Empathy Assembly of the school year, and which will continue fortnightly. It was a time to explore and embrace the concept of empathy in a way that speaks directly to the hearts of our children, starting with a captivating story titled *What Wesley Wore*.

The tale of Wesley, a charming and unique weasel, encouraged our pupils to see the importance of embracing differences. In the story, Wesley's exuberant personality and vibrant clothing set him apart from the other weasels in Westburrow Wood. Sadly, he faces exclusion and bullying simply for being himself—a theme that deeply resonated with our children. Through Wesley's journey, they witnessed the transformative power of acceptance and kindness.



We used this story as a foundation to spark meaningful conversations about empathy. Our children shared reflections on how it feels to be left out and what it means to stand up for others. Here are a few soundbites from our discussions:

- "Wesley was just being himself, and that's okay. No one should feel bad for being different".
- "I would be Wesley's friend because he's fun and nice, even if the others didn't like his clothes."
- "Empathy means knowing what others are feeling and trying to help them and Wesley's dad helped them do this".

At Little Hadham, we believe that empathy is the foundation for creating a warm and inclusive environment where every child feels seen and accepted. By helping our children identify and understand their own feelings, we empower them to relate to the feelings of others—a crucial skill for building meaningful friendships and a sense of community.

SCARF PSHE Workshops: A Visit from Coram Life Education

This week, our children had the wonderful opportunity to welcome back the fabulous team from Coram Life Education to Little Hadham! Their visit brought excitement and inspiration as they introduced us to Harold the Giraffe and guided us through engaging workshops based on SCARF, our whole-school approach to promoting positive behaviour, mental health, wellbeing, resilience, and achievement.

As always, our children were eager to participate, filling the room with insightful and thoughtful discussions. The workshops covered a wide range of topics, on all about me and how our bodies work. The SCARF workshops are an invaluable part of our curriculum, allowing children to explore personal, social, and emotional issues in a safe and supportive environment. These sessions equip them with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges and develop resilience, empathy, and a strong sense of self-worth.

Thank you to the Coram Life Education team for their fantastic workshops, and to our children for their enthusiasm and participation.