

NEWSLETTER 23.09.2022

Week 3

Dear Parents & Carers,

It's amazing to only be three weeks into the new school year. As always, I have had the pleasure of spending lots of time in classes across the school during the week.

Everywhere I have been there has been fantastic engagement from learners, challenging activities for everyone and tailored learning for all. Our learners in Nursery and Reception continue to settle into the daily life of school fantastically well and continue to build relationships with their new friends.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to all those parents and grandparents who were able to come along to their child's Learning Together Mornings so far— feedback has been excellent and we hope to see you all back, and anyone who couldn't make these ones hopefully will be able to come next term.

Following last week's elections I was delighted to present the newly elected school captains with their captaincy badges! Firstly though, I want to say that we were blown away by all the contenders who took part. Their speeches were not only entertaining and heartfelt but the way all the contenders presented themselves was very impressive and made us very proud. It was definitely a very difficult decision and we would like to say well done and congratulations to Lauren, Oscar, Isla and Jasmine. I have plenty of jobs for you to do!

As the weather becomes colder the children do need to wear suitable clothes for being outdoors. Please help us by making sure their clothes are all clearly marked with their name so that they don't get lost.

Remember this weekend is the Farmer's Market, don't forget to drop by for some delicious goodies!

Wishing you all a peaceful family weekend,  
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

### Diary Dates

**26/09/22 Phonics for Parents of Ash and Beech children in Hall @9am**

**27/09/22 Learning Together Morning Willow Class**

**05/10/22 Learning Together Morning Maple Class**

**06/10/22 Bletchley Park Visit Year 6**

**10/10/22 Flu Vaccination**

**11/10/22 Learning Together Morning Lime Class**

**17/10/22 School Photos**

**19/10/22 Parents' Evening 1:15-7pm**

**20/10/22 Half-Term begins 3:15**

**21/10/22 Inset**

**31/10/22 Year 7 Admission Deadlines**

**31/10/22 Back to school**

**More to come...watch this space!**

### Parent Consultation

Parent Consultation meetings will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> of October. This will be an opportunity for you to meet with the teacher and discuss how your child has settled into the new school year. **The school will remain open and Parent Consultations will start at 1:15pm.** A reminder that if you have any serious concerns or queries about your child in school then please do arrange a time to discuss these with your child's class teacher. This can be done by telephoning the school office to arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time or by emailing.

### Allergies

We have several children in school who are **severely affected** with allergies to nuts. Please do not give your child nuts for snacks or use any products containing nuts or sesame when preparing packed lunches. Also, please remember crisps and sweets are not allowed in school lunches and children will be asked not to eat this and to take them home again.



The children in Early Years absolutely loved having their grown-ups come to our Learning Together Morning this week! We enjoyed many of our busy finger activities, including building tall towers, making playdough faces, stacking cups and pegging on strips. Not only do these morning activities support physical development, they also encourage social experiences and communication between friends. It was lovely to start the week with such a buzz in



the air!

We have also enjoyed a number of other activities in the week, and the children particularly enjoyed using their senses of touch and sight to explore within the forest. We found soft chestnut shells that looks spiky and spiky leaves that looked soft!



In Beech class the children have been learning about Rosa Parks. The children have learnt some incredible facts about how this significant and brave person helped to change the lives for many people in America. In Maths, the children have been busy practising ordering and partitioning numbers. They have been enjoying our Maths resources to demonstrate their learning in different ways.



Also, the children really enjoyed teaching their parents and grandparents some maths this morning- don't forget to check the website for the pictures!

This week in science, Lime Class have had lots of fun experimenting with torches. We have explored light and dark, and grouped materials using the vocabulary **translucent**, **opaque** and **transparent**.

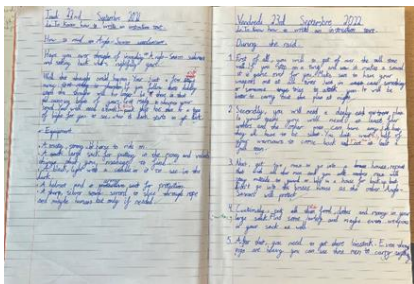


We are continuing to enjoy our history topic about the Maya civilization and have found it really interesting to discover the roles of different people in the Mayan community. We have also been singing about the Mayans in music.

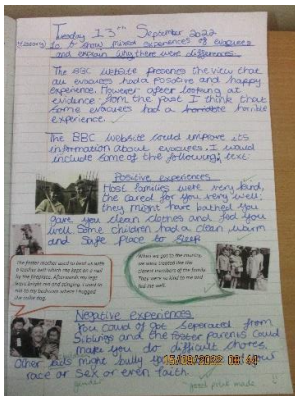
We have finished the week with our class councillor elections. We were so proud of everyone in Lime Class who stood up in front of the class to deliver their speech, all giving us fantastic reasons to vote for them. Well done to Max and Bella, I am sure you will enjoy every minute of it.



Maple Class have been enjoying giving orders in their English this week. They particularly loved writing instructions on how to raid an Anglo-Saxon settlement- ruthless and fierce springs to mind! These last couple of weeks in history we have been looking at battles- they had brilliant discussions about tactics used and what they



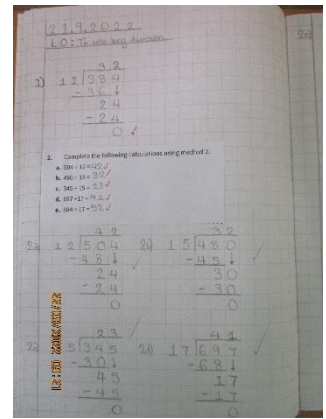
would have done, if they were king- again they don't show much mercy! In science they were investigating their teeth and discussed their functions- lots of looking at themselves in the mirror was required! We also found time to write some speeches and present them to become a school councillor, so three cheers for Benji and Yasmin- woohooo!



In History, we have been looking at primary sources, including photographs of evacuees. The photographs we looked at showed happy, smiling faces. We asked the question 'Did all children who were evacuated during the Second World War have a good experience?' After delving a little deeper and examining different sources, including extracts of interviews with evacuees, we were able to form a conclusion. Our research showed that the experience of evacuees varied considerably. We then questioned the reasons for such different experiences. After further research and discussion, we found out that background, social class, race,

religion and gender all played some part in determining what sort of experience a child evacuee might have had.

The long and the short of it...in our Maths lessons this week we have been learning long division. We have almost mastered the steps and are already becoming more confident.



Following an interesting talk from 'Music for Schools', in which we learnt about how sound is made and about the history of some wind and brass instruments, we made our own musical instruments in our Forest session!

## The Importance of attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life.

Schools check pupils' attendance twice a day by taking a register. If your child misses school without permission or a good reason, the school records this absence as 'unauthorised'. This will affect your child's attendance record and could lead to a fine or even legal action.

Regular and punctual school attendance is important. Pupils need to attend school regularly if they are to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. Little Hadham Primary School recognises its responsibilities to ensure children are in school and on time, therefore having access to learning for the maximum of days and hours.

Our School Attendance Policy has been written to adhere to the relevant Children Acts, Education Acts, Regulations and Guidance from the Department for Education, in addition to guidance from the Local Authority. At Little Hadham Primary School we deem good attendance as 96% and above. Any attendance that falls below this threshold will be deemed as 'not regular'.

Children who are persistently late or absent soon fall behind with their learning. Children who are absent from school frequently develop large gaps in their learning which will impact on their progress and their ability to meet age related learning expectations.

## Table of impact

Attendance %	Impact on Learning	Impact on Learner
96% – 100%	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity
90% - 96%	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Your child will have to spend time at home catching up on missed learning.
85% - 90%	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child is at risk of under achieving and will need extra support from you to catch up on missed learning.
80% - 85%	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed.	Your child's poor attendance is having a significant impact on learning.
Below 80%	At least 7 ½ weeks of learning missed.	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

## Request for Absence

As a school we cannot authorise requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time.

Requests for leave can only be granted if there are exceptional circumstances, and holidays are not considered exceptional.

Requests for leave must also be made to the school in advance, as the Department for Education has told schools that they cannot authorise any absences after they have been taken.

A penalty notice is a fine issued to parents or carers if they fail to ensure that their child/children attend school regularly. This penalty notice is issued by Hertfordshire County Council.

Penalty fines are £60 per child, per parent if paid within 21 days, and £120 if paid between 22 and 28 days. If the fine is not paid, parents will be reported for prosecution.

**As always, there will be contact between school and the family in relation to attendance ahead of a penalty notice being issued.**