

Dear Families,

They say time flies when you're having fun! This half term sure has flown, and now we find ourselves nearing the end of a vibrant and productive half-term.

Walking through the classrooms, the learning I see the children producing is truly impressive. I am constantly proud by their creativity, diligence, and enthusiasm. Our recent pupil progress meetings provided further evidence of this. During these meetings, staff meticulously analysed the data for each year group. We discussed what has been working well and identified areas for further development. The feedback from our teaching teams during these evaluations has been incredibly positive. It is clear that our dedicated staff are making a significant impact on our children's learning and development. The data shows that our comprehensive interventions are highly effective. These targeted strategies are helping our students to not only meet but exceed their academic goals.

Speaking of goals, we are super proud of how well our Year 6 children conducted themselves during their SATs exams this week. They have worked really hard over the past few months and we are so proud of them. The children all tried their best and we couldn't have asked for any more.

There has been some criticism of the tests with many saying that they are designed to catch the children out. Once again, this year's tests were not entirely straightforward but our children kept their composure throughout the week.

I've mentioned how proud we are of the children but I'm also going to sign off with a note to say how proud I am of the team of adults who have gone above and beyond to support the children up to this point. A sunny, relaxing half term for all is very much needed!

As we pause for the half term break, do take a look at the diary dates for next half term. We have lots to look forward to!

Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

Diary Dates

- 03/06/24 Inset Day-staff training
- 04/06/24 Return to school
- 04/06/24 Lime Class Trip
- 05/06/24 Learning Together Morning – Willow
- 06/06/24 Learning Together Morning – Maple
- 07/06/24 Learning Together Morning – Beech
- 11/06/24 Learning Together Morning – Lime
- 12/06/24 Willow Class Virtual Evolution Natural History Museum
- 13/06/24 Chris Lubbe visit- Willow
- 28/06/28 Willow Class Puppet Workshop- Little Angel Theatre
- 03/07/24 Willow Residential Gilwell Park
- 05/07/24 Willow Class return
- 08/07/24 Art and D&T week
- 11/07/24 Transition Day
- 12/07/24 Whole School Art Exhibition @2:30pm
- 16/07/24 Image Theatre- Selfish Giant Whole School
- 16/07/24 Willow Class Leavers performance @6pm
- 18/07/24 Sports Day@ 10am-12noon
- 18/07/24 BBQ Willow Class children only @6pm- 7:45pm
- 19/07/24 Youth Create Parties
- 19/07/23 Last day of Term School Whole school picnic-12 noon Willow Class Versus their Parents @Football School Finishes @1pm

I hear wedding bells ringing...

We have some fantastic news to share with you all. Connor, our fabulous forest teacher, has some exciting life changes coming up. He's getting married in June abroad! 🌿 We are all thrilled for him and can't wait to see the photos. Connor will be away for three weeks for his wedding and honeymoon.

While Connor is off enjoying himself, our forest sessions will be in the capable hands of the Woodland Rangers. Louise and Nikki are delighted to step into Little Hadham Forest and continue teaching them the wonders of nature and of course outdoor survival skills!

The one where Year 2 completed their SATS... did we???

Congratulations to Year 2 who completed their SATS with barely even a murmur of having done a test. They gave every practice test and the 'real' ones their very best and we will have a lovely treat for them next half term! What superstars you are- we are super proud of you!

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to share that this week, Little Hadham Primary School has achieved the Bronze status of the Rights Respecting Schools Award.



Little Hadham Primary School is now a RRSA Bronze: Rights Committed School

Our regional assessor was happy to note that we already have important steps in place to help us meet the Silver RRSA outcomes and we have submitted our action plan for the Silver Award. For this, there are three strands which are as follows:

Strand A: Teaching and learning about rights

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is made known to children, young people and adults who use this shared understanding to work for improved child well-being, school improvement, global justice and sustainable living.

Strand B: Teaching and learning through rights – ethos and relationships

Actions and decisions affecting children are rooted, reviewed and resolved through rights. Children, young people and adults collaborate to develop and maintain a school community based on equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation; this includes learning and teaching in a way that respects the rights of both educators and learners and promotes well-being.

Strand C: Teaching and learning for rights – participation, empowerment and action

Children are empowered to enjoy and exercise their rights and to promote the rights of others locally and globally. Duty bearers are accountable for ensuring that children experience their rights.

We are excited to continue our journey as a Rights Respecting School where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Tweedale,
Deputy Head
Rights Respecting Schools Co-ordinator

News from the classes...



It's been a very exciting and busy week in Early Years! The children were lucky enough to watch two performances: Maple Class's show about Egyptians, and the Drama club's show. The class thought it was very funny! As always, they were all superstars as they listened and eagerly watched the shows.

For PSHE, we are continuing to think about what we can do to help ourselves if we get upset. We talked about the importance of breathing slowly and calmly and practised some yoga stretches.

In Literacy, the children listened to the story of the Very Hungry Caterpillar, in preparation for our school trip. The children were very knowledgeable about the life cycle of caterpillars and impressed us with their vocabulary, including knowing the word cocoon. They then painted some beautiful butterflies, thinking carefully about using symmetrical patterns on the wings.



The children were eager to make the most of the heavy rain outside by scattering powder paint on the floor and sweeping them into the puddles. They thoroughly enjoyed the activity and the playground was very colourful by the end!

We had a wonderful school trip to Great Notley Country Park and the children thoroughly enjoyed the Very Hungry Caterpillar session. Activities included caterpillar and butterfly relay races, matching games and an art activity – and this was all before lunch! The afternoon was spent wandering through a meadow with nets, searching for insects and creatures. Bumblebees, ants, crickets and spiders were among some of the ones we discovered. We then enjoyed shaking the trees to hunt for even more insects! Caterpillars, beetles and flies were soon falling down onto our sheets. The children found it fascinating to see all the different insects.



The adults were incredibly proud of how well behaved they were throughout the day. Our Park Ranger even commented on how lovely they all were. The children learnt so much from exploring the country park and really enjoyed themselves. There were plenty of tired and happy faces on the coach on the way home.



In Beech Class, our week began with the thrilling opening of our brand-new reading shed. The children have loved having a dedicated new space for reading. They have eagerly embraced the opportunity to explore a variety of books in this cosy, inviting environment. The reading shed has quickly become a favourite spot, fostering a love for reading and sparking their imaginations. We look forward to seeing how this new space continues to inspire and engage our young readers in the weeks to come.



The children have continued to delight in our outdoor area, they've been putting on imaginative shows, where their creativity shines as they perform for their friends. Craft activities have produced beautiful artwork and unique creations. Additionally, construction activities have been a big hit, allowing the children to collaborate and build impressive structures using different materials. The water area has also been a source of endless fun and learning. Here, the children utilize their maths and prediction skills, experimenting with measurements, volume, and other concepts in a hands-on, interactive way. The outdoor space has truly become a dynamic extension of our classroom, enriching the children's learning experiences and providing endless opportunities for exploration and growth.



In English, the children have refined their poetry skills, incorporating figurative language into heartfelt poems about someone special to them. They explored various poetic techniques, such as similes, metaphors, and personification, to create vivid and expressive pieces that truly captured their sentiments. The culmination of their hard work and creativity came when they courageously performed their poems in front of the entire class.

Listening to each other's poems, the children gained a deeper understanding of their classmates' perspectives and the significance of the special people in their lives. This activity not only honed their literary skills but also strengthened the bonds within the class, as they celebrated each other's achievements.



In Maths, the Year 1 children have been exploring the fascinating world of money, looking at both coins and notes. They have been introduced to different denominations, learning to identify and differentiate between various coins such as pennies and pounds.

The children have engaged in practical activities to understand the value of each coin and note, learning how to count, combine, and compare them. They have practiced simple addition and subtraction using money, which helps them to develop their arithmetic skills in a real-world context. Through interactive games and hands-on exercises, the children have learned how to make exact amounts and give correct change, enhancing their problem-solving abilities.

This week, the Year 2 children have made significant strides in their arithmetic skills. They have been focusing on mastering fundamental concepts that are essential for their mathematical development. The children have also explored place value, deepening their understanding of the value of each digit in a two-digit number. They have practiced reading, writing, and comparing numbers, as well as using place value charts to reinforce their learning. This has provided a strong foundation for their arithmetic skills, allowing them to approach problems with greater clarity and precision.

Lime Class have had a thrilling week, filled with heroic deeds, mathematical marvels, and artistic flair. Here's a peek into our latest adventures:

Our budding writers have been crafting some truly spine-chilling Anglo Saxon stories. With monsters that send shivers down your spine, heroes that leap off the page, and fight scenes that could rival any blockbuster, our classroom has been buzzing with creativity. The children have loved diving into the past, bringing ancient tales to life with their vivid imaginations.



In our history lessons, we've been exploring the epic struggle between the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings for control of Britain. Was Alfred the Great really all that great? Our little historians ranked the reasons for his victory over Guthrum from most important to least important and had some spirited discussions to back up their rankings. It's been wonderful to see them think critically about history and debate their ideas passionately.



This week in maths, we've been delving into the world of triangles and quadrilaterals. The children have impressed us with their use of precise mathematical vocabulary to describe the properties of these shapes. We've also been examining lines of symmetry, turning our classroom into a veritable kaleidoscope of geometric wonder.

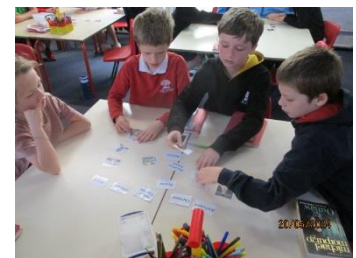
Our comic strips are nearly complete! The children have poured their creativity into these strips, and we can't wait to share them with our target audience. Once they are finished, we'll be mounting them and inviting feedback to see just how effective our storytelling through art has been.



Stay tuned for more updates, and don't forget to ask your little ones about their heroic tales and geometric discoveries. Have a fantastic Half-term!



In Maple class, our week started with an inspirational workshop by the 'Show Racism the Red Card'. Year 4 and Year 5 pupils took part in a range of visual, auditory and kinaesthetic activities designed to build empathy and understanding and to encourage discussion and critical thinking about racism, discrimination and stereotypes. Children gained a



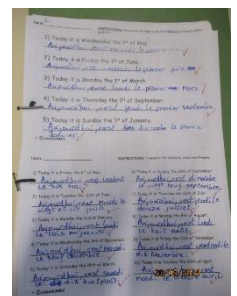
better understanding of what racism is, how it impacts on individuals and society and how to recognise racism, so that our pupils can play an active role in the future as citizens in an increasingly multi-cultural

society.



In French, throughout the term we learnt, revised and consolidated the days of the week, the months of the year and the numbers 1-31. As a result, children acquired the knowledge and skills and they could confidently say and write dates in French. They could also read simple texts and answer to questions, with reference to the text.

In Maths, we worked on our arithmetic skills. We also had a lesson on 'Raising money for charity', in which our pupils discussed and suggested a variety of fundraising events for charity – they have lovely ideas. Pupils understood how charities can help others and that budgeting, planning and advertising their event will allow them to maximise the profit.



In History, children investigated the inventions and achievements of the ancient Egyptians. Children impressed the teachers with the knowledge they gained through our class book, our play, our English lessons that linked with our topic as well as our History lessons. Children researched further some of the main inventions and achievements of the ancient Egyptians (e.g. paper / papyrus, clocks, knowledge of anatomy, shaduf, ox-drawn plough, decimal system, calendar), and created interesting information texts.



In Art, children enjoyed decorating their clay pots. They first suggested different patterns and then they looked at vases that were decorated with different colours, patterns and designs for inspiration. Some children stuck to their plan but some adapted their original design. They finally evaluated their final product and suggested ways in which they could improve their vases.

suggested ways in which they could improve their vases.

Last but not least, Maple class would like to thank you all for coming to our performance on Ancient Egyptians! We hope we impressed you with our dramatic skills, with our voices and singing, our movements, gestures and facial expressions. We definitely enjoyed performing our play to you!

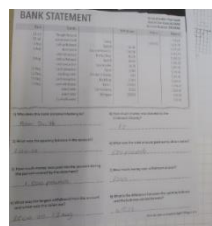


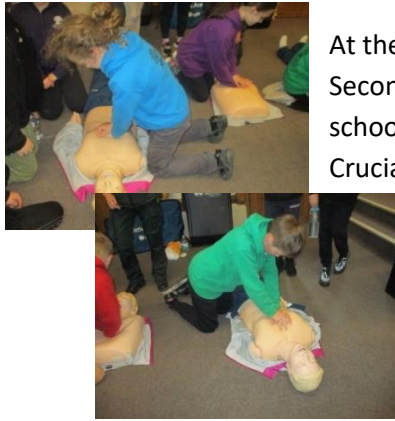
On Monday in Willow Class, we wore red as we took part in an important workshop called **'Show Racism the Red Card'**. This workshop aimed to educate us about discrimination, the reasons behind it, and how to stand up to racism.

During our session, we learned that people may face discrimination due to their skin colour, nationality, culture, or religion. We talked about the difference between each of these and how people might be discriminated against. Our workshop emphasised the importance of recognising these injustices and the role each of us plays in combating them. There were many thought-provoking discussions during our activities and a key message from the workshop was *'treat others the way they wish to be treated'*.



In maths this week, we have been learning about all things money related. We looked at sample bank statements and the information they contain. We learnt the difference between gross pay and take-home pay. Using the four operations, we were able to calculate annual salaries from monthly salaries and weekly wages from hourly rates. We learnt about the basic rate of tax and calculated how much a person a certain salary might pay in tax. When planning a budget, we explored the difference between needs and wants. So much learning this week and we've loved applying our maths skills to real life situations. After all that talk of paying taxes and household bills, we think we'll enjoy our little while longer!





At the end of this term, we will say a fond farewell to Little Hadham Primary and begin our Secondary school adventure. Many of us will have more independence, travelling to and from school by ourselves. On Tuesday, we joined other local schools and took part in the annual Crucial Crew workshops. The workshops are designed to help us learn how to stay safe. With fun activities delivered by the Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance service, National Railways and more, we certainly had a busy time! During one of our activities we were able to practise CPR and using the recovery position. The Ambulance service said we were the best group they had seen when performing CPR – it's good to know we are in safe hands!

A drama group from one of the local secondary schools gave a brilliant performance about resisting peer pressure and there was even enough time to climb into the back of a police van as we learnt at what age we can be held criminally responsible.



Here comes the sun...

For when the weather does improve and hopefully that will be soon—we all need to be sun smart! This means ensuring we stay hydrated, cover up in the sun (wearing sun hats) and put on sun cream to protect our skin. Therefore, please ensure that your children come to school with water, sun hats and with sun cream applied. This way we can all enjoy the warmer weather safely (when it arrives!)—do remember we can still all burn through cloud cover!