

### Diary Dates

**17/04/23 Return to school**

**17/04/23 Bikeability**

**27/04/23 Lime Performance @6pm**

**09/05/23 SATS week Willow**

**15/05/23 Gilwell Trip Willow**

**17/05/23 EYFS in-house experience**

### **Attendance**

We have seen an increase in term time leave that is impacting on our attendance as a school. Please can we remind families of the need to attend school during term time and the impact of missing weeks of school for holidays and how hard it can be for children to play catch-up with their peers. We are never in a position to authorise leave except for a few days, under very exceptional circumstances, and never for holidays. Thank you for your understanding in this.

Dear Families,

It has been an incredibly busy term which has flown by. We've had so many wonderful events including entering some fabulous artwork for the young artists summer exhibition at the RA- It's also on display here- what amazing creative children we have. This week we also launched our very own in house Little Hadham Primary School 'Off by Heart' performance. All our children from Saplings to Willow class performed a class poem ensemble. The children performed absolutely brilliantly and we are very proud of all of the children as they shared their poems beautifully - well done! Huge thanks to Mrs Tweedale for organising this- it really was a treat!

Numerous sporting events have taken place where Little Hadham have shown excellent teamwork and encouragement. Well done as always, and a shout out to Mrs Goodger for all the organising and to our parents for helping out with lifts.

Classes have enjoyed some lovely educational trips and visits this Spring Term from Epping Forest Museum, to in-house workshops and virtual workshops. The children are always so very excited for these trips and experiences and we look forward to the children undertaking further educational visits that are planned for the Summer Term.

Our Friends of Little Hadham team and volunteers have been working hard as always to raise funds for our school. We know how much hard work goes into these events and we are very grateful as a school.

Thank you!

Last weekend's Eggcellent Egg Hunt was a great success. All offers of help are always welcomed by the team so if you do have a spare moment do let them know if you're ever able to help.

Our learners have continued to make great progress in all areas and I'm sure that many of you will have heard much of this during parents' evening. It was brilliant to see so many of you here. I hope that you enjoyed seeing your child's learning, it's so lovely to see them sharing their books with you and hearing them asking that you look at particular pieces of their work- they are right to be super proud!

To all our Parents and Governors we thank you for your support this term. Your offers to volunteer on school trips, help hear readers, attend Learning Together Mornings and your show of support with the strike action really does mean a lot to us as a school.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our fabulous team here at Little Hadham Primary who regularly go the extra mile for the children on a daily basis. Their hard work on a day-to-day basis really is truly appreciated and as a parent said our children are very lucky here.

Have a wonderful, well-deserved break,  
Sinead Connolly, Headteacher

### Golden Morning...

Golden Morning is enrichment time, with a wealth of opportunity to practice, to enjoy or to learn something new. Each term we try to offer new and exciting activities for the children to participate in. Yesterday, the children had the choice of sport, cooking, coding, computer science, arts and crafts, origami, cheerleading and even had a go at being a Scientist.

What can I say...Little Hadham Primary is a culturally and artistically rich environment for our children to learn within, where our staff teach to the whole child (head, heart, and hands. We do pride ourselves on offering a wide range of creative opportunities that go beyond the National Curriculum and are so thankful for such creative staff and our wonderful volunteers to allow these activities to take place. Please take a look at the website for more detail on the activities and photos of children relishing in enjoyment.

By the way, if you do fancy offering one of your many talents, please let us know for our summer term's golden morning!



### Little Hadham's Humanities Quiz

Everyone loves a table quiz, let's start them young! We are unbelievably competitive which can lead to a few good and interesting quiz grumbles but that just adds to the enjoyment. Yesterday, we took part in our 2<sup>nd</sup> KS2 quiz on our geography and history topics that we have been studying this term. What a close competition it was- congratulations to Zay, Cadan, Adeline, Sophie and Grace who are this term's winners. I heard there was eggcellent teamwork! Thank you to Mrs Courtman-Stock for all your organising- we loved it; maybe not the jokes though!



### Punctuality

School gates open at 8:45 and the register is taken promptly at 9:00. Please note that children are either heard, read or are set work from 8:45 and teachers are busy in class from then. We have a number of families who are habitually late or come to school very close to 9:00 which is the start of lessons. Please do make good use of the additional support and teaching the children have during this time. For some families this is an additional 1 hour 5 mins of time you are either making good use of or your child is missing out on. Our Educational Welfare Officer from Hertfordshire, is currently monitoring attendance and punctuality for our school and will be in touch with some families to remind them of the need to maintain good attendance and punctuality. Please help us by making sure your child/ren arrive to school on time.

## News from the classes...



In Early Years, we have been exploring using our senses. We created listening nests in the forests to listen out for the different signs of spring, hearing lots of different bird songs from up above. We also explored different textures using our sense of touch. We decided that our feet would be able to feel most effectively without our shoes and socks on, so we got exploring, discovering different textures and building our descriptive vocabulary together. We found soft, fluffy and 'cushion-y' textures, as well as rough, spiky and hard textures. The children did a great job using their words to describe what they could feel.



The children enjoyed having their grown-ups in for Learning Together Morning this week. Thank you to all of those who were able to make it! It was a joy to see the children proudly demonstrate their learning for you all.

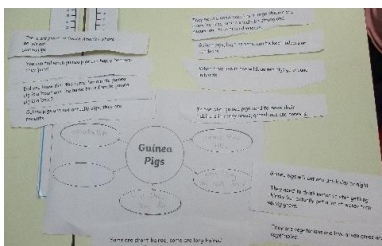
The children were also incredibly brave and performed their poem for the Poetry by Heart celebration assembly. They did so well and so many teachers commented on how well they spoke and performed. Well done Early Years!



Beech Class have enjoyed finishing their D&T unit on food preparation this week! They tasted different fruits and decided which they would like best in their own fruit salads. They looked at different fruit salad recipes and watched a video on how to prepare fruit. Before they had a go at cutting their own fruit for their salads, they learnt about cutting safety and watched Mrs Samuels demonstrate 'the claw' and 'the bridge' cutting method. The children did a fantastic job applying these techniques when they prepared their own fruit and were very excited to take these new skills home to help with

more food prep. The salads looked delicious and every single child had second helpings because they enjoyed them so much!

We also finished our unit in RE in which the children learnt the Christian Easter story. The children were able to confidently explain at least two different ways Christians may celebrate Easter and then compare this to what their own families do over the Easter period. We talked about how everyone has different celebrations and beliefs and therefore Easter may not be a holiday that is particularly significant for their families. After learning about the symbolism for eggs and Easter, the children used wax crayons to create patterns on egg shapes before painting them with water colours. The patterns shone through the paint and were extremely eye catching! This is a lovely craft to do at home as well if you are looking for something fun to do over the break.



In English, we have been writing about non-chronological reports. We read lots of facts about guinea and sorted the information into sections. We then did our own research on Ipads and organised our new information. We then wrote amazing non-chronological reports.



In Maths, we have been learning about how to weigh the mass of objects and measuring capacity. We have been doing lots of estimating, weighing, comparing and ordering of objects and liquids. We even weighed our guinea pigs- what a giggle that was... and we now know which one eats more!





Wow! What a week and what a term! Despite battling illnesses Lime Class still come out smiling as they smashed their poetry performance (check out seesaw) with great style.

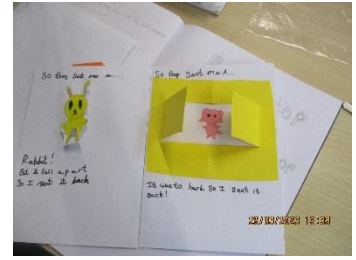
This week has seen us focussing on our DT as we put together our design ideas and our skills practises to produce books with moving parts. With the making stage mostly complete – the

next thing for us to do is to see how the younger children in our school react to our books. Once we have shared the books we will need to evaluate the whole process, thinking about how our products fitted their purpose, what we did well and what we would change.

In Geography we have been concluding our topic about where water comes from by researching the River Nile – Is it really the longest river in the world? The jury is out.....

Anyway, where does water come from? You'll have to ask us!

We have tested our parents and carers on what they know about equivalent fractions in our learning together morning – the tarsia puzzles were a big hit.



This week, Maple class have been learning about angles in maths. We began by measuring acute, obtuse and reflex angles before having a go at using protractors to draw angles. This proved tricky at first but we soon got the hang of it! We then moved onto calculating missing angles on a straight line, using our knowledge that a straight line is 180 degrees. We were rightly proud of our new achievements!



In English, we enjoyed spending time composing our own mystery stories. We took a section of the story each day and explored the different features needed to make our stories come alive. Our stories began with lively dialogue, included suspense through drama and action and were resolved in unusual ways. The children enjoyed sharing their creative writing with each other and they didn't want to stop writing, even when their hands were sore!

In Re, Maple class have been learning about the events in Holy week. We acted out each of the significant days which helped us to remember Jesus' final days on earth. We then explored the Easter symbols and learnt about Easter traditions around the world. Hopefully the children will remember the events as they enjoy Easter eggs and hot cross buns this holiday.

In PE, we finished the term with a volleyball competition. There were some great rallies and positive sportsmanship in the hall.



It has been such a wonderful term, full of new learning, fundraising, and many new experiences.

In History, we asked the question, *'Who was to blame for the sinking of the Titanic?'* It was a great opportunity for us to use our awesome oracy skills and to interrogate pieces of evidence. After playing a game of 'Diamond 9' to help us organise our arguments, we presented our thoughts to the class.



For Willow Class, this week's highlights must include taking part in our whole school *'Poetry by Heart'* celebration. We have really enjoyed learning T.S. Eliot's *'Macavity, The Mystery Cat'* and committing it to memory. A recording of our performance is available for you to enjoy on Seesaw. It was such fun to perform and we loved hearing the other classes share their love of poetry too.

Our Golden Morning on Thursday gave us the opportunity to experience new skills and activities including examining owl pellets, Computer Science and cooking (not forgetting a few fluffy chicks as well!). Thursday afternoon saw us competing in this term's Key Stage 2 Humanities Quiz. This was a great way to check how 'sticky' our learning has been this term whilst working in mixed age teams. What a great way to bring the spring term to a close!



### **Maths Challenge- here we come!**



**Eight of our Year 5 mathematicians entered the HFL Education annual Year 5 Mathematics Challenge Competition and qualified for the final. This is a national competition for Year 5s across the country and is organised by the Herts for Learning. There were 260 teams, from Herts and all over England, both State and Independent Schools. Both teams entered the final stage and they got the 3rd and 4th places- woohooo! Thank you to Mrs Sassis, our Maths Coordinator here at Little Hadham Primary for organising and supporting the children and to Mrs Campbell for your support.**

### **Junior Dragons do it again...!**

Last week our Junior Dragons from Willow Class, had more fun raising money for the charity called Space. This charity supports families of children and young people who are neurodivergent. They have now raised just over £500. In their Dragon sessions they came up with the idea for a Little Hadham Bake Off, and to have a stall at the Farmer's Market.

We are very proud of them as it is so lovely to see so many children working hard to help others. Thank you to Mrs Lloyd Williams for organising to take part in the Dragon's again and to her and Mrs Sassis for supporting the children throughout. They have really enjoyed learning from this experience and it's so lovely to see them giving back to the community.

