

# HANNAH BALL SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 25TH NOVEMBER 2022



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## Message from Mr Hingley

This week, we have mainly been thinking and writing. There has been lots of thinking and that is good. As a staff, we have been thinking about lots of different things throughout the week. Some of the things that we have thought about have been exciting, such as how to make science teaching more engaging for our pupils. Some of our thinking has been a little less exciting, like, 'When it rains, why is the water coming in from underneath the walkway in the corridor?'

The children have also, of course, been thinking. Our year 6 pupils have been doing some tests this week to check that they are making progress. These tests not only need a lot of thinking, but they need resilience. Resilience is one of our school values and our year 6 pupils are certainly improving in this area. The whole school have been doing their 'hot writes' this week. A 'hot write' week is when the children put into place all of the skills that they have learnt throughout their writing unit. For example, year 3 have been writing a story based on the Jungle book. They have been learning to use vocabulary to describe - so they have been doing lots of work on adjectives and adverbs. They have also looked at using conjunctions to join sentences. In their hot write, they needed to remember to include all of these features, as well as remembering to use capital letters appropriately, full stops and sentence openers.

That is a lot to think about, whilst also crafting a great story.

Our Reception children have been looking at traditional tales for their writing unit. Last week they made porridge because they were learning the story of 'Goldilocks and the three bears'. This week they have been exploring the story of The Gingerbread Man. They have been thinking about the repetition in these stories and have explored how they can vary this.

Other thoughts that I've been having, although not necessarily in order have been: How have we only got just over 3 weeks of term left? How are we going to fit everything in before the end of term? Why is the weather so unpredictable lately? Why are some children coming into school without coats?

Other reminders

Please ensure that your children have the right kit with them and are in the right uniform - don't forget coats!

Please support your child by reading with them at home - really well done year 4 - you are doing lots of reading at home!

Please see the dates within this newsletter and also on the website. We have a busy run up to Christmas so please take notes of the important dates for your children.

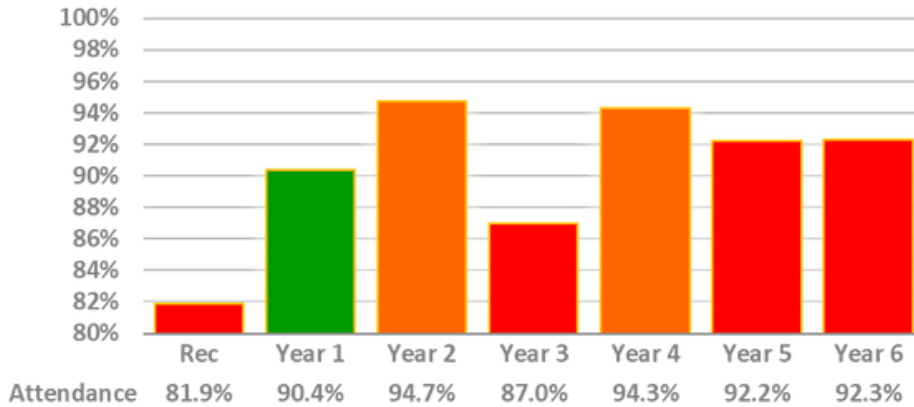
Have a lovely weekend everyone.

# ATTENDANCE

Attendance - information for parents

In the event that your child is unwell, we ask that you contact the school to let us know. To notify us of your child's absence, please use the email address: [office@hannahball.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@hannahball.bucks.sch.uk) or phone the school office on 01494 522476 giving your child's name and class and the reason for absence. This email address is monitored by Mrs Sullivan who deals with daily attendance matters.

Thank you.



## Star of the Week

### Reception

Emaan for trying really hard in phonics.

### YEAR ONE

David has settled well into YR1 & has shown amazing progression in phonics. He is always putting great effort into every lesson, despite English being a second language to him.

### YEAR TWO

Ashvika for doing really well in her times tables and trying hard with everything that she does at school.

### YEAR FOUR

Adiva - for her determination & resilience during Design & Technology. She created a prototype out of toothpicks (it was very tricky!). She created an amazing design thinking about the base & how to make her structure strong & sturdy.

### YEAR FIVE

Lily R for her writing, including all of the features we have been learning about this half term.

### YEAR SIX

Israa for her positive and resilient attitude towards her assessments this week.

# MESSAGE FROM THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

## RECEPTION

Reception have had another busy week learning the story of the Gingerbread Man. They enjoyed acting out the story using a story map and could be heard singing the song "run, run as fast as you can, you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man" when learning in our outdoor classroom. Do ask the children to tell you the story, it is fantastic to listen to. In Mathematics, the children have been building on their subitising skills (instant recognition of small amounts, without having to count them). The children were encouraged to look closely at small quantities. It would be lovely if you could look at little groups of objects (between 2 and 5 items) around the house/garden and see if your child can tell you how many they see, without having to actually count them. You could look at groups of toy cars/ small toys/ cups/ plates/spoons/conkers/flowers/pine cones etc. that would be great!

## YEAR 1

This week Year 1 have been using their story maps to write about 'The Great Fire of London' in English and have been identifying the different landmarks in London during Topic and have created some beautiful pieces of art work of their chosen landmark.

## YEAR 2

This week in English the children started off their new topic by writing their own adventure stories. They tried really hard and wrote really exciting stories! They were then introduced to our new text 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. They had to predict what they thought would happen in the story and explored the key features of the text. In Maths the children have been learning to add two 2-digit numbers together, across 10. They have been trying really hard to use the base 10 method to work out their answers. In Science, the children have continued their study of apes by designing their own ape conservation using a range of materials. They considered the needs of apes when they were creating their conservations. In Computing this week, the children used Purple Mash to create Impressionist artwork. They learnt what 'impressionism' is and how they can create that effect on the computer.

## YEAR FOUR

This week year 4 have been busy innovating their Harry Potter story and have been busy implementing relevant vocabulary to create suspense. In Maths we have moved onto our new topic 'Multiplication and Division'. Please keep up your good work with practicing your times-tables and using TTRS at home. In Art & Design we have been experimenting with toothpicks to create a prototype of a pyramid to investigate how we could make a strong and sturdy structure. We will use this knowledge to then create a bigger structure out of everyday materials. I can't wait to see the final product! In RE we are learning all about the importance of nativity to Christians and the concept of incarnation. This is a great build up to Christmas and allows everyone to understand the essence behind the festival. Well done year 4 for another great week!

## YEAR FIVE

I have been really impressed with both the quality and quantity of writing that Year 5 have produced this week in English. They have worked hard to reflect on all of the skills that they have been learning since the start of the school year, and have shown that they can independently apply them in a skillful way. In science the children designed and tested an experiment to see which liquids reacted with bicarbonate of soda to create irreversible changes and found that lemon juice reacted the strongest to create lots of bubbles!

We drew the conclusion that the acid in the liquids that reacted were neutralised by the alkali bicarbonate of soda which created an irreversible chemical change. Next week we will be learning about the geography of Egypt and using all of the scientific knowledge we have gained so far to separate 'alien soup' using a range of sorting methods.

## YEAR SIX

Year 6 have had a very busy week this week; they've been carrying out assessments and Ms Harris and I have been impressed with the progress made and the mature and resilient approach many of them have taken towards the tests. Year 6 have also started writing their retelling of 'Rose Blanche' this week from the character's POV. In history, year 6 have started their double page spread presentations about Anne Frank to showcase their learning. They're looking wonderful already and year 6 have really enjoyed learning about Anne Frank, her diary and her impact. In PSHCE, we have been looking at the equality act; considering how some people are treated differently in society and how this affects different groups of people in society. An excellent week year 6, well done!



# Christmas collection

- 
- 1  
Christmas biscuits  
and / or  
puddings
  - 2  
Mince pies  
and / or  
custard
  - 3  
Packet gravy  
and / or  
stuffing mix
  - 4  
Cooking oil  
and / or  
UHT milk
  - 5  
Baked beans  
and / or  
jam
  - 6  
Cooking sauces  
and / or  
chutney
  - 7  
Healthy cereals  
and / or  
sugar
  - 8  
Tinned fish  
and / or  
tinned veg
  - 9  
Tinned corned beef  
and / or  
tinned ham
  - 10  
Instant coffee  
and / or  
tea
  - 11  
Tinned potatoes  
and / or  
rice (500g)
  - 12  
Condiments  
and / or  
sauces
  - 13  
Tinned meat meals  
and / or  
pasta (500g)
  - 14  
Tinned veg soup  
and / or  
tinned pies
  - 15  
All donations  
to One Can  
by today  
please

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ONE CAN AT CHRISTMAS!

Do feel free to donate alternative items if you prefer - these are just our suggestions.

Please drop off specific Christmas items to us by **Friday 2nd December**.

Our final day to receive essential items is **Thursday 15th December**.

### SORRY WE CAN'T ACCEPT:

Alcohol, homemade food, opened packets, out of date food, refrigerated or frozen food.

# INFORMATION!!



**Year 5 will be having an Egyptian day on the 16th of December where they can dress up. We will be doing some writing, art, using hieroglyphs and learning about Tutenkhamun. (Costume ideas could be - mummy, Egyptologist, Pharaoh, builder, farmer, artisan etc)**



**Don't forget, if your child is in Reception, then you can access their learning through your Tapestry account. It is a fantastic opportunity for you to keep up to date with all the exciting activities your child is doing at school. If you need help setting up your Tapestry account, please speak to the class teachers.**



**John Hampden Grammar have shared some vacancies for receptionist and HR positions. Please follow the link if you would be interested.**

**<https://www.jhgs.bucks.sch.uk/16/vacancies>**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event	Who?
November 2022		
Tues 29th November	Trip to The Verulamium Museum	Year 3
December 2022		
Monday 12th December	Nativity 'A star from afar 9.30am	Rec, YR1 & YR2
Tuesday 13th December	Nativity 'A start from afar' 1.45pm	Rec, YR1 & Yr2
Thurs 15th December	Trip to Windsor Castle	Year 2
Friday 16th December	Egyptian Day	Year 5
Tues 20th December	Last day of term (Normal finish time)	Whole school

Date	Event	Who?
January 2023		
Wed 4th January	INSET Day – School Closed	Whole School
Thur 5th January	Start of Spring Term – School Opens	Whole School
Fri 27th January	Aylesbury Waterside Theatre trip	Year 4
February 2023		
Fri 10th February	End of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
Mon 20th February	Start of half term – School Opens	Whole School
March 2023		
Fri 31st March	End of Spring Term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
April 2023		
Mon 17th April	INSET DAY – School closed	Whole School
Tues 18th April	Start of Summer term – School Opens	Whole School
May 2023		
Mon 8th – Thur 11th May	SATS WEEK	Year 6
Fri 26th May	End of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
June 2023		
Mon 5th June	INSET DAY – School Closed	Whole School
Tues 6th June	Start of half term – School Opens	Whole School
July 2023		
Tues 4th July	Transition day	Whole School
Wed 5th July	Transition day	Whole School
Fri 21st July	End of Summer Term (Timings tbc)	Whole School
September 2023		
Mon 4th September	Start of Autumn Term (tbc)	Whole School