



Quality, excellence and passion

17.03.23

Dear Parents/Carers,

The term certainly continues to whizz by! We have had a wonderful couple of weeks in school with the children developing skills and knowledge in their Geography projects in the Foundation Curriculum as well as skills and knowledge in Science. This week saw the introduction of Science events across the school. The National Science Week theme is related to 'making connections.' In assembly on Monday, the children were shown a number of pictures of the environment and asked what linked the images. Without hesitation, pupils recognised that the images illustrated challenges related to climate change. Their observations were very perceptive. Following this, Miss Mould launched the Eco-Schools project with the children, asking them to apply to become one of our school Eco Warriors. To say that we have been overwhelmed by the number of applications submitted is a complete understatement. The passion to save the environment that pupils have demonstrated within the applications is quite staggering. We look to announce our new Eco-Committee shortly. Although the group will lead projects in school, there will be wider opportunities for all pupils to engage with projects to help improve our school and local environment; it's very exciting indeed.

In addition to the applications, the most spectacular posters promoting ways to save our environment have come into school. Judging winners was extremely difficult. I would like to offer my congratulations to all the children who submitted an entry. After some very long discussions, winning posters were selected. Congratulations to Ruben, Mya, Safiya, Celeste, Araz, Hollie and Amelia who were the overall winners. A special certificate of thanks will be sent to all pupils who entered recognizing their hard work.

Today, we welcomed Jane Ripley into school to discuss her role as a scientist. Jane discussed her journey related to becoming a scientist and answered some extremely interesting questions posed by our pupils in Years 5 and 6. I would like to thank Miss Mould for organising the Science Week and Jane for the presentation to pupils today.

Safeguarding

Should you ever have any concerns about a child and require advice, you are able to contact ChildLine or our school Senior Leadership Team/ some members of our Safeguarding Team: Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Crees, Mrs. Williams or Mrs. Morgan. Keeping our children safe online is extremely important. Do have a look at the two recommended websites towards the end of this newsletter which are full of advice to support parents in helping protect children





Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus for the school. At Heron Park we continue to have high expectations related to attendance. Our school target is over 95%. Consistent attendance enables pupils to have the best chance at realising success now and in their futures.

It is equally important that children are in school on time. Just 5 minutes late each day equates to 3 days lost learning across a year.

I do thank you for your commitment in ensuring that the children are in school each day and on time. Maintaining good attendance is very much about a partnership between home and school. Should you need any support in this area, please do contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs. S King.

Parental Engagement Events

Parental Engagement Event dates were sent out via Arbor messaging last week. The dates are also displayed below.

Time	Thursday 23rd March	Tuesday 28th March	Wednesday 29th March
2.30-3.00	Year 5	Reception Year 1 Year 6	Year 2 Year 3 Year 4



We have had the most wonderful Red Nose Day event today at the request of the children. They have demonstrated such warmth and consideration related to raising money for this cause and I would like to thank you all for your kind donations today. All donations will be sent to the charity and will help make the difference to many people around the UK, the Turkey Earthquake appeal and key projects worldwide.

As always, please do enjoy the snapshots of activities that have been taking place in all year groups over the past two weeks. There has most certainly been the most wonderful learning taking place. I continue to love seeing children arrive at my office to share their progress to date-it certainly makes my day!

Have a fantastic weekend.

Mrs H Crees

Headteacher





A selection of poster competition entries. Congratulations to all the children who submitted their ideas.





Heron Park Primary Academy PTFA needs You

Are you wondering what a PTFA does? Or How it will benefit you and your children? Or are you a busy parent wanting to join but unsure you will have the time? Below are a few answers to some questions you might have.

What do PTFAs DO?



A PTFA is a parent, teachers and friends association, an organisation with a mission to make the school a better place for children to learn. Our PTFA will bring together parents, teachers, children and friends of the school to raise funds and strengthen the school community with all money raised to be spent on things the school budget does NOT cover.

Why should you join one?



There are many reasons you should join our PTFA. From making new friends and getting to know the school environment, through to helping raise much needed funds and making a difference to the children and school community. All these things help you grow in confidence as parent and it feels good to know you are making a difference for your children and for generations to come.

What will be expected of you?



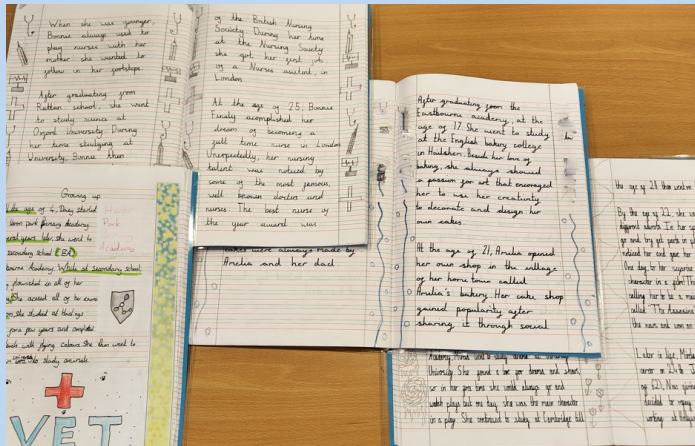
There is no expectation on any parent volunteer, any amount of time you can give to the PTFA will be greatly received. There are many ways you can get involved, from engaging with social media activity, attending PTFA meetings through to volunteering at events. Even donating preloved items, raffle prizes or suggesting brilliant ideas are ways of getting involved.

If you would like more information or to sign up, why not come along to our
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
which is being held on..
Thursday 23rd March at 9am
In the school hall.

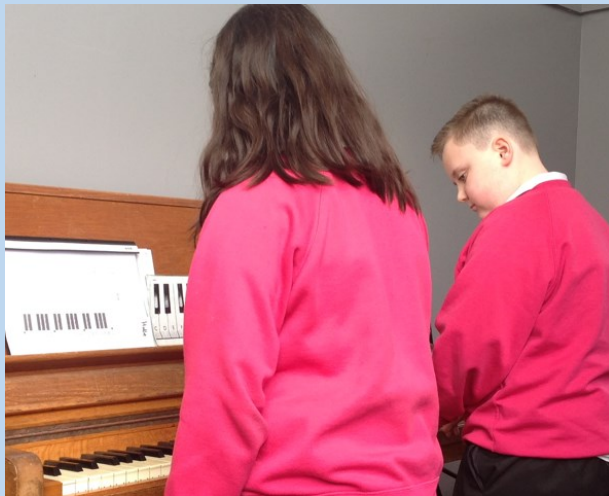
It would be great to see more parents there as we strive to make a difference for our children

Thursday 23rd
March
9am
In the school hall

Year 6

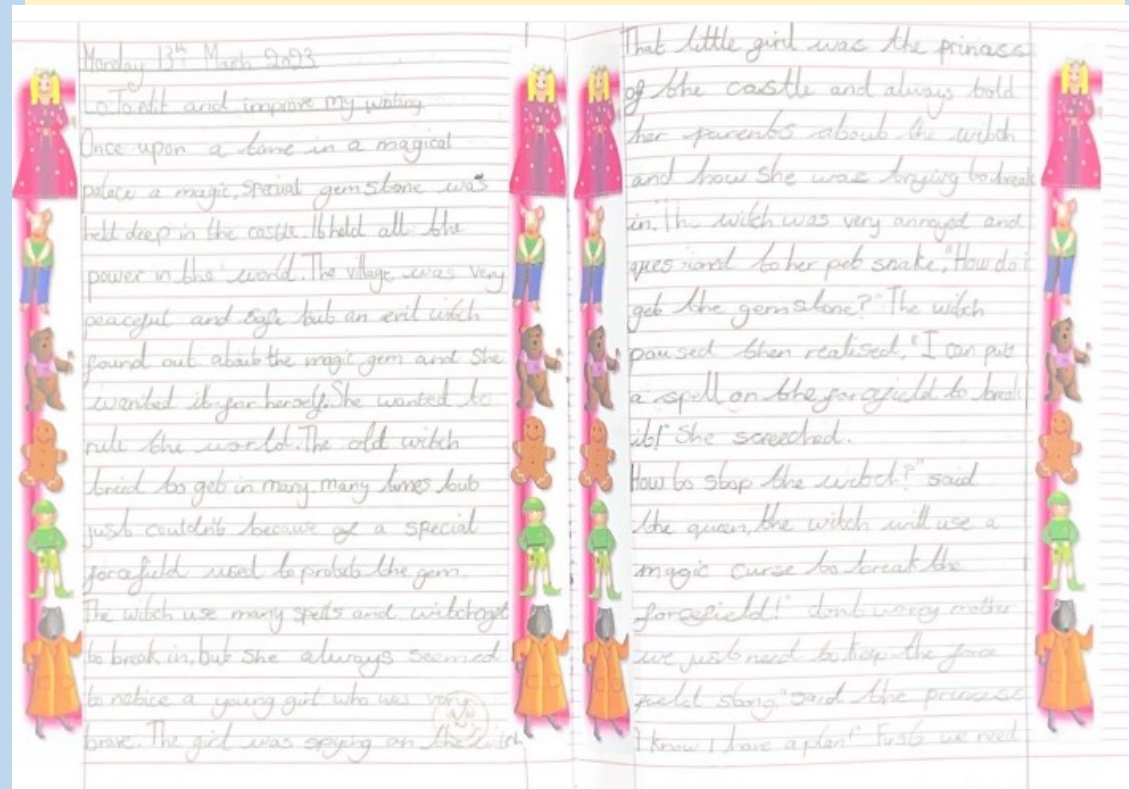


Year 6 pupils have worked hard to develop their ability to write a biography. They thought carefully about the language, facts and details to use within the piece and have produced work which they should all be very proud of. Composing music has also been a focus in the year group. The children worked hard to perform duets on the piano.



The demonstration was certainly enjoyed by all those who were able to listen. It is not easy playing the piano and made more challenging playing a duet! I commend the children on their ability to demonstrate this skill and show great confidence too.

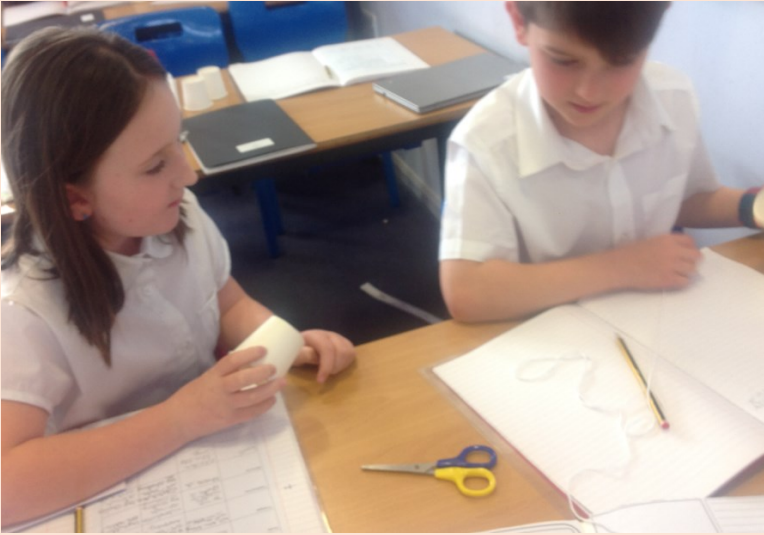
Year 5



Year 5 pupils have been busy editing and improving their writing this week. Drawing on their knowledge of Fairy Tales (they have been exploring these in great depth), the children have written their own magical stories. Both their teachers and I have been most impressed with the creative language the children have used. We certainly have some future authors amongst us!

Year 4

Year 4 have had the most wonderful time exploring sound in their science lessons across this week. They engineered phone lines in their sessions and explored how sound travels. The practical activity certainly tested the children's scientific knowledge. Lots of fun was had by each and every pupil.



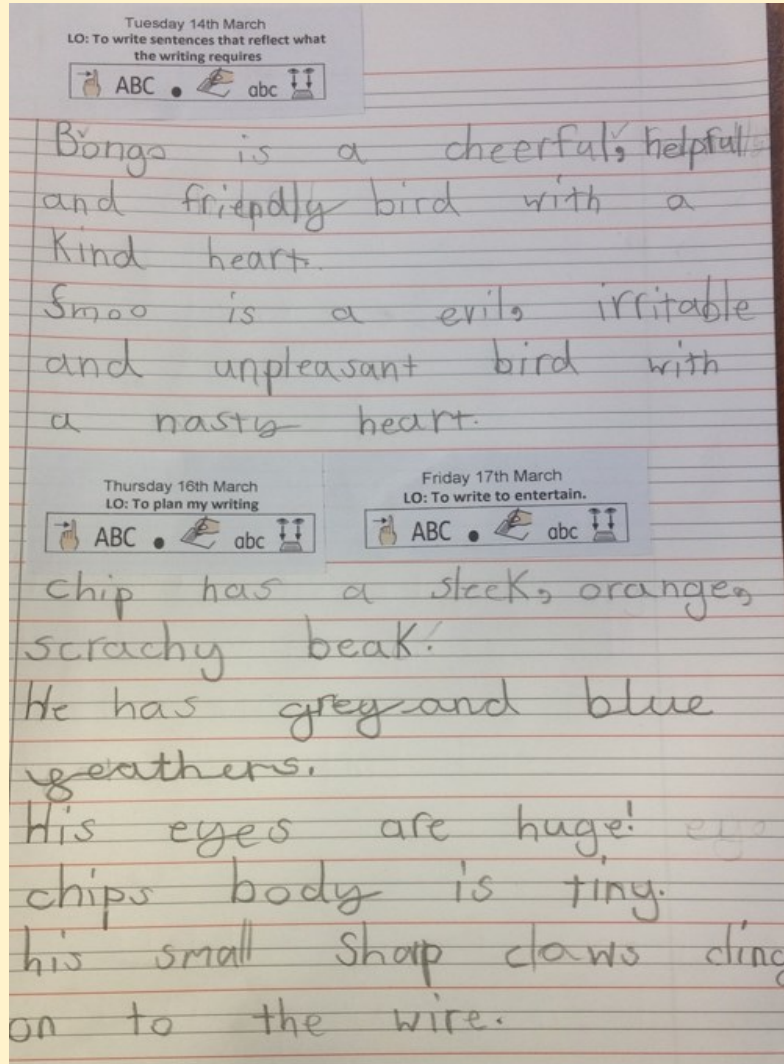
Year 3

As part of the Science week, the children have been looking at the properties of materials and the extent to which they are able to reflect light. Pupils have thought carefully about working scientifically, focusing on designing observations and drawing conclusions. I know that our Year 3 team have been very impressed.



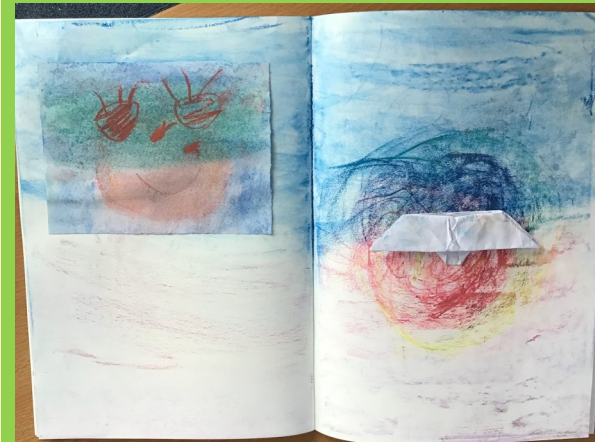
Year 2

Using descriptive language has certainly been at the heart of Year 2 learning this week. The children have been working hard to develop their descriptions of characters based on a wonderful film they watched earlier on in the writing cycle. They have worked hard to use a range of language and punctuation too. Congratulations to all the children.



Year 1

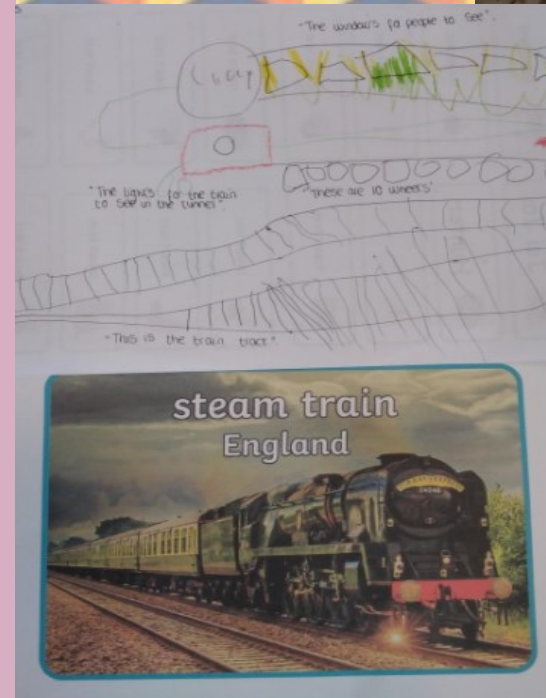
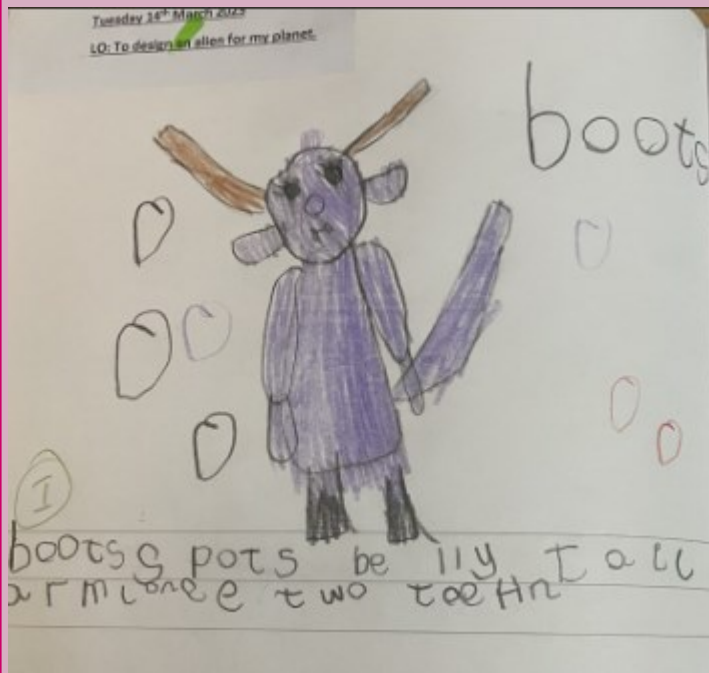
Year 1 have been working hard to develop their geographical skills this week, focusing on map reading. In addition, they have developed their skills in their art sketchbooks and have put together some wonderful pictures of landscapes. It will be exciting to share all the children have learned at the forthcoming Parental Engagement events.



Reception

Our Reception pupils have had the most wonderful time designing artist floral pictures this using their understanding of colours and plants. In addition, they have been working hard on their writing by designing an alien character for their imaginary planet. Hopefully, we will be able to see the imaginary planets soon.

This week the nursery team have been reading 'The Runaway Train' written by Benedict Blathway. The children been doing lots of activities based on transport (trains in particular). The children have been completing problem solving tasks linked to the train. They have built their own train tracks, drawn their own trains and written their own runaway transport stories. Using their cutting skills, the children have made transport out of recycled materials. It really has been an industrious time in the Nursery.



Parenting Guide | East Sussex

What's On - April, May, June

2023

Earlier this week, we sent out the East Sussex Parenting Guide to all families. The guide has a number of links to webinars and resources you may wish to explore to support your child further.

Let's Book You In! **WEBINARS**

Helping Your Child to Reach Their Full Potential

(Children with Additional Needs) 90 minutes

This session can help parents to improve their child's confidence and social skills. By learning how to teach your child new skills and encouraging progress and efforts, your child will be more able to reach their full potential – a common concern amongst parents of children with additional needs.

Thursday 4th May 10-11:30am

Monday 26th June 12-1:30pm



Diary Dates:

Term 4

Monday 6th March- INSET DAY

Friday 31st March - Last Day of Term

Monday 3rd - Friday 14th April - EASTER HOLIDAY

Term 5

Monday 17th April - First Day of Term

Tuesday 18th May - Badgers Class start swimming lessons

Wednesday 24th April - Year 4 trip—Michelham Priory

Monday 1st May - BANK HOLIDAY

Wednesday 3rd May - Class Photos

Monday 8th May - BANK HOLIDAY

Tuesday 9th May - Year 6 SATS all week

Tuesday 16th May - Year 2 trip Battle Abbey

Tuesday 23rd May - Year 6 Safety in Action

Thursday 25th May - Last Day of Term

Friday 26th May - INSET DAY

Term 6

Monday 5th June - First Day of Term

Wednesday 14th - 16th June - Year 5 Residential trip.

Monday 26th June - Bikeability Level 3 (Y6)

Friday 30th June - INSET DAY

Monday 3rd July - INSET DAY

Friday 21st July - Last Day of Term

Calendar dates are subject to change, we will endeavour to give parents/carers as much notice as possible. Please note that where we have added INSET DAYS, we have given parents long weekends, to allow you to have a break away without taking time off during term time