



# Hugo Meynell School Newsletter

## 'Aiming High; Supporting Dreams'

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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School Menu for w/c Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November is 'Week 3'

### Attendance and Lates



School Target 2020/2021:	97%
Attendance This Week	95.27%
Attendance Year to date:	97.58%
Lates:	3



### Children in Need

Thank you to everyone for supporting Children in Need; we are pleased to report that we have raised **£191** for this important charity. Our donations will contribute towards making a difference to the lives of those in need.

### Reporting Absences

Please remember if your child is unwell to contact the school office by either phone or email before **9:30am** to advise us of the reason behind the absence. We now have a dedicated absence line on which you can leave a message. **Please do not send an email to the year group email addresses as these are not always monitored throughout the school day.** Children with sickness and/or diarrhoea must remain off school for **48 hours** after the last episode, to ensure not only your child or children are well enough to return to school but also to prevent further spread to pupils and staff.

### COVID-19 Reminders

Can you please ensure that:

- Only one parent/carer drops off/collects children.
- You maintain social distancing from other parents.
- Face coverings are worn while on the school grounds.
- School is kept informed of all tests/test results. Notifying the school enables us to help keep our community safe.

Thank you for your continued support with this. It is through working together that we can keep our families as safe as possible on the school grounds.



### Lockdown Challenge – Loggerheads to Lapland

There are 12 days left in our Loggerheads to Lapland Lockdown challenge so there is still plenty of time to get out and about with your child/ren to clock up a few more miles towards our total, as well as raise money for enrichment activities for children within school for this academic year. Leading the way are Year 3, who have clocked up 258 miles and who have raised a fantastic £465 so far! Well done – let's see how far we can go in the next week.

### Year 2

A **big well done to Year 2** who were really sensible and well behaved on their local walk today to support their map skills in Geography. We are very proud of them.



**Congratulations to this week's winners!**

Year 1 Connor Minor & Ruby Hand  
 Year 3 Heidi Chell & Joseph Groom  
 Year 5 Lily Beardmore & Max Smyth

Year 2 Millie Allen & Ruben Hodson  
 Year 4 Laurence Hogg & Rory Parkes  
 Year 6 Mia Gradwell & Kelsey Muir



### Parent Governor Vacancy

There is a vacancy for an additional parent governor to join our governing body. Our team of Governors are all volunteers, parents, school staff and people from our community with a range of experience and expertise who have an interest and desire to improve the education of our children. An email with details of the nomination process was sent to all parents on Wednesday and the closing date is **27<sup>th</sup> November**. If you require any more information, please contact Mrs Gleave.



### Little Owls

We have spaces available in Little Owls for both morning and afternoon sessions. If you would like to book any sessions for your child please email [littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk) or contact the school office.

In addition to lots of games, toys to play with and books to read, the craft activities for next week are:

- Monday** – Turkey puppet    **Tuesday** – Turkey Colour by Number    **Wednesday** – Thanksgiving Word search
- Thursday** – 3D Turkey    **Friday** – Turkey Maze



### Twelve Days of Christmas Raffle

There will be a non-uniform day in school on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November** in exchange for donations towards the '12 Days of Christmas' hampers. Each class has been given a Christmas category, a reminder of these categories are shown below. A Christmas hamper will be won each day along with fabulous prizes from local companies (please see the attached poster). The first draw will take place on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**.

**Nursery:** Christmas nibbles/snacks

**Year 3:** Pamper items

**Reception:** Christmas biscuits

**Year 4:** Christmas food (long life, store cupboard – not chilled, e.g chocolate log)

**Year 1:** Chocolates

**Year 5:** Bottles

**Year 2:** Chocolates

**Year 6:** Bottles



## Messages from the Classrooms

### **Nursery**

This week, the children in Nursery have continued to lead the way. They are still super keen to recite and act out nursery rhymes with props and actions, which is perfect as it is World Nursery Rhyme week. The children have really impressed us with their interactions with each other. They are thinking about each others' feelings and demonstrating friendly behaviour and are really starting to develop good friendships with their peers. This week, we have noticed how the children are becoming independent in the creation station. They are able to create fantastic pictures and models and independently tidy up the equipment – well done everyone!

### **Reception**

In Reception this week, alongside their own play projects, the children have been exploring Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. They looked at how the festival is celebrated, and as part of this, we have been sorting and clearing the clutter by reducing how many toys we have so we can give some away. This resulted in lots of discussion and debate on which dinosaurs, cars and dolls should be kept or given away. In our PE lesson, we created a dance as we cleaned, shopped, decorated with flowers and lights and celebrated. They created rangoli patterns with various gems, beads and loose parts as well as making diya lamps from real clay. This resulted in lots of questions, which led us to find out where clay comes from. Hopefully, their creations will arrive home in time for another fast-approaching celebration...

### **Year 1**

Year 1 have been busy recognising singular and plural nouns this week. They are beginning to notice when to use an 's' or 'es' at the end of a noun. In order to stop Nibbles from nibbling everything, they generated a list of tips to keep the mischievous critter away. They worked hard to plan out their sentences prior to writing them. In Maths, the children have continued to strengthen their knowledge of numbers to 10 and have converted pictures into both part whole models and addition number sentences. Children enjoyed the challenge of recording up to four different addition number sentences for a set of three numbers. In Science, the children discovered a selection of materials and grouped them into 'hard' and 'soft' materials. As part of Anti-bullying week, the children read facts and created posters about being a good friend.

### **Year 2**

In English this week, Year 2 have enjoyed writing their own story about a baby owl using some of the structure of our class story, 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark'. They have also been finding out lots of facts about owls ready to write a report about them. In Maths, the class have been tackling some addition and subtraction problems, trying to explain where errors have been made in calculations. In Design Technology, the children have had fun looking at pushchairs, bikes and toys in order to investigate how wheels work and in Science, they have been engaged in exploring how solid materials can be changed by twisting, bending, stretching and squashing. In PSHE, the class have had some interesting discussions about positive and negative feelings.

### **Year 3**

In Year 3 this week, the class put on their artists' berets, took up their paintbrushes and created a ceramic tile in the style of Clarice Cliff. Their work was amazing and it is clear how much thought and enjoyment has gone in to this. In Maths, the children have continued using the column subtraction method and have advanced, and understood, how to exchange when the number at the bottom cannot be taken from the top. Using 'The Winter's Child' text, the children have used adverbs to describe the verb and have used dictionaries to find the definition of words. They have investigated the character's feelings by creating a role on the wall and have described the unknown boy in the story. They wrote the special features of the boy, what was unusual about him and any questions they would like to know the answer to. In Science, the class have begun to investigate light and dark and to determine the definition of these. They looked at a variety of objects and categorised them into light sources and non-light sources. After the session, all children could identify which was which and could explain why the moon isn't a light source. During Geography, the children went on an adventure to the Wirral. They learnt how to pin point an area using grid references. This was the favourite activity of the week! A game of fastest finger first proved very competitive and all children could find a grid reference very quickly indeed!! This week has also seen Year 3 complete their final cross-country session. They have all improved hugely since their first week and were proud of themselves, as we are! There are definitely some budding Mo Farah's and Paula Radcliffe's in our midst!

### **Year 4**

This week in Year 4, the children have been learning how to improve and develop their sentences for the reader to describe a setting through the use of subordinating conjunctions, verbs and adjectives. They have been developing expanded noun phrases to describe the inside of the circus tent and have learnt how to hook the reader by using these in their sentences. In Maths, they have been using equivalent lengths and also worked further on column subtraction using four-digit numbers. In Science, the class have been identifying invertebrates and went on a hunt around the school grounds to 'capture' a few which they later identified and labelled using the appropriate scientific vocabulary. In Design and Technology this week, Year 4 received a letter from Marks and Spencer asking them for their help to design a new sandwich to be featured in their Summer Sandwich collection. Their brief was that their sandwich must be healthy, but also that it needed to travel well on a hot day. The class discussed their favourite sandwich fillings and took a tally of which was the most popular, they then shared their findings in a bar graph. Their next task will be to taste a range of products already on the market - a difficult task, we know, but one they will have to do for market research purposes. Finally, in Geography and guided comprehension this week, the children have discussed the devastation of deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest, why vast areas of the forest are being destroyed and the consequences of this on the environment and global warming.

### Messages from the Classrooms (cont...)

#### Year 5

In English this week, the children have spent time writing their own version of a scene from 'The Lost Happy Endings' using dialogue to convey character. They have also done a great job at writing a letter using expanded noun phrases, similes and personification as part of their description. The children worked on dividing whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000 in Maths and using their knowledge to create their own worded problems for their partners to solve. They also were able to solve problems involving multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000. This week in Science, Year 5 have worked in groups to plan their own investigations to separate a range of solutions. We discussed evaporation and the best conditions for this process to occur. They continued to work on spreadsheets in Computing and used them to convert measurements using a formula. As part of Anti-Bullying week, we have had many in-depth conversations and the children have created posters to show how we can stand united against bullies. We have finally got around to watching everyone's invention presentation which all of the children have really enjoyed taking part in. A huge well done to Charlotte and Dino for being voted as the winning presenters!

#### Year 6

As always, Year 6 have worked hard this week and have completed their work to a very pleasing standard. In Maths, they have learned about BODMAS or order of operations, including the use of brackets. They have also moved onto our new fractions topic, which is always one of the more challenging areas in Maths. They have recapped equivalent fractions, using pictures and by looking for patterns using factors and multiples. In English, the children have learned about how to create passive sentences by identifying the object and the subject of sentences. They have used this knowledge when writing recounts from a character's perspective from our text, 'Star of Fear, Star of Hope'. The class have covered a lot of Year 6 PSHE skills this week, by writing stories about bullying for anti-bullying week and learning about how to keep themselves safe when out and about during the dark nights. They created posters to share what they learned about road safety with other children in the school. They have also continued their work on Puberty, by learning about the menstrual cycle.

**Until next week,  
Mrs Gleave**



### Autumn Term 2020 Diary Dates – Parent Copy (Updates in Red)

Date	Event
<b>November</b>	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Non-uniform day in exchange for donations for the 12 Days of Christmas raffle
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	PTFA 12 Days of Christmas raffle begins
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>PTFA Christmas Gift Stall</b>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>PTFA Christmas Gift Stall</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	School closes for Christmas
<b>January</b>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens for the first half of the Spring Term