



Newsletter – TERM 1 2022

Welcome to the first Newsletter of this academic year. Here we aim to share with you the achievements of this term and take some time to promote activities that you and your children might enjoy outside of school hours.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first end of term newsletter. This is where we celebrate all the learning that has taken place this term, as well as looking at some events coming up.

I cannot believe we have come to the end of the first term! This term has been incredibly busy with everyone working very hard.

I have had the pleasure of appointing new pupil leaders in the school. We have Zumba leaders, Sports Leaders, Journalists, Anti Bullying Ambassadors and House Captains.

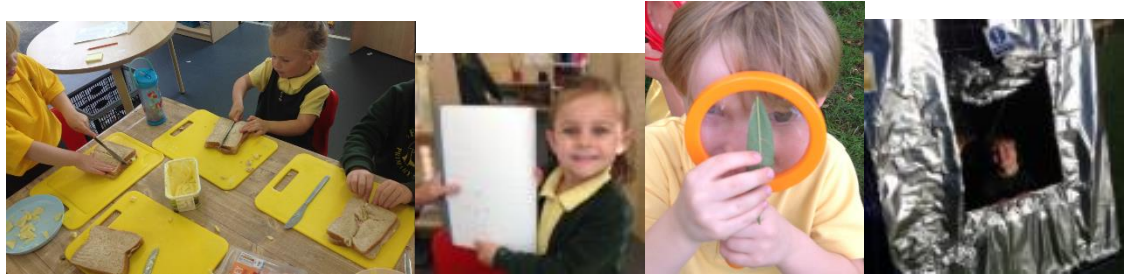
There has been a real buzz around the school. Rainbow class have settled in well. I have enjoyed taking them for Zumbini where I have watched their learning behaviours grow and develop every week. Year 1 have impressed me with their phonics. They have completed their first phonics assessment and have been very keen to show me what they have learnt. Year 2 went on a fantastic school trip to Chatham Dockyards, where they experienced life on a submarine. Year 3 have been sharing all their fascinating facts about the stone age. Year 4 had a wonderful time being Vikings for the day and enjoyed a feast! Year 5 have been out and about from swimming to singing at the Almshouse celebration. Finally, Year 6 did an amazing performance of School of Rock in their theatre workshop. I am only naming a few things, you will see below everything we have to celebrate.

Mrs McCluskey

TEACHING AND LEARNING SHOWCASE

Year R

Rainbow class have had a busy term exploring the school, nature and even outer space! We have made sandwiches, lots of new friends, and have had fun learning Zumba. We've been learning lots of new graphemes too, which are helping us learn to read!

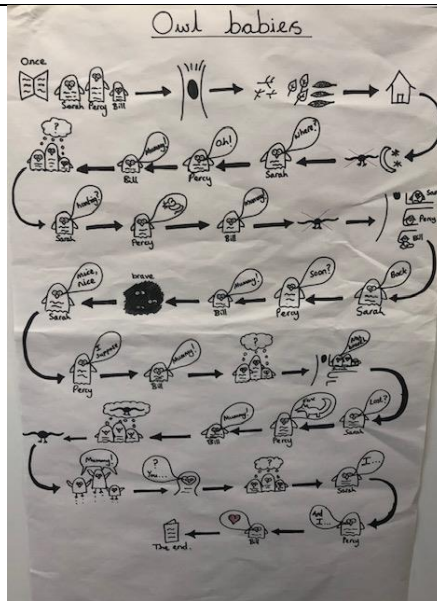


Year 1

Year 1's topic is Childhood, so far, we have examined how our toys and experiences are different from past childhoods. We enjoyed a visit from Frank, Phil, John and David (from LENara) who brought in photographs, toys and memorabilia to tell us about. We have looked at important historical events on a timeline and how it impacted childhood then and now.



In English, we created posters about forgotten toys using the non-fiction book 'Toys of the past'. Recently, we have been learning the narrative 'Owls babies' and changing parts to create our own story.



In Science, we have been learning about everyday materials. We used our knowledge to create some bunting (one for outside and one for inside) for our experiment. We made predictions about what will happen to different materials based on their properties and are monitoring the bunting for any changes.



In DT, we looked at the properties of shelters and created our own mini and then bigger shelters.

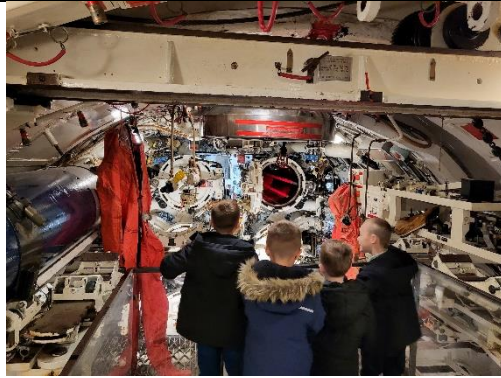


	<p>In Art, we have been learning about primary and secondary colours through the 'mix it up' topic. We used our knowledge and new skills to complete a colour challenge.</p> <p>In Geography, we have been learning about human and physical features.</p> <p>Next term, our childhood topic will continue. We will create a knowledge organiser all about childhood. We will use the story of Pinocchio to support our writing. In Science, we will be learning about humans, their senses (including which body part uses each sense) and how the senses keep us safe.</p>
Year 2	<p>Land Ahoy! is Class 2's Autumn Topic and we have thoroughly enjoyed all of our learning so far! It set sail when we turned our classroom into a fleet of ships, great fun although quite tricky to do our Maths and English lessons in!</p>



We were really fortunate to have some volunteers from the RNLI to come in and tell us all about the charity, the lifeboats and the fantastic work that they do. We also learned how to be safe in and near water.





Our trip to Chatham's Historic Dockyards was a particular highlight- being able to board and explore real ships has really brought the learning to life.



Class 2 explored the properties of materials and then used this knowledge to design and build their own water transport vehicles. They then tested them to see if they would float, move with wind power and carry a load- amazing Science skills on show here!



In PE, we have enjoyed infant agility activities – especially the lesson using the gymnastic wall bars and also our pirate-themed dance lessons.



We have researched and written about pirates (real and fictional) and have danced, sung, acted and talked like pirates practically every day- We cannot wait to find out more!

Next term, our Land Ahoy! topic will continue and will include creating pirate flags, writing a biography on Grace Darling, exploring treasure maps and many more nautical-themed experiences.

Year 3

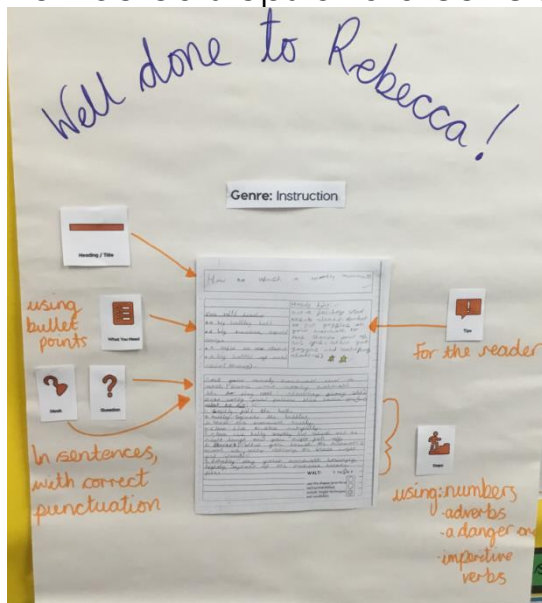
Year 3's topic is Through the Ages, and we have been learning about the eras of the Stone Age (Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic) and how humans changed from being hunter-gatherers to farmers in settlements. With the arrival of the Beaker Folk from Europe, knowledge of pottery and metal work saw the end of the Stone Age and the beginning of the Bronze Age.



We were inspired by the book *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* and washed some animals of our own!



This experience supported our learning on Instruction Writing where we learnt how to include headings and sub headings, bullet points for lists, tips for the reader, questions and a hook, numbered steps and a conclusion.



The pictures below are from an art lesson where we used charcoal to draw cave paintings on paper stuck to the underside of our desks! We drew animals, hunters, spears and campfires!



We researched the Bell Beaker pottery of the Beaker Folk, much of which was discovered by archaeologists in burial sites. We planned our designs and used clay to create our own decorated pottery!



Finally, we put our new found pottery and metal work skills to good use by designing and making ourselves authentic early Bronze Age jewellery. We learnt how these skills made tribes wealthy through their ability to trade. The grandness of the jewellery showed the importance of the chiefs (which is why we look so proud in the pictures!)



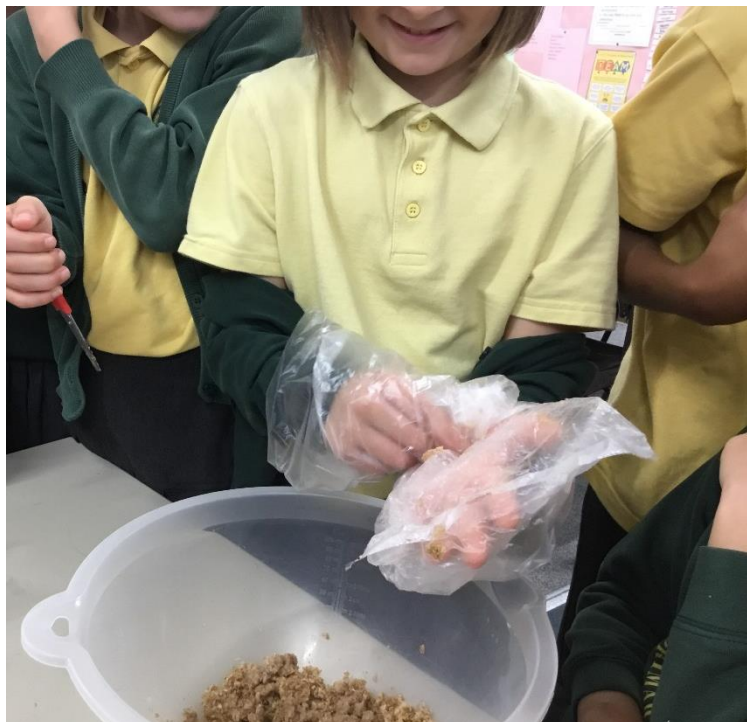
Next term our topic will continue and we shall learn about the Iron Age and we shall be reading Iron Man by Ted Hughes, and The Boy with the Bronze Axe by Kathleen Fidler.

Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons this term. We learned about the invasion of the Anglo-Saxons after the Romans left Britain, and how the country was divided into 7 kingdoms. We then learned about Alfred the Great and how he fought the Vikings and negotiated the division of the kingdoms into Wessex and the Danelaw. Our Viking day at the end of term was a big hit- we translated runes, dressed up, had a Viking feast and made Viking shields!



Year 4 have also been learning about the digestive system. We wrote our own explanation texts in English lessons, imagining we were showing someone around our own body. We demonstrated the digestive system using Weetabix and tights, with orange juice to represent the stomach acid.





In PE, we have been improving our gymnastics and netball skills.





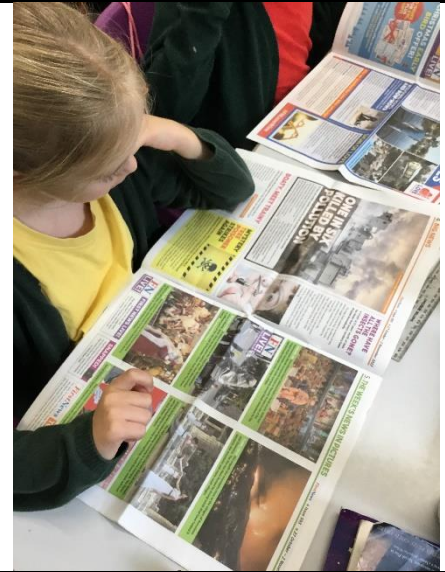
Next term we are continuing with our topics of Digestion and Invasion (Vikings/Anglo-Saxons) and we will start two new PE topics.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fun start to the topic 'Off with her head.' We have found out how Henry VII became King and joined the Houses of York and Lancaster by marrying Elizabeth of York. We have found out about Henry VIII's homes and are looking forward to visiting the Tower of London which was one of his palaces.



RE – we have discussed Fact, Belief & Opinion in relation to faith. We have questioned why people believe in a God or Gods. Looked at newspaper articles about good and bad stories in an attempt to answer why people may believe. We have also discussed origins of the Earth, creation, evolution & the Big Bang.



PE has been multi-skills and swimming



We have covered properties of materials and predicted, mixed, insulated, dissolved and tested all kinds of materials.



We painted landscapes in art, using knowledge of the colour wheel, tints, shades and tones.

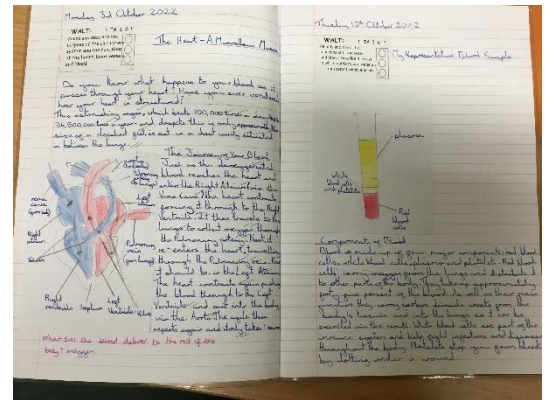




Year 6

Year 6 have begun their 'Britain at War' project, focussing this term on the events that took place during World War One. They have discovered the key causes of the start of the war; how soldiers signed up for duty – some as young as twelve; what life was like in the trenches and the weapons that were used; and now they have completed the term with the events leading up to the end of the war.

In Science, they have been exploring the circulatory system which began with a dissection of a lamb's heart to discover the four chambers, the aorta and the pulmonary vein and artery. The children have produced some excellent writing to explain the journey of blood and the function of the heart, and more recently worked in teams to create a representative blood sample.



In English, the term began with a heart-warming tale of a chance meeting told through the black and white Disney short animation 'Paperman' and Year 6 produced some fantastic narrative writing as a response. This was followed some World War One poetry, with a focus on the meaning behind the language used in 'In Flanders Fields'. The children have been set the challenge of learning the poem off-by-heart. To end the term, the children have been writing letters from the trenches to tell the tale of the Christmas truce.

In French, Year 6 have been learning vocabulary to build sentences both orally and in written form to describe places in the town and rooms and objects at home.



We were fortunate enough to receive a visit from the Performing Arts Department from Valley Park School at the start of term. The children embraced their rock star inner selves and performed an amazing opening number to Rock of Ages. What movers we have in Year 6!



Wow! A busy first term we think you'll agree. Congratulations, Year 6, on a fantastic start to the year.

Next term, we begin our World War Two focus in History with a visit to CEMA (Centre for Experimental Military Archaeology) in Detling, to explore replica trenches and learn about famous battles and the home front.

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Zumba- dance off

If the weather allows us, we are aiming to bring back our Zumba dance off on a Friday.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

On the 30th of September 2022 ,we raised £100.45 from the Macmillan Cake Sale. At Macmillan they help people with Cancer and Cancer research. The pupils and lovely parents gave us lots of goodies to sell. Thank you to everyone who helped us and gave us lovely treats to sell.

Written by

James D Meaney and Molly D Root-Hicks.



Our **Harvest Celebration** took place on Tuesday 11th October. As you can see from the photo the donations made were very generous. The donations were all boxed up and delivered to The Family Food Bank in Maidstone who were incredibly grateful for all the items.



We held our first parent voice on Monday 10th October. Thank you to everyone who came or answered the survey. We discussed reports and homework. Please go to latest news to see the PowerPoint that was presented.

<https://lenham.kent.sch.uk/parent-info/latest-news/parent-voice-october-2022/>



Year 5 have enjoyed being part of the celebrations for the 400th birthday of The Honywood & Douglas Charity Almshouses in Lenham. Thank you to the Trustees for inviting us along, we are pleased we were able to be part of such a significant milestone



On Monday 10th October 2022 everyone in school tried to wear something yellow in support of the charity 'Young Minds'. They help people, especially children, with mental health problems. If children feel like they need help with managing their negative emotions they can call the number on their website to get guidance and advice on what to do.

Lily A Mills and Hannah ES Bradley

🏆 SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS 🏆

<p>Maidstone United</p> <p>Inter-Schools Football Tournament</p>	<p>We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 and Year 6 football teams who took part in the Mini World Cup Tournament on Wednesday 12th October. They represented the school admirably and it was clear to see all of our PRIDE values on show.</p> 
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PRIDE VALUES AND REWARDS

This term we have focused on the **P - personal excellence**, school value. The most popular way to be rewarded was to reach the top of the Learning Ladder. In total **279 certificates** were awarded across the school.

Next term the school will be focusing on the **R - respect and resilience**, school value.

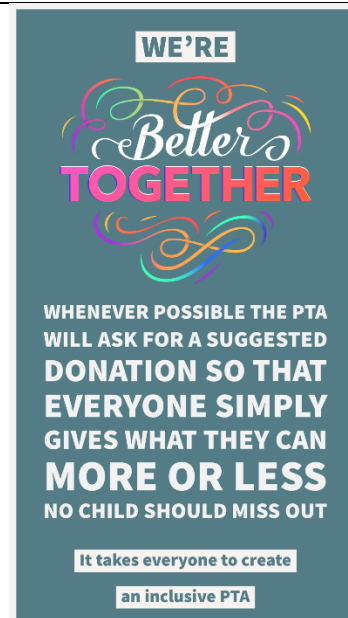
HOUSE POINTS FOR TERM 1

The house with the most House Points this term is **BROWN**.

Well done to all the members of **BROWN**. It was very close.

You will be enjoying a Non-Uniform day on Thursday 3rd November for this achievement.

PTA NEWS



JOIN US FOR
**A VILLAGE
PUMPKIN
HUNT**



**Get dressed up
GET
SPOOKY**

Suggested time to complete trail Sunday 30th between 12-2pm • This includes Spin-the-wheel at the school gate (weather permitting)

**HUNT MAP INCLUDES
SPIN-THE-WHEEL VOUCHER
HALLOWEEN TREAT**

£1 EACH

**ON SALE THURSDAY
20TH 3PM ON THE PLAYGROUND**

Basic trail available to complete from Monday 24th until Monday 31st October



»————«

**We're also selling
SWEET POPCORN
CONES ON THE
£1 each PLAYGROUND
THURSDAY
20TH 3PM**

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**DELAYED DUE TO DRY
WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Thursday 10th November

THE PTA WILL BE INVITING EACH CHILD
TO PLANT A BULB IN
COMMEMORATION OF HM THE QUEEN
PLANTING WILL BE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

YOU ARE INVITED TO VIEW THEIR WORK &
ATTEND THE PLACING
OF THE PLAQUE ON THE GREEN AREA BY THE
PLAYGROUND ENTRANCE


at 3.20pm

EVENTS IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY



Half Term! HALLOWEEN

This October half term, there are lots of fun halloween activities planned in Maidstone town centre.
Checkout all of the events below and for booking details please visit
www.onemaidstone.com/event-directory

29th Oct
Scarecrow School & Craft Workshop
Fremlin Walk
11am- 3pm

Bring your little ones along for free to learn how to become one of Maidstone's scariest scarecrows!

24th - 30th Oct
Take It To The Grave
Hazlitt Theatre
Various times between 5-7pm

A walking scavenger quest around Maidstone, solving clues and finding hints. Suitable for 18yrs+.

24th - 30th Oct
The Stage Manager's Secret
Hazlitt Theatre
Various times between 10am-4pm
Suitable for 5yrs+

Join us on a family friendly scavenger adventure around Maidstone, solving clues and gathering the pieces needed to solve the mystery.

25th - 27th Oct
October Half Term Halloween Make It!
Crafts at Maidstone Museum
10am-2.30pm
(3 sessions per day)

Halloween themed arts and crafts. Booking required.

28th Oct
The Geek Tour @ Halloween
Maidstone Museum
6-8.45pm
Suitable for 16yrs +

Join Sacha Coward, historian, tour guide and massive nerd for an exploration of what it is to be a GEEK! 2 tours, booking required, Come as your favourite character.

24th - 30th Oct
OneMaidstone BID Free Halloween Fun in Maidstone
10-11am at The Mall,
11.30am-12.30pm at Royal Star Arcade,
1-2pm at Fremlin Walk

Visit Maidstone and find the family friendly spooky characters around town and get a free spooky treat!

22nd - 30th Oct
Halloween Spooktacular
Kent Life Farm
10am - 5pm

Come along and join in the family friendly Halloween events at Kent Life for the spooky season.

26th - 29th Oct
Pumpkin carving & crafts
Love Food @ Lockmeadow

Bring the kids along for the Halloween tradition of pumpkin carving at Love Food and save the mess at home!

29th Oct
FREE Kids Halloween Disco
(under 7s)
Love Food @ Lockmeadow 4 - 7pm

Dress up your little witches and goblins for this fun-filled Halloween disco.

5th Nov
Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)
Love Food @ Lockmeadow
- From Middyay

Enjoy this festival at Lockmeadow, including face-painting, crafting and a real-life Mariachi band.

22nd - 29th Oct
Maidstone Scarecrow Festival

This October half term, Maidstone will be welcoming a host of colourful scarecrows to the town centre. How many can you discover? Brought to you by Maidstone Borough Council, supported by OneMaidstone BID.

24th - 30th Oct
Halloween Crafts
The Mall
10.30am to 3.30pm

Join in the Spooky crafts this Halloween half term Upper Mall near Muffin Break.

Brought to you by










MAIDSTONE
MUSEUM

Half Term Make It! Crafts

Sessions each day at 10.30-11.30, 12-1, 1.30-2.30

Tuesday 25 October

Witches and Wizards Hats



Wednesday 26 October

Pumpkin Wreaths



Thursday 27 October

Halloween Masks



£3 per child

Book online or pay at the desk

Limited spaces per session



BOO!

