Newsletter: September 25th 2020

What we are learning about:

Every fortnight, we will try to give you a snapshot of what we have been learning about and what we will be learning about in the coming weeks and ways you can support at home. This information will also be posted on google classroom.

Fenstanton and Hilton Preschool

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

We have been settling in with the new children. Learning our new routine and practices our fine motor skills and using our child friendly knives.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

The changes autumn brings, learning some autumn songs and exploring the animals getting ready for hibernation.

You can help by:

Taking some nature walks and looking for changes in the environment; talking about the colour of leaves, nuts falling from trees – please bring in photos to share.

Reception: Pine Class

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Learning about our new school, routines and the ins and outs of school life! We loved Forest School.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Our first phonic sounds, s, a, t, p, i, n and we will meet the Phonics Fairy; talk about our families and homes; count different objects and actions.

You can help by:

Helping your child listen for and hear the sounds around us and in words; articulating sounds; hearing rhyming words and clapping syllables and notice your front door number.

Year 1 and 2: Ash, Birch and Elm Classes

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

In English: We have been studying information texts looking at the common features and the jobs they do.

In Maths: We have been strengthening our place value knowledge. Looking at 100 square, adding/subtracting 1, 2 and 10, 20. Children have also been using the bar method to partition 2 digit numbers e.g. 26 = 20 + 6

In science: We have been studying features of different animals and had great fun creating our own animals, equipping them with different features for survival.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Creating our own 'Who am I?' riddles based on a range of animals as well as researching and note making in preparation for an information text. Topic will involve looking at Africa's human features as well as food and farming.

You can help by:

Work on the number bonds to 10 and 20 e.g. 4+?=10 13+?=20 Encouraging children to use adjectives when

describing nouns they are using e.g. the prickly, green leaf.

Year 3 and 4: Sycamore, Chestnut and Cherry

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

In English we have been developing our vocabulary for story writing. Starting sentences with a range of openers. Writing sentences using conjunctions. Using the text 'Tuesday' to learn how stories are structured and using 'Gimme 5' as a strategy for correctly punctuating direct speech.

In Maths we have counted in different multiples. Explored different ways to partition and described numbers and learnt to read and write numbers in digits and words.

In science we have observed and tested 6 common rocks.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

In Art we will be drawing leaves and comparing the media of pastel and pencil. In History we will be asking the key question - What can we learn about life in the Stone Age from a study of Skara Brae?

You can help by:

Discussing and using the following vocabulary at home: Partition, digit, multiple.

Granite, sandstone, marble, chalk, limestone and slate.

Year 5: Willow

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Writing fantasy stories; developing our place value knowledge up to 7 digit numbers; forces and gravity.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Argument and debate writing; developing addition and subtraction skills.

Exploring air and water resistance.

You can help by:

Encourage your child to support any opinions with reasons or evidence.

Ask your child to read out any large numbers or using weather forecasts to explore negative numbers.

Year 6: Oak

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Place value; report writing, including newspaper reports; light and seeing the world around us; slavery; The Mississippi River and how rivers affect landscapes; SRE on body parts, puberty and hygiene.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Writing a newspaper report; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; Renaissance art and Beethoven.

You can help by:

Being supportive of any questions that may come up from our SRE topic; discussing the language of addition and subtraction.

Other learning trips and curriculum info

Other Events News and Information:



EFFORT CERTIFICATES



Well done to

18th September
Birch Class – Scarlett
Elm – Elliott
Ash – Millie
Chestnut – Leila
Sycamore – Isobel
Cherry – Marcus

Willow - Mia

Oak - Preston

25th September
Pine – Darcey
Birch – Noah
Elm – Cleo
Ash – Harvey
Chestnut – Elodie
Sycamore – Ayaan
Cherry – Kate
Willow – Isobelle
Oak – Esi





PTA News

To kick off the year's fundraising, PTA have arranged a **Bag2School** collection on **Tuesday, 6 October**. If you've had a clear out of your wardrobes and cupboards during lockdown and not yet managed to get to a charity shop, this could be just what you need!

Bags will be coming home with children in the next few days, but you can use any charity bag or large bin bag you have to hand. Please make sure bags are tied tightly, in case it rains. Have a look at https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect to see what you can put in.

Unfortunately, PTA can't offer a collection service this time, but there are two locations for you to drop bags:

- Penstanton: On the green outside the school hall
- Hilton: On the drive of 1 Flackdale Road, Hilton. PE28 9NY

Bags can be dropped off anytime on Monday 5th and before 9.00 am on Tuesday 6th October. Bags will be collected from both locations sometime during the school day on 6th October. Please don't drop bags after 9.00 am on the Tuesday.

Our first PTA meeting of the school year will be on Thursday, 24th September and we'll start to pull together some ideas for the term then. Look out for more info on these and about our upcoming AGM in the next newsletter. We're always looking for people to get involved and the AGM will be a great time for you to join us. For more info about PTA before that, please get in touch at fhpspta@gmail.com.



Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School

Message from the Acting Headteachers

Message from the Headteachers:

It has been a busy few weeks at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School. Thank you to everyone who has made us feel so welcome.

The children are fantastic and so pleased to be back in school and learning. The classrooms are different with children sat in rows and facing the front of the classroom. They have quickly got used to how our classrooms have changed and they are enjoying having their own learning packs with the equipment they need to use during the day allocated specifically to them.

Staggered entry times:

We are currently reviewing how we can make the staggered entry and exit times work more effectively.

A few parents have kindly suggested we could establish a one-way route around the school. However, there are a number of issues with the building and access that do not make this possible due to the width of corridors and paths and also where the external entrances to classes are

We are currently reviewing the timings around the start and end of the day. We are also looking at the contingency we may need to plan for if it rains which, given the time of year is more than likely.

We hope to be sharing our new plans with you in the coming weeks. Once we have completed a new risk assessment and have checked that the new plans will work. Any changes will not take place until after half term, giving parents and carers time to adapt to the new changes over the holiday.

OVER and IN

We are very much looking forward to having "Over and In" back in school next week. If you want to book your child onto a club please go their web-site www.overandin.com/football

Work on the The Fen Road

There will be major works taking place over the coming weeks. Arrangements are being put in place to maintain the path between the Fen gate and School Lane. **Please stick to the path and avoid standing or waiting on residents' front lawns please.**

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to our school business manager, Ali Wheaton (prev. Wilkinson), who after a number of delays due to COVID was finally able to get married last week. I am sure you will all want to join us in congratulating her and her husband.

RESPECT

One of the rights we have introduced at the school is the right to be treated with respect. We understand that these are anxious times for parents and that sometimes things may not work as smoothly as we would like.

We appreciate and value the feedback being provided by parents but if you have a concerns, please can you raise it in a respectful way. Thank you in anticipation of your support in this matter.

Events happening over the next fortnight:

School Photos: 7th October (no sibling photos)

Flu Immunisations: 7th
December (following our
previous email, please
remember to confirm or
decline, before the Flu Portal
Closure date of the 30th
September 2020)

Half Term: 26th-30th Oct Autumn Term Ends: 18th

Dec

Spring Term Starts: 5th Jan Half Term: 15th-19th Feb Spring Term Ends: 26th

March

Summer Term Starts: 12th

Ap

May Day: 3rd May (school

closed)

Half Term: 31st May-4th

June

Summer Term Ends: 16th

July