

# @Wallisdean

NEWSLETTER—SPRING 2—2022



# Happy Easter!



What a busy half term it's been for us all. I'm sure you'll agree that Easter will be a very welcome break. The children have all been focused on their learning and Year 6 should be very proud of the resilience they have shown in conquering their Mock SATs. We have had some exciting events going on in the Federation this half term, and of course Science Day which was amazing, with shows for all year groups.

## Aspens

Aspens Catering are launching the much loved picnic menu after half term. Please log in to your child's account to view the changes and order their school dinners.



Reminder: Taking your child out of school during term time could be detrimental to your child's educational progress. Holidays during term time are not permitted, and a Penalty Notice may be issued for £120 (or £60 if paid within 21 days) to each parent for each child taken out of school. Medical appointments, if at all possible should be made outside school hours. If an appointment is during school hours, please provide medical evidence to the school office. Siblings of children attending medical appointments should remain in school.

# attendance MATTERS

## UKRAINE

Thank you to all our families who donated to our fundraisers for Ukraine recently. We are so proud to announce that altogether we raised £1265.00. The cake sale was so well supported with donations of over 1000 cakes! Pompey in the Community also donated prizes for a raffle which the children loved being a part of.



You will see at the end of this newsletter that our girls football team have been doing extremely well! I was fortunate to have been able to watch them in action in a recent tournament at Henry Cort. Well done girls, we are so proud of you all.

On behalf of myself and all staff across the federation, we'd like to wish all our families a safe and restful Easter.

Mrs Cammish  
Executive Head Teacher

# MY VOICE; OUR SONG at THE ANVIL

Hampshire Music Service invited schools across Hampshire to take part in a sing along at The Anvil, in Basingstoke, to benefit good well-being. The Junior School had 14 spaces available and asked for children from all year groups to participate. We took part in a workshop with a singing teacher to increase confidence and then went to the live performance with over 600 other children! A live band accompanied our singing and we were sat right at the front of the large auditorium. As well as singing, we were treated to vocal performances from a large choir as well as soloists. We all had a great time and feel that singing certainly brings us together and can bring smiles to our faces!



Amazing! Fun!  
Singing! Funny!  
Great band!

I enjoyed seeing all the colours and getting to sing with a choir.

I liked the atmosphere at The Anvil. Adam on the drums was really good!



# Pre-School

## We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Michael Rosen



This half term we have been learning the story of "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen. Our focus has been Communication and Language and the children have been participating in activities that have encouraged them to learn new words and develop their vocabulary. We used chocolate mashed potato as 'thick oozy mud' and the children used words to describe the texture such as "squishy", "smooth" and "soft".



In the woodland we have been re-enacting the Bear Hunt story; we even found a bear hiding in the cave!

We have also been looking at signs of spring on our welly walks. The children have looked at and named plants and bugs such as daffodils, ladybirds and bees.



We have been reading a book called "Sunflower" and the children have planted their own sunflower seeds. They have discussed what flowers need in order to grow and are waiting to see what happens next with their seeds.



HAPPY  
Mother's  
DAY

For Mother's Day the children made their own cards to take home for their special person.

# RESILIENCE

We have been learning about the Power Word, Resilient. We have talked about how we should ask an adult to help solve a problem, have a go or try again. When a child has shown they have been resilient, we have celebrated this by putting their name on the rainbow and giving them a special sticker and slip to take home

to share with their grown-ups.

# Year R

At the beginning of this half term we met a real pirate who left us a treasure chest full of pirate props, a book 'How I became a Pirate' and a challenge of becoming pirates ourselves.

On our journey to becoming pirates we have followed maps on our Welly Walks and even made our own.

We have made our own telescopes and pirate hats too! We talked about how we could be healthy pirates, made salad sandwiches, tried some new fruits and designed our own healthy plates.

To finish we made our own 'How I became a Pirate' zig-zag books.



# Year 1



For Money Matters Week, the school councillors from Crocodiles and Elephants Class went to meet with Mrs Cammish to ask if we could borrow some money to create canvas bags. We needed to buy bags and fabric paint to create our designs, this would cost £129.05 in total. We then sold our bags to our parents at a total of £3.50 each. Year 1 were very excited to find out that we had made a total profit of **£45.95** from our Money Matters Sale at school. We worked really hard creating our bags, using fabric paint to paint on our class design.



This half term, Year 1 have been learning all about the history of the Royal Navy. We went on a school trip to the HMS Victory to find out more! We learnt all about Admiral Lord Nelson and Captain Hardy and re-enacted the Battle of Trafalgar using footballs as the cannons.



We have been working hard in Art to develop ideas to sketch the HMS Victory, using **JMW Turner's** art work as our inspiration. We also used watercolour paints to paint the sky and sea in the background.



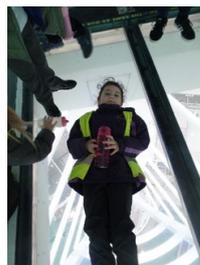
We were also feeling creative when we made our beautiful Mothers' Day cards. **St Margaret's Nursery** very kindly donated some potted pansies to our school for our art project. We then carefully sketched and painted the pansies to create our cards.



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, the whole school took part in Science Day! We had such a fun day and had lots of different experiments to do. We also got to watch an amazing science show with a real life scientist!



# Year 2



**Spinnaker Tower Trip:** Year 2 had a fantastic time on our school trip to the Spinnaker Tower. Even though the weather was not on our side, we still made the most of the morning. Once we had made it to the top of the tower, we enjoyed spotting all of the landmarks



## SPINNAKER TOWER

and locations that we had learnt about in school. All of us were eventually brave enough to venture onto the glass floor and some of us even laid face down on the glass! We finished off the morning by going for a walk around Gunwharf Quays and looking at the shops and places that we had researched about.

**Mother's Day Cards:** Year 2 used our watercolour skills in Art to create our own special cards for Mother's Day by painting pansies. We learnt how to blend and merge two colours together and used this to create the petals of our flower. We then used crayon to add an outline and definition to our flowers. We were very proud of the finished result! *Happy Mother's Day!*



**Science:** As well as taking part in Science day, Year 2 also conducted our own experiment to work out which would be the best material to build a bridge to cross from Portsmouth to Gosport. We learnt some new scientific vocabulary including transparent, opaque and flexible and used these properties to make our predictions.



We then created and tested our bridges to find out which one could hold the most weight. We recorded our results in a table and then drew our own conclusions based on this data.



# Year 3



**English:** In English this half term, we have completed a learning journey about the story of the Egyptian Cinderella. We began our journey by reading the traditional tale of Cinderella to check that we all knew it, before comparing the similarities and differences between them.

We learnt lots about using direct speech and comparative conjunctions during our learning journey, and used this to write our own Egyptian Cinderella story by changing the events and characters in it.

We finished our learning journey by sharing our stories with the children in Year 1.



**Spanish:** This half term, we have been learning the names of different colours in Spanish. We continue to use Linguascope to help us with our learning! We completed two different assessments for this and we all did very well.



**Computing:** In computing this half term, we have learnt how to use the internet safely and how to use search engines. We talked about how to know if the information that we were reading was reliable and recapped our e-safety learning so we knew what to do if we were troubled by anything on the computer.



We learnt that not everything you read on the internet is true and how easy it is for some websites, like Wikipedia, to be changed by anyone to say anything at all. We learnt how to check on multiple websites (at least three) for information before believing that it was true.

We shared our findings with the Year 1 children when they came over to hear all about our topic.

**PE:** In our outdoor PE lessons this half term, we have been creating games that had a theme of the ancient Egyptians. We used all the skills that we have already learnt in PE (like ball skills and throwing and catching) to invent new games to share with our class.



In our indoor PE lesson, we have had a focus on rhythmic dance. We used the track of 'Walk like an Egyptian' to create a rhythmic dance. We then learnt about what a Flash Mob is so that we could perform our dance in this style for the Year 1 children when they came over.



**History:** This half term, our topic has been Ancient Egyptians. We began our topic by receiving an email from Mrs Waring saying that a strange thing had been found outside when Mrs Hamblin was gardening. We went outside to investigate.



When we had excavated it from the ground, we took it back into the classroom to give it a clean and then we talked about what we thought it was. We thought that it might be something to do with Egyptian Gods as it had lots of drawings and symbols on it. This led us on to learning all about the Egyptian afterlife.



We began this by learning about the process of mummification. We also learnt lots of facts including that the ancient Egyptians used to take out some of the internal organs (but not the heart) from the dead body and put them into special jars called Canopic Jars. Did you know

that they used to put a hook up the dead person's nose, mash up the brain and then pull the brain out through the nostril... yuck!

The next part of our history learning journey was to answer the question of how the ancient Egyptians got to the afterlife after they had died. We learnt that the God Anubis waited for people to arrive in the Hall of Judgement before weighing their heart to see if it weighed the same as the Feather of Ma'at. If it did, then the dead person was allowed entry to the afterlife. If their heart was heavier than the feather, then the God, Ammit would eat their soul!



# Year 3

**Science:** In science, we have been learning about light. We took part in a variety of investigations to add to the knowledge that we already had. We had to learn lots of different scientific vocabulary for this journey, for example: opaque, translucent and transparent. We learnt about reflections and investigated different reflective materials. We discussed why it is important to have reflective clothing when we go outside in the dark, and how high visibility clothing can keep us safe.



We used a special piece of scientific apparatus to help us measure the amount of light that was able to be seen through different fabrics. This is called a data logger, which told us the amount of light in Lux which is what light is measured in.

The final part of our science journey for this half term was learning all about shadows. We learnt that shadows are formed when light is blocked from going through an opaque object such as the human body.



**Maths:** In maths this half term, we have been working hard to learn how to use money and give change. We used role play of a shop to support us in our learning. We found using money really tricky and we know that we will need to carry on practising this so that we fully understand it.

We continue to practise our times tables using TT Rockstars and by having our weekly times table test. Thank you to our grown-ups for helping us to practise them at home!



**Science Day:** During the last part of this half term, we had science day! This year, the theme was 'famous scientists'. We really enjoyed dressing up as scientists and spending the whole day doing science investigations.



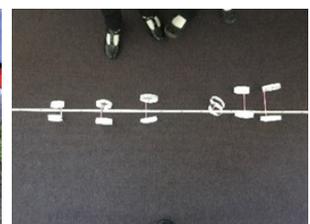
We started our day by all completing an investigation about what type of tasters we are. We used blue food colouring to stain a small part of our tongue so that we could count the Fungiform Papillae (the pink bumps!). The number that we could see in a small circle showed us what kind of taster we are, a non-taster, a taster or a super-taster.



We were also lucky enough to have a visitor in school to do a show for us all about air. We learnt that air does not like to be different, it like to be the same! Our visitor did many different experiments that showed us all sorts of different things about how special air is.



The investigations that we completed in classes this year were about Joseph Lister and the spreading of germs, Charles Darwin and the formation of fossils and Galileo and the effect of gravity. Some of us took part in a full day investigation about the Wright Brothers where we studied how small changes to the forces of gravity, thrust, lift and air resistance, effect the flight of aeroplanes.



# Year 4

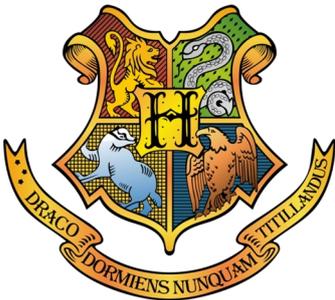


**All Aboard The Hogwarts Express:** To begin our magical Harry Potter topic, we were sorted into Hogwarts house teams based on our answers to a special quiz. Following on from this, we designed wands, dragons and uniforms for Hogwarts.

During our magical adventure, we acted as characters from the book, thinking carefully about how to convey their personalities. This helped us with our story and poetry writing.



In topic we have looked at many subjects with our lead subject being Geography. We got to investigate the best ways to travel to King's Cross Station using a website called My Journey. This also helped us to think about other environmental issues such as pollution from vehicles.



**Chatty Portraits:** In Art and Computing, we took inspiration from Hogwarts talking gallery of portraits. We learned the skills of drawing facial features before applying them to draw a portrait of Harry Potter and our own self portrait.

Following on from this, we were able to animate our Harry Potter portraits in our Computing sessions using the app Chatterpix on the iPads.



**Harry Potter Graduation:** To end our topic of Harry Potter, we held a graduation to allow all muggles to officially become witches and wizards of the Harry Potter world. We had great fun receiving our certificates and sharing little stories about our journeys during this topic.



# Harry Potter



# Year 5



**Topic ~ Chocolate:** During this half we have been focusing on the production of chocolate and the lives of those who grow the cacao. We began by playing the Orange Game – where we took on the role of farmers, families, tax collectors and money lenders. We discovered that the farmers were not treated fairly. This led us to explore the idea of the Fair Trade Foundation.



our own cereal bars and evaluated them.

**Design and Technology:** We began this with a chocolate tasting session and we learnt how different parts of the tongue are responsible for us tasting our food in different ways. We then adapted a recipe for a cereal bar, making sure it had between 150 and 200 calories and had less than 15g of sugar. We produced



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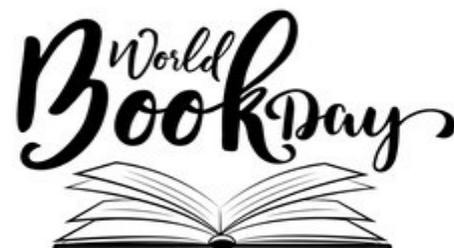
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The upper school investigations were: Herschel and her comets; Rotengen who invented x-rays and Copernicus who focused on the solar system. A small group spent the day looking at the DNA work of Watson and Crick.



**Pompey in the Community:** Many for us took part in a competition to design a football that represented inclusivity in the game. The lucky winners in Class 5 and Class 6 will have the chance to visit Fratton Park; have a stadium tour and make a real football from their designs.



**World Book Day:** In Year 5 we took part in 2 different reading activities. We went to the infant school and shared a picture book. Everyone had a lovely time – we enjoyed being the readers and the infants enjoyed listening. We also shared some of our own stories with children in Year 3.

# Year 6

## Design & Technology

### Design Technology:

As part of our CSI topic, Year 6 have had the opportunity to combine their DT and science skills to create a spy training tool. They have built a structure and connected a circuit so that a buzzer sounds if the wire is touched by the handle – a real test of patience, resilience and taking care – all the skills needed for a successful spy!

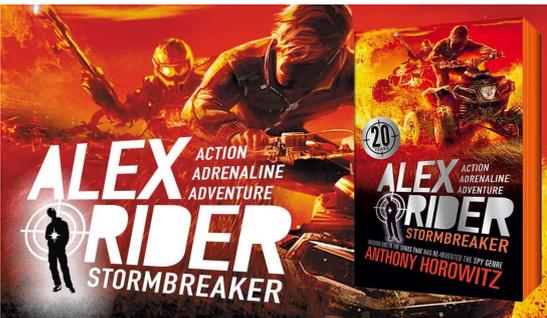
## Y6 SATs

### Mock SATs:

Well done to all of Year 6 for all their effort during Mock SATs week. We are incredibly proud of how hard they worked and their resilience and know that this has helped prepare them and feel more confident for their SATs week in May.

### Orienteering:

During PE, Year 6 have been using compasses to develop their orienteering skills using the 8 points of a compass. They have followed directions around the school grounds and created their own maps to follow using compass directions.



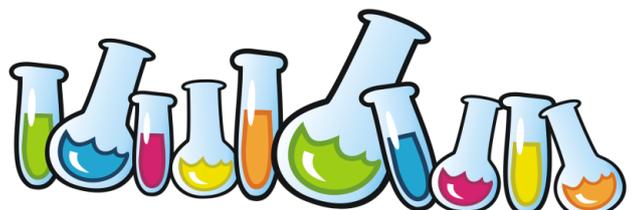
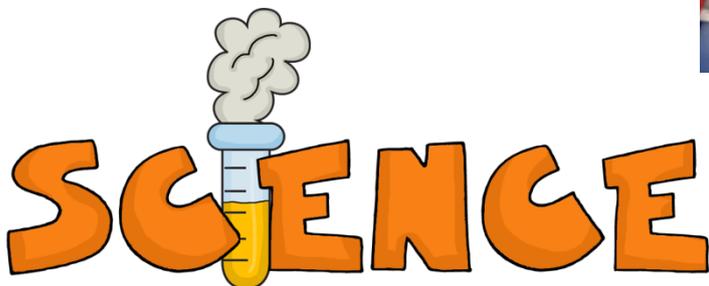
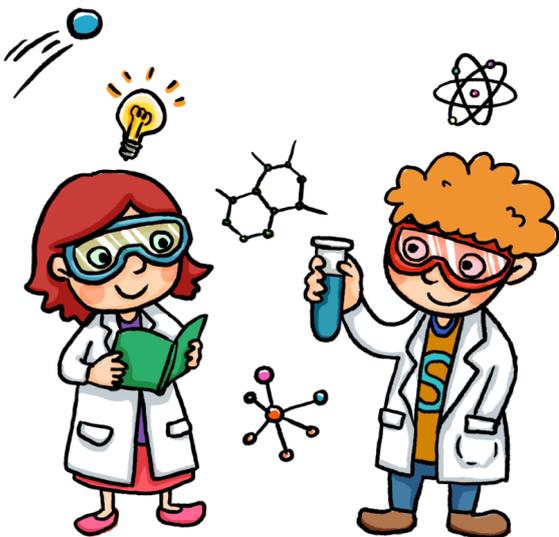
### Stormbreaker:

What an exciting book Year 6 have been reading this term. Linked to our CSI topic, the book Stormbreaker has shared the missions of a teenage spy – Alex Rider and all his adventures. The children have written their own 'Training to be a teenage spy' magazine article including information about all the characteristics, physical training and gadgets needed to be a successful teenage spy.

### Science Day:

Science day was a day full of investigations and discoveries. In Year 6 the children found out about the famous scientists: Wilhelm Roentgen who discovered x-rays, Copernicus who made discoveries about the Solar system and Hershel who made many discoveries about comets.

During the afternoon they watched a science show full of fascinating experiments linked to air.



# Girls Football

This half term, the Year 5/6 girls football team have had nothing but success and Wallisdean could not be prouder of them!

We started off the half term by entering a football tournament with Pompey in the Community. We competed against 6 other schools and won every match without conceding any goals! The girls all received a medal from Portsmouth Women's team manager.



Our reward for winning the Pompey in the Community Tournament was that we got invited to take part in a tournament at Stoneham against other towns in the South Coast. These included, Southampton, Yeovil, Woking, Brighton and Bournemouth. The Premier League cup was also at the venue for us to look at and have our picture taken with. We played exceptionally well as a team and won several of our matches. We walked away with an award for being the 'most ambitious' team and each one of the girls got to pick their prize of either a water bottle or a football. We had a brilliant day!



Pompey in the Community were very impressed with our achievements at the tournament and how well the girls worked together as a team, that they gave the girls free tickets to watch Portsmouth Women's Team play at Fratton Park with an adult on April 3rd 2022. Mrs Cammish also felt that the girls deserved a reward for their achievements and the way they have represented the school, and therefore held an afternoon tea for the team. The girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were very excited to tell Mrs Cammish all about it!

Later on in the half term, the girls were then entered into a tournament at Henry Cort against 7 other Fareham based schools. Once again, the girls didn't concede any goals and won every match, meaning they had made it through to the final. The final was tense! The girls conceded 2 goals within the first half of the match but somehow, their fantastic skills and team work pulled it back and we drew 2-2. This only meant one thing... PENALITES! Summer, our goalie, did an outstanding job and saved 2 out of 3 penalties and Wallisdean scored every single penalty meaning we won the tournament overall!

We are very aware that at the end of the summer term, 4 of our team members will be leaving us. Therefore, after Easter, the four Year 6 team members will begin to train any Year 4 girls on a Friday lunch time who think they would like to join our team and show them how it's done.

Well done girls! Wallisdean couldn't be prouder, and you have done such a brilliant job of representing our school. Keep up the good work.

