

In this unusually lengthy newsletter, we would like to share notices, insight to school life, feedback on the parent survey and important updates on COVID-19 communication during the holiday.

Christmas Jumper Day - Charity

We raised £82.17 in charity contributions to Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day.



The Panto

This week the children have watched a pantomime thanks to the funding from the PTA. It wasn't the same as going to the theatre. *Oh yes it was, oh no it wasn't! Nevertheless, it was good for the children to experience this traditional form of theatre, albeit on the large screen.*

More Christmas fun

Today many staff and children enjoyed a Christmas lunch. There has been some Christmas themed designing in Years 1 and 2. If you have children in Reception, they have been wrapping presents and writing Christmas cards for fun. There was even a surprise Teams call from someone special (see picture below). We have continued to sing Christmas songs and be mindful of our school values through assembly stories.



Swimming in Term 3



Next term Year 5 go swimming on Mondays, starting 11th January. Please see the swimming letter regarding procedures. In Term 4, we have organised for Year 3 to go swimming.

Sports Coaching

Next term, we will continue to offer extra sports coaching from Mr Camper, from School Sports Teaching. In Term 3, the extra sessions will be offered to Years 1, 3 and 4.

Our new Vice Principal joins in February

We are now pleased to confirm that Mr Ellis will join the school at the start of Term 4 as our new Vice Principal. A recruitment process took place in October, however we were not able to announce this news until his own school community were made aware first.

Next term in Year 2 Elm class

Following a successful term 2, we have decided to keep Miss Crisp as the Class Teacher for the remainder of the school year.



Next term Mrs Brice returns

Some of you have been as pleased as we were to see Mrs Brice on the school gates a few times this term as she began her return to school after her maternity leave. As Assistant Principal, Mrs Brice will join different bubbles for different terms to support teaching and learning. Within her leadership role, she will deputise as the Vice Principal until Term 4, when Mr Ellis joins.

Thank you to Morrisons and our parents!

Over the past 2 months we have all supported some families with foodbank items. This week, Morrisons donated more items and the local WSM foodbank also delivered more, topping up on what we had already from parent donations. As a result, we have started to deliver hampers to some families ahead of Christmas.



Planting trees in Forest School

Our Year 3 and 5's this week worked hard to plant many new trees in the Forest school. One of our grandparents has made a donation to contribute to this development. We hope to share a photo of her by the many native British trees that were planted; *Apple, Pear, Mulberry, Maple, Hawthorn, Hornbeam, Whitebeam and Willow.*

Next term, Year 5 will participate in Forest School on Tuesdays, starting Tuesday 12th January.



In Term 4, Year 4 will join Rachel and Amy, from Wildwood, in the Forest School area.

A journey towards achieving the Artsmark



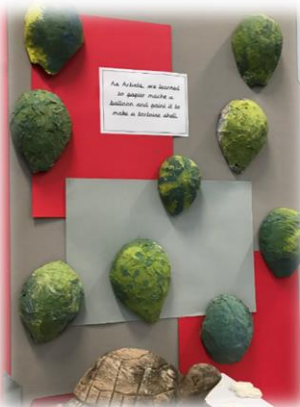
We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

Miss Priddle (our Art and Design lead), submitted an application to the Arts Council which detailed the commitment and curriculum we offer for pupils to develop their art, as fine artists, musicians, performers and designers. It was successful and over the next few years we will work with the Arts Council to establish our status as a leading school in this curriculum area.



Reception creating winter scenes

We are not surprised by the above, when you consider how talented our children are. This term, as artists our children have developed their skills in sculpture:



Year 1 creating paper-mache tortoise shells

Year 2 creating clay model bread



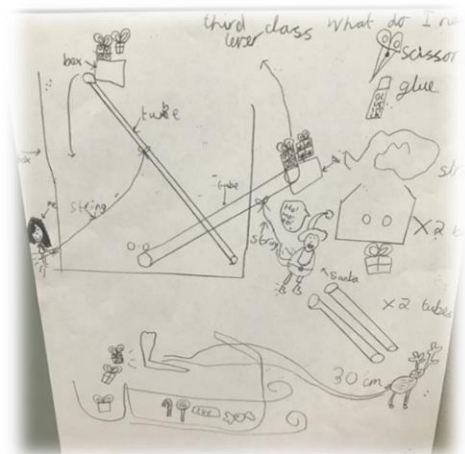
Year 4 creating Viking helmets using Mod-roc



Year 5 creating Egyptian wire sculptures

Designers

Alongside many usual routines and lessons, this week year groups 1 to 5 have participated in a focused week on being a designer. How can we design the right bridge to get to Mrs Claus? Can we design a church of the future? What can we design to find buried treasure? These were some of the design briefs. Within the sequence of lessons, there has been a lot of joy-filled and resilient play alongside learning technical vocabulary such as rigidly, stability, axles, levers and pulleys.



The Whole School Parent Survey

Over 219 responses were received with most classes having two third of pupils represented in the survey. The results were extremely positive on many levels. We hope to use the constructive feedback and ideas to support ongoing school improvement.

	Agree and Strongly Agree	Strongly agree
1. My child is happy at school	99.5%	64.8%
2. My child is safe at school	96.8%	66.2%
3. My child makes good progress	97.7%	68.9%
4. My child is well-looked after	97.3%	63.9%
5. My child is taught well.	99.5%	75.3%
6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	92.6%	38.9%
7. This school makes sure its pupils behave well.	95.4%	47.9%
8. This school is well led and managed.	95.9%	56.2%
9. This school responds well to any questions or concerns I	95.9%	51.6%
10. I would recommend this school to a parent.	95.9%	69.8%

The comments section included so many positive comments, which we are sharing with the teaching team. Here are some examples:

"I think during this difficult time of Covid, you have all done exceptionally well and should be so proud of yourselves and the team around you. You have continued to provide excellent service and as a parent who worried that the school experience may be lacked in some form due to the pandemic, I am in awe of the education and experience my child has received. Well done!"

"Teachers are supportive. It's a brilliant school. My child has come on so much since attending."

"Keep up the great work and thank you all for doing an amazing job. The school is very well led and all the staff do a great job. My children are very happy here."

There were many helpful perspectives shared around pupil behaviour, communication and incidents of safety. The senior leadership team will explore these in more detail and aim to share any strategic developments in the new term with families.

There were a few comments that expressed dissatisfaction in particular areas. Where parents shared their names, we will do our best to coordinate having these matters addressed as soon as possible. Unfortunately, a very small number of parents shared dissatisfaction but did not identify themselves. I would urge those parents to identify themselves and share their concerns with class teachers directly, if not the Senior Leadership Team for next term as below:

- Miss Hall, Leader of Early Years and Reception Beech Class Teacher
- Miss Priddle, Leader of Key Stage 1 and Year 2 Elder Class Teacher
- Mr Fraser, Leader of Key Stage 2 and Year 5 Pine Class Teacher
- Mrs Brice, Assistant Principal
- Please note that our new Vice Principal, Mr Ellis, will join the school on Monday 22nd February.
- Mr Jones, Principal

School Improvement

As well as the above parent survey and our own regular Teaching and Learning reviews, we would like to share that the school positively engages with other stakeholders to monitor and support the quality of education and school operations. This includes internal audits with colleagues in the Cabot Learning Federation in safeguarding, finance, compliance and buildings maintenance and Health and Safety. The Education Executive Team, including Susie Weaver (Executive Principal) CLF) and Dan Nicolls (CLF's Director of Education) also visit the school regularly. The Academy Council challenges and supports the work of the school through termly meetings with school leaders.

Positive COVID-19 test outcome and close contact reporting during the holidays

Friday 18th – Wednesday 23rd December

Between Friday 18th – Wednesday 23rd December, it is important that we continue to trace close contacts of anyone who has a positive test result and were in school 48 hours before the symptoms started. From 18th December, please report a positive test result by email to enquiries@haywoodvillageacademy.org.uk

Please leave the following information:

- Parent's name
- Your child's name
- When the child was last in school
- Date of first symptoms
- The date of the test
- The date of the positive result

This will support the senior leadership of the school to alert close contacts and reduce the potential risk of further spreading COVID-19 in our community.

Between Friday 18th to Wednesday 23rd, the enquiries email inbox will be monitored at least three times in the day (8 – 9 am, 1 – 2 pm and 7 – 8 pm).

Thursday 24th – 27th December:

The email inbox will not be monitored.

28th December – 4th January:

If you or a member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19, and will not be returning to school on Tuesday 5th January due to isolation, please email the school on enquiries@haywoodvillageacademy.org.uk. In addition, if you are having to isolate because you have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please also notify the school of planned absence due to self-isolation. The school administration team will check all messages on Monday 4th January only.

On a final note

On a final note following the survey, I would like to thank the many parents who have recognised the hard work and commitment of the entire staff team who have been incredibly committed throughout the pandemic. Our staff have sacrificed so much in their private lives and committed wholeheartedly to in-school rules that have ensured they have stayed safe and well, which in turn has resulted in very little disruption to school life for children since September. We know many of you too have had to experience similar challenges and make sacrifices but thank you for recognising the HVA staff – it means a lot.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and look forward to 2021 with great optimism.

Mr Jones

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