

Newsletter 5 - Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Families,

We've had a fantastic week! The children have really settled in now and everything is working like clockwork (although better not speak too soon!) The teachers are working hard with them on all the different areas of the curriculum and the children are responding well to all the new and revised learning. See below where the teachers have done a quick round up of the week to give you a flavour of what they've been up to.

This week's round up around the school:

Nursery: This week, we have been thinking about our feelings and emotions. We have been playing with the song 'If you're happy and you know it' as we have changed 'happy' to a few different emotions. We have had some great fun with 'If you're grumpy and you know it' as the children have loved folding their arms and pulling a grumpy face!

Reception: This week in Reception, we're really proud of our children who have been reading words in phonics. We've explored lots of different story books with 'Ketchup on your Cornflakes' being a definite favourite that the children love to read independently. In maths, we've been practising sharing equally - the children particularly enjoyed dressing up as animals and sharing their food equally!

Year One: We have started a new project: Splendid Skies. We have been learning all about the weather and have learnt a new song about the seasons! The children love dancing to it. The children have had a new role play area - an airport. This has provided the children with an opportunity to dress up for a holiday, pack a suitcase and look through holiday brochures!

Year Two: We have been working hard writing our own pirate stories based on the book 'The Night Pirates'. In project, we have been learning about Grace Darling and have designed and made our own lighthouses which are displayed in the library area - see photograph below. In maths, we have been learning to subtract by regrouping and done really well on what is a hard concept!

Attendance: Our attendance continues to be amazing at 99%! Thank you so much everyone - this really is brilliant and I do believe that is why our children are settling back in so well.

Parking: Thank you for everyone's efforts regarding the parking. Mr Parker tells me that it is flowing really well on the whole. If you're unsure where to park, please do ask Mr Parker and he will be happy to help.

Reception Phonics Information Session: It was really nice to see so many faces at this on Monday. If you were unable to attend during the live meeting, the recorded version is available on Teams. Log in using your child's details and you will see it in the 'Posts' section. Any problems please just call the office or speak to one of the teaching staff. Part Two of the information sessions for our Reception parents will take place on 14th October at 2pm via Teams. We hope to see you there.

Photographs: The individual school photographs will be taken on Tuesday morning so don't forget to have those super cool hairstyles and be looking your smartest!

#Hello Yellow: Next Friday (9th) is the #Hello Yellow day which is where we will be raising awareness about mental health in children on World Mental Health Day. Never before has there

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been a time when this has been more relevant. Children can wear something yellow on this day e.g. a yellow t-shirt and then they can wear their jeans. If they are not going to be wearing their uniform, they must wear something yellow. We will not be collecting donations for this event.

Barefoot 3 Peaks Challenge: Following on from last week's newsletter, I am delighted to let you know that Mr Clarke completed the challenge despite the low temperatures and extremely cold feet! So far he has managed to raise a staggering £1700. Huge congratulations to him for completing this and for raising money for a great charity!

Congratulations to the Rudkin family: Huge congratulations to Chloe & Jessica who welcomed a baby sister into their family on Wednesday. Her name is Ellie Grace and she arrived home with Mum on Thursday morning. According to the girls, she is beautiful and we cannot wait to see her ourselves. Congratulations to Mum and Dad too!

Harrier Award: The Harrier Value for this half term is Resilience. Please see below who has been chosen by the staff to receive this special award that was presented in our virtual assembly this morning. I am so proud of the children and all their efforts. In Monday's assembly, I presented Halle from Year 2 with a certificate for all her efforts at helping others to keep up their resilience during lockdown by baking cakes and leaving them outside family and friends doors with personalised messages on - what a lovely thing to do!

Congratulations to the following children who were chosen by their teachers to receive a Harrier Award this week:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Leon	Who has worked so hard to develop his independence and self- help skills. He is the champion of our Nursery mantra- 'We don't say I can't, we say I can try!
Reception	Ava	For showing resilience by working really hard to have happy, smiley days with no tears!
Year 1	Hope	For her perseverance in writing. She continues her writing even in choosing time and the results have been amazing!
Year 2	Patrick	For really persevering with his pirate hot write - well done Patrick!

Fantastic! On a final note, thank you to all the parents that have given feedback over the past few weeks either verbally or via email. It really helps to know if we can make things run more smoothly and it's also so lovely to hear when we're getting things right. We do literally feel like we are in a 'bubble' as we're not having the usual interactions with yourselves, visitors and other schools so to know that you're happy with what we're doing really does make our day! Thank you for taking the time to pass this on.

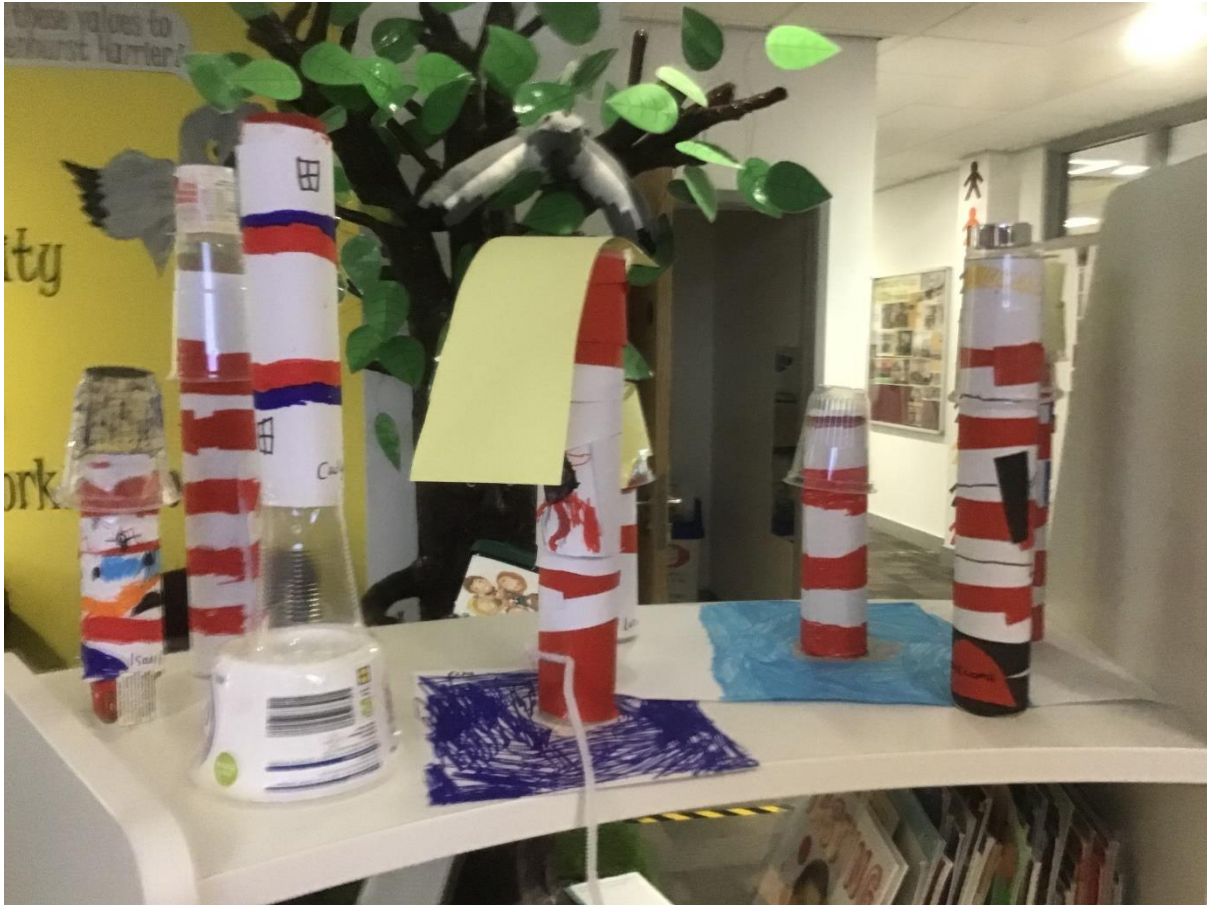
On that note, I wish you a fantastic weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family

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