



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 12 March 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It has always been a blessing to believe that it is important to act your way into a feeling, rather than allow yourself to feel your way into an action, for it has helped to build resilience and confidence in the God-given ethos of this wonderful school. Nevertheless, I would think that there is not a single one of us, child, parent, grandparent, relative, friend, for whom humanity's latest own-goal has not proved challenging to all that we hold dear. The video link will never replace the hug! It is all the more reason to cling to the fisherman from Nazareth, who wept for his friend Lazarus. It is proof that we care and will speed the process of healing.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed





Senior School Success.



We are extremely proud of our Year 6 pupils, who have all achieved places at their senior schools of choice.

Among the achievements we are celebrating are scholarship awards for academic, music, design and technology excellence.

The pupils worked extremely hard in preparation for interviews and entrance examinations which took place during lockdown, and their achievements are especially to be celebrated under these circumstances.

There is still more than one term remaining, which will be packed with a range of academic and adventurous activities and challenges to prepare them all well for life at senior school.

On behalf of the school may I offer my warm congratulations, and wish them the very best on the next exciting chapter of their school journeys this coming September.

Mrs Sonn





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

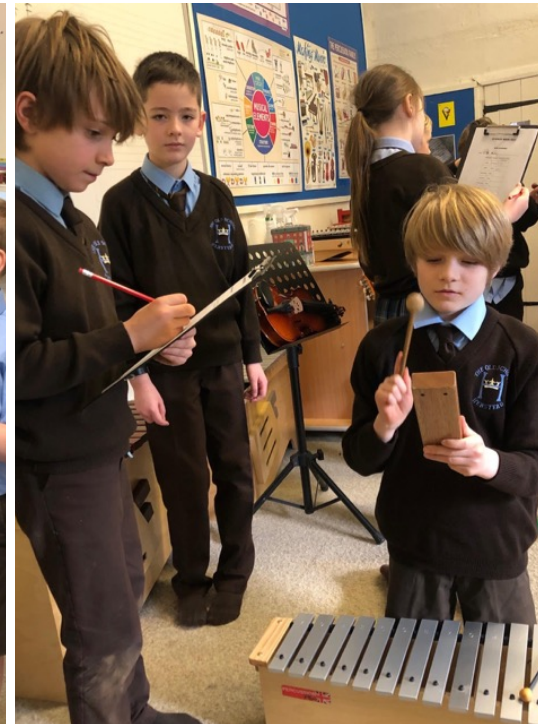
Dates for your Diary

- Tuesdays - LAMDA lessons; pupils should remember to bring their scripts
- Friday 19 March - Red Nose Day - bring a donation of £1 for a new plastic-free red nose (which we will supply). Normal uniform day.
- Friday 26 March - Spring Term Ends
- Tuesday 20 April - Summer Term Begins
- Sat 29 May - Sun 6 June - Half Term
- Friday 9 July - Summer Term Ends





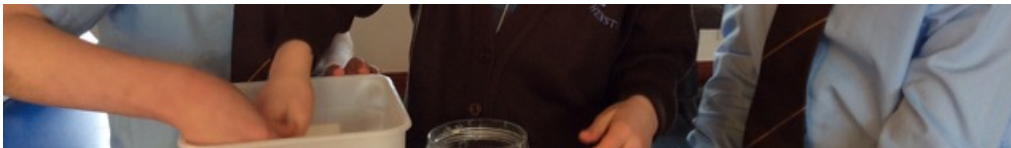
The Science of Sound.



As part of British Science Week, Year 5 conducted an experiment to discover which material made the most resonant sound when used in the construction of musical instruments. - Mr Spencer



British Science Week.



Time for experiments and a journey of discovery. Year 3 enjoyed exciting daily experiments. Our form experiment focused on an egg!

The question “Will it sink, or will it float?”

Answer ‘It sank to the bottom when dropped into a glass of ordinary drinking water.’

But what would happen if we gradually added table salt?

Fifteen teaspoons of salt, a gentle stir and the egg floated. When more clear water was added the salty water remained at the bottom of the glass and clear drinking water floated above the murky salt. The egg floated between the two,

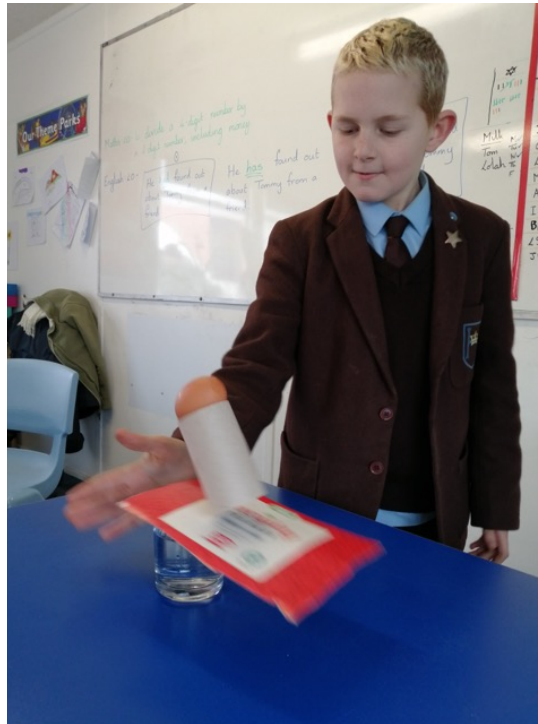
What fun facts did we learn about density?

Salt water is denser than ordinary tap water, the denser the liquid the easier it is for an object to float in it. When you lower the egg into the liquid it drops through the drinking water until it reaches the salty water, at this point the water is dense enough for the egg to float. Our Year 3 scientists had expertly and carefully added the table salt to the water, not allowing them to mix, enabling the egg to amazingly float in the middle of the glass.

Great fun and some super shared learning. - Miss Clifton



British Science Week - Egg-speriments.



Year 5 has thoroughly enjoyed trying out several different experiments this week. At the beginning of the week we tried some 'egg-speriments'!! We were a little nervous when we tried to knock the card from underneath a cardboard tube which was holding a raw egg on top of it. Thankfully the egg dropped straight down into the glass of water without smashing everywhere!!

We also experimented to see how we could make an egg float in water. To do this we added salt to the water to increase its density, thus pushing the egg higher up in the water until it was floating on top.

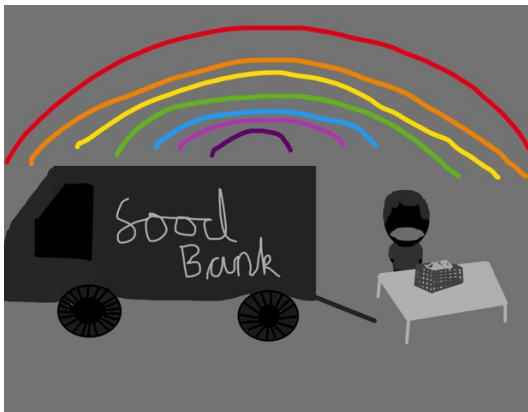
An 'egg-cellent' week was had by all!

- Mrs Solomon





Art Competition Success.



The thought-provoking winners of the art competition entitled "The Year we Stayed Inside" reflecting this period of history as perceived by pupils' own experiences of lockdown.

Congratulations to Gabriel, Isaac M, Isaac G, Ted and James, in Years 2 to 6.

- Miss Doughty



British Science Week.



Have you ever wondered what happens when you mix two different substances together such as bicarbonate of soda and vinegar?

This experiment is called Frankenstein's Hand. You can probably see why!

Great fun with experiments celebrating British Science Week.





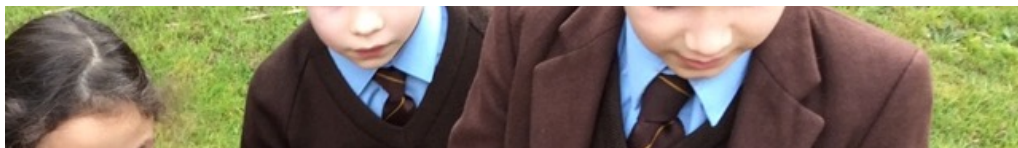
The Science of Solubility.



Year 1 using their skills of prediction to assess the solubility of different liquids.



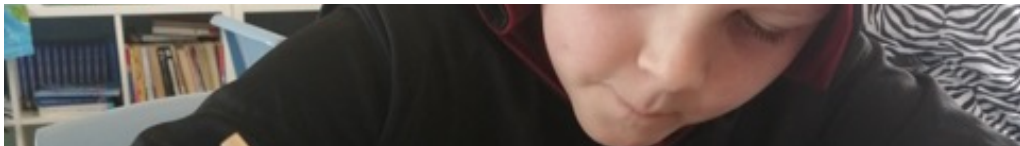
Thawing Ice.



Pupils were set a task of finding out the best way we could keep the road cleared when snow and ice appears. Ideas such as salt and grit, along with boiling water, table salt and candles were tested which would thaw our roads quicker and be the most sensible ideas. The children had great fun testing their ideas. Mr Hunter



World Book Day.



The school decided to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday, to enable everyone to celebrate it together.

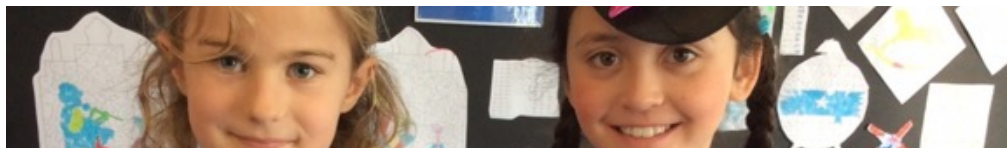
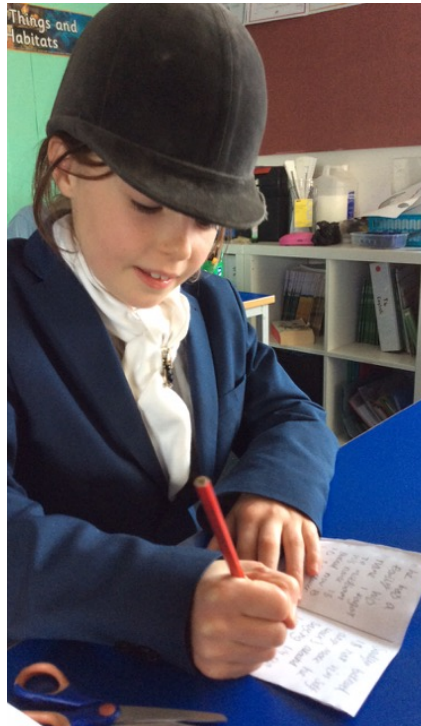
We have had a very fun day for World Book Day. It is lovely to see the variety of books enjoyed by Year 5, ranging from Harry Potter to The Diary of a Wimpy Kid!

To celebrate the day, we all dressed up as a character from our favourite book and did some activities based on these. We also tried to see how many words we could make using the letters of different famous authors, such as Roald Dahl.

Mrs Solomon



World Book Day.





World Book Day.





Reception Round Up.



A warm welcome back to our Reception and Nursery children who have settled back into school life seamlessly and with great enthusiasm for their learning.

It has been a busy week exploring the world of science and taking part in the British Science Weeks learning all about Innovation for the future. We spend time in nature because we connect with the sights, smells and surroundings that nature provides. The children have been developing their bug habitat and their appreciation for a scientific approach to wildlife conservation. Children understand that weeds have their place in our wild garden and are essential native food plants for wildlife: Nettles feed ladybirds and butterflies. Dandelions are the tortoise's favourite food too! They have also made observations about how the weather has affected their bug environment over the winter months through their independent investigations. Fallen leaves and plants have been left as a physical layer of organic material to provide food, shelter, and nesting or bedding

materials to various wildlife and overwintering protection for several insects, all of which work together to contribute to a healthy 'wild' Reception garden.

Daily experiments have also encouraged children's participation to explore floating and sinking, how chemical reactions can create bubbles and make popcorn dance, how liquids are used to make a rainbow and the use of scientific equipment to explore the world through play.

On Thursday, we linked science to our World Book Day and dressed up in our favourite costumes. Year six prepared a fun quiz based on books we used for our online literacy lessons. We enjoyed stories from Julia Donaldson's *What the Ladybird Heard*, which inspired our wildlife garden's development. William Shakespeare's *'Romeo and Juliet'* and how we shouldn't let our emotions rule life and Martin Waddell's *Owl Babies* reassuring us all that mummies are always there for us. - Mrs Scriven



Nursery Gallery.





Mascots

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term - Adventure and Analysis.

Reception: Carter for adventurously approaching learning.

Year One: Toby for analysing reactions during a science experiment.

Year Two: William for adventurously approaching English lessons.

Year Three: Grace-Marie for wonderful mathematics.

Year Four: Ted for an adventurous start back to school.

Year Five: Millie for some inspired maths work.

Year Six: Gabriel for a remarkable piece of art work.

Head of School Challenge

Congratulations to the pupils who rose to the challenge set by our Head of School. Awards and prizes were made in this morning's assemblies.

Coats & Hats

As we are still experiencing cold temperatures and sometimes rain, may we ask that you send your children to school with their school duffel coats and/or rain jackets, together with uniform hats, scarves and gloves and fleeces. The children enjoy outdoor breaks and some lessons outside, but we do not wish them to feel cold.

OTHER NEWS.

Red Nose Day

To fundraise for Red Nose Day next Friday 19 March, may we ask that children bring a donation of £1 for one of the new red (plastic-free) noses, which we will supply. Normal uniform on that day please.

We congratulate Elliot for auctioning some of his art work online to raise money for Red Nose Day. It's wonderful to hear examples of pupils thinking of others.

