



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 27

13th May 2022



If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please ensure that you complete the nomination form that was included in last week's newsletter and return this to the school office by 10:30am on Friday 20th May 2022. Thank you!

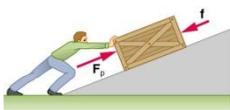
What's Been Going On In school?

Like all of the Year 6 children throughout the country, our Year 6 children have been taking their End of Key Stage 2 SATs this week.

For the last two years these tests have been cancelled, due to the global pandemic and subsequent school closures. However, despite everything that the children have faced and endured over the last 24 months – and the huge amount of work that the children have had to 'catch up' on this year - the effort that our Year 6 pupils have put in to ensuring they have performed at their very best has been outstanding. They have shown a fantastic attitude, utilised all of the time they had to complete the tests (never giving up) and have displayed amazing determination and resilience when faced with a series of tricky questions or challenges. They have been absolute superstars and a real credit to our school. We couldn't be prouder of them!



Over the next few weeks the children in Year 6 will be reviewing and evaluating several end of year productions; and deciding which of these they'd like to perform as part of their end of year celebrations (to commemorate the end of their primary school years and the start of a new adventure in secondary school).



In Year 5, the children have been learning about Forces in Science. This has involved them exploring water and air resistance, and distinguishing between pushes and pulls. The children are now looking forward to building parachutes to test some of their theories during their next scientific investigation lesson.

The children are also continuing with their weekly guitar lessons and are making really good progress. They are now able to play songs and have been getting ready to perform these in a showcase event that will take place at the end of the school year.

In Computing they have been learning more about coding and they can now work through a variety of problems examining algorithms (and determining what needs to be done to correct the errors in the code). We have some very adept computer programmers who have the potential to make a career for themselves in IT!

Last week the children in Year 4 went to The Peak District to conduct a river study in the Crowden river. While they were there, they were able to identify different river features (such as a confluence, meanders and tributaries), observe erosion and deposition in action and learnt how to measure the speed of the river. They also used classification keys to identify different invertebrates (which allowed them to determine how clean or polluted the water was).



The children in Year 4 have been so positive and focused lately, and are working incredibly hard. They have also been learning about refugees and have written a narrative to capture what they have learnt by reading 'The Journey' by Francesca Sanna - focusing specifically on the emotions of the characters. These pieces of writing are particularly impressive!

They are also working hard on mastering all of their multiplication tables – so they can excel in their Year 4 Multiplication Check next month.



In Year 3, the children have been writing an Egyptian mystery involving an explorer. They have loved finding out about life in Ancient Egypt and have been reading books about this period of history.

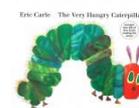
They have also been using marshmallows to develop their knowledge of fractions and, in Science, the children are exploring light (and investigating how to manipulate shadows).

In Year 2, the children have been learning about Salat - one of the pillars of Islam. They were visited by one of our parents who explained and demonstrated the ritual of prayer and spoke to the children in Arabic... to help them to truly understand and appreciate what they have been learning about in their RE lessons.



The children are also getting to showcase their talents in their end of key stage assessment tests this month. However, they have still found time to learn the lyrics to the national anthem (in addition to the six songs, linked to space, that they will perform as part of the Infant Music Festival later this term).

The children are proud of the bunting that they have designed and created, ready for the Plantium Jubilee Street Party on the last day of this half term.



In The Fawns, the children have been doing Coding with Miss Eustace and learnt how to say numbers in French, reading The Hungry Caterpillar story, with Madame Lila.

They have been composing music with tuned instruments and have been looking at the life cycle of plants. This has involved them planting seeds and the children are enjoying observing these plants grow. They are greatly looking forward to some caterpillar eggs being delivered soon...and watching these transform into butterflies.

In **Year 1**, the children have been impressing the teachers with their ability to solve multiplication and division calculations (and applying this knowledge to various problems). They have enjoyed reading 'The a secret of Black Rock' too and are learning how to write a postcard as the main character to one of the other characters in the story.



In Computing the children are creating digi-books (digital books) about minibeasts - which they've added to each week based on the new information and new skills that they have been taught - and, in Science, they too have been planting seeds and learning what plants (including flowers and trees) need to survive.



In **Reception**, the children have started reading 'Jack & The Beanstalk' and were very excited to discover a large giant descending from the ceiling - at the top of their beanstalk in their classroom - when they came to school earlier this week.

They have been planting peas and have been measuring these each day (with many of the children now able to use a ruler to measure how tall these have grown).

The children have also been outside, on the field, getting ready for Sports Day. They are such tremendous sport stars!

As you can see, we have had lots going on - and this will continue until the very last day of the Summer Term!

School Uniform



In an effort to help parents during the cost of living crisis, we have managed to find an alternative supplier who can provide the same quality of school uniform for less.

Furthermore, going forward, all new orders for school uniform will be online, with parents able to make payment and arrange delivery (either to the school or directly to their home).

The revised cost is expected to be:

Polo shirts – with school logo	Current cost = £8.00 New price = £7.00 Saving = £1.00
Sweatshirt – with school logo	Current cost = £9.50 New price = £8.38 Saving = £1.12
Cardigan – with school logo	Current cost = £11.00 New price = £9.36 Saving = £1.64

Fleece – with school logo Fleece = £12.00
New price = £8.33
Saving = £3.67

The colours are exactly the same – but the school logo has been updated so the image of the stag's head now mirrors the one we use on the school newsletter and other important school documents). However, there is no expectation for any family to buy the new uniform until their child outgrows what they are wearing at the moment.

For those who wish to purchase any of the following items, these are expected to be priced at:

Water Bottle	£1.79
Book Bag	£4.50
PE Bag	£4.50
PE T-Shirt (plain)	£3.99
PE T-Shirt (embroidered with school logo)	£5.99
PE Shorts	£4
Plain yellow polo shirt	£5.99
Reversible Waterproof Coat	£22.99

As soon as the contract with our new school uniform supplier is finalised – which will hopefully be in the next few days – we will advise you of the new ordering process. We are hoping this will also provide parents with a much improved quality of service.

Calling All Master Bakers!



To help cover the cost of the hire of the games, fabric pens, t-shirts and other memorabilia for our Street Party - to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Friday 27 May - we are planning to hold a Cake Sale next week (on Friday 20 May).

The cakes will be priced at 10p, 20p and 50p - and these will be on sale to the children during morning break. Please send your child in with the amount of money you are happy for them to spend on the day.

If you are willing to donate any cakes (or biscuits), these can be brought into school either the day before (on Thursday) if they are wrapped and sealed... or on the day (on Friday) if they are freshly baked. [If you send anything into school in a tin or container that you would like returning, please ensure you write your child's name on a sticky label - or piece of paper attached to the container - so we can make sure they are returned to you!]

Should we have any unsold cakes, these will be put on sale, at the end of the school day, outside on the playground. We'll let you know if this is the case.

Thank you for your support with this fund-raising initiative. (We have ensured that we have not charged for any school trips this school year, have reduced the cost of residential visits as much as we possibly can and have offered as many after school clubs at no cost. Unfortunately the school budget has not been able to cover the extra costs in making this commemorative event as special as we can - so your support and generosity is very much appreciated).