



Issue: 5

Date: 6 October 2017

Dear Parents / Carers

It has been a pleasure to welcome so many of you and your extended family to school over the course of this week. Grandparents' Roast Dinner was a fantastic success on Wednesday; I would like to thank Nikki and her staff in the kitchen for accommodating us all so beautifully. We look forward to hosting our second session of this on Wednesday 8 November.

Thank you also for your support of our MacMillan Coffee morning on Friday 29 September. We had some magnificent cake donations, however more importantly we raised in excess of £500 for this very important charity. We are so grateful to you and will be very pleased to pass this onto the charity on behalf of the school. I would like to thank Miss Willis, Miss Renwick and the School Council for their work in preparing, organising and hosting the event.

Parent Consultations

As noted on the calendar, our October consultations will take place on Tuesday 17 October and Wednesday 18 October. You are invited to make your bookings using Parentmail; this will be launched today at 6pm. We will not be able to make bookings on your behalf at the school office or by phone. Our children in Penguin class will have the opportunity to book directly with Miss Walls rather than on Parentmail at a later date.

Harvest Festival

You are warmly invited to attend our Harvest Assembly on Friday 13 October at 2pm in the school hall. We would be very pleased to welcome any donations of non-perishable foodstuffs for our Harvest collection; we will again be supporting the work of the Salvation Army. We would be very grateful to receive any items by the morning of Friday 13 October.

Lost Property

We would be very grateful if you could ensure that all items of your child's uniform is clearly labelled; this will ensure that if they misplace it around school, we can safely return it to them. We would also be grateful if you could check that your child is wearing their own items of uniform; it would appear that some children may be wearing items belonging to others. We are working hard to support this in school, however if you do discover an error please return the item to the class teacher.

Messages to the school office

We are receiving an increasing number of requests at the end of the day to share new collection details for that day for your child. As I am sure you will appreciate, this is placing strain on the school office and its smooth efficiency and is often very difficult to affect with such short notice. I would be grateful if all non-urgent requests for amended collection details are received by 1pm in order to guarantee that this message is conveyed in time to your child's Class Teacher.

In order to better manage the increasing amount of "forgotten items" handed in to the office after the start of the school day, we will now be collating these with a "one off" distribution to all relevant children at lunchtime.

The office is very busy in the morning so please remember that you may use the post box for any forms or money. Details of clubs and the school calendar are displayed on the notice board outside the hall.

Year 6 SCAF

Just a quick reminder that the deadline for the completion and submission of the SCAF is October 31. This may be completed online and it is strongly recommended that you chose this pathway in order to make your Secondary School choices for your child. I would also advise that you use all four choices; this is certainly in your best interests. The recent edition of Kings Hills Mums has a very good feature on Secondary schools, each with a short profile. You may find this helpful in determining the best school for your child.

You may find the following link helpful;

https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/17930/Secondary-admissions-booklet-all-areas.pdf

For those families eagerly awaiting 12 October and PESE results, I am very happy to make time for you on the morning of Friday 13 October should you wish to discuss your child's outcomes and to share any advice about how to complete the SCAF in light of this.

Tonbridge and Malling District Trophy from Kent Libraries

As you know, we won the Tonbridge and Malling Trophy for the Summer Reading Project. This was a fantastic achievement. On Tuesday, 10 October at 2.30pm a representative from Kent Libraries will present the trophy to the school. You are very welcome to pop into the Assembly to celebrate this with this children should you wish.

KM Panto competition

We agreed at our recent Parent Forum meeting to enter this year's KM competition to win a whole school trip to see the pantomime Peter Pan at the Maidstone TV studios. The prize includes free entry, free travel and a free ice cream for all pupils and staff. This competition is based on a coupon collect scheme through KM Media Group weekly paid for newspapers. The first tokens will be published in newspapers during the week ending 13 October and the last will be published during the week ending 17 November. Having enjoyed fantastic success winning the Kent Libraries trophy for Tonbridge and Malling, I am sure we stand a very good chance of a repeat run! We would love you to support this; please post your tokens into the post box in the foyer.

School Photographs

Please remember that Profiles will be with us next Thursday, 12 October for individual and sibling photographs. We will also be using this opportunity to take photos for display of our pupil leadership teams. Congratulations to the following children for achieving the following responsibilities and roles in school;

Kindness Ambassadors Theo in Y1, Presha in Y2, Lottie in Y3, Ayahna in Y4, Hudson in Y5 and Bella in Y6

Reading Ambassadors Olivia in Y1, Francesca in Y2, Sarinah in Y3, Essa in Y4, Emma in Y5 William in Y6

Science Ambassadors Niamh in Y1, Ava in Y2, Emily in Y3, Max in Y4, Emmerson in Y5 and Amber in Y6

Finally, we are very proud to announce Aurelia Richards as our new Head Girl and Alexie Kalthof as our new Head Boy.

Twitter

If you have not yet signed up as a follower to our twitter account, then please do!

<https://twitter.com/VIPSkingshill>

Year 6 Dragons Den

We are still looking for “Dragons” for a Year 6 Enterprise Event on the last afternoon of term- Friday 20 October. If you are available- and willing! Mrs Lunn or Mrs Mason will be delighted to help you.

Reading Challenge

This week’s results are as follows

Year 1	57%
Year 2	71%
Year 3	79%
Year 4	80%
Year 5	67%
Year 6	60%

Given our triumph with the Summer Reading Challenge, I am very hopeful that these figures will dramatically improve. It is an expectation that every child reads at least four times a week; this will embed their love of reading and improve chances. Please support your child with this initiative.

Attendance

This week’s attendance is 95.98%; a dip of 1.02% against last week. Our whole school attendance to date is 96.26% which is showing some healthy consistency. Thank-you for your support. I would like to remind all parents that non urgent medical appointments should be made outside of school hours, and that holidays are not permitted during term-time.

1	Year 3	98.75%
2	Year 2	98.62%
3	Year 4	98.33%
4	Year 5	97.89%
5	Panda	97%
6	Year 1	95.67%
7	Year 6	88.67%

Congratulations to Year 3 who win this week’s Attendance Ted.

Pupil Successes

- Matthew in Panda class took part in the Spartan Race and successfully conquered all the challenges
- George in Year 1 for achieving swimming badge 5m and 10m.
- Ewan in Y4 entered an LTA Orange Ball competition and won all 3 of his games

Penguin Class

This week the class have been developing their confidence when moving around the school. We have also been exploring what happens to our bodies when we feel different emotions.

In English this week, we have continued to read George's Marvellous Medicine. The class thought about how George's emotions changed throughout the story and invented their own medicine with its own side effect. In Maths, we have been learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

How can we help at home?

As we have been learning our times tables, it would be helpful to practise these at home to improve recall.

Panda Class

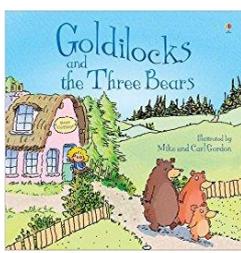
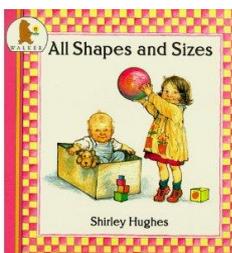
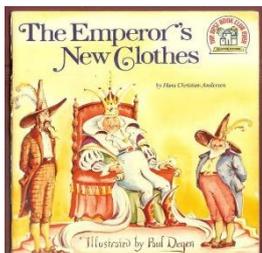
Panda Class have really embraced the autumn sunshine this week we have been observing and creating repeating patterns inside and outside in the environment. We have also enjoyed looking closely at all the conkers, leaves, chestnuts admiring their shapes, colours and textures. Following our visit from the Police last week many of our Pandas have been becoming mini detectives and policing the classroom very effectively. During literacy we have been embedding our knowledge of the sounds we have learned practicing segmenting and blending in our reading and writing. In music we have been learning the names of, and creating rhythms with our selection of percussion instruments. We have also been singing songs in preparation for our Harvest Celebrations.



How can you help at home?

Please can our Pandas practice forming the numbers 2, 3 and 5.

Books we have enjoyed this week

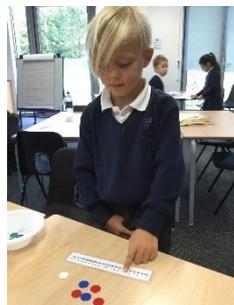


Year 1

This week in Year 1 the children have been very busy making sunset pictures by mixing red and yellow paint in varying quantities to make the different shades seen in a sunset. They added silhouettes of animals from The Enormous Crocodile to produce some super pictures.

The children have enjoyed playing games to learn colours and numbers in German. In Maths, the children have been practising adding numbers by counting on using a number line. We were able to make a practical representation and then record this in number sentences.

The children have also been learning about Autumn and Harvest Festival and been practising a poem for the Harvest Festival assembly.



How can you help at home?

Encourage the children to count on using a number line to add two numbers together, reminding them to start with the biggest number.

Year 2

This week in Maths we have been very busy looking at column addition. This has shown us how important our place value is; we must remember to line up our tens and ones correctly. Many of us have taken over the teacher role and explained the steps we took in order to solve a column addition question. We made posters explaining the steps taken for three different methods of addition and I am very impressed with all of the children and their posters!

In English we have been looking at writing in the past tense through a diary entry. We immersed ourselves into the character of Philip, from *The Magic Finger*, through role play and imagined how he would feel after seeing that his house had been taken over by birds!

In Science this week we began to look at the suitability of materials; the children worked really hard with Mrs Moy to design a house using materials that they might find around the school.

In PE we have begun working on our throwing and catching skills as well as working as a team through games.

What can you do to help at home?

Please continue to read 4 times per week with your child at home and mark this in their reading record. If they have finished reading a book, ask them comprehension questions to see if they have understood. Use the materials on our website and from our CLPE workshop last year.

Year 3/4

On Friday, the whole school took part in 'Drop Everything and Write'. Years 3 and 4 mixed with Years 5 and 6 to plan and write their own stories, inspired by Roald Dahl, to enter into a writing competition. The children really enjoyed the opportunity to be creative and spend the day developing and sharing their ideas; we were really pleased with the results! Also this week, the children have practised strategies for addition, written instructions on how to catch Mr Fox and designed an e-safety poster using Pages in Computing. We are continuing to have great fun learning to play the ukulele on Friday afternoons.

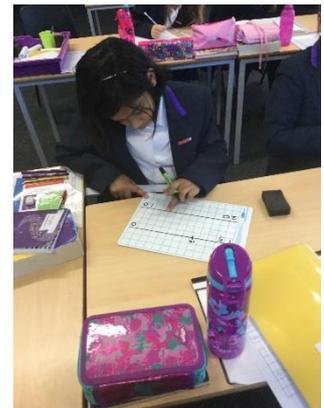
How can I help at home?

On Fridays, we have a mixed times table challenge where the children have five minutes to answer as many questions as they can, aiming to beat their previous score. In class, we are currently focussing on the 3x table. Many of the children are also learning the associated division facts.



Year 5

This week we have been lucky enough to go to London to see the musical School of Rock. This was an amazing opportunity and Year five thoroughly enjoyed this experience. In Maths, this week we have started to look at negative numbers and when their everyday relevance and application are used in real life. In English, we have been carrying on studying the Dahl book Danny Champion of the World. As a class, we have been looking at the emotive language used within the book. Year fives have also been carrying on with their German lessons. This week they have learned a traditional German story.



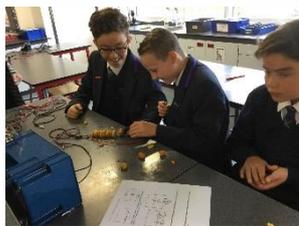
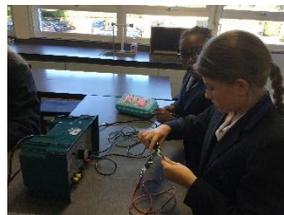


How can you help at home?

Continue to read four times a week. The children may choose any reading platforms or text types that interest them. We wish to inspire a love for reading!

Year 6

This week Year 6 have had a very busy scientific week. Along with Year 5, we have participated in the BBC Terrific Scientific Exercise national investigation where we provided data for a study into whether exercise affects our concentration and memory. Watch this space for the results! Year 6 were also extremely lucky to visit Invicta Grammar School and have a workshop on electricity by Dr Crouch. The children made series and parallel circuits and created lit-up creatures using conducting and insulating dough. The children were an excellent credit to the school and we would like to thank Mrs Kalthof for joining us. In Maths we looked at factors and multiples and in English we revised using inverted commas and parenthesis in our writing.



How can you help at home?

Look out for parenthesis in your reading books - can you spot parenthesis using brackets, dashes and commas?

Date	Year Group	Event
9 October	Y5 and Y6	Lego Challenge
9 October	Y2 and Y5	Story Share @2.30pm
10 October	Y6 and Y1	Story Share @2.30pm
11 October	Panda Class	Parents Roast Dinner
11 October	All Years	No Pens Day
11 October	Panda and Y1	Story Share
12 October	Y6	11 plus results
12 October	All Years	Individual School Photos
13 October	All Years	Harvest festival
17 October	All Years	Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6pm
18 October	All Years	Parent Consultations 4pm – 7.30pm
19 October	Y5 and Y6	Quiz Club Science Competition
20 October	Invitation Only	Celebration Assembly
20 October	Y6	Enterprise Day
20 October	All Years	Second Hand Uniform Sale
20 October	All Years	Last day of Term 1