

Windmill Hill Academy

Monthly Family Newsletter



Inspiring Passionate Life Long Learners

Mrs A Bassett
Head of School

Friday 23rd October 2020



We have now approached the half term break and it has been great to reflect back on all of the successes of this half term. It has been lovely to see all children return to school and we are very proud of how well the children have returned and settled, have adapted to the 'new' normal and are displaying their learning sails. The children have transitioned well into their new classes and are enjoying the new learning challenges.

This half term's learning connection block has been 'Rebellion and Invasion' and it has been great to see and hear all of the learning that has taken place both at school and at home (their home learning looks wonderful!). The children have enjoyed sharing their learning with another class virtually using Microsoft Teams this week. The next learning connection block is, 'Natural Elements'. As mentioned before, all year groups (Y1—6) will be focusing on the same learning connection block at the same point but focus on a different concept. A copy of the parental overview and knowledge organiser will be available via the school website and ClassDojo.

Due to Mrs Sharpe's absence, Mr Smith will continue to teach Year 3 until at least March time. We wish Mrs Sharpe all the best with her recovery.

Have a well deserved rest next week and we look forward to seeing the children return on Monday 2nd November. Please note, all Covid-19 guidelines and procedures will need to remain in place after half term so we appreciate your continued support.

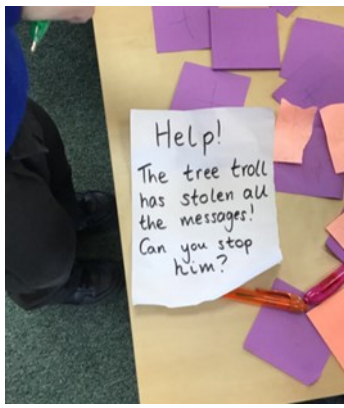
School Improvement: Blended/Remote Learning

With our Contingency plan in place in relation to blended/remote learning should a 'bubble' be closed temporarily or should your child be at home isolating but not unwell for 14 days, we have adopted a piece of software (Government approved and funded) called Microsoft Teams. Staff have all received training on using it.

Microsoft Teams allows us to provide an element of live and interactive lessons. If a class bubble were asked to self-isolate, not only would staff provide weekly learning grids and pre-recorded videos (as before), there would be an added bonus of short live lessons. Your child should have now come home with a label in their reading record which includes log in details for Microsoft Teams. Each child has a log in and a team that they have been included within (their class team). Microsoft Teams can be accessed via the website but performs much better via the APP (downloaded to a computer/laptop/tablet/phone). We are asking that you practice logging into Microsoft Teams and make sure you can all access. After half term, you may find that your child's class teacher starts posting their homework on there to practise using the system. We ask that you have a go at submitting their homework on there as this is a function that we would use for submitting their remote learning in the event of a closure.

We will still use ClassDojo but more as a communication tool instead of teachers posting learning and parents submitting their child's learning. For example, staff posting notifications for the whole school or messaging parents using the messaging facility. Once familiar, you will find that Teams will be easier to navigate your way around it in terms of remote learning due to it being all in one place for each child. We have produced a protocol that must be adhered to by all pupils and parents. Please take the time to read through it (a copy can be found on the school website and ClassDojo).



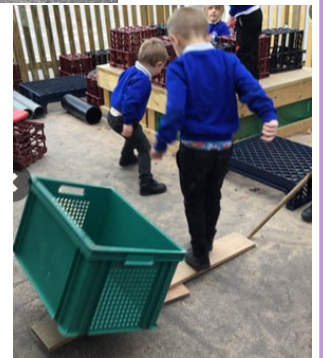


Have you seen the Tree Troll?

Recently the messages Year F have been leaving for the 'Min Pins' have been stolen! The children have been informed that it's a tree troll! Have you seen it?

Year F have been writing warning signs, making traps and hiding messages to keep it away!

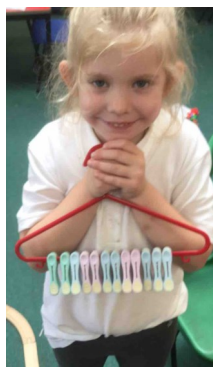
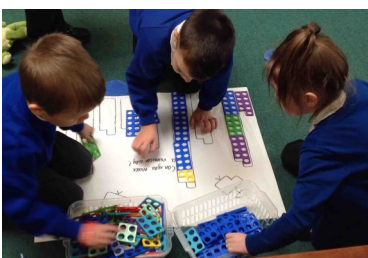
It enjoys eating apples (it stole one from our classroom and left the core behind!) and can be put to sleep by singing! Be warned as it may be in a tree near you!



Year 1

Well done Year 1!

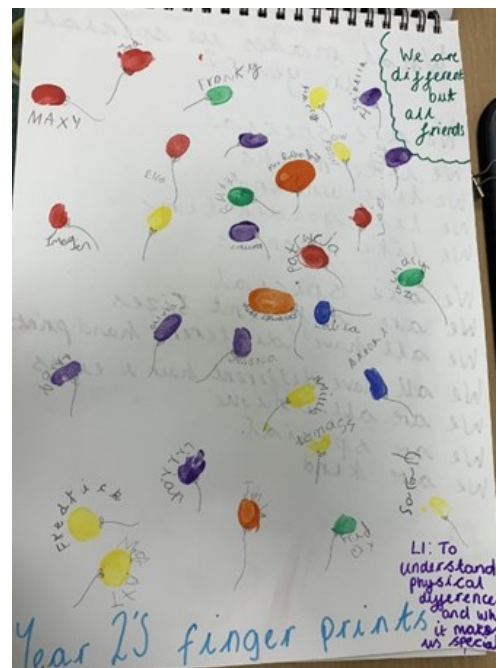
In Year 1, we have been exploring numbers in maths in lots of practical ways.



Year 2



What a busy half term it has been for Year 2! We have had a very exciting time creating collages of Spanish ships sailing over the seas, cricket, developing our writing skills, learning about what makes us special and unique and exploring our invisible strings. Year 2 have worked really hard so far and we cannot wait to see where our learning journey takes us next term.



Year 3

Home learning: some students built their own Launceston Castle.



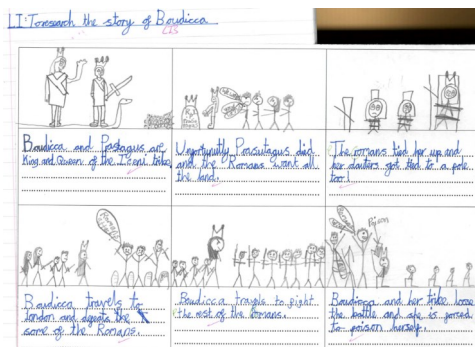
P.E: Dodgeball



Year 4

As part of our Rebellion and Invasion learning connection block, Year 4 have been completing some learning on Boudicca. The children researched her story and created some brilliant story boards. After that, they wrote some fantastic stories retelling the tales of her victories and final demise. Here are a few examples (I could have picked more because they were

all great):



The story of Boudicca

Centuries ago in east Anglia a strong fearless queen named Boudicca lived with a King Prasutagus. They rule over the Iceni tribe. They lived in E. England and they were Celts at this time they were okay with the Romans and Emperor Claudius, until...

One dreadful day King Prasutagus unfortunately died. The heart-broken queen had to continue knowing it would never be the same as the Romans became even more greedy. Day the second, the Romans who whipped Boudicca and her 2 daughters. Boudicca raged in anger as she knew she had to teach them a lesson.

In 60AD there lived a beautiful, bold queen called Queen Boudicca. She lived with a brave, fearless husband he was called King Prasutagus he was a protected warrior he wasn't afraid of any thing. Boudicca also lived with her 2 daughters. Queen Boudicca and King Prasutagus ruled over a tribe called the Iceni tribe. The Iceni tribe and the Romans weren't the best of friends but they lived quiet peacefully but who knew if they might be enemies...

On a dark, gloomy day King Prasutagus died and Boudicca felt heart broken but luckily she had her daughters. Now Queen Boudicca knew that King Prasutagus would want her to carry on ruling so she did. Now that the Iceni tribe didn't have their ruler they decided to take their land. So they told Boudicca that they would take her land. Even the King Prasutagus gave the land to Boudicca and her daughters Boudicca thought they would carry on being calm so she refused the Romans's warning. After a few days the Romans came and they tied Boudicca and her daughters up on a tree and attacked them for revenge.

Year 5

Here we are at the end of the half term and the end of our learning concept: Rebellion and Invasion. Year 5 have learnt a lot about how the Anglo Saxons and then the Vikings invaded Britain, how they lived and what they left behind. Did you know that many of our place names today go back to the time of Anglo Saxons and Vikings?

Through this week we have researched about Viking long boats and then designed a replica; the remit was that it had to have a sail that pulled up and down and a head that could be removed. Yesterday (Thursday) we used a lot of technical skills to make our boats; making tweaks to our planning here and there.

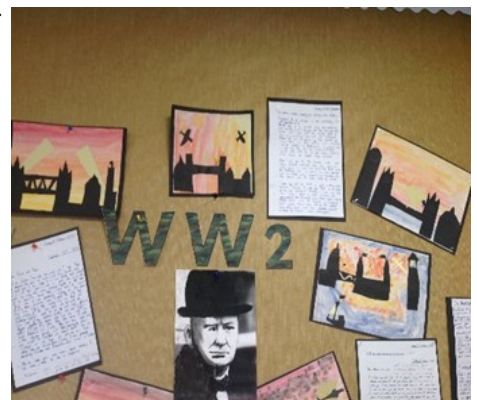


Year 6

Amongst many other things this half term, Year 6 have enjoyed making electric circuits. They have experimented with which materials conduct electricity or which insulate against it. They completed the circuits with a bulb, a buzzer and a fan. The next week their task was to create a switch that would turn a lightbulb on and off. Bailey and Logan also went on to swap the bulb for a fan to see if they could make that work too. They could!

In addition to Science, Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed their History topic on World War 2. They have been learning about the Blitz, rationing, what it would have been like if you had been evacuated, they have tried on a gas mask (a new replica and carefully sanitised between children of course!). Also their art work has been based on WW2 and they have sketched portraits of Churchill in charcoal and drawn a soldier with a collaged camouflaged background. Some of the results are fantastic.

Talking about fantastic, this class has been the first to get all of their spellings correct in one week! Well done and keep it up!



Stars of The Week							
	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2nd Oct	Elsie Harrison	Noah Autumn	Jack Sarah	Jamie Sienna M	Filipe Darcey	Autumn Callie	Noah Dominika
9th Oct	Archie Harry	Maxim Shiying	Laila James	Siqi Seth	Poppy Lacey	Eliza Chelsee	Jayden Aime
16th Oct	Alex Holly	Filip Rosey	Chloe Max Y	Joshua Jude	Chelsee Owen	Benjamin Esther	Zack Jowan
23rd Oct	Luna Alfie C	Ivy Adam	Ella George	Violet Leighton	Elias Iannis	Lohen Lily	Flora Logan

Visible Learners of the half term							
Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
Florence Bobby	Aidan Rosann	Meadow Max T	Quintin Marley	Phoebe Owen	Aimee Marissa	Minnie Scott	

Writers and Mathematicians of the half term							
	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Writing	Elsie	Hope	Olivia	Harry	Violet	Nora	Maja
Maths	Zachary	Merrick	Franky	Emily	Emily	Niamh	Alfie

Respect and Kindness			
	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
2nd Oct	Rosey (Y1)	Jack (Y3)	Samuel (Y6)
9th Oct	Hope (Y1)	Kayla (Y4)	Elise (Y5)
16th Oct	Elif (Y2)	Riley (Y3)	Zack (Y6)
23rd Oct	Lilly (YF)	Wenna (Y4)	Caitlyn (Y5)

Positive Role Model
2nd October
Aimee (Y5)
16th October
Oscar (Y4)

Do you have a child who was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017?

If so, you must now apply for a school place for him/her for September 2021. If you have a child born between the above dates, you must submit an online application (www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). A formal application through Cornwall Council must be made by parents for all places for children due to start school in September 2021. The deadline for applications is **15th January 2021**. Please note, we were oversubscribed this year so please make sure you apply before the deadline.

If you, or your know any prospective parents would like to have a tour of our wonderful school, please ask them to phone the school where a pre-arranged appointment can be made for after school.

Year 6 – secondary transfer: All Year 6 parents need to submit an online application (www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). It is very important that you now deal with the application for your child and it is in your child's best interest that you do not delay doing this. The deadline for applications is **31st October 2020**.

Attendance Figures for September 2020

The class with the highest attendance each week, receives an extra playtime and the attendance trophy. If your child achieves 100% attendance for the term, they will receive a badge. Each term they can earn a different colour attendance badge. And, for each term within the year, they can earn themselves an additional bronze, silver or gold badge.

Our annual attendance target is 97%+.

Year	28th Sept	5th Oct	12th Oct
YF	96.5%	98.7%	99.4%
Y1	96.3%	99.3%	100% ★
Y2	94%	97%	97.3%
Y3	99.3%	97.3%	96.6%
Y4	100% ★	97.4%	100% ★
Y5	97%	97.1%	97.8%
Y6	98.6%	97.5%	95%
Whole school	97.3%	97.8%	98%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

26th - 30th Oct	Half term
9th November	Tempest Individual photos
19th November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
4th Dec	Christmas Decorations Day
9th Dec	Christmas Dinner
17th Dec	Christmas Party Day
18th Dec	Last day of term
21st Dec - 1st Jan	Christmas Holiday
4th Jan	INSET day
5th Jan	New term begins
15th - 19th Feb	Half term
2nd - 16th April	Easter Holidays
Month of May	Y2 Special Learning (SATs)
Week beg 10th May	Y6 SATs week
31st May - 4th June	Half term
7th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
	Y4 Multiplication Tables check window (3 weeks)
Week beg 12th July	Whole school Transition week
21st July	Last day of term for pupils
22nd and 23rd July	INSET Days



Windmill Breakfast Club



Windmill Hill Academy has provision for before school opens in the form of a Breakfast Club. It has fully opened in line with the Covid-19 regulations for breakfast clubs.

If you are in need of childcare before the school day commences, why not book into the Breakfast Club where they can safely eat breakfast and play within their class bubbles between the hours of 8am and 9am. They will be supervised by two qualified staff, Mrs Williams and Mrs Rutherford, for the duration of their stay before being escorted to their classrooms at the appropriate times.

There is a small charge for attending the club: £3.00 per session which includes breakfast of cereals, toast, fruit and juice or milk. If you are in receipt of Child's Tax Credits you may be able to claim the childcare costs back when filling in your annual award. Receipts can be arranged for this (please speak to Mrs Williams). Also, children who are in receipt of free school dinners or PPG, the cost is £2 per session.

Booking onto the club can be done online through the EDUSPOT app. www.eduspot.co.uk whereby you can book the days you require and pay for them too. It's so easy! You will have to set up your information with a current email address and mobile number.

If you need any more information with reference to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.





Thank YOU!

Thank you for your donations to Launceston Foodbank, as part of our Harvest Festival. We were overwhelmed by your generosity even during difficult times due to Covid-19. Yvonne King, a Launceston Foodbank Leader, led an assembly virtually with the Year 6, who are our Communities and Charities Pupil Parliament Group. The children learnt about the good work that Launceston Foodbank does and they learnt about how your donations can reach out and support our local community.

Please note, Launceston Foodbank would like to support any families that are struggling due to being furloughed or have lost work due to Covid-19. We can issue vouchers to you if needed. If so, please message Mrs Bassett via ClassDojo or call Mrs Zoffman in the office. Please do not be afraid to ask as it is very difficult and uncertain times.

SchoolMoneyAPP (Eduspot)

Now it is all back up and running, we ask that all school dinners are pre-ordered and paid for (if applicable) by the end of each Sunday for the following week. By doing this, it speeds up the morning routine which means we can fit more learning in!

If you are having any problems accessing, please call Mrs Zoffman in the office.

Parking

Please can we remind everyone to park considerately at all times. If you bring children to breakfast club, please leave your car in a parking space and take them to the door. Parking on site (other than for bringing children to breakfast club) is strictly for staff and people with school parking permits. These permits are for Blue Badge holders or anyone who has a letter from a recognised medical professional stating they have a medical condition. Please respect these rules at all times to help us keep a safe site.

We encourage you to use our 'drop and go' system in the morning for pupils in Key Stage 2 or park in one of the local car parks. Parking permits are available so please call the office to arrange one. These are free. Please avoid parking in the local streets. If you do, please be considerate and follow the Highway Code. We have had a few complaints from local residents regarding parking, e.g. blocking driveways and parking on double yellow lines etc. The Police have been informed.

We appreciate your support with this matter.



Your School Nurse

Your child can have access to a School Nurse at any time if you have any health concerns, in addition your School Nurse offers a full health assessment in reception and year 6.

The School Nurse can check:

- Your child is growing healthily and support with healthy eating
- Support with access to dental care and general support for dental hygiene
- Help with day / night time wetting or soiling
- Provide information about immunisations
- Guidance re healthy lifestyles
- Support with general hygiene issues including head lice and worms
- Support with general emotional health issues
- Support to access other health professionals
- Routines, including sleep

Additionally in Year 6:

- Friendships
- Relationships
- Development, including periods and puberty
- Access to specialist services – including dietician, healthy weight programmes and voluntary services
- Developmental issues
- Transition to secondary school
- Healthy lifestyles



Find out more...

Call **01872 322779**

Email **hvsnadvice@cornwall.gov.uk**

Follow us **@tffcornwall**   

 **www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolnursing**