



Harlington Lower School

Half Term School News - Spring (B) 2026

Message from our Headteacher

This term, we have focused on redeveloping our school vision and, as shared in a previous newsletter, our new tagline is 'A place to belong, grow and succeed.' This newsletter beautifully illustrates these values in action, from the wonderful working together workshops in Oak Class to the incredible teamwork shown by our choir at the OVO Arena Wembley. Whether it is Chestnut Class exploring the wider world, Hawthorn Class mastering the recorder, or Rowan Class bringing Science to life with their erupting volcanoes, our pupils are showing exactly what it means to succeed and flourish. It is a joy to see our children developing the confidence to succeed while ensuring our school remains a supportive community where everyone truly belongs. I wish you all a wonderful and restful Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone back for the Summer Term.

Oak Class

Oak Class started this term by immersing themselves in learning all about the festival of Chinese New Year. I wonder if they can tell you that we are in the year of the horse!



Evie: The festival lasted for 15 days.

Robyn: It is the year of the horse.



No sooner had the Chinese New Year festivities ended, we were on to celebrating a wonderful world of books! Oak Class had a fabulous day; sharing Julia Donaldson stories and showing off their costumes. A fantastic day was had by all.

Lily: World Book Day is a celebration of books.

Aria: You can wear different costumes as book characters.





Oak Class were delighted with the opportunity to spend a Monday morning constructing with Lego.

Amelia: We played with Lego.

Jasper: We built tall towers.



Oak Class did a wonderful job of hosting their mummies to our third *Working Together* workshop. Pictures of daffodils were painted, paper flowers were crafted and delicious biscuits were decorated.

Bradley: I liked it when my mum came, it made me feel happy.

Noah: I liked it when I decorated a biscuit.



Albeit a cooler morning, on Friday, Oak Class were able to spots some signs of spring, when out for a walk in the local area.



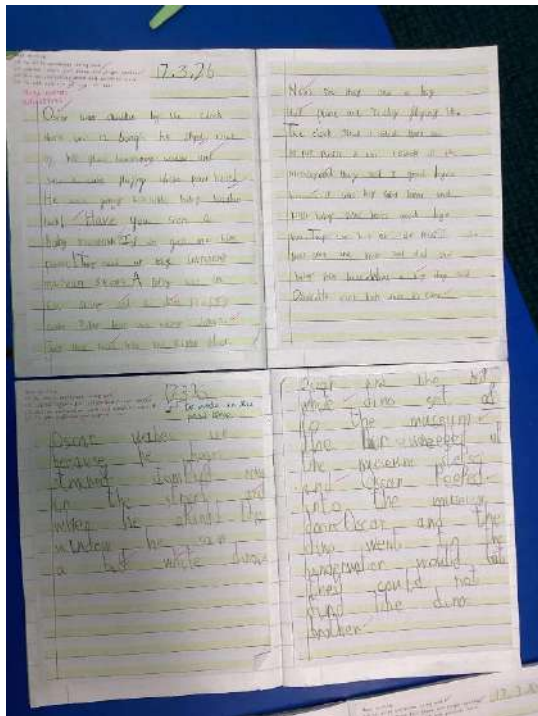
Dominik: Spring walk.

Emma: I had fun.



Golden Book
Fatima

Chestnut Class



In English, Chestnut Class have been looking at the story *The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth*. The children have really enjoyed the adventure that Oscar and Teddy go on. They have been retelling parts of the story and practising their writing skills by using finger spaces, capital letters, exclamation marks and question marks. The children have also been using the conjunctions *and* and *because*, as well as practising adding the suffixes **-ed** and **-ing** to words.



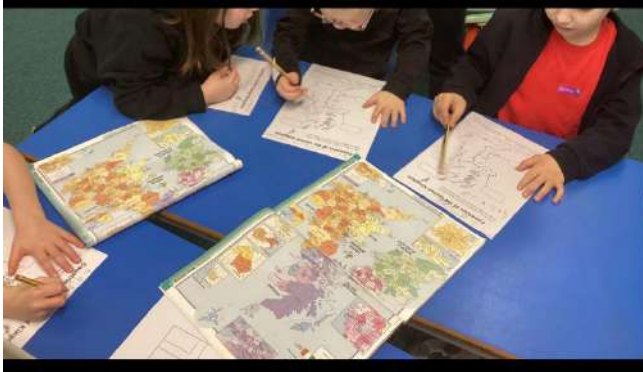
In Maths, we have been exploring numbers to 50. The children have been practising recognising, ordering and working with numbers within 50. We have also been learning about measurement by measuring height and exploring mass through weighing different objects and comparing which are heavier and lighter.



In PE, Chestnut has been enjoying learning how to use a tennis racket. They have been practising moving into position to get in line with the ball, getting ready to return the ball to a partner, and working together to play a rally.



In Geography, we have been exploring the United Kingdom. This has helped the children develop their understanding beyond their immediate environment and locality to learn more about the UK. They have been learning about the different countries of the UK, their capital cities, and some human and physical features. The children have also started comparing and contrasting the capital cities of London and Edinburgh. In the role play area the children have enjoyed booking a holiday at the travel agents.



**Golden Book
Christian**

Hawthorn Class

It's been another busy half term for Hawthorn Class. We have been learning to play the recorder in our music lessons. The children have worked really hard on learning how to play B, A and G and have been able to play a variety of pieces of music using these notes. The children will have the opportunity to carry on learning to play the recorder in a lunchtime club next half term if they choose to.



Liam - I like Mrs Carter teaching us the recorder.

Rebecca - I liked learning the different notes.

In our English lessons, we have read the book 'My Name is not Refugee'. The children have thought about what it might be like to be a refugee. They thought about what it would be like to sleep in different places and what games they might play. We talked about what food they might eat and they tasted a number of different foods. **Anwen** - I liked learning how to say hello in different languages.



In Geography, we have been learning about Kenya. We imagined getting on an aeroplane and flying to Kenya. The children learnt about where Kenya is in the world and what life is like for people living in Kenya. The children enjoyed finding out about the National Parks and the animals that live there. They learnt about what the Maasai culture is like and had fun making paper plate necklaces. We then compared what life is like for a child in Kenya to what our lives are like.



Derin - I like learning about Kenya and making the paper plate necklace.

Rumaisah - I like learning about different countries.

In DT, we have really enjoyed designing and making lunch boxes for some pirates. We looked at a variety of lunch boxes and talked about the positives and the problems for each style of lunch box. The children then designed their lunch boxes and decided what materials they would need to use.

Lacey - I'm looking forward to making my packed lunch box.



Golden Book

Ruben

Rowan Class

Year 3 has had a jam-packed half term!

Year 3 have explored their exciting Geography topic, *Extreme Earth*! Over the past few weeks, the children have developed their understanding of the Earth's structure, learning all about its different layers and what lies beneath our feet. They have also investigated earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes, discovering how and why these powerful events occur. As part of their learning, the children created their own detailed models of the Earth, carefully showing each individual layer inside.



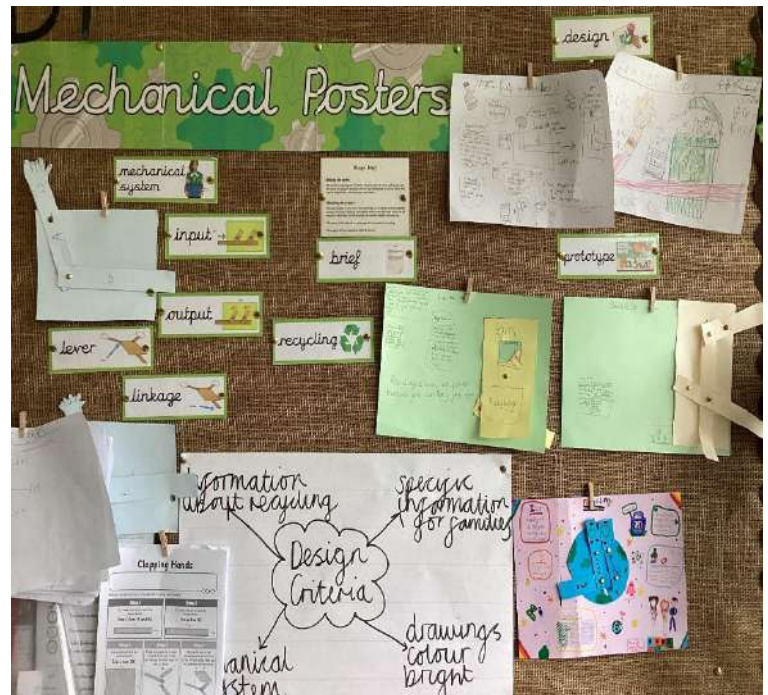
They also took part in a fantastic home learning project, designing and building their own volcanoes. This culminated in a brilliant "WOW Morning" in school, where the children erupted their volcanoes and brought their learning to life in a fun and memorable way. We are incredibly proud of their creativity, enthusiasm and effort throughout this topic!





In Design and Technology, Year 3 have been working on an exciting project creating *mechanical posters*! The children were given a design brief to produce an eye-catching poster aimed at families, encouraging them to recycle and look after the environment.

To bring their ideas to life, the children learned how to create simple mechanical systems using card and split pins, enabling parts of their posters to move. They explored the full design process, beginning with planning and sketching their ideas, before making a prototype and evaluating how well their mechanism worked. They then used this experience to create their final products.

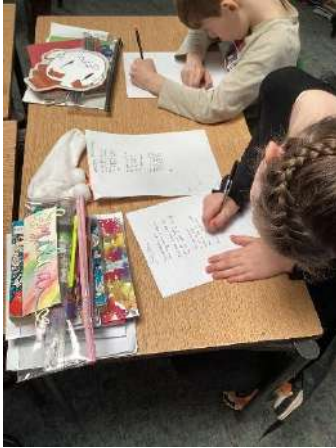


Golden Book

Holly

Beech Class

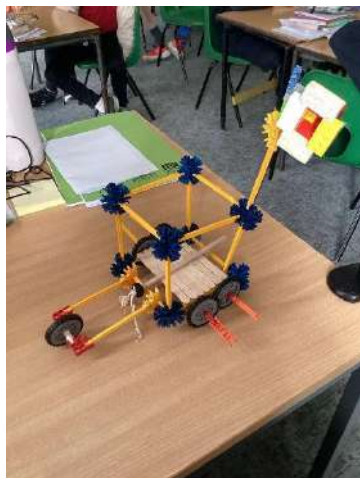
In Beech Class, we love to read. We had a fantastic World Book Day celebrating our favourite stories by dressing up as a colourful array of characters. The highlight of our day was becoming authors ourselves; we spent time performing famous poems such as 'Please Mrs Butler' and 'On the Ning Nang Nong' and then wrote our own original pieces. To wrap up the celebrations, we hosted a Performance Poetry Café. It was a lovely afternoon where everyone shared their poems aloud, and we all listened carefully, celebrating each other's work while enjoying some well-deserved drinks and biscuits.



The excitement continued with our trip to Cuffley Active Learning Centre. The children showed incredible courage and perseverance as they tackled crate stacking, rock climbing, and construction. We even learned the art of fire lighting and had some high-energy fun with laser tag! As the sun went down, the adventures didn't stop; we played 'Ambush' (a giant game of hide-and-seek in the dark woods) and spent time bonding around the campfire with delicious, melty s'mores.



Finally, we enjoyed an exciting Science Day, focusing on how to be curious and ask big questions. We designed and built lunar rovers using Lego and K'Nex kits. The afternoon was just as hands-on, as we spent our time building and testing catapults to see whose design could fly a piece of Lego the furthest.



Golden Book

Erselda

Eid Mubarak

We welcomed a special visitor to our assembly this week, who taught us all about the month of Ramadan and the festival of Eid-UI-Fitr, which was celebrated by our Muslim families last weekend. We hope that all who celebrated had a wonderful time with their family and friends.



Voice in a Million

The choir had a wonderful time singing at Voice in a Million at the OVO Arena Wembley in aid of Adoption UK. There were over 6,000 children and young people singing and it was truly a memorable event!

