

# SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Summer 1 Newsletter 1 – April 25<sup>th</sup> 2025



# IF WE BELIEVE, WE CAN ACHIEVE

COLLABORATION - CONNECTIVITY - INDEPENDENCE - INNOVATION - QUESTIONING - REFLECTION - RESILIENCE

### Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the summer term. On Thursday the year one children went to a Heath Academy Trust sports event at St Ives Primary School. The children were fantastic and really enjoyed themselves. Well done to Ronan who was selected for the sportsmanship award.



School planting day... thank you for your contributions of plants. It makes such a positive difference to our learning environment.







Tomorrow we are having our annual school grounds event. If you can spare an hour or two of your time, we would really appreciate your help and we will of course provide snacks and drinks for the workers!! Thank you.

If you haven't yet returned your child's report slip it is not too late to do so!

#### A snapshot of learning for this week:

In Explorers we have based our learning on dandelions; reading the story 'Little Dandelion seeds the world' by Julia Richardson. We have been investigating the life of a dandelion and creating our own crowns and lion heads. We have also celebrated Earth week and enjoyed our walks and cloud watching.









In Adventurers we have been thinking about our question, how does a garden grow? We have learnt about what plants need to grow using non-fiction books and have used our observation skills to draw our own plants and labelled the different parts of a plant. As this week is Earth Week, we have also been thinking about how we can make our outdoor area more inviting to nature, so we made a list of things we wanted to do in our garden and set to work. We have been busy weeding, planting, tidying and building our very own bug hotel. We are very excited to see what creatures may call it home!







In Voyagers we have been looking at diary writing and recording information in the past tense, using first person. We have worked on adding the suffix 'ed' to verbs to put them into the past tense and on some occasions have changed the word completely. Eg swim to swam, fly to flew. We have also started tennis lessons, utilizing the local tennis courts, learning about forehand and backhand strokes and how we need to return to the centre of court after they return the ball.

In Navigators we have begun our new topic 'All the fun of the Fair'. We have started to read our first Favourite 5 book - The lost Thing, and have been practicing using prepositions in our writing. We have been exploring optical art and have had a go at creating some of our own! We have also begun learning the body percussion piece, and song with Makaton signing in preparation for the BSO Concert in May.

#### A snapshot of learning for next week:

In Explorers we will be basing our learning around the book 'Planting a Rainbow' by Lois Ehlert.

In Adventurers we will be investigating, do all plants start as seeds? We will be thinking about what conditions different plants need to grow and will plan what we are going to grow in our outdoor area based on the information we gather from books, seed packets and websites.

In Voyagers we will be using our skills to put events into chronological order, making connections to the previous topics and what we already know before looking at clues to help us determine what our new and exciting theme will be.

**In Navigators** we will be writing a character description for 'The Lost Thing' and writing a creative explanation of all its special features. We will also be looking at the art work by M.C Escher and creating more of our own optical art, as well as investigating, push, pull and contact forces in Science.

# Upcoming Dates (new dates added)

[Please note that dates for the year ahead are on the school website including Christmas performance/ sports day and the calendar will be updated regularly as new activities/events become available to us

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April Grounds Morning (9am - 12:30pm)

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May Bag to School collection

School Disco (5pm - 6:30pm)

Tuesday 20th May

Y3 and Y4 event at the Larmer Tree

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Year 3 and 4 trip to perform with the Bournemouth

Symphony Orchestra (BSO)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May HALF TERM

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Y3 Striking and Fielding event with HAT schools

New parent meeting

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June Sports Day

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July Transfer Day

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July Larmer Tree Project (visiting musicians)

Monday  $7^{th}$  July HAT music experience for KS2 (visiting musicians from Royal College of Music) hosted at Sixpenny

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Y4 swimming gala (8 chn Y3/4)

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July

Summer Fete

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

Y3 and Y4 Larmer Tree Festival

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Explorers Leavers' Party (3:30pm - 4:30pm)

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Leavers' Assembly 9:15am

Leavers' party 3pm -5:30pm

Kind regards,

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Mrs Rachael Musselwhite (Headteacher)