



Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

March 9th, 2024

Diary Dates

Addition Change

March

- 13th Tree Planting Day
- 15th Red Nose Day
- 20-22nd Y4 residential
- 25th Y4 Samba concert
- 28th Easter break

April

- 15th INSET (pupils not in)
- 16th School re-opens
- 19th *The Selfish Giant* play
- 22-24th Y5 residential

May

- 6th Bank Holiday
- 13th Y6 SATs week
- 22/23rd *Shrek the Musical*
- 24th Half-term break

June

- 3rd INSET (pupils not in)
- 4th School re-opens
- 10th Y1 Phonics check wk
- Y4 Times Tables wk
- 13th Class photos
- 14th Infant Sports (am)
- 17-21st Y6 residential
- 19th Nursery Sports (am)
- 27th Junior Sports (am)

July

- 8-11th Parents' Evenings
- 23rd Y6 Leavers' show
- 24th Summer Break

With a very short half-term already in progress, it's time to catch up on the many events squeezed into the post-Christmas period, and look ahead to some significant upcoming activities before Easter, including next week's planting session.

Time Capsule Competition: Making History

The winners of the time capsule competition are listed below – well done to all who entered, and congratulations to the winners for suggesting items that will become part of the school's history! The ideas included the Guinness Book of World Records 2023, a shopping list with current prices and various items linked to the King's Coronation.

- Max Whitehead (Y6 Alder)
- Noah Sanderson (Y6 Sycamore)
- Elizabeth Hennessy (Y4 Hawthorn)
- Rio Wong (Y4 Hawthorn)
- Ana Silveira (Y4 Hawthorn)
- Bella White (KS1 Elm)
- Mila Edwards (KS1 Maple)



Tree Planting

In a further investment in the future, the grounds are to be enhanced with tree planting along the northern and southern perimeter fences, and the creation of two larger areas of woodland along part of the raised banks on both the infant and junior fields. The children will be involved in a tree planting day on March 13th, in partnership with Mersey Forest, contributing both to the future of the school and the global environment. Children in all classes from Reception to Year 6 are asked to bring either wellies or old trainers to school on that day, to change into for their planting session.

Red Nose Day

This coming Friday, March 15th, is Red Nose Day, raising funds for a range of projects and organisations that make a difference for people across the UK and around the world. We are asking that everyone wear something red that day – anything from a headband to a full outfit - and in return make a donation direct to the Red Nose Day website:

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>



Year 3 Residential Visits

Both Year 3 classes enjoyed residential visits to the Burwardsley Centre in the Peckforton Hills just before half term. Combining outdoor learning (nature walks, camp fire) with History curriculum work (Stone and Iron Age studies, including archery and roundhouse construction), these visits were made possible by the goodwill of the staff attending in their own time overnight, and made all the more enjoyable by the children's enthusiasm and good behaviour: well done and thank you to all of them.



Staffing

We have welcomed several new staff to the school team: teaching assistants Mrs Fisher, Mrs Peers and Mrs Potter, and lunchtime assistant Mrs Semple (while we bade farewell to lunchtime assistant Mrs Rickers).

Behaviour Awards

The winners of the KS2 individual behaviour prizes for the last half term are as below - and well done to the other children whose behaviour has been exemplary:

Y3 Birch: Camellia Abdallah	Y3 Hazel: Zachary Foster
Y4 Hawthorn: Rio Wong	Y4 Lime: Isadora Kapps-Sutter
Y5 Larch: Ben Lightfoot	Y5 Rowan: Francesca Krausgrill
Y6 Alder: Cece Bell-Rowe	Y6 Sycamore: Poppy Griffiths

Musical Experiences

Members of the Musical Theatre Club enjoyed a fantastic evening when they saw a performance of *Shrek the Musical* at the Empire Theatre in Liverpool recently. The visit, organised by club lead Miss Bunning, was great preparation for the club's own presentation of the production in the summer term (note the new date: May 22/23)



Our school choir again took part in the amazing Young Voices music festival, at the AO Arena in Manchester. Prepared for the event by Mrs Caldecott, the children enjoyed singing a range of popular songs with thousands of other school children and a professional band. Videos from the show are available on our X feed (see Feb 7th).



Art Curriculum



The fruits of our new Art scheme and associated teacher training are evident in the quality of work being produced by the children – well done to all for their efforts in developing this aspect of the curriculum, and especially to our Art & Design leads Mrs Ward and Mrs Hardisty.

Sport

Football

The first half of the spring term featured the unprecedented participation of both our girls' and boys' football teams in the County finals, taking place at Crewe Alexandra's community facility.

Our girls showed great commitment and worked brilliantly together to put in some very competitive performances, while our boys reached the last four, only losing 1-0 to a late goal in a game that they dominated. Many thanks to Mr Pullman for coaching both squads, and congratulations to all the players.



Y5/6 Girls football team – County competitors



Y6 Boys football team – County semi-finalists

Y5/6 Girls' Football Squad

Zoe Gilbert, Poppy Griffiths, Emilia Hughes, Annie Knights, Elizabeth Marsh, Ella Peers, Dotty Bell Rowe, Elissa Sayer, Amy Wentel

Y6 Boys' Football Squad

Alex Durband, Oscar Gutkowski, Oliver Hope, Seth Jackson, Archie Lacken, Nathan Li, Ollie McMillan, Fletcher Pullman, Gabriel Render, George Roberts, Eban Thomas

Netball festival

Blacon High school recently played host to a netball festival for year 4 pupils from across Chester. Developing their skills in friendly competition against other schools were:

Isabelle Chadwick, Lilah Duncan, Jaxon Foster-Lovell, Rupert Hughes, Luna Renshaw, Hattie Seddon, Ana Silveira, Tabitha Stenning, Mabli Thomas

Cross Country

A squad of athletes from Year 4 and Year 6 recently competed against 20 other schools in the Chester district cross country competition, held at the Ellesmere Port Sport Village. Challenging conditions met their equal in our resilient runners, with especially notable performances coming from Nathan Li (Y6, 4th) and Oliver Hope (Y6, 8th), and our Y6 boys winning their team event.



Y4 Squad

Molly Callaghan, Leo Griffiths, Sarah Hennessy, Rupert Hughes, Lucas McKay, Noa Parsonage, Chloe Roberts, Charlotte Sinclair

Y6 Squad

Alex Durband, Oliver Hope, Archie Lacken, Nathan Li, Erin McKay, Ava Prosser-Byrne, Elissa Sayer, Charlotte Woolley

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Cycle Training

Year 6 pupils took to the streets to develop their cycling skills in February, completing the Bikeability programme, provided free of charge by CWAC. They were certainly very visible! - and their progress was clear to see.



Safety Workshops



The spring term featured a series of pupil workshops on online safety (centred around Internet Safety Day), with visits to many classes by Detective Constable Kevan of Cheshire Police's Cyber-safety unit.



Pupils also benefited from, and greatly enjoyed, sessions from the Dog's Trust, developing pupils' confidence around our canine companions.

Scooters

Parents have expressed concern about both the speed at which scooters are being ridden on the access paths within the school site, and also their use on the school playgrounds, which has caused injury.

Please, therefore, **ensure that your child does not travel too quickly on their scooter on the access paths**, which are very crowded at drop-off and pick-up – older pupils (Y5 and 6) using scooters should dismount at the outer school gates, as should all cyclists.

Harder to achieve with younger (including pre-school) children, we appreciate, but can we also **request that scooters are not ridden on the playgrounds, to avoid injury.**

*Kind regards,
Mr Rose*