



Diary Dates

September

- 5th Return to school
- 6th Mad Science assembly
- 8th Digital Wizards assembly
- 9th Y4 Lime swimming
- 13th Y6 WW2 evacuee visit

Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

July 22nd, 2022

Finally, we have managed to remain open for a full year on our 'new' site! Whilst certainly not without disruption, the year just ended has seen a gradual return to normality, with all our junior residentials able to take place, live performances returning (first outside, then inside), a full sporting programme, and visitors once more

being welcomed into school (from Bank of America IT security experts to a Maya archaeologist). Our pupils have been able to perform at Manchester Arena and Storyhouse, play football at Crewe Alexandra and Chester City's facilities, and visit other schools for educational workshops. Long may this all continue!

Indoors, our library areas have benefited from the attentions of dedicated staff to create attractive environments to encourage reading for pleasure, our Computer Room has been re-equipped, and a nurture space has been developed. Outdoors, Mr McCleary (who really is leaving us at last, to relocate to Kent) has worked wonders in constructing the reading shed and creating two fenced areas for, respectively, Nursery children's outdoor skill development and the relocated vegetable planters (allowing space for future EYFS initiatives).

Online, our website has been considerably expanded, with much more information available about the curriculum in particular – of which more below.

Curriculum

Our curriculum continues to develop, aiming always for the most engaging, effective learning opportunities for all pupils. Following last year's successful implementation of the NCETM *Mastering Number* programme in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes, this will continue for a second year.

We are also revitalising our Science curriculum, following a review and lesson trials within school by co-ordinator Miss Avery, and are adopting a new scheme from Plymouth Science. Miss Avery has also introduced a Twitter hashtag for our science tweets (#HCPSSci).



As previously announced, we are implementing a new phonics approach from the start of the autumn term. All teaching staff have received training in the *Little Wandle* systematic synthetic phonics scheme, with focus particularly on Reception and Year 1 pupils, but also catch-up provision for some older children.



Drama and Music

Miss Bunning's Musical Theatre Club staged a fantastic production of *Matilda* in June. Children from across the junior classes acted, sang and danced in two evening performances, with the dress rehearsal enjoyed by some of the school's pupils during the day. The confidence and talent on show was a joy to see – many congratulations to all involved (including Miss Avery, who assisted throughout, and Mrs Inchley).



Year 4 have completed their instrumental journey for the year – having enjoyed a term each of guitar and brass tuition, they rounded off their learning with an enjoyable samba drum concert for parents.

The choir have also enjoyed lots of opportunities to demonstrate their talents, with the *Amazing* concert at *Storyhouse* providing more evidence of their skills and enthusiasm, after *Young Voices* and the Christmas concerts at local care homes.

Residential visits

Below are a few images of the adventurous activities enjoyed by Y5 and Y6 pupils during their residential visits to Lakeside and the Conway Centre respectively. These visits provide safe challenge and memories to treasure - many thanks to the staff who attended, giving up their free time to do so.



Sport

This last half-term our pupils have taken part in a cricket tournament at Christleton's club ground, a rounders tournament at Bishop's High and, for Y5/6 footballers, the Chester Champions Finals Day at Chester City's new training facility. Our team, having qualified for the tournament through their league position, finished third on the day, having only lost on penalties to Upton Heath, the eventual winners, in the semi-final. Many congratulations to them, and to our girls' football team, who were county runners-up earlier in the year.



Rounders Team



Year 6 athletes

District Sports

Our junior athletics squad, accompanied by Mr M Jones, Miss Avery and Mrs Arnott, enjoyed competing against 20 other Chester Schools at the Ellesmere Port Sports Village in the recent District Sports event. The children represented the school with great commitment and enthusiasm, with notable successes for Ava Prosser Byrne (gold, Y4 girls' sprint), George Xiong (gold, Y5 boys' sprint) and Cody Mercer (bronze, Y6 boys' sprint).

Outstanding Behaviour

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

Y3 Birch: Ben Lightfoot

Y4 Hawthorn: Noah Sanderson

Y5 Larch: Vivian Wong

Y6 Alder: Eva Mayer

Y3 Hazel: Scarlett Ellis

Y4 Lime: Charlotte Woolley

Y5 Rowan: Ambriel Yeoman-Armer

Y6 Sycamore: Imogen Pugh

Leavers

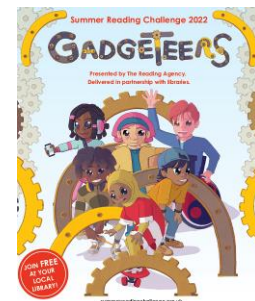
We bid a fond farewell to all of our year 6 pupils. After several pandemic-disrupted years they achieved notable successes in drama, sport, test results and more this year. Their leavers' show, *Pirates of the Currybean*, was very much enjoyed by an audience of Y6 parents, and we wish them the very best for their next step. It has been a privilege having them at Huntington.



Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge theme this year is *Gadgeteers*.
Click the link [HERE](#) to find out more.

Children can join the challenge online nationally via the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) website and locally (so they do not have to fill in forms at the library) via www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/read webpage.



Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Speed on Site

Please can all parents note that the school has a 5mph speed limit within the outer gates – recent incidences of excessive speed have been observed, which pose a risk to the safety of other families, both on the access road and the adjacent pavement (bearing in mind young children are accessing the site). Please take care.

Milk or Water Only

Following the successful trial during the last fortnight, the school will be adopting a *Milk or Water Only* policy from September, along the lines of guidance provided during the trial. More information will be provided prior to the return.

Notes from the office

Please ensure any changes to addresses, contact numbers etc are passed on so that our records are correct.

School Dinners

Please note that the price of a school dinner has increased for 2022-23 to £2.41 per day. Remember to complete the online dinner menu by Thursday (midnight) each week, to enable the catering staff to order appropriately.

Naming personal items

Please name **all** uniform!

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school (also named).

School clubs will recommence during the second week back (week beginning Sep 12th). Details will be sent out at the start of the first week.

Staffing

We will be welcoming Mrs Carter (Y1 Maple), Miss Hickman (Y3 Birch) and Miss Groves (Y3 Hazel, Th/Fri) to the school in September, with Mrs Robinson moving into Nursery with Mrs Roberts.

We bid a fond farewell to teachers Mrs Jankowska, Miss Andrews, Mrs Scott and, of course, after more than 20 years at Huntington, Mr Russell Jones. Also leaving us are teaching assistants Mr Jervis, Miss Tucker and Mrs Dalgarno – we wish them all the very best.

Thank you

I would like to thank you all for the support you have given the school this year, through attendance at school events (productions, concerts, PTA fun day), supporting your children's education at home, reinforcing the school's rules and generally being active members of our school community – it is much appreciated.



PTA Fun Day

***We wish you all a very enjoyable summer break –
see you back in school on Monday, September 5th***

Mr Rose