



Friday 12th January 2018

Welcome back to school everyone!!

The Curious Cat's Adventures at Haydonleigh

Foundation Stage

10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF! We have taken a journey into space this week in Foundation Stage. Our classrooms have become space centres and the children have been exploring planets, moon rocks and space dust. We have built amazing moon buggies with junk, created amazing aliens and have written moon reports for an astronaut. It really has been out of this world!

Year 1

On Monday I was one curious kitty when I heard some shouts and the clinking of armour in the theatre. Upon investigation I found that the children were in the midst of their drill training as part of their training to become a Knight. You'll be glad to know all of the children performed so well at their given tasks, including some knightly manners and dancing, that they have been dubbed the Knights of Haydonleigh! The children have also been wondering where Jack has got to! They've made some very descriptive wanted posters so if you spot him, please do let the Year 1 team know.

Year 2

As I was prowling towards the Year 2 classrooms I was distracted by the children all sitting in the theatre. They were looking into the corner of the room. I looked over and noticed there was a hen, golden egg, gold coins and a green plant (similar to a beanstalk). The children informed me that Jack from the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' had put the items in our theatre to keep them safe. The children later went back to their rooms to write a newspaper report to tell the rest of the school about what they had found, in case the beanstalk kept growing! In Maths the children have been exploring the properties of 2d and 3d shapes. The children have been finding different shapes around their classroom, which they were really good at. The Year 2 children have also been thinking about what 2d shapes they can see on the faces of 3d shapes.

Year 3

What a busy week in the year three corridor!

Children have been reading a new text about 'Why the Whales Came' and meeting a mysterious character known as 'The Birdman!' I like the sound of that, maybe I could chase some of his birds!

They have been getting their paws well and truly stuck into their Maths this week, learning how to solve tricky multiplication using the grid method.

In Science, they were starting a new topic all about forces and magnets and dazzling their teachers with their knowledge. I am looking forward to some investigations - I will keep my cats eyes peeled!

Year 4

It sounds like the children had a great Christmas but there's been no rest since they've come back. They have started looking at Newspaper Reports in English in conjunction with the book they've been reading 'Why the Whales Came'. In Maths, they've started to look at all things multiplication. The numbers are mind boggling. I don't know how they do it! In Topic, they've stepped back in time to the ancient civilisation of the Maya. I wonder if there were any cats there? I look forward to learning more about them too. They also impressed me with their balance this week in Gymnastics but I think I'll come out on top when the apparatus comes out!

Year 5

Welcome back to the paw-some Year 5 children! I noticed some strange cries of 'Stand and Deliver' in their corridor lately. Luckily they have been finding out about Highwaymen in preparation for reading and discussing 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. I love this poem, plenty of action and a bit of romance – what more can a cat ask for? I saw some chocolate in Maths this week, something to do with fractions but I'm not so sure, all I know is there was none left for me!!!

Year 6

Year 6 have made a pawsome start to 2018 and have already been on their first trip of the New Year to The Natural History Museum in Oxford. As I prowled along the upstairs corridor, I heard the children celebrating the work of the eminent scientists Charles Darwin and Alfred Russell Wallace and their ground breaking theory of evolution. During the trip, they also met some fascinating experts, handled some superb artefacts as well as coming face to face with a prehistoric Iguanodon. They learnt some fascinating facts about how animals are adapted to enable them to survive and discussed how the fittest (or the best adapted) survive. Later, in the book corner, when I snuggled up for a quick snooze, I spotted a new book – 'The Highway Man' by Alfred Noyes. The children are going to be reading this fantastic narrative poem soon. It looks like a terrific read. It is going to be a busy third term for Year 6 but I know they'll have fun working hard to achieve success.

Hope you all have a fantastic week.



Let's

talk

What are your dreams and goals for 2018?

The only thing I think that I can say in answer to this question is 'I hope to make a positive difference'



Breakfast Club

It is now possible for parents to book Breakfast Club sessions directly on the scopay system in the same way as lunches. This will enable parents to manage their accounts more effectively. The system will work in the same way as lunches, with payment at the point of booking. If payment is not received sessions may be cancelled by the school. The booking system is only available a term in advance. As with lunches, sessions must be booked a minimum of two days in advance. For example, a Monday session needs to be booked by the previous Saturday.

- Bookings available now up to 29th March
- Bookings open on 5th March for dates 16th April to 25th May
- Bookings open on 8th May for dates 4th June to 26th July



Start of the day

A number of pupils are arriving late for school in the morning. Please note that pupils should be lining up with their class at 8.45am. It is extremely disruptive for the teacher and the rest of the class when a child arrives late. Late marks are recorded in our attendance management system. The school Education Welfare Officer audits our attendance statistics on a termly basis – including late marks. When a pattern of lateness emerges, the school is directed to contact the parents, in order to rectify the situation. If lateness persists, the case can be referred to the EWO for their intervention. Please help by ensuring that you have your child(ren) in school promptly.

Aston University

Haydonleigh Primary School has again agreed to participate in a research study by Aston University into 'Paediatric Facial Analysis for Spectacle Wear'. Your child should have come home with a consent form. Please could this be returned to school by Monday 15th January. The study will take place on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th January. Many children participated in the first study in January 2016. **Please complete the form again even if your child took part in the first study.**

Consultation of Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools and Co-ordinated Scheme 2019/20

I am writing to advise of the consultation of the Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary School and the Co-ordinated Scheme. The consultation runs from 6th December 2017 to 31st January 2018. The Local Authority is required to consult will all schools within the area, as such please see details of the consultation.

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20019/consultations_engagement_and_surveys/864/admission_arrangements_for_community_and_voluntary_school_and_the_co-ordinated_scheme

E-safety message

As with many things, there is no definitive answer when it comes to the topic of how much screen time is ok for our children and how much is damaging. However, studies have found that hours and hours of screen time can create a sensory overload, as well as being linked to poorer performance at school. Some researchers recommend that children take regular screen breaks. For further guidance please look on our school website – [esafety page](#)



Our current value is Respect. We have been talking about how respect is being kind no matter our differences and how we can show respect at school. We have also been looking at how respect at Haydonleigh fits into all the British Values.



Library Bus

We are making good progress with the Library bus project. It now has working plug sockets, lights and heating as well as book shelves upstairs. There will be lots of painting and other jobs coming up over the next couple of months, anyone that can offer any support should please contact lfry@haydonleighschool.co.uk

If there are any parents who work for large organisations that allow any charity days, we would love to hear from you; we already have teams from Nationwide, HSBC and Network Rail signed up.

Anyone who is handy with a paint brush and has some time on their hands, please let Mrs Fry know.



Key Stage 2 - Intrahouse Cross-Country

On Friday Key Stage 2 pupils took part in a cross-country running event, completely organised by the House Captains. The Haydonleigh House Captains ran the event brilliantly, donating their playtimes to advertise the event, plan the course, hold warm-up sessions and organise the scoring system before cheering their teams on to win as many points as possible. The winning team was announced in Friday's Golden Assembly... a big congratulations to the mighty Panthers who came in 1st place!

The Key Stage 2 Panthers ran a whopping total of 309 laps in just 10 minutes of the 363 metre course, racking up a total distance of 112,167m! Thank you to everyone who took part and demonstrated such great teamwork during this event - it was brilliant seeing so many children encouraging each other to succeed. The children really embodied our school motto, 'I am talented, together we are amazing!' The House Captains can't wait to host their next event in the coming term.



As part of our continuing grounds development, we were lucky enough this week to have The Forest of Avon Trust visit us to plant trees. Year 4 and 5 children helped put the trees in the pond/nature area and around the North Playground. Hopefully, in a few years, we will have a great screen of trees to improve these areas. Many thanks to the Forest of Avon Trust for providing the trees and people to help plant them, the children in year 4 and 5 who did such an amazing job and, especially, our gardeners who volunteered their time to come in and help with this important job. Fantastic work everyone!

Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to our amazing gardeners, Sandra and Les. They have supported the school garden for over ten years and now feel it is time for them to focus on their own garden!! Without their help it would have been impossible to maintain our school garden to such a high level and for so many children to have been involved in its upkeep. We would like to say thank you to Sandra and Les, we will really miss their help and support.

This means we would like some more volunteers (parents, grandparents, friends etc.) to support with the school garden. If you could spare an afternoon a week or fortnight to help, this would be greatly appreciated. No gardening experience is necessary, just enthusiasm! Please see Mrs Rochester or Mrs Heath if you could help.



As previously communicated school will be closed to children on Monday 25th June for teacher training.

Our final teacher training day will be taken before this date on Monday 4th June.



As we email out letters on a regular basis can you please ensure we have an up-to-date email address. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Frances Billinge

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Billinge'.

Headteacher