



Friday 5th July 2024

Move-Up Day

The children had great fun on Tuesday when they visited their new classes. There was a lot of excitement for the things to come when they return in September. We have a first date for your diary - we will be holding a “**Meet the Teacher**” event on **Monday 9th September at 3.30** if you would like to come along and ask any questions or hear about how the year will be structured and what the children will be learning. Information from those days will also be sent home via ParentMail later that week, for those who cannot make it on the 9th.

Governor Updates

We are delighted to confirm that we have two new parent governors, Helen John and Revd David Benskin.

Class photographs

These were sent home with your child on Thursday afternoon. We hope that you are pleased with them.

Coffee Afternoon

You are invited to join us on Wednesday 17th July @ 2.30pm for coffee and a chat with Mrs Welsh our SENCO and Mrs Snowden our Elsa. No set agenda- just a chance to sit and catch-up.

Lunch Time Supervisor Vacancies

We currently have positions available for working as a Lunchtime Supervisor, both full-time and part-time, as the usual Lunchtime Supervisory Role and also 1:1 support positions across lunchtime. If you are interested in any of these, please get in touch via email, phone or speak to the school office.

Class Updates

<p>Oak</p>	<p>The main news this week is that the Oakies had a super transition day to Year 1 on Monday. They enjoyed being with Mr Neal in the Hornbeam Classroom. This week children have been writing about the Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen. They have been drawing some fabulous self-portraits by looking closely at the shape of their face in the mirror. In maths they have been practising counting to 20 and learning about positions of objects, in relation to others - the beginning points for mapping! We are also learning about Sir David Attenborough, the beloved Science Broadcaster who, as a young boy, loved collecting fossils. In handwriting this week, children have been forming the upper-case letters: K, C, O and A. Any practise you can do at home would be super. Lastly, thank you so much to our Secret Reader, Phoebe's daddy, Mr Gibson. The children loved listening to you read.</p>
<p>Hornbeam</p>	<p>Although it was a shortened week, this week was no less busy in Hornbeam. On Monday we were joined by 'Leo', Mrs Wibberley's pet tortoise. As part of our science topic, we have been investigating amazing animals and focussing on what they eat. We have been looking at different diets of animals using the terms 'Herbivore', 'Carnivore' and 'Omnivore'. On Tuesday we moved up to our new classroom, Beech, where we met Mrs Morris and Mrs Hawker. We completed a variety of different transition activities, including some amazing artwork which will</p>

	<p>be displayed in September. On Thursday, we researched and studied the different parts of the UK and became experts in each country.</p> <p>In maths, we have continued to focus on position and direction, looking at the vocabulary, left, right, forwards, backwards, above and below and identifying where things are in the drawer unit in the classroom. Finally, we have been looking at instructions in English, learning all about bossy verbs and using instructions to make a jam sandwich.</p>
Beech	<p>In Beech Class we have been writing character descriptions and plans for our alternative version of The Three Little Pigs. During our Maths learning at the start of the week we looked at vertical lines of symmetry in shapes and towards the end of the week we revised telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes. On Tuesday the children all had a great day meeting their new teacher in Year 3. In Computing this week, we have been preparing presentations all about our Castles topic. Our Castle and Monarchs learning continued in History where we looked at the similarities and differences between now and life in the medieval times. We had a lovely time finishing our weaving art project and creating sun bursts.</p>
Ash	<p>Alongside a week of transition visits and an inset day, we have been learning about the parts of a flower in our science lesson: dissecting and identifying the different elements. We have looked at how best to take photos of our Iron Age pots, during our Art lesson; thinking about lighting and capturing detail. And of course, by the time this is sent out, we will have been on our Stone Age to Iron Age trip to Ufton Court. We look forward to sharing more information about the trip with you next week.</p>
Rowan	<p>Year 4 were full of excitement following their transition day in Maple Class on Tuesday. A particular highlight was playing the Ukelele. They told me they learnt the C and F chords and played the songs Frere Jacques, London's Burning and Row, Row, Row your Boat. They also enjoyed going out for the Mile Run. As we get closer to the end of the term, we have also been reflecting on our time in Year 4. We have written letters to the current Year 3s to share our highlights, which we will be putting into a book. Some of us chose to include book recommendations (for example 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' and 'The Nothing to See Here Hotel'), some of us spoke about the trips we have been on and some of us wrote about our favourite subjects and lessons. Emily wrote, 'In Year 4 science you never know what is going to happen! Once we had to do an experiment about how much water different plants would absorb and it completely fooled us all but I won't give too much away. That's not even the best bit, we've done stinky eggsperiments with eggs and fizzy drinks, not to mention our gross digestive system experiment. Yuck!' Yesterday, we held a mock election. Some of the children came up with their own manifestos, and we also looked at the manifestos of different political parties. The winning party was led by Rose, and was named the Banana Democrats!</p>
Maple	<p>As is often the case for this time of year, Maple Class have been mostly in rehearsals or taking tests this week! However, they did take some time out of rehearsals to spend an enjoyable day with their new teacher for next year, Mrs Wornham. They did a writing task and then had to work out what they would put in a 'Box of Me.' It's full of all the things that are important to your children, all the things they care about and all the things they wish to one day be! They've also been set some homework by Mrs Wornham that can be accessed via Teams. If you're having any trouble getting on then please do let us know. We also managed to squeeze in some time to talk about the election this week. Your children were interested in all the different ideas the different parties had (they hated the idea of banning mobile phones in schools), but were, as many of us were too I imagine, confused about how any of the parties were going to pay for all their ideas. Hopefully we'll get to see that over the next five years! Thank you!</p>
Willow	<p>This week our final group of Year 6s enjoyed their transition visit to their new schools. It was great to hear how excited everybody is and about what they are looking forward to in September. We spent the rest of the week rehearsing the play, making tickets and the programme - we are very excited about putting the production on for you next week so please make sure you have ordered your tickets. Plans are</p>

	also afoot for the Games and Quiz night and you should have received your invitation to this on Monday. The children have decided they would like the evening (and yourselves) to themselves so have asked for no siblings to attend. Whilst we appreciate the issues this can cause we also respect their wishes. Can we also remind everyone that PE kits need to come into school on a Monday and stay all week. Tickets for the play will go out on Monday - keep an eye out in bags.
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Important dates

Tuesday 9 th July	UKS2 performance dress rehearsal
Wednesday 10 th July	UKS2 Performance – 6.00pm
Thursday 11 th July	UKS2 Performance – 6.00pm
Friday 12 th July	After school Year 2 & 5 Cake Sale & marshmallow mugs
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 6 end of year treat – Laser combat
Tuesday 16 th July	Games and Quiz night for Year 6 parents
Wednesday 17 th July	SEN Coffee afternoon @ 2:30pm – all welcome
Friday 19 th July	Year 6 Leavers assembly – parents very welcome from 9:30am
Friday 19 th July	Disco with DJ Ethan – more details to follow nearer to the time Volunteer sign up here
Tuesday 23 rd July	Oak class – Scientist day
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of Term – 1:00pm finish
Monday 2 nd September	INSET day
Tuesday 3 rd September	INSET day
Wednesday 4 th September	Autumn term begins – all children in school
Monday 9 th September	Meet the Teacher

FOWPS

We have a **Disco** on Friday the 19th and **Raffle Tickets** are available to buy online. £1 each with a grand prize of **£200 cash**, donated by Bouchier Fencing LTD. All tickets available here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/>

If you can help at the disco, please sign up here: <https://volunteersignup.org/DFAXH>

Other News

Come and Sing Workshop – poster attached
Summer Junior Tennis Camp – poster attached

Art in the Park

As part of its 30th anniversary celebrations, Howbery Business Park in Crowmarsh is inviting entries for its 'Art in the Park' competition. Prizes are up for grabs for 2D artwork relating to the theme of 'Water in our world'.

The winner in the ages 4-11 category will receive a £50 prize each, plus £250 for their nominated school or youth group to spend on art supplies. Entrants must create their artwork on a postcard measuring 148 x 105mm, which they can post or hand in at the business park.

Participants in the competition are free to interpret 'water in our world' as they wish, but are encouraged to visit Howbery Park for inspiration. There is much to inspire, including the historic manor house with its sweeping lawn and café terrace, the riverbank, tree-lined avenues, wildflower patches, rose beds among the former stable buildings, a plethora of butterflies, bee hives, and a solar park.

The park is open to the public on working weekdays.

Helping everyone live and work sustainably with water is the aim of Howbery Park's owners, HR Wallingford. By choosing 'water in our world' as the competition theme, the company wishes to encourage people to think about the role and importance of water in our lives.

The deadline for entries is 31 July 2024.

Full details, and terms and conditions are on the Howbery park website: www.howberypark.com/art