



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

Another fortnight has flown by, with our children continuing to learn, enjoy and succeed across the curriculum. Year groups have recently completed a further round of internal assessments, and children have displayed some great progress since the start of the year – their keen motivation to showcase their independent learning is a delight to see. We have a range of information in this edition of our newsletter, including some staffing updates and exciting potential developments; don't forget to read our FOHH section too as there are lots of community plans ahead for everyone to enjoy. Whilst we are looking at starting to resume some of our trips and visitors timetable in Summer 2, we do not yet have any updates for our swimming programme, but will continue to keep you posted with any developments!

Claire Syms

Monday Missions

Reception Makaton Signing & Number Bonds

Ask me if I can remember some of the key Makaton signs, such as 'I', 'my', 'name', 'mummy', 'daddy', 'drink', 'toilet' and 'cake' and 'apple'. Make a sentence or retell 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

Can you help me find two numbers that make all of our teen numbers? For example, 12 can be made with 10 and 2 more. How many ways can you find to make the same number? Happy calculating!

Year 1 Science & Spelling

Can you create an insect fact file at home? You could find insects in your garden or at the park. Using a safe internet browser, books and the library you could research facts about the insects you have found. We would love to see your fact files so please bring them into school!

Practise writing the date every day at home, including the day, date, month and year to help with our spellings!

Year 2 Science, position/direction and times tables

Go on a hunt in your local area. What can you identify that is living, dead or never alive? How do you know?

Use squared paper to draw a map. Write directions using the vocabulary **half**, **quarter**, **full**, **turn**, **clockwise**, **anticlockwise** to direct someone around your map.

Keep practising your 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables!

Attendance & Punctuality

Week Beginning	26 th April		3 rd May 2021	
	Attendance	Punctuality	Attendance	Punctuality
Comet	98.7%	98.7%	96.3%	96.7%
Eclipse	95%	96.4%	93.8%	97.8%
Galaxy	98.3%	99.1%	100%	100%
Cosmos	100%	100%	97.7%	97.7%
Hawking	95.8%	97.3%	99.5%	100%
Einstein	97.1%	99.2%	98.7%	98.7%
Jemison	95.7%	98.6%	93.3%	93.3%

Well done to our Year 2 classes, Galaxy and Cosmos, for their exemplary statistics over the last fortnight! Great work Y2!

Remember that we are consistently looking for attendance of all our classes to be **better than 95% every week**.



Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	29/3/2021		19/04/2021	
Reception				
Comet	Kelsie	Nahm	Hannah	William
Key Stage 1				
Eclipse	Maliyah	Kingsley	Luan	Jahrelle
Cosmos	Tazio	Kaliyah	Ishamel	Leonard
Galaxy	Hannah	Abiel	Grace	Rae
Key Stage 2				
Hawking	Sienna	Fantastic Mr Fox Team - Freya, Tsubame, Julia and Mia	Bianca	Malachi
Einstein	Kyrone	Theo	Demarrio	Isla
Jemison	Tyreese	Andre	Jahzara	Kelis

HHS Nursery class!



As you will have seen from our recent communication, we are proceeding with our very exciting plans to open our first nursery class provision on site at school. We would be very grateful in these initial stages for feedback and suggestions from our existing school families in our community, so please do respond to our initial short [survey](#) before this Friday, 14th May at 12 noon.

Staffing update



Ms Hernandez, our Einstein class Teaching Assistant, will be leaving us on 19th May to return to class teaching in Spain. Ms Hernandez only joined us in September 2020, but her infectious enthusiasm and hard work have proven hugely beneficial to our whole school community. Due to a range of circumstances, Angela is sadly leaving

mid-term, but we intend to keep in touch and hopefully forge some lasting links between our schools for our MFL provision, too. Whilst we recruit for a KS2 teaching assistant, existing support staff will work alongside Y4 until we are able to appoint a suitable replacement. We are sure you would like to join us in passing on heartfelt thanks for all of Ms Hernandez's contributions to our school, and well-wishes for her future endeavours.

Congratulations!

We are absolutely thrilled to share that our latest addition to the Halley family has finally arrived after a few determined extra days of hanging on last week! Ms Clarke safely welcomed baby Tiernan Shelby Gribben-Clarke on Saturday 8th May at 3.44pm, weighing a healthy 9lbs. Mum and baby are now at home and enjoying early cuddles and time together



as a family. We can't wait to meet Tiernan when we can, and we are sure Y3 in particular will be keen to say hello, too! Huge congratulations to Ms Clarke!



Caterpillars in Comet Class

Over the last few weeks our topic has been Caterpillars. Children were very excited to see four live caterpillars arrive in our classroom one morning.



Everyone has been keeping a very close eye on our new 'visitors' to see what changes have been happening. In the last few days the caterpillars have formed a cocoon around themselves and we can't wait to watch the next stage of the life cycle take place! The children also got the chance to listen to the popular children's story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', not only in English – but also in Spanish. Thank you to Ms Mireia for supporting us with our Spanish lesson and reading the story to us. The stories then inspired some children to illustrate and write their own Hungry Caterpillar stories. We all now wait with great anticipation to see our very own caterpillars emerge into beautiful butterflies. We will keep you posted!



Deaf Awareness Week

As part of 'Deaf Awareness Week' the children in Comet Class have been discussing all the ways that people communicate with one another, including through written messages, sign language and even through body language and facial expressions. We decided that it is very important to be able to communicate with everybody, and so spent a large portion of our week learning new Makaton signs. We also used Makaton signs to retell the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

Amazing signing and discussion work from everybody in Comet Class this week. Well done!

"Please"



"more"



"cake"



What is Makaton?

Makaton is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression. Find out more [here](#)

Relationships and Sex Education Workshops

Get the facts on Relationships and Sex Education

A huge thank you to all our parents and carers who attended one of our Covid-secure RSE Workshops over the last week. We held individual sessions for each year group and covered the curriculum content, vocabulary and how you might wish to support at home. There was also time for a question and answer session for Mr Oxford and Ms Haupt to provide any clarification or reassurance. Feedback has been incredibly positive. Our school policy is on our school website and available in hard copy form upon request from the school office. All year groups will be completing RSE lessons during the second half of the Summer term. Further questions and comments are always welcome, so please do get in touch via the school office.

Book donations galore!



Our lovely partners at Amazon and TeachFirst recently provided us with 100 Kindle Fires, and we have now been able to spend the remaining gift vouchers on some

essential classroom supplies and this range of fabulous books for use across our curriculum and in our school library! Huge thanks to both Amazon and TeachFirst for continuing to make a positive difference in our community!

We received an equally fabulous donation from Samantha (Cavalli, Y2 parent) of these fantastic books below to use across the school. Many thanks for such generosity. Book donations are always welcome in school, so please do drop any good quality items into our school office as we are sure to find a good home for them!

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Year 4

Year 4 have had a wonderful return to the summer term. All the pupils have come back with a renewed focus and drive to push forwards with their learning. We have been working particularly hard on our times table practice and routines. We are all becoming more confident to quickly recall our multiplication facts. The more we practice every day for 30mins the easier it will become.

Last week, we celebrated Pyjama Day which was a big day in Year 4. We all agreed that Year 4 should be able to wear our pyjamas all the time. Comfort rocks!

Year 4 have also been enjoying their Outdoor Adventure lessons in Hackney Downs. We have adored being out in the fresh air and the approaching summer weather. I want to say a big thank you to the parent volunteers we have had so far - shout out to: Milton, Laura, Monica and Eylem for your help and support; we wouldn't have been able to go without you. If any other parents can or want to volunteer as well, we would love to have you join us on Thursdays. The more the merrier!

Year 3

Year 3 have been working really hard these last few weeks since being back. We are especially proud of our Fantastic Mr Fox learning and are in the process of writing newspaper articles about the farmers digging out the family of foxes. We used this as our inspiration for Outdoor Adventures and created our own Mr Fox out of the materials we could find. It was a good lesson in teamwork and supporting others as well as some challenging problem solving!



Ms Slater – Year 6 teacher



Ms Jessica Slater joined us for the first of our transition days for Year 5 this term. Ms Slater spent the day with the class, familiarising herself with children, staff and the school environment, and finding out more about some of our policies and procedures. We hope Ms Slater will

be able to return to Halley for our whole school transition morning on Wednesday 7th July, ahead of starting full time in September in our first Year 6 cohort!

Year 2's Great British Research

Year 2's topic is 'Amazing Spaces and Places in the UK'. During a recent geography lesson we were split into teams and became experts on one of the four nations of the UK. We then presented to the rest of the class and our teachers listened carefully to judge our creativity, information and presentation style. We really enjoyed it and learned lots! Ask us to share some facts about England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales – we know lots!



Halley House promotional filming day

We had a hugely enjoyable day with the film crew last week as they shot images, film clips and interviews with pupils, parents and staff. The crew, from Squib Photography Ltd, brought a drone with them and children were very excited to watch it take some aerial shots over the building! We hope we have captured a broad range of some of the fantastic lessons and activities we have at Halley House, and are looking forward to adding to our existing photo boards around the building as well as showcasing our film! Particular thanks to Keely from FOHH for participating in the interviews, and to all staff for their enthusiasm and flexibility throughout the day!

Science Fair!

It was another fabulous year for our annual Science Fair, albeit with some changes, with a whole range of entries from our KS1 and KS2 year groups. Very well done to everyone who participated in this year's theme of 'Innovating for the Future.' Our judges, Ms Khatun and Mr Oxford, had a *very* tough time (as always!) deciding on the winners in each year group and a special mention must go to Year 2 for their range of entries – it was impossible to only pick 2 winners so we were compelled to select 3! We hope all our winners enjoy their prizes, and that all our participants carry on investigating, exploring the world around them and planning their careers in STEM!



Congratulations to...

Year 1: Arthur for his innovative idea on how to generate electricity using fruits!

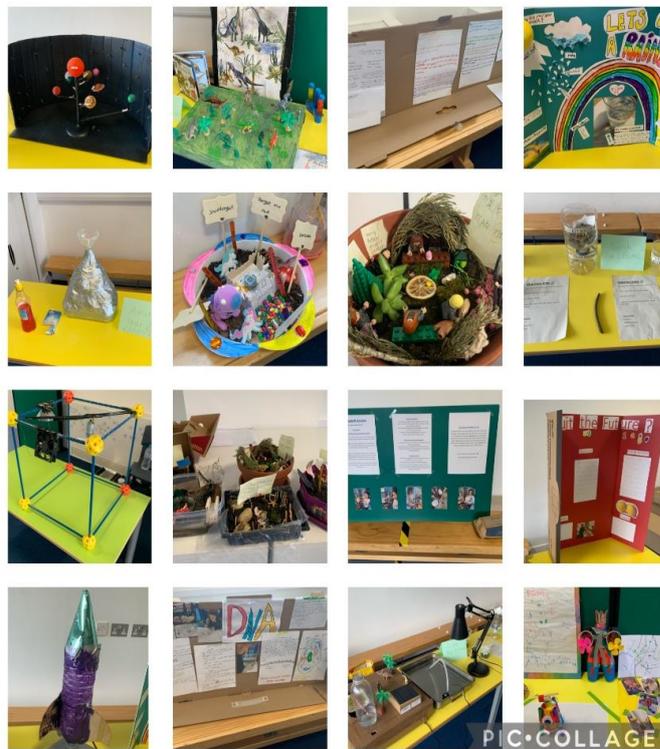
Year 2: Wilfred for a creative motorised flying machine!

Year 2: Kiyah for her useful invention of a water purifier!

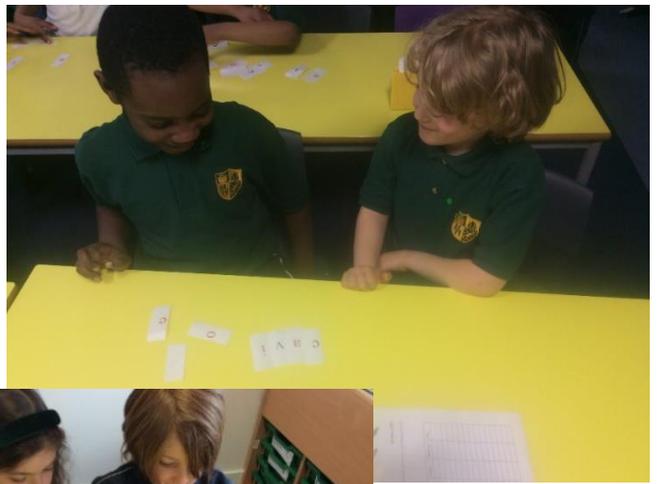
Year 2: Akira for a fantastic solar powered hydro pump!

Year 4: Darcey for her River Lea recycling machine called the 'Rivernator!'

Year 5: Nathaniel for a convincing pitch as to why we need silent hoovers!



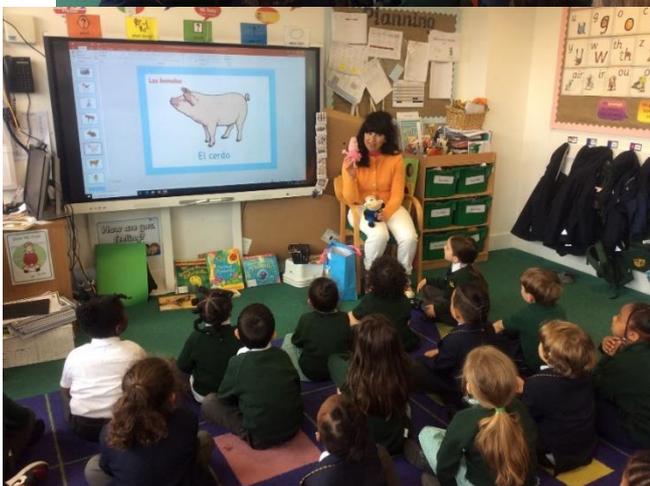
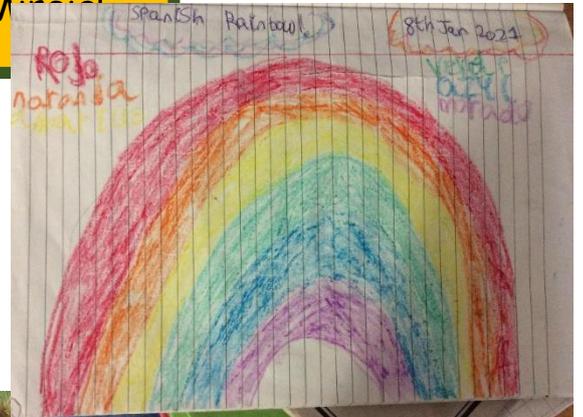
Spanish

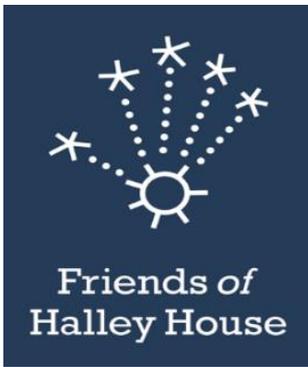


In Spanish, we have been learning the months of the year, the names of the animals and revising all of our colour and number knowledge!



In Reception we have been lucky enough to have Ms Mireia (Gina's mum) coming to read some of our new bilingual books with us. ¡Muchas gracias Ms Mireia!





FOHH News and Dates for your Diary

Next FOHH Meeting

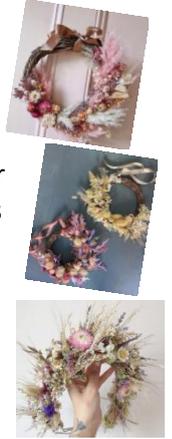
The next FOHH meeting has moved to Thursday 20th May 9-10am (instead of Friday 14th May) - we REALLY hope to see lots of you there as we need your help more than ever to organise and run the upcoming events for this summer term. We are continuing to raise funds for the PE provision in school.

Pyjama Day Thank You

Pyjama Day raised a whopping £318.40!! Thank you so much. An amazing amount!

Summer Flower Workshop

Following on from the success of the Christmas wreath workshop, Clare's Summer flower workshop will be taking place 7-9pm on **Friday 18th June**. Tickets will include a glass of prosecco and are £40 (£20 to be paid as a deposit to secure your place) and it will be happening in the Halley House playground so up to 25 can join! You will be given a step by step guide on how to create a beautiful dried flower wreath or a dried flower crown. You will have access to a wide variety of dry flowers and grasses in a gorgeous mix of summery colours to create your masterpiece. 12" wicker wreath bases will be supplied to those wanting to make wreaths and wire will be provided for those wanting to make crowns. All materials needed and scissors will be supplied. Clare will also give you tips on how to keep your arrangement looking fab and how to dry your own ingredients. See the photos for inspiration. There will be a bar and it is sure to be a fun night. If you would like a ticket, please contact Keely on 07866 515568.



Big Summer BBQ Fundraiser

Can everyone please put **Saturday 3rd July 2-5pm** in their diaries. It's the Big Summer BBQ Fundraiser that will be happening at Halley House. Please let Keely know - if you haven't already - if you'd like to be on the organising committee for this. It cannot happen without your help so please be brilliant and lend your time, money or ideas. More details to follow!

Library Update

THANK YOU to all Year 4 and Year 5 parents who have donated money so that we can fill the higher readers section with more books. We are hoping to order level 7 and 8 Accelerated Reader books this week. Any questions, please ask Keely (07866 515568)

HHS Lottery

The Halley House Lottery has launched! 🎰 It is a FOHH initiative and is a successful and popular tool used by lots of primary schools across the country. The first draw is on Saturday 29th May.

What you need to know:

- The lottery tickets are £1 per week
- It is all done online by direct debit so no need to remember cash
- For every ticket you buy, 76% goes to Halley House and towards the weekly cash prize
- £20 guaranteed prize but this will go up as tickets are sold, our aim is for 50 tickets to be sold per week
- You can buy more than one ticket, send the link to any family and friends who would like to take part too
- Draws are done automatically every week, they will always be on Saturdays at 8pm
- All winners will receive an email with instructions to claim their prize.
- The jackpot prize of £25,000 is in addition, all tickets entered into the Halley House lottery are automatically entered into this draw too

Buy your tickets here: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/halley-house-school>

More events are being planned so watch this space and let us know if you'd like to join the committee. Given the year it's been, it is so important that we use this final term to raise much needed funds for our brilliant school!

DIARY DATES	
Summer 1 2021	
Friday 14th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPET Annual Parent Survey opens • LAB Adviser Visits to school
Tuesday 25th May – Wednesday 26th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS Learning Review
Friday 28th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPET Parent Survey closes • End of Summer 1. School finishes at normal time.
Summer 2 2021	
Monday 7th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of Summer 2. All Extended Schools provision resumes
w/c 7th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment weeks (for school purposes only – all statutory assessments cancelled nationally again this year due to Covid-19)
w/c 28th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual reports sent home
Tuesday 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAB Meeting, 6-8pm
w/c 5th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent/teacher consultations
Wednesday 7th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition morning – All year groups
Friday 9th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPET End of Year Celebration Event – NO ASC
Friday 16th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of Summer term (and year) for children! School finishes at 2pm.
Monday 19th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSET Day. School closed to pupils.