



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

We find ourselves yet again in the position of switching to remote learning for some of our children this week but, as is the Halley way, spirits have not been dampened and we are looking forward to making the most of everything on offer this week, wherever we might be! It has been another action-packed half term with many accomplishments – within our wide range of curriculum subjects and beyond. We are looking forward to acknowledging and celebrating some of our successes over the course of this year during our Learning Review this week which will also, I'm sure, inspire further developments. Our recent photography session in school has returned some fantastic images capturing the lively spirit of our school, and we eagerly anticipate the short film showcasing even more of school life – we will share when final edits are complete!

Claire Syms

Attendance & Punctuality

Week Beginning	10 th May 2021		17 th May 2021	
	Attendance	Punctuality	Attendance	Punctuality
Comet	97.6%	97.9%	97.6%	97.9%
Eclipse	97.1%	97.7%	97.0%	97.6%
Galaxy	96.5%	96.2%	96.4%	96.8%
Cosmos	95.8%	96.2%	95.8%	96.2%
Hawking	97.9%	97.9%	97.5%	97.9%
Einstein	97.0%	97.6%	96.8%	97.5%
Jemison	94.2%	94.8%	94.0%	94.7%

Well done to Hawking and Comet classes for good attendance over the last fortnight – there is still plenty of room for improvement from all classes! Remember that we are consistently looking for attendance of all our classes to be **better than 95% every week.**

Monday Missions

Reception

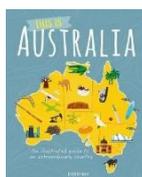
This week we finally got to meet the Numberblock number 20! Work together to find different ways of making 20 using two numbers that you already know.

Last week we learnt all about animals that roam the jungle. Carry out some research on one of your favourites and create a thinking frame or factsheet about them to share in class!

Year 1 In PSHE we have been learning about relationships. This has included our relationships with our family and friends. We have been learning what to do when we fall out with our friends. Can you talk about a time you fell out with someone? What did you do to fix it? What did you learn from it?

We have been identifying sounds in alien words. Alien words are words made up of sounds. This helps children identify set 2 and 3 sounds. Can you make your own alien words and practise them at home?

quemp	hild	voov
chom	geck	blurst
thazz	tord	terg
steck	blan	stroft



Year 2

Our topic for the last half term is 'Down Under'. Can you do some research on Australia over the half term break and share your findings with the rest of Year 2 when you return?



SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	10/05/2021		17/05/2021	
Reception				
Comet	Danny	Jayden	Bora	Aaron
Key Stage 1				
Eclipse	Karter	Oscar	Kamil	Jahmore
Cosmos	Frankie	Callum	Kyran	Ibrahim
Galaxy	Jasper	Sebastian	Cavalli	Harlei
Key Stage 2				
Hawking	Sammy	Mia	Muna	Luc
Einstein	Mya	Keziah	Victoria	Joshua
Jemison	Hailey	Sumayyah	AJ	Oscar

Well done to everyone for being such good role models by showing our school values and trying your best!

Exploration – Art in the Summer term



Great news from the Art Room - we have gained funding for a week of art teaching with Jane Smith from the 21st June, from Artists in Residence! You can read more about the programme [here](#). We will be working on our Arts Award Discover Artist Log with Jane, practising our contour drawing, and printing on the theme of maps and exploring our local area.

This first half term our Exploration involved making "Earth Art". The children made a clay earth and added texture, then covered this with a thin layer of plasticine. Children decorated a paper cup holder, linked to their year group class



learning, to display their 3D art. Finally, with this inspiration they made a plasticine model on top of their earth. Well done to ALL year groups; you really made a big statement about how children care about the planet we live on!



Swimming lessons

We have finally managed to secure a short course of swimming lessons for the second half of the Summer term. Lessons for all year groups will start the first week back after half term (w/c 7th June) – days and times as below. If you would like to volunteer, please do speak to your child's class teacher. Children should come to school in their swimming and PE kits. The swimming sessions will cost £15 for 6, and are now available to be paid via SchoolsBuddy. Please ensure payment is made before lessons commence. Many thanks.



Swimming timetable – Summer 2		
Year group	Day	Time
Reception	Wednesday	10.30am
Year 1	Wednesday	9.30am
Year 2	Thursday	9.30am (Galaxy) 10.30am (Cosmos)
Year 3	Friday	9.30am
Year 4	Wednesday	11.30am
Year 5	Friday	10.30am

Jemison Update

Year 5 have been really focusing on their Spanish over the last few weeks! We have been revising key vocabulary such as numbers to 30, days of the week and body parts, and then challenging ourselves to learn new sentence structures so we can put nouns into interesting sentences. We have enjoyed playing with our loop cards (we are getting faster each time we play!) and a new game called '¿Dónde está el tejón?', where we practise our pronunciation in the hope of finding the badger!



In Topic, we are finishing off our biographies about Floella Benjamin, who has had a very interesting and adventurous life both in Trinidad and the UK.

Year 4

In Year 4 we have been keenly exploring our Science Topic 'electricity'. We have been building circuits, using cables, lights and battery packs, and seeing how they function - we all managed to get the light to turn on! In literacy we have been reading our novel 'Street Child', which catalogues the arduous adventures of a Victorian child, Jim. The children have enjoyed getting to know this part of history and are very much grateful not to have been born in the Victorian period; a sentiment adults thoroughly share! Year 4 have set up a pen-pal connection with a school in Stockholm, Sweden. We recently received letters from them and have now written our responses. The children are very excited to now be communicating with children in a different country. This is a wonderful opportunity to build new friendships and help them understand their shared humanity and interests with their peers in a different part of the world. The Year 4s all seem eager to continue this dialogue up into Year 5.



As ever I want to continue to express my gratitude to all of the Year 4 parent volunteers who continue to support during Outdoor Adventures and across our curriculum. Thank you for all your help, we couldn't do it without you!

Attendance

We have enjoyed a successful term so far, although our recent attendance figures show a slight dip over the last fortnight. Thank you to all families who continue to keep us updated about any absences, first thing in the morning. If your child, or member of your household, has any Covid-19 symptoms, we ask that you take a PCR test (this can be done at home or in a test centre) to ensure we can continue to keep our community safe. We are hopeful that Summer 2 will be an uninterrupted term for all our year groups!



Parent survey – reminder

Thank you to all parents and carers who have completed our annual survey already. There is still time to share your views and feedback – the deadline is this Friday, 28th May, so please do take a few minutes to complete it if you can.



Strings Club – Half Term



We will be hosting Strings Club again during the Summer half term break (Tuesday 1st – Friday 4th June). You can book places [here](#).



Kittle Photos

Remember to order your Kittle photos if you have not done so already! Individual and class portraits are available and all children should have received cards with relevant codes on to order online or over the phone. If you need any help with ordering, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Reception Admissions Open Evening



We will be hosting our Reception Admissions Open Evening on Tuesday 25th May, using social distancing and hygiene measures to ensure we can conduct this safely in person. We

are very much looking forward to welcoming our new children and families to our Halley House community. We have a limited number of Reception places available for September, so please do spread the word to any friends, family or neighbours who have not yet secured a place!

Staffing update

We are delighted that Ms Shiels will be returning from her maternity leave on Monday 7th June. Ms Shiels will be in school three days a week, Monday-Wednesday, and will be teaching Y3 alongside Mr Oxford for the remainder of this academic year. Ms Shiels has recently spent a few days in school with Y3, and we are looking forward to welcoming her back properly in a few weeks' time!

Rail safety

Due to the very high level of trespassing on the tracks by young people in our local area Network Rail, in partnership with Learn Live, are working to help raise awareness to students across the UK by educating them about the dangers of the train tracks through interactive digital delivery. We have shared safety advice in school with our KS2 pupils, and you can access the video here (suitable for 7-11 year olds):



<https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-primary-school-safety-talk/>. You can watch the safety video by entering the email railsafety@learnliveuk.com into the 'I am registered' field when you first watch the video.

Local Adviser visits and reports

We were delighted to welcome Sinead Williams and Adam Franklin, two of our Advisers on our Local Advisory Board, to Halley the other week. Sinead and Adam spent time in different classes, focusing on behaviour for learning and the curriculum. Both Advisers also spent time talking to pupils, including MPs from our School Parliament, and staff about their perceptions of school. Adam and Sinead also looked at our reporting systems for safeguarding and behaviour, and how we are using our Catch Up Covid Funding. Comments from the resulting reports include:

"The behaviour is excellent and there is no time for children to misbehave and no gap for their focus to be dissuaded."

"The assertive conversations of the year 5 students were as impressive as the interjections of the reception students."

"Modern teaching methods at Halley and the focus of healthy mind and healthy body are impressive. The understanding of mindfulness and behaviour from students was quite an inspiration."

We are looking to appoint additional parent Advisers to our Local Advisory Board during the Summer term. In the first instance, if you would like to find out more, or to express an interest, please contact Ms Syms via the school office.



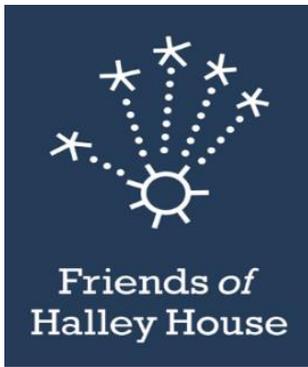
Places to reflect!

Wellbeing



Getting back to nature!





FOHH Update

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who came to the FOHH meeting on Thursday. A lively and productive discussion, as always. Next one is Friday 11th June, 9am. All welcome!

Summer Flower Workshop

Places are still available for Clare's Summer flower workshop which will be taking place 7-9pm on Friday 18th June.

Tickets 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.

You will be given a step by step guide on how to create a beautiful dried flower wreath or a dried flower crown. All materials needed will be supplied.

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](tel:07866515568).

Saturday 3rd July 2-5pm: Summer BBQ

Details to be announced really soon but make sure this date is in your diary for our big summer fundraiser. We need your help to organise it and to come and enjoy it. Our biggest opportunity to fundraise - and socialise together - this school year! If you can help in any way, please let Keely, Clare, Viv or Lola know.

Halley House Lottery

5 days until the very first draw! Thank you to everyone who has signed up. Please buy your tickets here, we are so close to reaching our target now:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/halley-house-school>



Tote bags

Quality re-usable Halley House logo tote bags can be bought for £7.50 from Reception. Really useful for bringing extra bits and pieces (like wellies) to school.

Library

Our Library Monitors are doing a great job of keeping the library in check. The successful applicants are pictured here.

Books continue to be ordered and the range on offer explored and researched. In conjunction with school staff, we also hope to offer an information session for parents on both the school library and the AR programme during Summer 2 – so do keep an eye out for dates as we'd love to see you there!



DIARY DATES	
Summer 1 2021	
Tuesday 25th May – Wednesday 26th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS Learning Review
Tuesday 25th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception Admissions Open Evening
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) • Swimming lessons start for all year groups this week
Tuesday 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAB Meeting, 6-8pm
Thursday 8th of July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRIP/VISIT: Year 2 Cosmos and Galaxy to The Garden Classroom for 'Wonderful World of Bees' workshop
Friday 9th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPET End of Year Celebration Event – NO ASC
Thursday 15th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRIP/VISIT: Y4 sleepover in school
Friday 16th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of Summer term (and year) for children! School finishes at 2pm. • Non uniform day £2 for school fundraising
Monday 19th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSET Day. School closed to pupils.