



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,

We have now successfully completed our first week of remote learning – perhaps not the start to the Spring term we had all hoped for, but there have certainly been A LOT of silver linings already to keep spirits up and smiles on faces! We continue to build on firm foundations established during lockdown last year. There has been a significant increase to learning expectations for this period, and I would like to sincerely thank our whole community for adjusting so ably to our latest set of circumstances. Our children continue to forge the path ahead for us, with their eagerness to learn, enjoy and succeed regardless of what might be thrown their way! Communication is vital at times like these, so please do get in touch with the school if you have any queries or need any guidance; teachers and staff will also regularly be in contact with families so do let us know how you are getting on. I do hope you are all staying safe, well and optimistic,

Claire Syms

Remote learning – Week 1

We have made a fantastic start to remote learning across the school, and it has been hugely encouraging to note the high levels of engagement in live sessions, on Purple Mash, or through communications with teachers and staff. Whether children are learning in school or at home, the support from parents and carers in helping your child/ren to access high quality learning opportunities makes such a difference – we know everyone has a lot to juggle during this time and we appreciate such concerted effort!

Please do remember to keep in contact with your child's class teacher and school office if you have any queries, need further guidance or support, or would just like to pass on a 'well done' or 'thank you!' Please do let us know if you have any particular challenges with technology, and/or connectivity, which are affecting your child's access to remote learning, as we may be able to offer support via the school.

As previously advised, please inform the school office if your child or a member of your household has symptoms or has a positive test for Coronavirus. This is so that we can continue to take swift and decisive action should we need to. Any absence for children expected in school should continue to be reported to the office before 9.30am.

Monday Missions

Reception

Draw a picture or write a letter to a family member who you haven't seen for a while. It's a nice way of sending them a smile 😊.

Year 1 Practise number bonds to 10 and number bonds to 20. Is there a song you can create or pattern to help you remember?

Year 2 Explore materials around your home. Can you sort them according to their properties? How many different ways can you find to sort them?

Years 3/4/5 Please complete your homework passport projects sent out during the Christmas break. Well done to those who have made a start already!

SUPER STARS!



Our Super Stars of The Week are:

	08/01/2021		
Reception			
Comet	Amir	Dylan	
Key Stage 1			
Eclipse	Luan	Maliyah	
Cosmos	Kwame	Callum	
Galaxy	Amalya	Cavalli	
Key Stage 2			
Hawking	Hawking class!		
Einstein	Ava	Theo	
Jemison	Enya	Izzy	

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

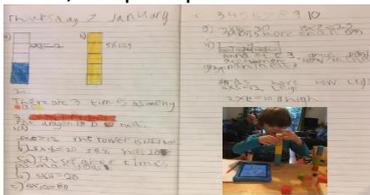
Congratulations!

It has been a very EXCITING weekend for Ms Syms. After a very busy first week of remote learning, Ms Syms finally was able to sit down and switch off with a very tasty, healthy dinner on Friday night. As she took a bite, she was asked a very important question to which she said, "YES!". We, as a school community, wanted to say a massive CONGRATULATIONS and wish them both a happy, healthy and prosperous future together.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the spring term both at home and in school. We have demonstrated our multiplication knowledge representing problems in different ways, created invites for a tea party based on our book 'The Tiger who Came to Tea' and begun researching inventors as part of our new topic 'Cracking Ideas!' We have been so impressed by the learning this week, keep it up!



Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to this term! We have started our new term begun our Topic unit by exploring the human and physical features in the UK. For our outdoor activity, Year 1 went on a walk around the local area and made a list of what human and physical features they can see in their local area. What a lovely start to the week!



FOHH Fundraising update:

We are really thrilled to let you know that a total of **£1,582.70** was raised from the Winter Raffle and Virtual Wreath Workshop. All funds will go towards our sports provision in school, which is fantastic. The committee would like to thank all parents, carers and staff for being so supportive, helpful and generous. It was a brilliant effort, especially in such difficult times to fundraise. We had a lot of happy winners! And lots of beautiful wreaths on our doors!



FOHH will be in touch with news of new plans and the next meeting as soon as we can. Thank you from Keely, Clare, Viv and Lola.

Staffing update

We are delighted to share that Ms Clarke is expecting her first baby on 4th May 2021! Michelle is hoping to continue working in school until the Easter break in April, shortly before her due date, and intends to return to school during the next academic year. Our Y3 class will be predominantly taught by Mr Oxford, alongside other teaching and specialist staff, once Ms Clarke goes on maternity leave. We are sure you would like to join us in passing on heartfelt congratulations to Ms Clarke, and wishing her all the best for the many adventures that lie ahead!

One of our fantastic music teachers, Sarah Berresford, will sadly be leaving us on Friday 12th February. Sarah has been part of our music department for the last 3 years at HHS and has devoted much time, energy and unfailing enthusiasm to our music provision, including tuition. As a very talented musician herself, Sarah has been snapped up by a studio and will be undertaking composition work – so do keep an ear out for her work! Sarah will be very dearly missed in the team but we wish her every success in her role and endeavours ahead.

Admissions – deadline Friday 15th January

Don't forget the deadline for Reception admissions for September 2021 is this **Friday, 15th January at 5pm**. Word of mouth continues to be a great way for prospective families to hear about all the positive benefits of joining our community, so do spread the word to family, friends and neighbours if you haven't already! Parents must apply online here: www.eadmissions.gov.uk. Hackney have also shared a useful parent briefing, explaining the process, which you can access [here](#).

KS2 Mindfulness Lunchtime Club and Play Therapy

Our Play Therapist, James Smith will continue to run his ever-popular KS2 mindfulness and dialogue club every Friday lunchtime starting this Friday 15th January. This will move to a virtual zoom session for the remainder of the half term.

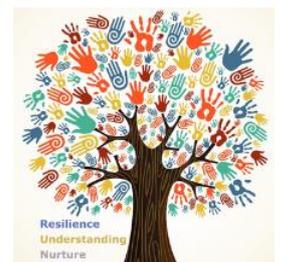


Details for sessions and links to join will be posted on Purple Mash (KS2 Mindfulness Club Blog). All KS2 children are welcome to participate as and when they'd like to. Timings are as follows:

12:45pm – 1:10pm: Year 3 and 4

1:10pm – 1:30pm: Year 5

James will also continue to run his drop-in parent sessions. These are open to all parents and carers, are free to attend and confidential. Please get in touch with James directly on jsmith@r-u-n.co.uk / 07956 360 661 to schedule a telephone appointment or alternatively, contact our Inclusion Manager, Soozii Lim, who will pass on your contact details with your consent.



Mental health and well-being

We continue to encourage our community to be proactive in talking about mental health and well-being, including involving our children in age-appropriate discussions about how they are feeling and the emotional challenges they may be facing. The Anna Freud centre has a whole range of excellent resources for children, parents and teachers. You can read the informative 'You're never too young to talk mental health' [here](#), which has lots of helpful tips and advice for parents and carers, ahead of Children's Mental Health Week (from Monday 1st February).



The strength and depth of our curriculum

We are justifiably proud of our curriculum at Halley House and (as much as possible!) we are not going to let a global pandemic prevent us from making the most of our exciting plans. This has so far included 2 virtual African Drumming & Dance sessions last week with our Y3 and Y4 classes. These will continue weekly throughout the Spring term. Ms Harley (Dorinia) is still planning on an end of Spring term performance, which we hope we will be able to safely showcase in real life (or if not, via video/live link).



For those parents and carers who got to experience our spectacular performance in 2019, you will know this is not to be missed – so keep up the hard work Y3 and Y4!

Arts Award

Please keep an avid eye out for a notification next week from Ms Kate, our art teacher, about the Arts Award. This is (remotely) being opened up to all year groups from Y1 to Y5 and will be a fantastic opportunity for children to achieve an arts qualification! We're excited just thinking about it! Watch this space...



Routines and lunch times at HHS

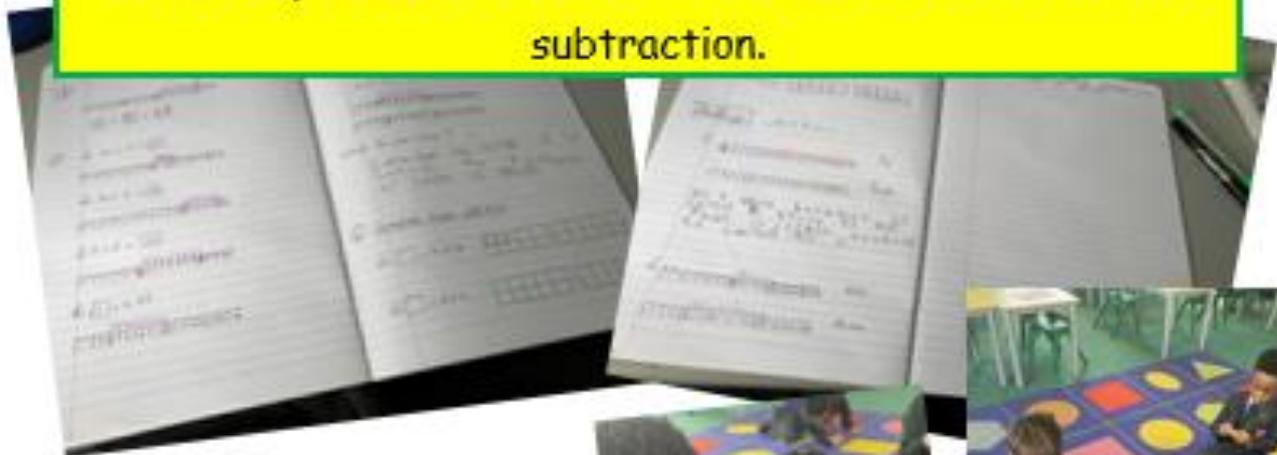
Lunch time is the best time! The children come into the hall in their class groups separately. Tables are set up the dining hall so that each year group has a safe and distanced space to eat their lunch. They also come down to the lunch hall in separate sittings. When it is time to go outside, the groups have allocated spaces. All groups are on a rota to either be in their designated space in the playground or in a PE space inside the building. This is working really well and the children are having a BLAST! Once again the children are adapting very well to the changes we have made.

Halley House Orchard Project

During the Autumn term, we had started working with Lewis from The Orchard Project to bring a minimum of 5 fruit trees and bushes into our school grounds. Our provisional plans were based on the trees arriving on site during the Spring term. Unfortunately, this has now had to be postponed until the next academic year so that we can get children to fully access all aspects of the project. We would like to thank Viv (Mia, Y3) for all her help in coordinating the project, as well as all of Lewis's expertise and support to date. Whilst our tree delivery is temporarily on hold, we have made great gains in building the containers that will house our lovely new trees! Mauricio, our site manager, has been braving the somewhat Arctic temperatures of late and has constructed some excellent, sturdy containers from recycled wood (kindly donated from our scaffolders next door!) Each year group will have their own planter and each class is now being tasked with running a competition to decide on a design that can be placed on the side of their year group planter. Children will vote to decide which designs will be painted on the planters by Friday 22nd January. Get designing, Halley House!



In Year 1, we have started our new unit of addition and subtraction.



We started our Topic unit by exploring the human and physical features around us.



The physical features of the cliff are the sea and the grass, the sky, the air and the clouds.
The human features of the cliff are a house, and a garden.

Colour names in Spanish



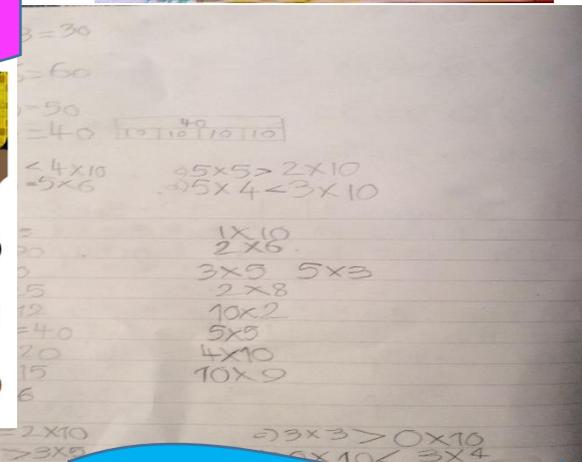
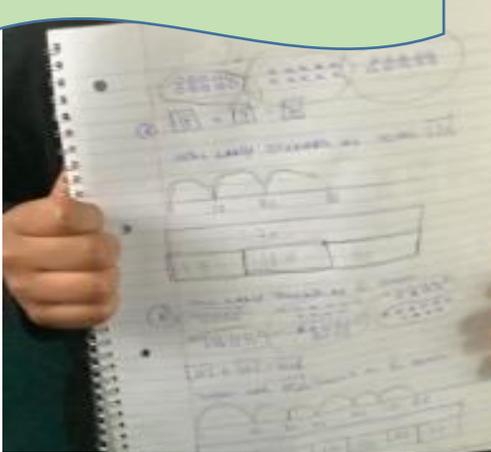
Hosting tea parties!



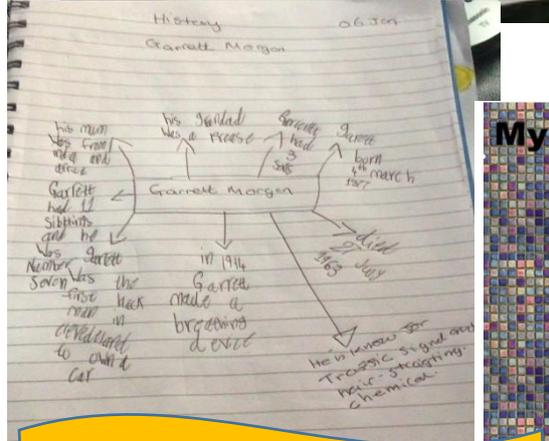
Callum's Chocolate Tea Party



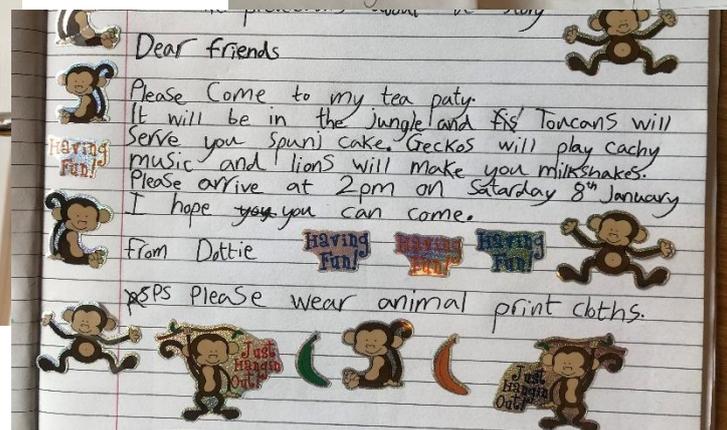
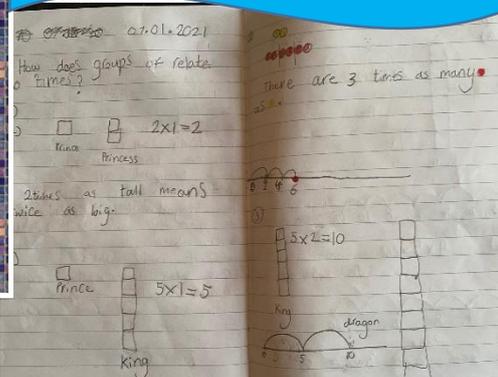
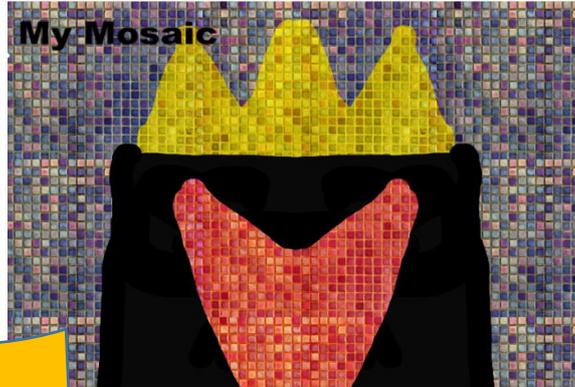
Mosaics in art



Multiplication in maths



History research



Tea party invites

Year 2

African drumming!

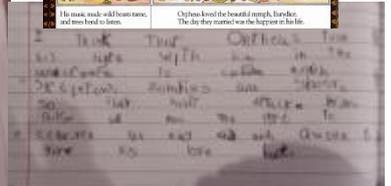
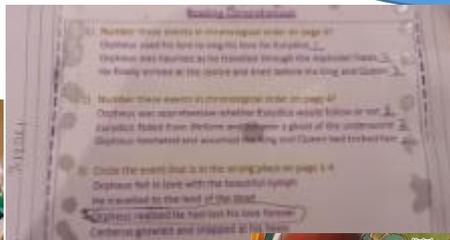
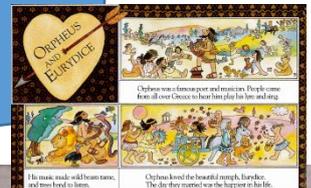


Outdoor Learning (but inside)

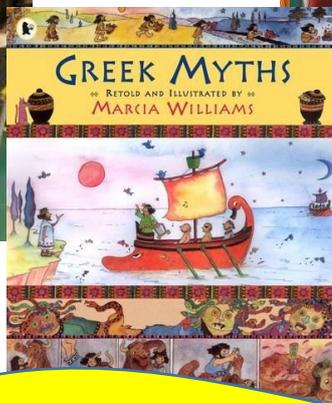


Mia was investigating forces and playing Marco Polo.

Year 3



We were making Greek boats using natural resource.



In literacy, we're reading Greek Myths by Marcia Williams. This week we have been focusing on Orpheus and Eurydice. A sad love story.

Walter the grumpy cat

I own a black and white cat called Walter. A cat whose name no other cat has. He's fairly large, his fairly old, but I tell you this cat is very nice. So let it be known he truly deserves a throne!

And now I will tell you a story, in which he bravely defends his territory.

So one day in deep lockdown, Walter discovered there's a new cat in town. This enemy cat was probably a slinky windy basic Maggie. This new cat was young, this new cat was curious but he made Walter very furious. "Engarde! propereat!" - Walter cried. "This is my land now stop aside!" And he drew his claws like shining swords.

Then Walter suddenly had a thing to make this maggy flee with a fling he suddenly let out a great howl and bit the maggy on the back - Ow! Walter had successfully defended his territory and that is the end of the story.

Perseverance

Perseverance is an explorer. It's a rover that will go over Mars looking for life or a sign that there was life. The hope is it will progress our understanding of how life began.

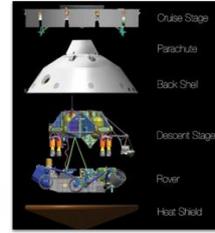
The Jezero crater is 28 miles wide. Scientists believe it was once filled with water.

28

Mars is full of carbon dioxide, which makes up 96% of its air.

980

The helicopter on board can travel up to 980 ft each flight.



96%

3.5 billion

Scientists believe there was water on Mars 3.5 billion years ago.

Perseverance has 19 cameras on board, the world record for any interplanetary mission.

293

Perseverance is on a 293 million mile journey to Mars.

19

6

Perseverance has 6 wheels to go over any terrain or surface.

Chocolate Cake

Inspired by Michael Rosen

The chocolate cake,

It's calling to me,

The chocolate cake,

It won't let me be.

Its salty gooey centre,

And its brown iced top,

We've spent ages making it,

And the floor needs a mop!

It tastes like love,

With hugs all around in my belly,

It makes me quiver with happiness,

My friends are all jelly!

It's brown as bark,

And as moist as rain,

When I finish my slice,

I want to eat it again!

By Theo Edwards

Year 4

Literacy-

1. The scenery is as beautiful as the garden of eden
2. The cubs are gentle doves.
3. The lion is the king of the jungle
4. the elephants are as grey as a rainy cloud.
5. The orange goat skin is smooth and silky.
6. the zebras skin is like the stripes of a notebook.

Maths Stories:

There were 12 children in a class each of them wanted 4 sausages. How many sausages were needed?

The lions are as bright as gold (simile)

The elephant squirts water like a fire engine (simile)

The jungle is a zoo!(metaphor)

The giraffes are as tall as a house(metaphor)

The zebras are in black and white just like a old film(simile)

The water is shiny and blue(metaphor)

The Fox by Dorcas Maskew

The fox, the fox, ever so cunning
Though it's worst nightmare can see it running
Heavy, dead Prey he can bite
As cool as the famous, Taylor Swift



What's that he can see?
What's that it can not be,
He crouches pimbale, in a sneaky pose
The creature has a similar nose
This creature, with moss covered fox toes
What's that he can see, hiding behind a log
It can not be, it was a chihuahua dog!

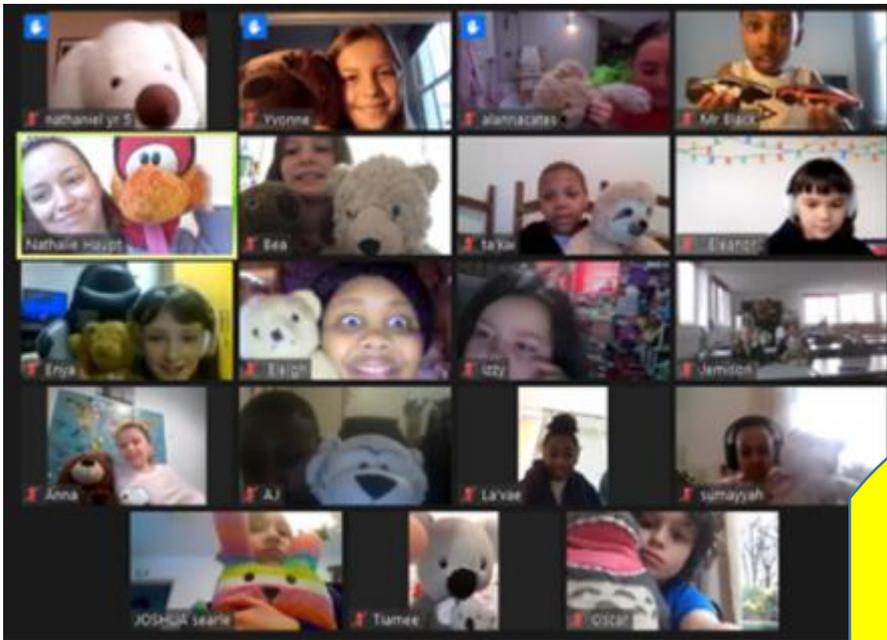


He realised, this was his enemy and not on a death bed
But he decided to be it's friend instead
The dog told him it's name is Saindy
He thought "my family would bring shame to me"

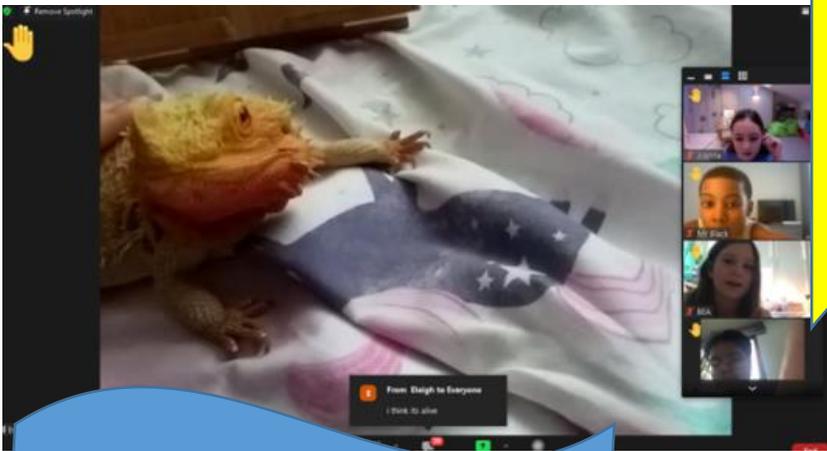
He said "it's almost my tea"
So he ~~gives~~ gives
Most of the time they meet at night
But neither gives either a fright



The End



These are screenshots from our PSHE Check Ins, where we have been doing show and tell activities. So far, we have all worn hats, brought along our cuddly toys and brought along the most unusual thing we could find. We have also met a lot of pets – including Pancake the bearded dragon!



Year 5

