



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School,
We have another upcoming school 'first' next week, with our Y6 cohort taking their KS2 SATs papers. We all wish them the very best of luck and know they will try their absolute best. It is also the season for admissions and transitions, with dates in our diary for events for children coming into school in Nursery and Reception, and for those preparing to leave us at the other end of primary education for secondary!

Claire Syms

GOOD LUCK YEAR 6!

Next week (week commencing 9th May) is Key Stage 2 SATs week, and our first Year 6 cohort will be undertaking Halley's first set of tests! Pupils will sit 6 tests, covering grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading and maths (arithmetic and reasoning



papers) spread over 4 days from Monday 9th to Thursday 12th May. We are incredibly proud of how hard our Year 6 children have worked all year, and especially in the final run up to the tests themselves. Ms Slater and the Year 6 team have worked diligently to ensure pupils have every opportunity to meet their potential and enjoy success in its many forms. All that is left for our children to do now is keep calm, focus and try their very best next week! We are sure our whole school community will join us in lending support for all of Johnson Class!

Second hand uniform

It was great to see so many sales at our recent second hand uniform event! A huge thank you to Tal for coordinating the evening. As a result of a number of items being lovingly rehomed, we are in need of donations again – particularly branded school uniform, but any items in good, re-usable condition will be readily accepted! Please donate any items to the school office. Thank you!

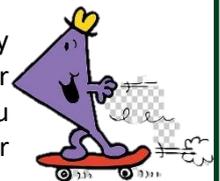


Reception places September 2022

Congratulations to all our existing and prospective families who have been offered a place for our Reception September 2022 cohort! We are delighted to have had acceptances of all of the offers made in the first round of admissions. We have a small number of vacancies for September 2022, so do arrange a tour if you are still considering your child's place or have declined an offer from another setting. We will be resuming our full transition timetable over the course of the Summer term and will be in touch with dates and details over the next few weeks. Welcome to the Halley family!

Nursery admissions

Spaces for September 2022 for our nursery class are filling up fast, so do contact our Nursery Manager, Antionette Mattison if you are interested in securing a spot for your 3- or 4-year old!



Summer BBQ

Our annual summer BBQ is planned for Saturday 2nd July, 2-5pm, so please keep the date free in your diaries to come along for an



afternoon of community celebration, enjoyment, good conversation, tasty food and drink offerings, activities, fundraising – and maybe even some sun! If you would like to help out in preparation for the event, or on the day itself, please speak to the school office or Clare (Amelie Y3, Leila Y1). All offers of help will be very gladly received!

Secondary schools transition day – 7th July 2022

Hackney secondary transition day for Year 6 pupils is **Thursday 7th July 2022**. The day will be an invaluable opportunity for children to start to acclimatise to new surroundings and meet new friends and staff. We strongly encourage all Y6 children to attend their secondary school on this date. Islington schools also have their transition day on 7th July. If your child will be not attending a secondary transition day on 7th July, they should come into Halley as normal.

****Please note that as a result of the secondary transition day, school journey has moved to Monday 27th June to Friday 1st July****

NURSERY



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

n/a

Cayden

n/a

Being Architects

This week in nursery we have been playing the role of landscape architects where we have been discussing and sharing our ideas for the design of the new roof terrace.

We have been sharing our ideas through mark making and our new plans include having butterflies on the wall, as well as having our own Spider-Man on the roof, having bikes and cars which support our transport theme topic in addition to having our own Halley House Zoo with a zebra and a giraffe.

We cannot wait to see and use the finished design.

Well Done Apollo Class



New Topic

This half term our new topic in nursery is Transport where we will be looking at all the different vehicles on land and sea.

For our topic entry point this week Apollo Class have been discussing how we get to school and drawing our mode of transport on rainbow scratch paper.

We were very impressed when we scratched the black paper, and beautiful rainbow colours transformed our drawings.



Home learning debate and discussion



This week our story of the week is The journey home from Grandpa's.

Have you been in car?

What did you see when looking out of the window?

Can you describe the colours you saw, when looking out of the window?

RECEPTION



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Zelda

Jalen

Angie

Marley



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

A: 95.0%

P: 98.0%

A:90.4%

P:94.9%

Subtraction

After learning the song 'Five Speckled Frogs', the children in Comet Class have been thinking about subtraction.

Using our own frogs and logs, we created our own subtraction calculations and recorded them using numerals and mathematical symbols.

Amazing mathematical thinking from everyone, well done!



Lifecycles

After reading 'The Teeny Weeny Tadpole' the children were taught about life cycles and how diagrams show the different stages of an animal's transformation.

The children then created their own life cycle diagrams whilst practising their cutting and sticking skills.

They were encouraged to take these home and talk to you all about what they had been learning.



Home learning debate and discussion



1. What stage of the life cycle do you think is best? Would you rather be a tadpole or a frog? Remember to give your reason why.

YEAR 1



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Jasper

William

Leila

Kyle



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

A: 91.7%

P: 92.5%

A: 98.0%

P:98.0%

Trip to the Science Museum

In line with our previous topic, Space, a very excited Eclipse class finally made it to the Science Museum. We enjoyed the train ride there, recognising familiar sights along the way. Some of us even had some time to meditate!

Once we arrived, we took a spaceship into space and landed on a space station. We had various specialists tell us what we needed to stay safe and healthy - it was so much fun!

The journey home was a long one, and if you look really closely at our snapshots, it was all a bit much for a few of us!

Nature and insects

The children have been bringing in their homework projects and they look absolutely fabulous! We continued this hard work over at outdoor adventures, going on a resource hunt to build our own bug hotels with our friends. The children collected a number of sticks, moss, leaves and mud. Some of us even found some bugs and added them to their new home - we hope they like it!

Art

Year one worked really hard on their observational skills in art looking at Buddleia - known for attracting butterflies. We used Betty Edwards seeing skills of line and contour, negative space and then added details of the tiny flowers and our art topic Texture. The drawings are on display in the classroom so the children can be inspired by their careful observation and we can use these in the next project which is to make a mini tree and add a butterfly. Let's see if we can translate our drawings into 3D and make something really exciting to take home!



Home learning debate and discussion



1. In space there is no sound. What would it be like in a place where there was no sound at all? How would life be different?

YEAR 2



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Nael	Elioenai	Zachary	Isabella
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Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

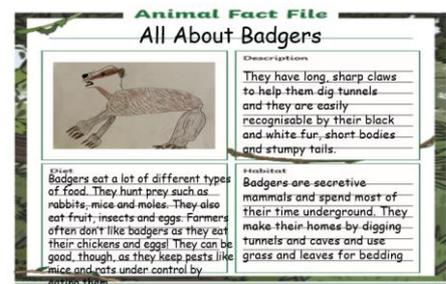
A: 94.6%	P: 95.8%	A: 96.4%	P: 98.5%
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Curriculum Update

In maths, we have been learning to tell the time! We have been using key vocabulary including *minute hand* and *hour hand* and telling the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to the hour.

Our geography topic this half term in *Amazing Places and Spaces in the UK*. We worked in teams to find out as many facts as we could about each of the 4 countries that make up the UK and then we presented to the class! We learnt about capital cities, food, traditions, flags and landmarks!

In science, we have started learning about habitats and microhabitats. Linked to our geography topic, we have been finding out about animals that live in the UK including foxes, badgers, newts and adders. We will soon visit *Walthamstow Wetlands* to explore habitats further.

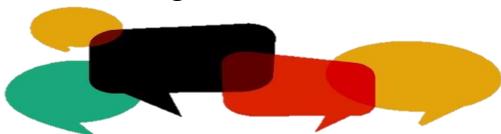


Art

Linked to our geography topic we have been drawing London landmarks and we are now making a whole class sculpture of the London Eye to be displayed! We need yoghurt pots for the pods so if you have any at home please bring them in. The class has also been drawing tiny people to add to the sculpture so that they can add their own style to the class work.



Home learning debate and discussion



1. Should animal testing be banned?
2. Is it better to have knowledge or imagination?



THE BIG DEBATE CLUB

YEAR 3



Friday 22nd April

Friday 29th April

Hawking	Zehra	Rae	Harlei	Mila
Herschel	Huseyin	Kian	Kwame	Morayo



Friday 22nd April

Friday 29th April

Hawking	A: 97%	P: 98.5%	A: 97.3%	P: 99.3%
Herschel	A: 96%	P: 99.5%	A: 96.7%	P: 99.7%

Reward trip

Herschel and Hawking have been working very hard with their behaviour in and out of school this year. To celebrate we visited Pizza Express to learn about the pizza making process, and make our own. We loved dining in the restaurant and especially making toasts to ourselves, our teachers and much more. We returned to school feeling very proud of our achievements and very full of delicious pizza! The race is now on to fill our jars again before the end of the year. I wonder where we will go next?!



Maths

Year 3 have been enjoying learning about fractions this term. Not only are we able to recognise a huge range of fractions, we have been finding equivalent fractions, spotting patterns and using different strategies to add and subtract them. We have made our own fraction walls to prove equivalence and have been writing our own fraction equations.



Home learning debate and discussion



1. Would you rather live in Ancient Egypt or in London today? Why?
2. How many ways can you find fractions represented in your home?

YEAR 4



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Le'Shai

Deanna

Leon

Freya



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

A: 99.5%

P: 97.4%

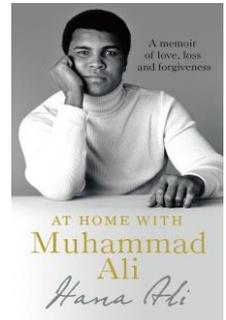
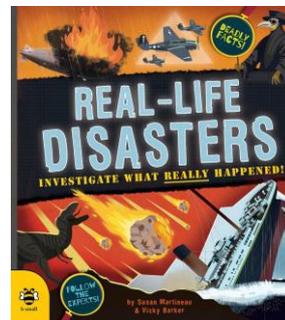
A: 95.7%

P: 98.8%

Curriculum Update

Over the past two weeks, we have started our new nonfiction text 'Real-Life Disasters'. This has been a great opportunity for the children to learn about a range of disasters. We wrote auto-biographies for ourselves and then auto-biographies from the perspective of a natural disaster of our choice. This was a challenging task as the children had to write as if they were the volcano, meteor or tornado. Though challenging, Year 4 were naturally up to the task and wrote captivating tales.

In Maths, Year 4 have had an excellent start to our multiplication revision. They have also smoothly begun applying their understanding of decimals to money (our latest maths unit).



PE, Sports Tournament, and Reward Trip

Year 4 have had an excellent start to this term. They enjoyed our first PE lesson at Petchey, a football tournament and a competitive game of rounders on Hackney Downs. Having filled up our green gem jar we will be going to Pizza Express for our reward trip just before the May Half-Term.

If anyone wants to volunteer for our Hackney Down visits, Petchey PE or Pizza Express visit, please do speak to me on the gate!



Home learning debate and discussion



1. Discuss the value and veracity of auto-biographies. What might a challenge be?
2. Continue with homework passport

YEAR 5



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Ruth

Kyrone

Isla

Mekal



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

A: 94.6%

P:97.3%

A: 92.9%

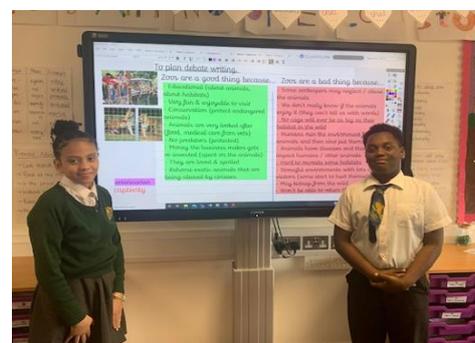
P: 98.3%

Literacy

For the last week, Jemison have been debating the ethics of zoos. They have produced some excellent written and spoken arguments, and are now experts on adverbials for cohesion!

'Our lessons about cohesion have let us explore how to make our writing flow better. I have found debating about zoos to be enriching!' - Freddie

'We have been doing debate writing. It was interesting and fun learning about all the different points relating to zoos. I have been thinking about how I include my opinion when arguing!' - Theo



Outdoor Adventures

Year 5's book for Summer 1 is 'The Terrible Thing that Happened to Barnaby Rooker'. So far, we have read the first chapter and been introduced to the main characters. The parents are called Eleanor and Alistair Rooker and they are totally obsessed with being normal! In outdoor adventures last week, the children produced their own plays where they imagined the Rookers were at Hackney Downs!



Secondary School Admissions 2023

Pupils in Y5 will be selecting their secondary school choices in the Autumn Term next year and while it is still a little way away, please do start thinking about possible choices for secondary as any open mornings/evenings or school visits will need to be booked when the children start Y6 in September 2022.

The deadline for secondary applications is usually on or around the 30th October 2022. Parents and carers of pupils in Y5 will be sent some more specific information on this separately.

In the meantime, please visit [Hackney Education](https://www.hackney.gov.uk/education) for more information and refer to the [HE Secondary Admissions Leaflet](#)

Home learning debate and discussion



Is being 'normal' important to you? How would you define 'normal'? Can you think of a situation where the label may do more harm than good?

We have debated zoos in class - what about aquariums? Do all of your points still apply, or do you think that is it different for fish and marine life? If so, why?

YEAR 6



Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 29th April 2022

Jostin

AJ

Sarah

Enya



Friday 25th March 2022

Friday 1st April 2022

A: 93.1%

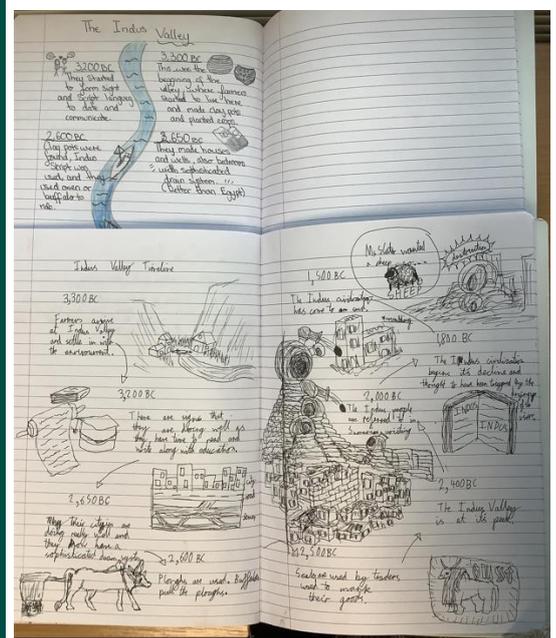
P: 92.2%

A: 94.5%

P: 93.1%

Curriculum Update

Year 6 have been diving into their new topic this week: The Indus Valley. They began exploring where this ancient civilisation developed and where it falls within world history. Using their ordering and investigation skills they were able to identify some of the key events in this fascinating civilisations history and made their own creative timelines.



Home learning debate and discussion



1. Should animal testing be banned?
2. Is it better to have knowledge or imagination?



THE BIG DEBATE CLUB