



The Hayfield Herald

All God's Creations



As we reach the end of January it has been an interesting start to 2022. Although we have been luckier than many other schools we have seen positive cases rising over the last few weeks which we hope will start to subside again now. Thank you all for your diligence and support in testing children and yourselves and preventing the spread as much as possible.

One of the loveliest things this term has been how much the Hub is being used again. Our Year 6 librarians Jess and Alana do a fantastic job of keeping our library books all in order and ready for everyone to share. Key Stage 2 children are allowed to use the Hub during lunchtimes and you will quite often find them writing, drawing, making or enjoying the books in there. The classes all have Hub time during the week and it's great to see classes choosing books and reading together. Hopefully we will start Reading Buddies soon too. Along with all these the Hub is also used each day for a whole load of different groups working which has been helped even more by the extra space created by the start of our redesign (which we hope to reveal after half term if its complete).

Across the school there has been some fantastic stuff going on recently, especially in Science as that is a big focus of our 'All God's Creations' overarching theme of the spring term.

In Year 1 they have been investigating how plants grow. A couple of weeks ago they planted beans in a variety of different conditions so that they can observe the effect of light, nutrients and water have on them.

In Year 2 they have been looking at the art of Henri Rousseau. After studying his flower pictures, they have had a go at designing their own which look fantastic.

In Year 5 they have also been enjoying their art work and I was really impressed with their abstract space art that they were doing yesterday although as it was collage it was very messy!

In Reception the children have been enjoying their PE using all the climbing frames and equipment in the hall. We are very lucky to have such a fantastic set of PE equipment and the children love it.

In Year 3 I have been a little bit jealous of their computing lessons recently as they are learning to touch type. It isn't something that I've ever learned but I'd love to be able to do it. The children are getting much more confident and faster each week which is great to see.

In Year 4 they have been continuing the Science focus and I was intrigued to find out why they had a load of eggs in jars this week. It turns out they had a letter from Colgate asking them to investigate what drinks are most likely to damage their teeth. Using the eggs to represent the teeth they have submerged them in the different liquids and are observing how they change over time before making their conclusions.

It has been an interesting time in Year 6. Two weeks ago we had a massive spike in cases over two days so took the decision to move to remote learning for the rest of the week. This worked really well and stopped it spreading further. Year 6 were absolutely brilliant with their remote learning and Miss Johnstone did an excellent job ensuring the children were keeping up with their learning all week. This wasn't a decision we took lightly and certainly wouldn't work as well with the younger children. As the guidance has now changed moving to remote learning would be a last resort and would only be an option if cases were really high or we were unable to staff the classes appropriately. Fingers crossed we don't have that situation!

As shared on our notices next week we will be very sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Bonar, our amazing Family Support Worker. Mrs Bonar joined us in 2016 as the Ladybird TA for our first full Reception intake (now Year 5!). She was a fantastic TA and then took on the role of our first FSW which she has developed brilliantly. Many of you, and your children, will have worked with Mrs Bonar over the years and you will know what a very special person she is. It is no exaggeration to say that she has made a huge difference to the lives of countless children and families in our school over the years and during both lockdowns. What you probably won't know is that she is also hugely loved by all of the staff and very much a mother to everyone in Team Orange. She will be sorely missed by everyone and we feel truly blessed that she has been part of our school and our journey.

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid.
The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go³ (Joshua 1:9)*

Joy - Integrity - Fellowship