



Spring Term Newsletter

3rd February 2023

It was really good to meet with so many parents at Helmingham last week. We discussed the start of some exciting plans for Helmingham over the coming few months. We will be further developing the curriculum to ensure that we are taking a wild discovery approach, encouraging lots of outdoor learning and making use of the fabulous outdoors. We will have a purpose built outdoor classroom built at the top of the school field and hope to dig in a fire pit for those chillier days. We will keep you up to date with further developments as they happen.

As part of the redevelopment we will need to relocate the play equipment from the top of the field. If anybody knows of a company who could do this for us, please contact Kathy in the office.



HELMINGHAM NEWS:

Hedgehogs (Nursery and Reception) have been enjoying our 'Talk for Writing' text this term, Meerkat Mail. Sunny has been on many adventures around the world and has been sending us postcards which we enjoy reading and looking for on our world map. This week we had fun taking Sunny on our own adventures around the school grounds. Next week

we are going to make and write our own postcards.

Don't be alarmed if you see many people in and out of school during the half term

break. There will be lots of people in school as we are making extensive improvements to the fire alarm system.



Can anybody help solve the mystery of the missing tree? Neither us or Helmingham estate have any idea who took it away- any information would be fabulous!

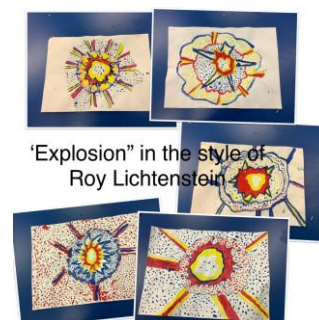
National Lego Day was on Saturday 28th January so last Friday Foxes and Eagles enjoyed looking at an aerial photo of the school and attempted to recreate the grounds using Lego as well as designing their own buildings. The children worked collaboratively to design and build - it was a great way to end another busy week of learning.

Eagles class have been learning about Indigenous America and for the last four weeks have been studying Navajo sand art. They have carefully designed their own piece, taking into consideration the four elements and four seasons as the Indigenous people would have done. Today we started to stick the sand onto our designs and we will finish them next week once they have dried and we can add in the detail. We cannot wait to see the finished products.



HENLEY NEWS:

Jellyfish went on a local area walk around Henley Village to learn more about the village our school is in. The children stopped in the bus stop for a group picture- everybody looks very happy to be there but nobody caught a bus!



to create these fabulous images.

The children in Dolphins class have been studying the work of Hokusai and Lichtenstein as part of their learning about Volcanoes and our Active Planet. They have explored techniques of collage, stippling, tearing paper, overlapping and using different size brushes



Fuji, Mountains in clear weather - Katsushika Hokusai



The children who attend Watoto, the Henley after school club, have been busy decorating the windows for February, making paper hearts. I love how we are drawn in to the garden area through the hearts- they really cheer up the room.



Dates for your diaries:

Friday 3rd March- World Book Day. Children have the option of dressing up as a book character or wearing their usual uniform. If your child chooses to dress up, they need to bring with them a piece of paper with the name of the book and character they are dressed as (or bring the book). Every child will receive a book token to take home, regardless of whether or not they choose to dress up.

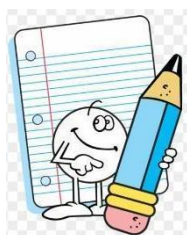
Spring Parent Consultations: Wednesday 8th March 3.30-7.00 and Thursday 9th March 3.30- 6.00

Additional Bank Holiday 8th May- School will be closed.

Henley Sports Day: Wednesday 14th June

Helmingham Sports day: Thursday 15th June

KS2 Summer play Henley and Helmingham: July 5th and 6th @ Henley Community Centre (Evening performances)



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE!

- A reminder: the final instalment of the Kingswood Trip (Year 3/4) is due on Friday 10th February. If you are having difficulty making payment, please contact Mrs Cross in confidence.

- Please ensure that any medication that your child needs to take during school hours is handed to an adult, along with a completed medication form. These can be found in reception.
- HENLEY: If your child is attending Choir after half term, don't forget to enter the Choir logo competition. Entry forms are available in reception, the deadline is Tuesday 7th February.



The Government has launched the '[Help for Households](https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/)' scheme. The homepage brings together over 40 support schemes that the public can access, depending on eligibility, including help with:

1. Household costs
2. Energy Bills
3. Childcare costs
4. Income support
5. Transport costs

Additionally, a range of online tools will help staff and parents quickly and efficiently check the support they might be eligible for and how to access it.

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

There's also a local assistance scheme for families through Suffolk County Council:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/suffolk-local-welfare-assistance-scheme/>

A Few Regular Reminders

We do expect children to read at home throughout the week. The national recommendation is

KS1 and EYFS- 10 mins daily/ KS2- 20 mins daily but we ask that you try to fit in 5 times a week as a minimum. This does have an impact on their progress and attainment in school.



Times Tables Rockstars - a fun way to learn times tables! Times Tables knowledge is a fundamental part of the primary curriculum. The children in KS2 all have



their own login details and have been set times tables to practise. Please support your child to use TTR as often as possible.

Curriculum Visions

Please continue to use the Curriculum Visions website- the collection of books and videos support our topics and are easy to access at home. The login details are below.

The user name is: henley.primary/0001

Password: jungle

Suffolk County Council have a fund available for families in financial hardship. Please see details of the Local Welfare Assistance Scheme here:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/suffolk-local-welfare-assistance-scheme/>

We continue to celebrate the children's achievements on our WOW board in school. If your child has won awards out of school for their sporting achievements or out of school activities, then please let us know so that these can be celebrated in school too.





As always, I am always keen to hear your views! I always say that if I don't know about a problem, I cannot try to solve it.

Please see below the staff email addresses so that you can contact your child's class teachers directly in the first instance if you have anything to share or discuss.

They will not respond to emails between 6pm and 8am (to protect their personal time) but will aim to get back to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Scurrall (SENDCO): dscurrell@gfpschools.org

Mrs Cross (Hedgehogs): s.cross@gfpschools.org

Mrs Richardson (Foxes): a.richardson@gfpschools.org

Mrs Helen Leeks (Eagles) h.leeks@gfpschools.org

Miss Way (Jellyfish/ Class 1): e.way@gfpschools.org

Miss Bramhill (SeaHorses/ Class 2):

b.bramhill@gfpschools.org

Mrs Townshend (Dolphins/ Class 3):

c.townshend@gfpschools.org

Mrs Cattermole (Dolphins/ Class 3):

j.cattermole@gfpschools.org

Mr Hempenstall (Barracudas):

c.hempenstall@gfpschools.org

For queries regarding safeguarding please contact Kathy Lloyd who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for both schools. office.helmingham@gfpschools.org. Alternative safeguarding leads are: Miss Hawes ht@gfpschools.org, Mrs Townshend, Mrs Cattermole and Ms Sherman.

If you have any worries, concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to get in touch, firstly with your child's teacher and then with Mrs Townshend, then myself if this persists.

Best Wishes

Miss Stephanie Hawes