## <u>Newsletter</u>

### Friday 14th October 2022

Roundhouse Way, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9SF





#### A Message from the Headteacher

We've had a busy first half term at Newhall. We've had some fabulous assemblies from Hazel Class, Chestnut Class and Juniper Class. It has been wonderful to see the children confidently talk about their learning. We're looking forward to an assembly from Ash Class next week.

Some year groups have been on educational visits around the local area and to Gibberd Gardens. Year 1 will be going to the Harlow Museum next week. All of these visits are an important element of our curriculum at Newhall to bring the children's learning to life.

Our girls' football team attended their first match today! Our boys' team have their first match next week.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Colour Run event. Everyone enjoyed themselves and what a great experience for our children to remember about their primary school years.

Enjoy the half term break when it arrives at the end of next week.

Mr Duffy







A Message from the Nursery Manager

What an exciting first half term!

Our Ofsted visit was successful where the nursery's provision for under 2s was graded "good". I am so proud of our staff team whose practice is good everyday, but having an inspector agree with us made us so proud!

We are welcoming two new staff: Charlie, who is our new room leader for Blossom Room and El, who is our new nursery practitioner for Blossom Room. This means that Sophie P will slowly move over to Snowdrop Room as their room leader.

Due to the increase in staff in Blossom Room, there are now some additional spaces available. If you do require more days in Blossom Room, please do email me.

We have really enjoyed getting to know all our families over the past few weeks and thank you for continuing to work with us.

Please don't forget the book library is there for you to use: just take a book and return and choose another as much as you wish. There are also maths activities for you to do the same with.

We would love you to email a picture of you reading for our display!



Emma



#### Reception

Reception have been reading *The Gingerbread Man* over the last couple of weeks. We have really enjoyed pretending to be the characters and acting out the story, singing the song 'run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the Gingerbread Man'. We named the different body parts and have been thinking about what we use them for, making models of our lungs using paper bags. We have explored our 5 senses in different activities. Reception were most excited about using our sense of taste after making our own gingerbread biscuits!



#### Year 3

In Year 3 we have been finishing our art projects, creating our own collages in the style of Pablo Picasso! We are also enjoying reading and writing about cats and have created our own cat bookmark to help us write a non-chronological report all about how to look after cats! In maths, we have also been building 3digit numbers and beginning to explore adding and subtracting with them!







#### Blossom Room

Blossom Room have been continuing their interest in farm animals! Over the past few weeks, we have been learning animal noises and even building barns for the animals! Some of our older children have also been learning where different animals live on the farm.



#### Year 4

In Year 4, we have been learning about mountains during our geography lessons. We have located mountain ranges on world maps, discussed the adaptations animals must have to survive in the mountains and we have learned how contour lines are used on maps to give a more accurate idea of the steepness of a mountain. We interpreted contour lines to make our own 3D models of mountains.

In science, we have been learning about melting and freezing. The children were challenged to find the best method of saving a Lego person from the ice. We learned that blankets were not an effective method of melting ice but that warm water worked well.



#### Year 1

It has been wonderful to see the progression in Year 1's art lessons over the past few weeks. We have been exploring our facial features through self-portraits. It has been fabulous to see their portrait techniques improve from simple sketches to line and shadow work through to oil pastels and smudging. We are so proud of the progress they have made.



In Snowdrop we have continued to explore our topic, "All about me". The children enjoyed a visit to the school field where they used their listening ears to identify different sounds such as the wind, rustling leaves and aeroplanes.









#### Bluebell Room

Bluebell have been enjoying learning about 'Our 5 Senses'. We made toast to explore and identify all the senses we used in the process. We used our hands to touch and feel the bread. It felt "soft" before and "hard" after. We used our eyes to look at the bread and see how the colour changed after making the toast. We used our tongues to taste the bread and it was "buttery" and "tasty". We used our nose to smell the toast and it was making us all feel hungry. We used our ears to hear the toast popping and spreading the butter on the "crunchy" toast.

In maths we have been learning about patterns in the environment, looking at shells, stones, leaves and wood. Some children have been showing us their amazing learning at home on Tapestry too. We would love to see what you have been up to at home.









#### Year 2

In Year 2 we have been enjoying learning about Frederick Gibberd and the history of Harlow. A real highlight of the past few weeks was when we visited the Gibberd Gardens. The children enjoyed exploring and drawing the sculptures and looking around the grounds in which Frederick Gibberd lived.



# information · information

#### PE Days

Please note that although we have dedicated PE days in each year group, your child may have additional sessions of PE so that their teacher has some leadership time to monitor teaching and learning throughout the school. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

#### **Nursery Places Over October Half Term**

There are a few extra one-off sessions available in nursery over the October half term. If you wish to book a session, please contact Emma via: emma.pike@newhallacademy.org.





