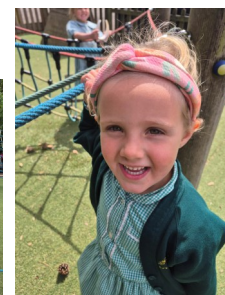


Newsletter



A message from Mrs Truett

As we reach the end of what has been a short but incredibly busy half term, I am delighted to introduce this edition of our school newsletter. It has been a whirlwind few weeks filled with learning, exploration, creativity and community — the very best of what school life should be.

Our students have embraced a wonderful variety of opportunities beyond the classroom. Classes visiting *The Newt* took part in their inspiring gardening festival, gaining hands-on experience and a deeper appreciation for the natural world. Another highlight was the trip to hear the *Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra*, where pupils were captivated by the power and beauty of live music. Meanwhile, Unicorns have been attending weekly swimming lessons at The Oxley in Sherborne — an essential life skill and a source of great enjoyment for all involved.

Most recently, our Year 6 pupils have taken part in their *Bikeability* qualification workshop. This provided vital road-safety training and practical cycling skills and it also offered a welcome change of pace following the intensity of the National SATs assessments. A huge well done to all our Year 6 students and to the staff who have supported them every step of the way. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them.

Our value this half term has been **Trust**, and it has been heartening to see how deeply this has resonated across our school community. Trust is the foundation of strong relationships between pupils, staff, families and the wider community. It allows us to learn from one another, rely on one another and grow together. When trust is present, children flourish and our school becomes a place where everyone feels safe, supported and valued.

It has been wonderful to welcome so many parents, carers and family members into school recently to enjoy the class sharing assemblies. These moments truly showcase the phenomenal range of topics the children have been exploring and the creativity, confidence and joy they bring to their learning.

As we head into the half-term break, I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable week. The forecast suggests the weather may be kind to us, so I hope you find time to relax and recharge. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 2nd June** for our final half term of the year — can you believe we're nearly there already.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." — 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Truett



Hygge in Phoenix

Hygge (pronounced hoo-ga) is a Danish idea that cannot be translated to one single word but encompasses a feeling of happiness, cosy contentment and wellbeing.

Phoenix Class Hygge

This half of the Summer term, the children have completed their textiles project. They have learned how to weave, explored new technical vocabulary, and produced woven pieces that will be on display for everyone to enjoy.

Alongside this, we explored cultural patterns found in Roman and Aboriginal mosaics, using these as inspiration for our own designs. Each child carefully planned and created a mosaic coaster using real tiles and safe grout, thoroughly enjoying the creative process.

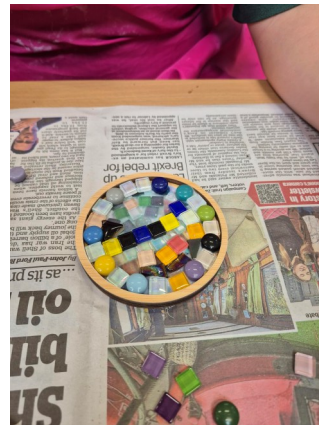
Through this work, the children experimented with symmetry and simple 3D forms, analysed how cultural art influences design, and combined pattern, texture and form to create their own original pieces.

I am so very proud of what the children in Phoenix Class have accomplished.

Well done everyone.

Have a Hygge half term,

Mrs Hawker



Pixies and Sprites

Pixies and Sprites

This half term, our topic has been In the Garden and we have loved learning all about minibeasts, plants and life cycles!

We have thoroughly enjoyed exploring our key texts: Bud, Superworm and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. These stories have inspired lots of exciting discussions, creative activities and learning opportunities across the curriculum.

In Understanding the World, we have been developing our knowledge of plants, how things grow and what living things need to survive. The children have loved planting flowers in our outdoor area and were very excited to grow their own cress and observe the changes over time.

In maths, the Pixies have begun learning about subtraction through a variety of practical, hands-on activities. The children have enjoyed using objects, games and real-life scenarios to help develop their understanding.

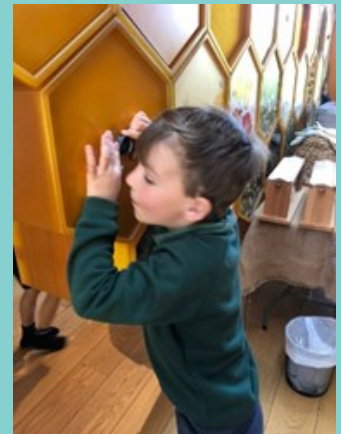
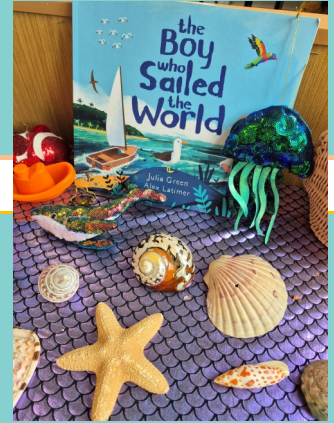
We have also loved exploring our minibeast learning through lots of creative activities, including making ladybird bowls, creating minibeasts out of clay and designing beautiful tissue paper gardens.

The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and curiosity throughout this topic and we are very proud of all their hard work this half term!

Miss Neville, Mrs Watson and Mrs Pett



Unicorns



Unicorn Class

This term, we had a wonderful visit to The Newt in which the children thoroughly enjoyed a day full of gardening, discovery and delicious treats!

During our visit, the children planted broad beans, peas and radishes, as well as helping to create huge planters filled with a mixture of edible and ornamental plants. We are delighted that The Newt will be donating the planters to the school for the children to continue enjoying and caring for.

The children also explored the vegetable gardens, where they went foraging and tasted a variety of plants and edible flowers. Some flavours were certainly quite fiery, which caused lots of excitement and laughter!

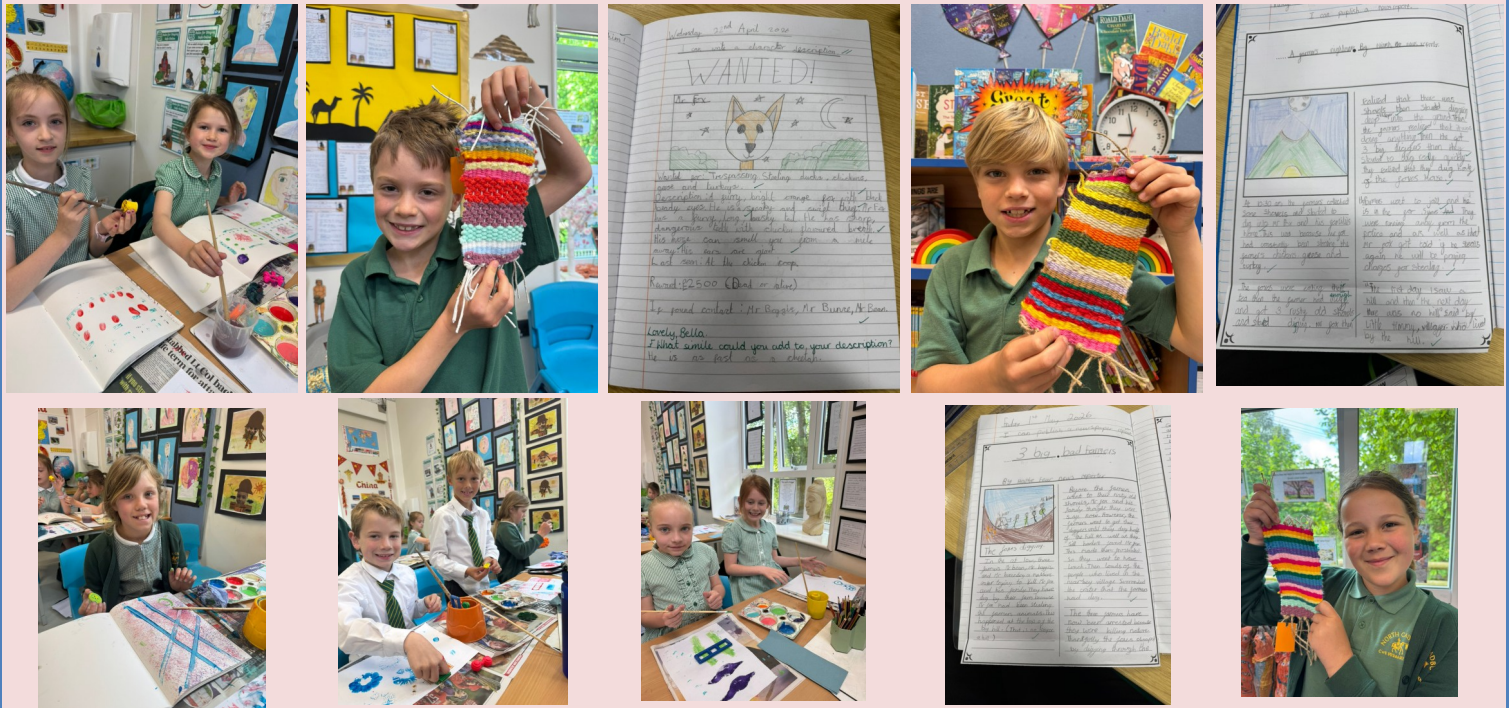
A highlight of the day was our visit to the Beezantium, where we learnt all about bees and the important role they play in our environment.

We are so proud of the children for their enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour throughout the trip. Wishing all our Unicorn families a restful and enjoyable half term.

Best wishes,

Mrs Stroud and Mrs Hawker

Phoenix



This half term, Phoenix class have worked incredibly hard and shown great enthusiasm across all areas of the curriculum.

In Maths, we have been learning about decimals and time. The children have compared and ordered decimals, solved reasoning problems and practised telling the time using both analogue and digital clocks.

In English, we completed our class text Fantastic Mr Fox. The children enjoyed exploring the characters and themes within the story before finishing the unit with a discussion about Mr Fox's use of individual liberty and whether his actions were justified. They have produced some fantastic pieces of writing this half term and should be very proud of this!

In Science, we have started our unit on habitats, learning how animals can be grouped, identifying different environments and discussing how living things are suited to where they live.

In Geography, we explored land use which has led into the beginning of our new Romans topic. We have already started learning about Roman roads and why they were so important to the Roman Empire as well as sequencing key events from Roman times.

Well done to all of Year 3/4 for their continued hard work this half term! We look forward to seeing you for our final half term of the year.

Have a lovely, restful holiday.

Miss Shave and Miss Davies



Dragon Class

What a quick but jam-packed half term it has been in Dragon Class!

The children have worked incredibly hard in the run up to the Year 6 SATs and we are so proud of each and every one of them. They approached the assessments with such positivity, resilience and determination, always trying their very best. Well done to all of the children for their fantastic effort and mature attitude throughout the week.

In our topic lessons this half term, we have been learning all about the Ancient Greeks. The children have explored key dates and events from Ancient Greek history and discovered the differences between life in Athens and Sparta. We have also learnt about the Ancient Olympics and compared them to the modern-day Olympic Games, discussing how some traditions have changed while others still remain today. One of the highlights was completing a research project about the Greek gods and goddesses, where the children enjoyed finding out fascinating facts and presenting their learning creatively.

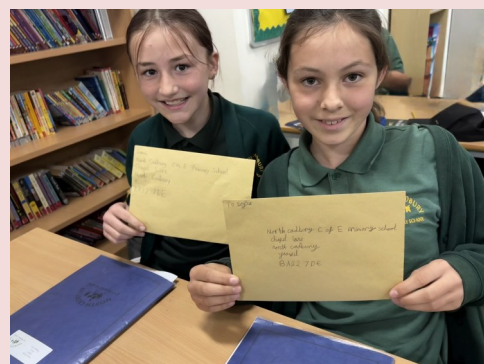
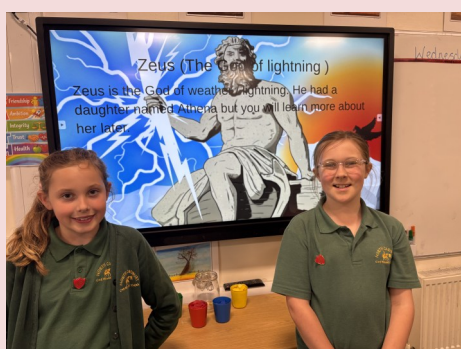
This term also marked the start of our music lessons. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning to keep to the pulse using drum sticks and have shown great enthusiasm and rhythm during these sessions.

Finally, it has been lovely to enjoy some sunshine this half term and make the most of spending time outdoors during playtimes. The children have loved getting outside, being active and enjoying time with their friends.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support this half term. We hope you all have a wonderful and restful break.

Best wishes,

The Dragon Class Team



Bikeability

Bikeability cycle training equips children with vital life skills. Pupils not only learn to cycle, they gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing. After Bikeability, children are better at responding to risk and report increased confidence. Hopefully as a result of this, more children are able to cycle safely and confidently which improves mental health and wellbeing. Our Year 6 children have excelled themselves this year and made us very proud. The Department for Transport say of Bikeability - Bikeability goes beyond a training course; it impacts children's lives.



The Bikeability Trust



Clubs this Half Term

This half term has certainly been a busy one and this is reflected in our afterschool clubs, too.

It has been wonderful to hear the laughter from the cartoon and colouring club each week, to see the red and very smiley faces from the football club and the superb concentration from our handball club.

Watch out next half term, as play and sport continues with sewing beginning, too!



Purple Up Day!

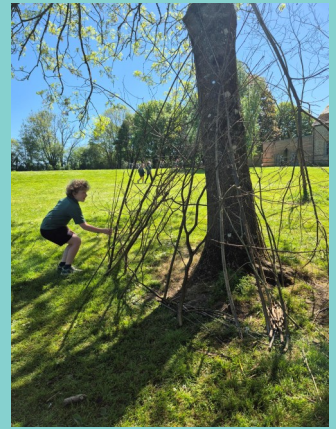
Our school was proud to celebrate **Purple Up Day** as part of the Month of the Military Child. The whole school came together in a sea of purple, showing our appreciation for the strength, resilience and unique experiences of our service families. Throughout the day, each class explored the significance of the occasion in an age-appropriate and sensitive way, helping pupils understand and value the contributions of military children within our school.



PTA News . . .

Thank you to our wonderful PTAFAs who this term have supported us with travel costs for school trips, funded a brand new school piano and supported the renewal of several sections of our much-loved Trim Trail. Thank you!

If you would like details on joining our friendly Parent, Teacher and Friends Association please do contact the school office and we will be happy to give you more details. It is only with the fantastic support from our PTAFAs that we can continue to subsidise school trips, enjoy extra treats and raise much needed funds to improve our lovely little school - thank you!



Our Christian value for this half term has been 'Trust' .

It has been wonderful discussing the concept of trust with our students. Developing their understanding of what it means to place our trust in someone or something, even when things aren't going smoothly.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

