

# HCJS

AT HOME

26 FEBRUARY 2021



## FROM THE HEAD

As you can imagine, much of this week has been taken up with preparations for our return to school on 8th March. All of us at HCJS are determined to hit the ground running and give the pupils a full school experience for the last three weeks of term. Of course, it is vital that we do so safely and within government regulations. As you would expect, we have been working on this since Monday. Please do keep an eye out for my letter on 3rd March which will provide comprehensive details of our arrangements and provision for our return to school on 8th March.

My thanks to those parents who attended this morning's PTA Reps meeting. We discussed our online provision, the results of our recent parental survey (and our return to school (including our pick-up and drop-off routines) as well other issues which parents wished to raise.

Let's hope for a sunny weekend!

*Chris Wright*

## HCJS PARENTAL SURVEY

I am grateful to all those parents (Reception-Year 6) who recently completed the remote learning survey. I am sorry not to have responded specifically to you all and of course, recent events have somewhat overtaken this.

Overwhelmingly, parents were positive and complimentary about our remote learning provision. Inevitably, there were conflicting views, but it seems that the school is striking the right balance. For example, in response to the question about the amount of screen time, 127 families thought that we had things about right, 7 families thought there was too little and 8 families thought there was too much.

Thank you too for your constructive comments, some of which we were able to act upon immediately.

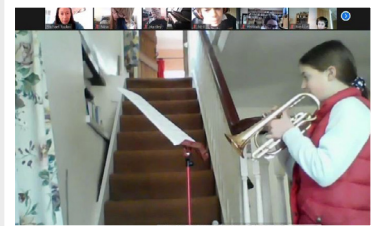
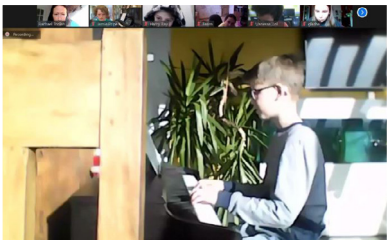
## IF I WERE A JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENT, BY MR WRIGHT...

It has been some time since we were in school, so in readiness for returning to school on 8th March, here are some things that I would consider doing next week:

- \* Reassuring my child about the return to school
- \* Digging out their school timetable (from the Autumn Term), which you can find [HERE](#).
- \* Getting out their school uniform and helping my child to prepare their pencil case and school bag
- \* Establishing a pre-school morning routine again!
- \* Looking back and looking forward: taking some time to talk with my child about the successes of remote learning and what they are looking forward to about returning to school
- \* Reassuring my child of their capable, independent selves - so they are ready to come into school without me!

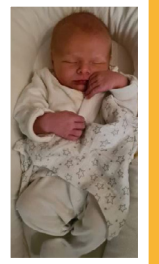
## PLAY IN CLASS WEEK

There were some fabulous performances over Zoom and we all enjoyed listening to our friends performing on their instruments.



## STAFF NEWS

Many congratulations to Mrs Deakins and husband Andy, who welcomed a beautiful baby boy into the world earlier this week - baby Oliver Owens weighing 8lbs 1oz.



# IN OUR LESSONS THIS WEEK...

## YEAR 4 ART

The Year 4 children have been investigating and discussing the work of artist, Jennifer Angus. They made 3D insects out of card and paper before putting them into patterns. Mrs Gummerson contacted Jennifer Angus to show her the work that the Year 4 pupils produced in response to her artwork. She was delighted to receive an email response from Jennifer, praising the children for their "great job" and including a post on her Instagram feed! Well done to the Year 4 children.



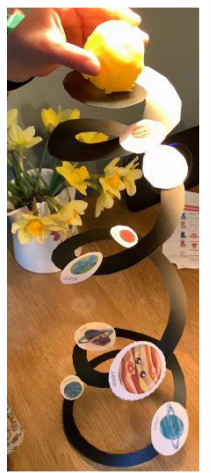
## YEAR 2 ART

Year 2 have looked at the architecture and mosaics designed by Gaudi. The children have designed their own house to include curvy organic lines, colour and mosaics.



## RECEPTION

Blast off! Reception have landed back after half term with a space themed project.



## NURSERY (IN SCHOOL!)

Our first week back after half term has been a busy one. We have been exploring 'homes around the world'. We have been busy making our own family homes, building a tall skyscraper, building our own houses and playing in the Estate Agents role play. We even went to look at some Estate Agents in town.

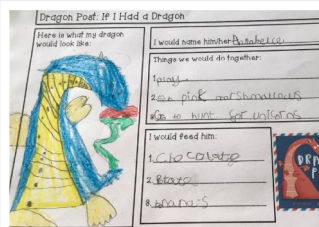


## YEAR 1

This week, Year 1 began their 'Around the World' topic in Humanities. Each week we will be travelling to a different continent to learn about a country. This week we followed Buddy Bee to Paris, France, where we learnt that snails are a delicacy!

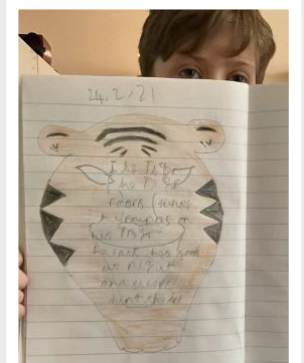
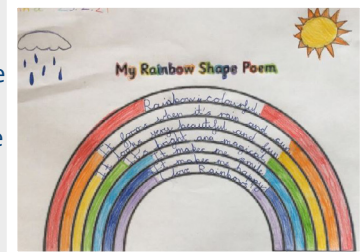


Year 1 have also been going on adventures with dragons this week inspired by the book 'Dragon Post' by Emma Yarlett.



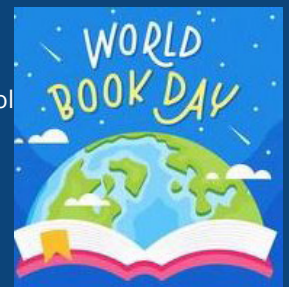
## YEAR 2

This week, Year 2 have looked at Calligrams and shape poetry. The children have written and decorated their own poems inside shapes. The children have also been busy looking at sharing and dividing equally and have performed very well to try and grasp a tricky concept. On the theme of the Great Fire of London, the children have created an information poster about The Monument.



## WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day next Thursday, and the school has already received our 'Free Book' tokens ready to be distributed to children on the 8th March, so be prepared for an after school trip to WH Smith or The Works (or indeed Waterstones, when they reopen later on!). Voucher validity has been extended until book stocks run out.



In the meantime, we really need your help to get ready for next Thursday so parents, please can you take part in the 'just for fun' HCJS World Book Day Reading Survey. Please open the link to complete an 8 question survey which you can find [HERE](#). We can't wait to find out all about your reading habits.

We are also asking children to take part in a book character inspired optional Art Competition and an Unusual Photo Share Challenge - both of which open today. Instructions have been sent via Firefly.

On the day itself, we would like children in Years 1 - 6 to bring a prop from their favourite book to their Zoom English class or Form time. It could be a picture from the book, a prop made out of Lego, a painting of a scene from the book or a piece of realia (wooden spoon from George's Marvelous Medicine, for example).

Also, please can all our Y1 - 6 learners have a reading book with them at all times on Thursday, 4th March, whether in school or on Zoom, as the DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) alarm might go off at any moment that day!

Of course, the results of the Reading Competition we have been running since 2nd February will be uploaded on the 3rd March, and this is the sort of data we are looking forward to analysing next week. Keep on going everyone, there is still time to add even more minutes to your score!

Reception and Nursery will be taking part in the Book Day fun too, by having their own Bedtime Stories Day, and we can't wait to see the fabulous photos of them all enjoying books with their teddies nearby.

Oh, and watch out for The Masked Reader too! World Book Day here we come!

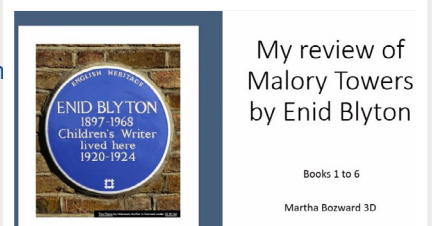
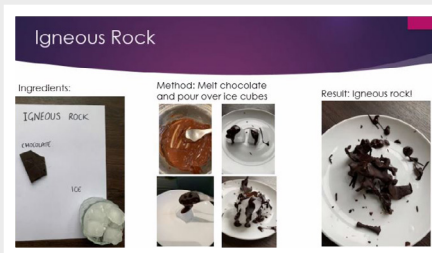


## WHO'S UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

Well, some of our creative Year 3's certainly were, as they took on the optional Firefly task to grow their brains over half term. Juliette W created not one, not two but three food models to demonstrate the different types of rocks she had been learning about in Science.

Seth A became an expert on 'skin', and his project and food model were cleverly constructed and informative (as well as tasty!).

Martha B is an expert in her own right as her fantastic project on her favourite author, Enid Blyton clearly demonstrates. Martha is, without a doubt, a superfan - ask her anything about Malory Towers, she won't disappoint!



## FROM THE GAMES DEPARTMENT

### Half Term Special Football Card

In a tough card, 6 players had 12 correct predictions. The second half of the card was definitely harder than the first! Well done to Mr T, Auzzie L, Finn G, Herbie L, Jessica J and debutant Milly M-J who all got the magic 12. So it came down to a tie breaker and the total goals. Mr T was three away on 50 whilst Herbie was two away on 55. However, after hitting the crossbar in previous weeks,

Auzzie got the goals bang on with 53 and claims the prize of a big mention in the JT! Overall, Jessica J and Oliver L-P are joint leaders on 40 with Jemima L on 38 and Florence on 37.

### 6 Nations Rugby Predictor

After two rounds of matches, Mr Wright still leads the way. Mrs Goode is close behind in second with Charlie F and Oliver L-P (the performer of the round) not far behind. Make sure you make your picks for the matches this weekend!

## ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

The week started with Mr Wright's remote assembly for Reception - Year 6. You can watch the assembly [HERE](#).

## MERITS THIS WEEK

Tallulah Powell, Toby Baxter, Charlie Fowler, George Windsor-Collins, Hector Jefferson, Hunter Martin, Theo Hartley, Beatrix Morgan-Jones and Freddie Turtle.