

# HCJS

## AT HOME

15 MAY 2020



I hope you are all well, and that you and your children are in good spirits. Thank you to those of you who completed our recent online learning survey. Parents of 113 of our children took part and I was pleased by the overall finding – 90% of you agreed or strongly agreed that your child had had a good experience of remote learning so far. I should like to recognise the efforts of each of your children: their adaptability, resilience and acceptance of the situation. Let's not forget that in many ways they are bearing the brunt of the current crisis – unable to do something as everyday as play and giggle with friends, for example. What's more, I suspect that their spirits do an awful lot to cheer the rest of us up! Thank you too to you parents for all you have done and are continuing to do alongside your children to ensure that they are having the best possible experience of remote education. I should like also to pay tribute to the teaching staff who have adapted to a new way of working and who are endeavouring to do their best by our children, whilst looking after their own children and relatives, and whilst subject to the same worries and restrictions we are all facing.

Many of you made suggestions in your survey responses about how our online provision might be developed. We have combed through your suggestions, identifying common threads, and have passed these on to the teaching staff. We are, of course, keen to develop our practice to do the best possible job by the children. As you look to the school to respond to your suggestions, please bear in mind that often different parents express opposite views: more pressure vs less pressure, a longer school day vs a shorter one and so on. Incidentally, please do feel empowered as the adult who is working alongside your child to draw the line on a particular piece of work as you think best – the teachers will understand.

Some of you have expressed concern that the children are not covering as much of the curriculum as they would if they were in school. Please rest assured that, once we do return to school properly, we will all be working hard to catch up as necessary and that teachers will be aware of what the children have covered and what they have not. This is particularly pertinent for those moving to Year 7 – and of course we will be passing comprehensive records onto the Senior School. I would also reassure you that our children are clearly covering much more and remaining more engaged with their school work than many of their contemporaries.

Of course, following the government announcement on Sunday, we are now considering how some year groups might be able to return to school from 1 June. The prospect of reopening parts of the school in the near future presents significant challenges and may also impact on some of our existing online provision. Please look out for my email with more details.

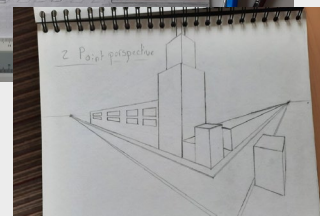
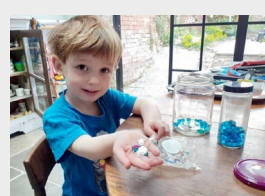
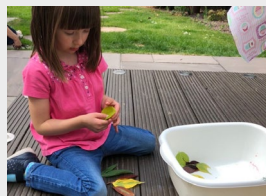
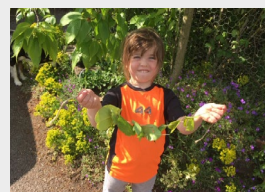
Lastly, and most importantly, thank you to you all for your ongoing support of your children and of the school. We are continually buoyed up by your messages of support and by the work that you children are doing and by all they are achieving.

Chris Wright

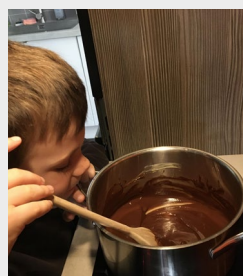
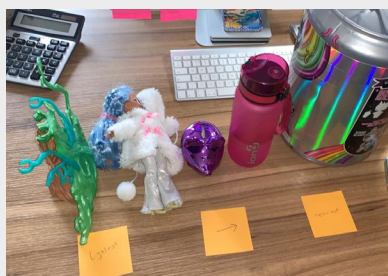
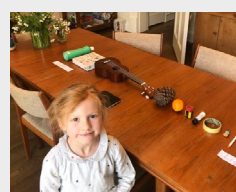
## IN OUR LESSONS THIS WEEK...

**NURSERY:** WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT STORY SEQUENCING, NUMBERS, LEAF THREADING AND CREATING CALM JARS

**Y6 ART:** WE HAVE BEEN DRAWING IN 1- AND 2-POINT PERSPECTIVE



**Y1 MATHS & SCIENCE:** WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT WEIGHT, HEATING AND COOLING

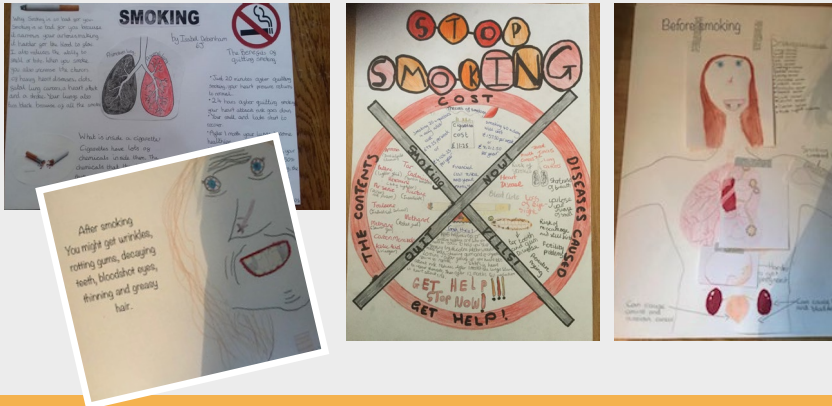


## CONGRATULATIONS!

A huge well done to Phoebe B who, along with her friend Camilla, has raised over £1,200 for the NHS through their 'lemon-aid' sale. Together the girls juiced over 100 lemons and limes to turn them into lemonade which they sold at the St Kew Farm Shop earlier this month. You can read more [here](#).



## Y6 SCIENCE: WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SMOKING



## ENGLISH: WE HAVE BEEN WRITING POETRY ABOUT HANDS IN Y4 AND RAINFORESTS IN Y6

Hands  
 Help us live  
 Allow us to eat and drink  
 Never far away to help us on the way  
 Doing things for us that we don't  
 have to think  
 Saving lives  
 by Jimema H

Hands are good for baking  
 And toy making  
 Nurturing the sick  
 Delivering our food  
 Supporting us all  
 big and small  
 by William M

These are the hands that we use every day,  
 These are the hands that we use to play.  
 These are the hands that carry a jug,  
 These are the hands that let us hug.  
 These are the hands that let us make,  
 These are the hands that allow us to bake.  
 These are the hands that make our beds,  
 Where we go to lay our heads.  
 by Florence B

Beneath the trees and rains and clouds  
 is a parrot that squawks and talks a loud.

He said he sees a patch of land  
 where trees should always grow and stand.

He says he sees red ribbons in flame  
 dancing in the rain.

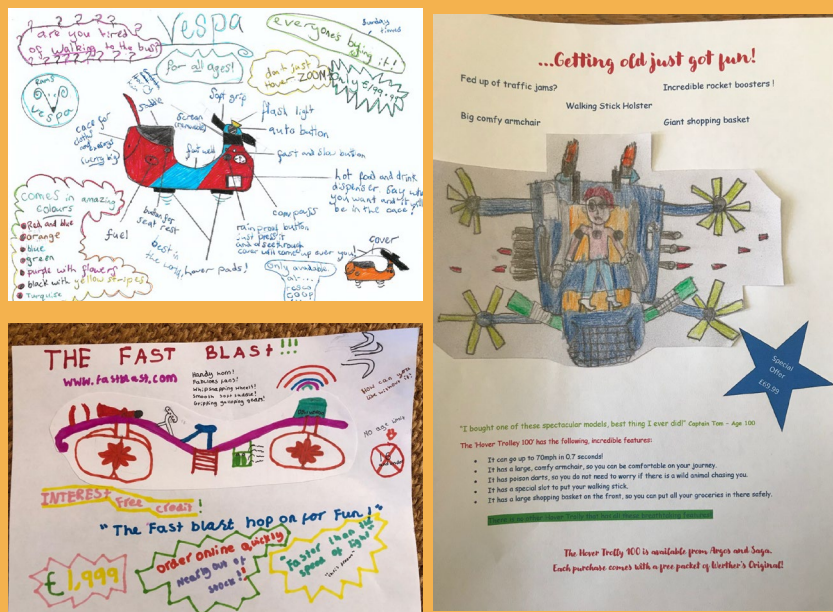
He flew right down and saw the three  
 Chopping down the kapok tree.

The menacing men scream and flee  
 Seeing the animals in the tree.

They left the kapok tree safe and sound  
 and the parrot flew back over the land.  
 An excerpt by Neirin O

The long beautiful trees sit quietly among  
 the smooth skinned snakes,  
 As the amazon dolphins jump frantically in the big blue lakes.  
 The leafcutter ants scuttle along the mossy wood,  
 As they hold the dewy leaves above their heads if they could.  
 As the colourful macaws squawk in the broad daylight,  
 They all prepare for the long daily flight.  
 The slow talking sloths blink themselves to bed,  
 And goodnight all the animals said.  
 by Ioan A

## Y5 & 6 DRAMA: WE HAVE BEEN DESIGNING HOVERBIKE ADS!



## LINKS TO THIS WEEK'S VIDEOS...

- ▶ Please find Mr Wright's whole school assembly for this week [here](#).
- ▶ You can find Miss Toolan's new 'song for the week' on Firefly [here](#) and Mrs Gummerson's new cookery club demo for making tiffin is [here](#).

## Y6 ENGLISH: WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT PROTECTING THE RAINFORESTS



MERIT CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO: Alex S, Fearn M, George D, Hugo H, James H, Jamie P, Jessica W, Natalie L, Rupert P, Sophie H.

## LEARNING AT HOME UPDATES

**DAILY OVERVIEWS:** Please can parents make a point of checking each daily overview (emailed the day before) for any last minute changes and any additional zoom sessions to ensure your children do not miss them.

### CLUBS & ACTIVITIES:

- In Mrs Gummerson's cookery club this week, we will be learning how to make tiffin, as requested by Anna L.
- You will find some new sudoku puzzles on Firefly, along with an introduction to a new solving technique from The Times Easy Sudoku.

**CHALK ART:** Don't forget to submit your entries for Mrs Goode's chalk art competition - deadline extended to 20 May.

