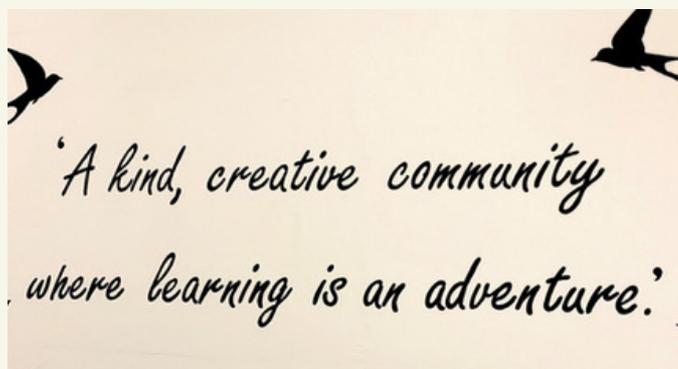


# Hamsey Community Primary School

## Newsletter

27th January 2023

Term 3, Week 4



### MR DEAN'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone. Term 3 has been action-packed so far! I have had the pleasure of talking to children across the school, hearing about their learning adventures.

Miss Berry has been working with each class on an all-singing, all-dancing extravangaza, based on the book, 'Like the Ocean We Rise'. Link here:

<https://youtu.be/yXan8FOGTDU>

The Year 4s have been enjoying their weekly swimming sessions at Cumnor House with Mrs Whitehorn and Mrs Evans.

We have had workshops from Chartwells, trips to Cumnor House for science sessions, a rail safety workshop in Owls, a presentation assembly from the ROAR project, a special work assembly with Mr James, wet and very muddy Forest School sessions and gymnastics with Sports Cool. Phew!

Thank you for engaging with the sofa book look recently - it was lovely to read all of your comments and to hear the children's thoughts on their learning.

I hope you enjoy reading about our latest Hamsey adventures here.

### IMPORTANT DATES



#### FEBRUARY 2023

- Weds 1st - Teacher Strike Day 1
- Thurs 2nd - Badgers Leaky Dams Trip
- Fri 3rd - NSPCC Number Day
- Tues 7th - Safer Internet Day
- Weds 8th - School Health Screening
- Fri 10th - End of Term 3 & Fitness Friday
- Mon 20th - Start of Term 4

#### MARCH 2023

- Thurs 2nd - Teacher Strike Day 2
- Fri 3rd - World Book Day

### CLOTHING & BELONGINGS



Please remember to send children in wearing correct school uniform and warm clothing. The lost property basket is starting to fill-up again, so please ensure names are on all items.

Learning is always an adventure at Hamsey, which means we are outside as much as possible. Forest School happens in all weathers, so a reminder, please, to send your child in with warm, waterproof clothing and footwear. Please also send a bag of dry clothes for children to change into, especially if they have the morning session.

Thank you.

## READING



Please can I ask that all parents and carers support with reading at home, as much as possible. The class teams here work really hard on reading at school - whole class reading, 1:1 reads, phonics, story time, talking about books, and much more.

We really need your support with reading at home. All children should be reading at home at least 4 times per week. More is preferable!

Please fill in your child's reading record so we know they are reading at home. Thank you.

## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Thank you to everyone for ensuring your children are here, on time, every day when it is possible. I am aware there are a few nasty bugs going around at the moment, and that illness cannot be helped.

I am required to investigate any attendance which falls below 90%, which is why some of you might have recently received a letter from me. Thank you to those of you who have got in touch to explain why this may be.

So you are aware, the register closes at 8:45am. If your child arrives at school after this time then their lateness is marked as an absence. This is how all schools are required to mark attendance.

## SCHOOL VISION

At Hamsey we regularly talk about our school vision and about what makes us special. As you know, in our Friday celebration assemblies the children receive a kindness and a creativity certificate each week.

**Kindness** - All adults at Hamsey keep this at the centre of what we do. We want to instill this in all the children.

**Creativity** - We talk about creativity not just being linked to art, but in all that we do here. The children can be creative thinkers in maths, they can use creative language in English, they can play creatively outside.

**Adventures** - Every day is an adventure at Hamsey! We want our children to see their school journey as one that is filled with adventures, both in and out of the classroom.



## ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

- Start conversations about online lives early.
- Establish clear boundaries about when/ where devices can be used.
- Go online with your child – enjoy it!
- Show interest, but try to respect privacy.
- Try to promote resilience without completely shielding your child.
- Choose age-appropriate apps and games.
- Know where to report concerns.
- Check your settings regularly.
- Remember 3G, 4G, 5G means your children can access materials elsewhere.

# HEDGEHOGS CLASS



We really enjoyed our trip to Cumnor House! We looked at light and colour, we used puppets and torches to make a show, we explored rainbows and bending light with ray boxes.

## *GROSS Alert!*

We then looked at a sheep's eye and the scientist showed us all the parts of the eye. We had a fantastic time! Miss Millgate and Mrs Curran were very proud of the children for being so polite. A big thank you to all our parent helpers.

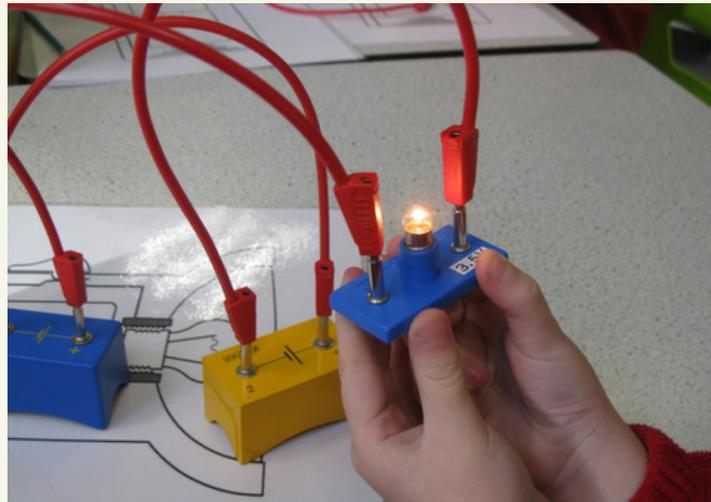


# FOXES CLASS



Foxes Class had a fantastic start to their Project all about 'Danger'. We were visited by Kerry Henderson, a volcano expert! We learned all about the different types of volcanoes and even got the chance to handle some volcanic rocks. We also watched Kerry create her own volcano using the chemical reaction between Coca-Cola and Mento Mints.

Foxes recently enjoyed a class trip to Cumnor House. We were very excited to learn all about electricity and circuits. We also watched how an electric current can make our hair go static by observing 'Science Barbie' sitting on top of a van de graaff generator!



# BADGERS CLASS



Badgers Class have had a great start to 2023! On our first day back we had a visit from our STEM Ambassador Kerry Henderson. Her talk about tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes was a fascinating way to start our 'Explore: Danger' project. Our Year 3s have begun their Forest School adventure and our Year 4s have begun their swimming lessons. We recently had a special talk about energy from Chartwells, and we have also had our first Music Workshop with Miss Berry!

In class we have been learning about the water cycle and have created our own mini water worlds where we are growing cress and investigating the water cycle process. We hope they grow! Please do pop in to see our wonderful work if you have a moment at the end of the day.



# OWLS CLASS



As part of our DANGER! project, Owls Class were visited by Cath Reed, our local Community Rail Officer, who led a workshop on 'Safe Travel'. The children learnt a lot about the dangers associated with the railway and all the different things they should do to stay safe. Cath was impressed with how inquisitive the children were and how maturely they handled the more difficult aspects of this topic. We hope that this workshop was particularly beneficial to some of our Y6 children who will be using the train to travel to secondary school next year. Cath will be returning in the summer term to help the children plan and take a train journey!

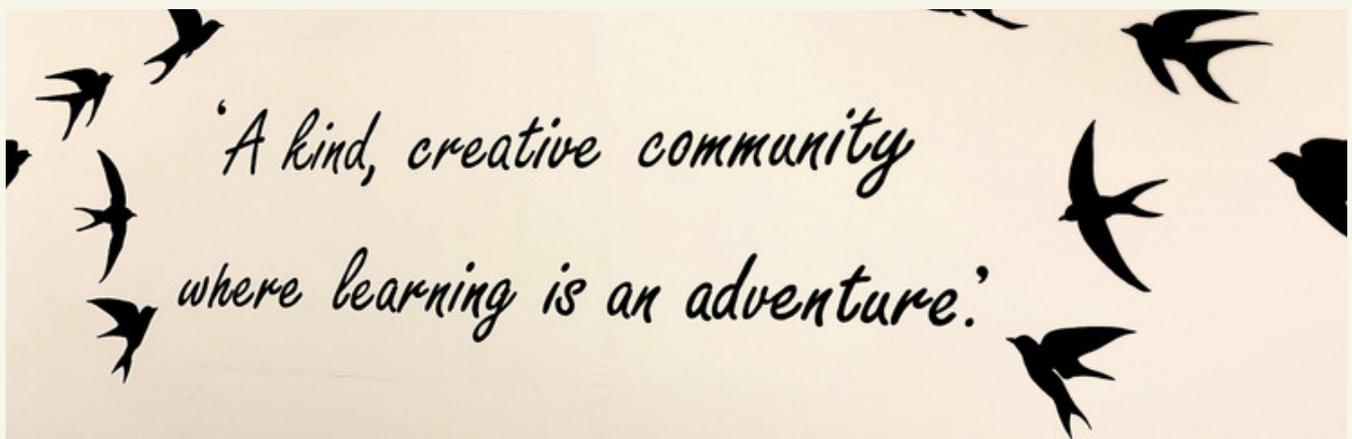
We visited Cumnor House Science department to take part in a 'Crime Scene Investigation' challenge. The children had the opportunity to use lots of scientific testing techniques to work out who had stolen the biscuits! They really enjoyed working with the scientific equipment and chemicals on offer. The children all demonstrated excellent pro-social learning behaviours throughout and their politeness and attentiveness was noted by the teaching staff. Well done Owls!

After a very patient wait, Mila, Primrose and Nao were finally awarded the long-awaited trophy for their winning entry in the ROAR 2022 competition! We were delighted to be visited by members of The Lions Club to present the award.



## CLASS REPS

We are always looking for ways to improve our communication. In Term 4 I would like to invite class reps (yet to be decided) to meet with Mr James and me so that we can listen to your ideas and address any concerns you may have. Further details of this are to follow.



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