

# Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all for the Summer term. I hope you had a wonderful Easter break with your families. Even with the obstacles that COVID has thrown our way, we have had two successful terms already this year and we are very much looking forward to the final term of the academic year.

The children have returned to school eager to learn and the phase leaders have put together some information for you about what each year group has been up to already.

Please continue to abide by the Government guidelines and keep our community safe. Thank you for your continued support. Remember that face coverings should be worn at all times whilst on the school site and that the drop off and collection works on a one way basis – please do not back track and go the wrong way around the system. The controls are there to keep each other safe.

The Department for Education have recently updated their guidance on schools during Covid 19, putting all the information in one place. The link below will take you to their comprehensive information. Please feel free to have a read at your leisure: [What parents need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19)

I am sad to say that we are saying goodbye to a valued member of staff today. Miss James, one of our fantastic teaching assistants is moving on to pastures new. We will miss her greatly and wish her all the best for the future.

I do hope you have a good weekend despite the weather forecast!

Ingrid Dowse

Head of School

**Please note, we seem to be seeing more and more children arriving late for school.**

As a reminder, the start times for school are as follows:

Year 5 and 6: 8.35am

Year 2, 3 and 4 8.45am

Early Years and Year 1 8.55am

**It is important that your child is on time.**

## Year R and 1

It has been lovely to welcome all our children back after the Easter break and to see that they have returned to school so eager to learn!

In **Early years** our topic has been 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children were very excited to discover a beanstalk in the classroom. Then they were retelling the story using masks and puppets and had a go at writing the story. They loved making magic glittery beans and leaves, but the best fun was to get their little hands muddy and to plant real beans and vegetables.

It has been wonderful to finally have some warm and sunny weather. The children have been very busy outside. There was a lot of teamwork involved, when building a castle out of the poddley and making plants for our 'Garden centre' role play area.



**Year 1** pupils have made a great start to the Summer term. This week they have been looking at the changes in a tree on the school playground. Before Easter it had small green buds and this week they have opened and blossomed into yellow flowers. This created so much excitement! Year 1 have also started their Titanic History topic and the children all made captain hats ready to set sail!

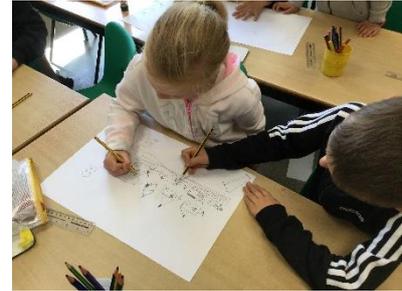


## Year 2

**Year 2** started the summer term by setting their own goals. They all identified something that they need to improve on in their daily school lives. To make the improvements and achieve their goals, children unpicked the small steps that will enable them to make a difference. Their goals were then written onto footballs and displayed in a football goal!



Year 2 topic this term is learning about castles where they have started making observations of motte and bailey castles. Children had great fun drawing from observations!



## Year 3 and 4

Once again, the children have settled back into school well and are focused on their learning. I am really impressed with the brilliant behaviour for learning that I see when walking around the phase.



In Reading, Year 4 are continuing to enjoy studying Polar Bear Explorers Club. Many of the children have really enjoyed this book. If your child is one of them, there are several brilliant sequels available which they will also enjoy if you wish to purchase them. Meanwhile, Year 3 have begun reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. As I said in the last newsletter, please support the children in reading the sections we have covered in class but not reading on, as this means we are unable to work on prediction skills.



Both year groups have really enjoyed using drama this week to support their understanding of the texts they are studying. Year 3 acted the scene we will be writing while Year 4 took each other on an imaginary tour of the setting they were using in their writing to gather ideas.



This term both year groups move onto new topics. Year 3 will be learning about the Geography and History of Southampton while Year 4 will be learning about Ancient Rome. We are hoping that both year groups will have a Topic day later in the term – details will follow if this is possible.

Both year groups will also be studying the port of Southampton and the impact this has on the local area as Year 4 missed this unit last summer. This includes work on the positives and negatives of having such large docks in Southampton and trade links using information from DP World. To support your child's learning about the docks, please log in to the Solent Ships You Tube channel. (You can find this by using Google and searching - [Solent Ships - YouTube](#)) They have 4 fabulous webcams which are great to see the shipping movements within the docks. You can even rewind to see what has happened earlier in each day. (Cruise ships usually arrive between 5 -6am)

As part of our Science studies, Year 3 planted sunflowers last week. So far, we don't have any shoots, but we are hoping they will begin to grow soon. We will be running a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower and will be sending these home in a few weeks. During the rest of this half term, we will be learning about all the things plants need to grow well and then the children can apply this to their sunflower.



As well as working hard all day, many children in the phase have also been enjoying the new after school sports clubs. The feedback from the children has been really positive and hopefully this will be the same for the Summer 2 clubs as well.

### **Water bottles**

As the weather has begun to warm up, the children are needing to drink more in class. Please provide your child with a named water bottle each day so they can have a drink when they need it. Unfortunately, our water fountains are unable to be used at the moment due to the current situation with Covid-19.



### **Shoe laces**

If your child is wearing shoes to school which have laces, please can you support your child to learn how to tie their laces independently.

Miss Parker



## Year 5 and 6

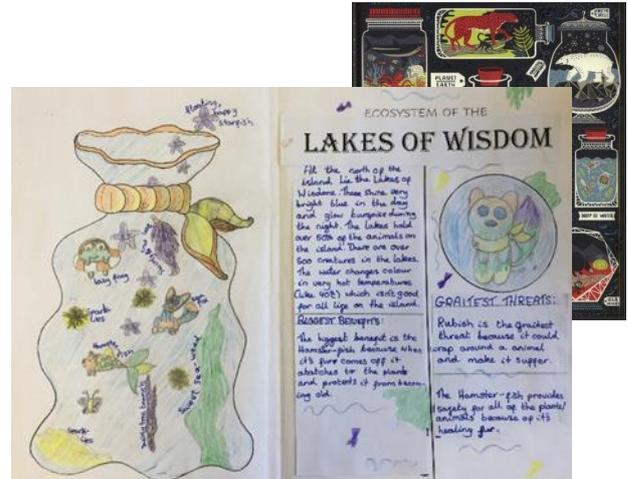
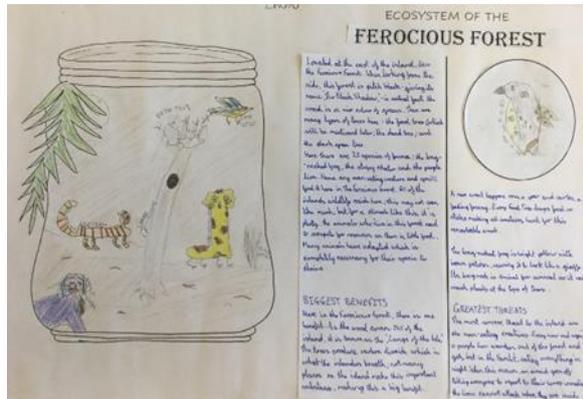
Years 5 and 6 have been working hard since returning from the Easter holidays. It has been lovely to see the children taking care with their work and settling back into school routines well.



We were very impressed with the children in Year 6 who continued to work from home during the final 4 days of last half term due to having to self-isolate. It wasn't ideal having to go back to remote education but those pupils who engaged and logged onto Teams each day tried very hard and we had some excellent pieces of work uploaded. Thank you to those parents who supported the home learning and enabled their children to get the most out of it.

### English:

Year 6 have been completing a piece of writing based on a book called 'The Ecosystems of Planet Earth'. They invented their own imaginary place and wrote factually about the ecosystems of that place. We have been so impressed with their outcomes!



Year 5 have been studying the story of Beowulf and have been analysing the language carefully. We look forward to seeing their writing outcomes later in the unit!



### Clubs:

Sports clubs have started in UKS2 with athletics on Tuesdays (Year 5) and tennis on Wednesdays (Year 6). The children looked like they were having fun and the weather was kind for their first session!



### Year 6 Residential to Little Canada:

As some of you may be aware, Year 6 usually have a residential trip to Little Canada on the Isle of Wight in February. Unfortunately, this year, the trip was cancelled due to Covid but we are hopeful that next year's provisional booking can go ahead. We are waiting on advice from the PGL centre as to whether or not we would be able to receive a full refund should we have to cancel for the same reasons. If or when we have this information, we will go ahead and begin the planning process which will start with a Y5 parents' information meeting about the trip followed by asking for deposits from those who wish to attend. Please look out for information over the next couple of weeks!



# READING

At Tanners Brook, we know how important it is to not only teach children the skills of reading but to create environments for children to love reading. Dandelion Learning are running a free event to support parents in ***Raising a Reader***. This 45-minute session will offer guidance on how to continue to help your child on their reading journey. Please see below further information and details on how to book.

Thank you,

Sarah Mack  
Deputy Head Teacher

## Raising a Reader Top Tips for Parents to Foster A Love of Reading

**This free event from Dandelion Learning is designed to support primary school parents**

We know from current research that children of all ages who read for pleasure perform better in all subjects. Reading for pleasure also builds empathy, improves wellbeing and has a dramatic impact on life outcomes. This session will explore practical tips on how to help your child to foster a love of reading.

This 45 minute session is free to all parents who have children at primary school.

The next session is:

Thursday 20th May 2021 7pm – 7.45pm

Bookings can be made here: [Raising a Reader: Top Tips for Parents to Foster a Love of Reading: Free Training - Dandelion Learning](#)

Alternatively, visit <https://www.dandelionlearning.co.uk/>, select 'Training' and you will find the event under 'Free Training'.

## Dates / Activities

Summer Term 2021	
30 April 2021	Newsletter
3 May 2021	Bank Holiday – School Closed
10 – 14 May 2021	KS2 SATs Week - CANCELLED
27 May 2021	Newsletter
28 May 2021	INSET Day – school closed
31 May – 4 June 2021	Half Term
7 June 2021	INSET Day – school closed
8 June 2021	School reopens
15 June 2021	New Parents (2021) Parent' Evening
24 June 2021	Y2+Y6 Hampshire Fire & Rescue
25 June 2021	Newsletter
5 July 2021	Reports home
6 July 2021	Parents Evening (reports only)
8 July 2021	Parents Evening (reports only)
16 July 2021	Newsletter
23 July 2021	Last day of term

### INSET Days 2021

**Friday 28 May 2021**

**Monday 7 June 2021**