

Hermes

5th May 2017

Summer Term

Issue No. 422

“Some Very Grand Grandparents!”



Dear Parents

Pictured above is the real Hermes, Greek messenger of the Gods (with his modesty hidden) in response to a question the other day as to why our weekly circular was so named. If you didn't, now you do!

With key exams looming large for senior pupils, this first half of the summer term is head down and pedal hard for us. Minds are focussed, particularly in Form 8 and we can all just about see light at the end of the tunnel. Thankfully we have expeds, Lions Lair, Creative Arts Week and a choir tour to follow on, so there's lots to look forward to too.

Our attempted Bridging the Gap Wellbeing evening sadly didn't take place on Tuesday evening. I know it's not a reflection of your apathy to the subject, more a matter of timing, babysitters and such like. The

subject has such high priority at the moment for us that we will try to reschedule. I'm thinking of doing one at drop off or pick up time after half term to see if that helps. There may also have been an issue with communication via the portal.

This was an issue raised at the first meeting of the class reps this week. A parent from each year group has valiantly agreed to represent the views of their cohort and to also act as a go between between parents and the PTFA. We spent some time reviewing the current method of communicating via the portal and agreed that for the next three weeks a supporting Clarion also needs to be sent out whilst we are all familiarising ourselves with the new process. We decided that it would be useful to Clarion the back page of Hermes on a Friday with a reminder of dates and events and letters attached on the portal.

We also spent some time discussing ways in which much needed help could be given to the PTFA leading up to their Summer Fayre on Saturday 1st July.

Cold water in the pool surfaced too. By this time of year we would normally expect the pool to be up to (and sometimes beyond) 28°C. With the really cold nights recently, more of the heat than usual is escaping bringing the temperature down. Can I ask for your support in encouraging all the children to grin and bear it? It really will be good for them and also add a bit of resilience into their skill set.

All in all it was a very positive meeting and one we will hold half termly, with the next meeting taking place on Wednesday 21st June. If you would like clarification on any issue or have a good idea for us to think about, you could either raise the question through your rep or email it to me. Please do remember though that it mustn't be

about a specific issue that affects just your child as this would be too personal. Issues such as this would be much better raised with an appropriate member of staff at school.

Elsewhere in school we've had more epi-pen training. I think just about everybody in regular contact with children now knows how to discharge 5ml of adrenalin to those who have had a serious allergic reaction to what seems to be three common things; seafood, peanuts and bee stings. With six children now on our serious allergy register it's a good time to remind you that we are a nut free school. There seems to be lots of nuts hidden in healthy snacks so please do try to be vigilant so we don't have to put our training in practice.

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs Wilson and her team headed across to Clayesmore for a big athletics meet. It was a fabulous afternoon with some very notable performances. I popped across for a few hours and was impressed with how hard our children pushed themselves against very strong competition from as far afield as Millfield. A longer report can be found in the sports pages. I must publicly thank all our teachers for these reports. On returning late from a fixture it takes quite a while to clean the mini buses, pack away all the kit, wash the bottles etc. There is then a thirty minute report to type up ready to hand out in Friday assembly then copy and paste in Hermes. It is a labour of love that I hope you appreciate.



Our athletics team

A new level of gymnast is being bred on the low ropes course. My hoped for "learning to take risks safely" has proved to be a great hit with children of all ages with parents here till long beyond the end of the school day. One or two of the elements offer risk taking that I hadn't anticipated. I have asked the company to come back and snag a few bits and pieces so the children can use it freely. Please do remember to keep a watchful eye on your most prized possessions after school so they remain safe and sound.



Break time on the low ropes course

On Thursday we welcomed Grandparents to school for an afternoon of tea, tours and t'orchestra. It's an occasion that seeks to celebrate their wonderful contribution to both family and school life and how much they mean to us. I love how proud their grandchildren are in showing them around their school. Sadly, I didn't receive much gossip about their own children this year. I must ask Mandy, who organises the day so well, to include an, "Embarrass your son or daughter with a photo or amusing quote" section next year, though if you are reading this as a grandparent in Crete or Clitheroe, please do use Hermes to name and shame. We'd be only too pleased to oblige!

These occasions do cause you to pause for a moment and think of your own grandparents.

My grandpa on my mum's side was a very formidable dalesman by the name of Harold Weston, though I'm certain I never ever called him by his first name. His wife was Hilda and they lived in Sir Titus Salt's Saltaire. My mum thought it would be a good

idea to celebrate his surname by giving it to my youngest brother as a middle name. It was and continues to be a great source of humour to his siblings!

Harold drove a steam train from the woollen mills of Airedale to destinations south. I have lots of memories but two are long lasting. I remember the severe tongue lashing I received aged eighteen when Harold found out I was going to college rather than becoming an “honest man” and going out to work. He was an excellent sportsman becoming a track cycling champion, until, at his prime, a near death motor cycle accident removed several inches from one leg. The accident didn’t slow him down for long and he became a scratch bowls and snooker player.

Hilda (or Mrs Weston as my father always addressed her) resembled the Queen Mother in both her portly stance and dress, and had a beloved Corgi that had a particular disliking of small children. She was definitely a Hyacinth Bouquet or Last of the Summer Wine type of character, always wearing a hat and with stockings wrinkled.

Anyway, enough of my own ramblings through childhood and back to this week in school.

We finished the week with an excellent form assembly. Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Hill inspired their charges in Form 2 to give us a very busy buzzing assembly all about bees. Who’d have thought! They were very funny and we loved their sense of spirit and good humour.



Form 2's Busy Bee Assembly

Wishing you a great weekend ahead.

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Fledglings News

Fledglings enjoying role play in their outdoor playhouse.



“Please could I have a tin of soup?”



The chamber choir performing at Grandparents' Day

A little update on the TPC fundraising now. We are a few pounds short of £2000 and are well on our way to reaching our target of £2500 before we all depart in just four weeks. Continued thanks for your great generosity.

Nursery News

Our story for this week was The Very Hungry Caterpillar and we have been focussing on butterflies and caterpillars.



Painting caterpillars

We have been threading and making repeating patterns.



Noah and his wonderful creation

All the children have been drawing circles to represent a caterpillar, then counting the letters in their name. They have been understanding how many circles they need to draw to write their own names in each circle of the caterpillar.



A successful project!

Children explored making a caterpillar with the outside resources.



Another caterpillar has been spotted in the garden

Form 4



Busy answering Monkey World questions

As an introduction to Year 4's rainforest project and following our trip to Monkey World, Annie from Monkey World came to talk to the class about the excellent work that they do to protect rainforest primates.



Annie presenting to the children

She showed the class a PowerPoint of rainforest species and talked about the consequences of deforestation and what we can do to help. One of the highlights was when she played a recording of a golden cheeked gibbon calling to his mates! Indy proved herself to be very knowledgeable about the primates, having lived in Costa Rica and experienced the animals first hand!



Some of the many rainforest species

Form 6

On Friday 28th April Form 6 set off for an activity day at Stokewater Meadow. When we arrived, we walked through Puckett's Wood to get to Mrs Saines' field and hut. We had a drink and snack then walked back through the wood to do some observational pastel drawings of the surroundings. Afterwards, everyone displayed their work by loosely stapling their zig-zag books to the trees.



The Stokewater Meadow Team

With a hungry class we left the wood and headed back to the field for lunch. After a delicious pack lunch and snack everyone got their baskets and collected fallen sticks with lichen on them using lichen identification sheets.



Observational pastel drawing

Next we used the collected sticks to make stick hangings to display our findings.

Finally we worked with different materials to make a weaving on a circular loom or a rectangular loom which we would continue with back at school.

We all had a great time and hopefully will go back soon.

By Poppy and Lily R



Collecting in the meadow

Form 7

Last Friday afternoon, during enrichment, some of Form 7 enthusiastically took up the challenge of making meringue!



Yes that is meringue in their hair!

Using hand whisks the students beat their egg whites until the mixture was firm enough to form a peak.



Possibly a touch more whisking?

They all did a great job persevering and Dom won the house point for the best meringue!



Peaks!

Today the children have created fruit fillings for their meringues- some may have even made their way home!

Form 8

Form 8 is working on developing doodle characters inspired by the artist/ designer Jon Burgerman. This is an Independent Learning Challenge and pupils will have the opportunity to create a comic strip featuring their character.

Time permitting, an extension of this challenge will give them the opportunity to make a 3D version of their chosen mini monster in textiles.

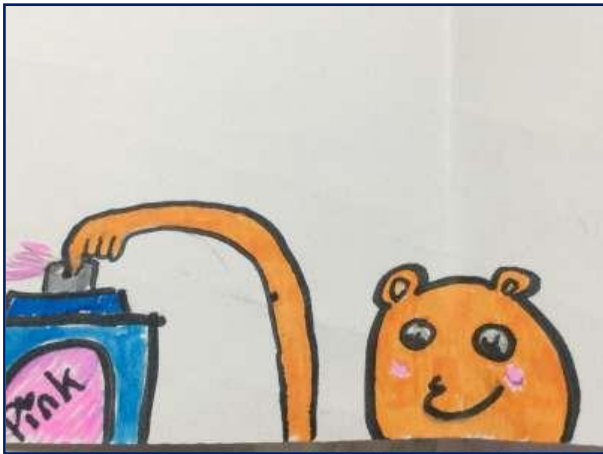
Form 8SW has produced a very lively response to the task!



Fabulous colour



Some great doodle characters



Another comic strip

In other news.....

Music

Music timetables are on the parent portal.

Clubs

Next week there will be no art club or make and bake club

Lost Property

Please all keep an eye out for Gregory's PE bag (Form 1) which is still full of his kit! It has gone missing.

Tilly (Form 7) has lost her named blue cardigan.

Nutrition Natter



Hello

Mental Health.....a very heated subject in England in the recent years and lately it seems we have also been focusing more about children's mental health.

According to the Mental Health Foundation "70% of children and young people who experience a mental health problem have not had appropriate interventions at a sufficiently early age". Some surveys suggest that more children have problems with their mental health today than 30 years ago. I expect due to the new challenges and demands of the modern life!!

But are we supporting our children the best way we can? Are we discussing the subject between us and are we really increasing the awareness and practically doing something about it? How can we change this outcome? How can we help our children and community to invert this figures? Think about the figure 70%....

The emotional wellbeing of children is just as important as their physical health! Actually in my view, it's more important because the mind controls the body. And if you are a confident child you are increasing your probability of growing into a confident and mentally healthy adult. Like the title of a book I read a few years ago "Fit mind Fit body", they come together as a sandwich.

Good mental health allows children to develop mechanisms to cope with life's daily challenges and to grow with confidence as healthy adults. We need to work together with schools, associations and the community to change the long term

predictions of poor children's mental health.

Some factors I am sure we all know as parents, are important to help our children to have a health mental health:

- feeling loved, understood and safe
- being passionate about life
- having opportunities and time to enjoy themselves
- being positive
- learning to accept who they are and recognising what they are good at
- having a sense of belonging in their family, school and overall community

Meditation, yoga, pilatesare all probably ideal mechanisms to explore and motivate our children to learn to be able to cope when something is wrong or when they feel sad.... And learn from quite a young age, as 3 or 4 years. These learning mechanisms and skills need to be a MUST and need to be part of our children's education curriculum.

We need to tackle this together and engage with families and the teachers.

On this subject, just a reminder on Mr Thorpe and the school big effort organizing for this week (Tuesday) one event about mental health - "Bridging the Gap". I am not sure if every parent was aware of it. I have to be honest, I wasn't.... Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

Let's organize another date please. Let's all make an effort to raise awareness and try to make our very best to help our children and their friends to better building up confidence, improving coping skills and really just **BE HAPPY!**

Marina

"Notes from a small garden"

It was turf wars in the garden today as Liz and I battled it out to be the quickest off the draw with our shovels to fill our

wheelbarrows from the recent soil delivery. I like to think we were ladylike in our fight, however, she commandeered the pink wheelbarrow so I was instantly disadvantaged.

My barrow-fulls of bounty were liberally applied to our corner plot which is to become a mini wildflower meadow, and our junior gardeners soon got to work sprinkling handfuls of mixed flower seed. It will be exciting to see what happens! I am hoping it will be a riot of colour in the summer months.



Tasting the produce

We also convinced Mr Adams and Mr Thorpe to try our baby spinach, and although their comments were favourable, Mr Thorpe soon disappeared back inside for his sticky toffee pudding!



Lots of watering required

There were quite a few seedlings needing attention this week, but it was very fiddly work potting on our cosmos and tomatoes, we now have our fingers crossed that their tender roots survived all our prodding and poking.

Our day was topped off with lots of watering and yet more sowing of seeds, look out for our tower of runner beans and sweet corn hedge!

Jo Vaughan



All hands on deck!

Sports News

U8 Cricket v Sherborne Prep ***Result: 54 - 37 Win***

On Tuesday the U8's played their first cricket match of the season. Mr Willemse did not expect great things from his side after only one practice session focussing on bowling and fielding.

Sherborne started the innings well but could not score more than two runs at a time due to excellent fielding from Sunninghill. The boys were very focussed during the first innings. The boys need to continue to work on their bowling as too many went wide.

Sunninghill started the second innings strong as the players batting, communicated well

with each other. Brilliant runs were scored by Joshua, Vishnu and Aaron.

Contribution awards: Thomas and Theo for their impressive batting partnership.

U9 Cricket v Sherborne Prep ***Result: 236 - 243 Loss***

Sunninghill batted first with some trepidation in the first game of the season. The boys were concentrating well and were just the wrong side of careful with going for the hits. The key batting point to work on is hitting down the leg side as most ignored any bowls there. No wickets were lost in our innings.

Sherborne were more attacking with their batting and our boys fielded well to keep the score very close to the end. William bowled one batsman but they managed to get more balls to the boundary.

Contribution award: for an all-round performance by Orlando of batting, bowling and fielding.

Clayesmore Athletics

On Wednesday we took a thirty five strong squad from Year 5 to 8 to compete in the Clayesmore athletics fixture. 21 schools were in action and the competition was of a very high standard. Everyone competed to the best of their ability and there were some fantastic performances. You all should be really proud of your achievements and for representing the school so well.

The following were stand out performances;

Nikita	1 st in 100m heat 15.38
	1 st in final 15.05
	3 rd in Rounders Ball 25m 52
James	2 nd in 100m heat 13.09
	2 nd in final
	1 st in Long Jump 4.34
	4 th in Shot 8m 21

Bonnie	3 rd in 100m heat 15.01 4 th in final 14.77 2 nd in 200m heat 31.13 4 th in final
Tom H	2 nd in 100m heat 15.03 5 th in final 14.75 4 th in 200m heat 33.21
Freya	3 rd in 800m 3.06
Kieran	3 rd in 800m 2.41
Joshua R	3 rd in 200m heat 35.7
Gemma	1 st in Long Jump 3m 10 3 rd in 200m heat 35.77
Erin Ph	2 nd in 200m heat 34.27 7 th in final
Elliot	2 nd in High Jump 1m 61
Jamie	4 th in 1500m 5.31
Form 5 girls	4 x 100m relay team finishing 1 st in heat and placed 3 rd overall 67.81
Year 5 boys	4 x 100m relay team finishing 1 st in heat and 5 th overall 68.04
Year 8 boys	4 x 100m relay team finishing 1 st overall 57.61

Well done also to our other relay teams who after one practice managed some good change overs and some creditable finishing positions.



Form 5 girls relay team



Form 7 girls relay team



Form 8 boys relay team

All of the results can be seen in the attached table.



Form 5 boys relay team

***Form 8 responsibilities
Summer Term:***

Head Boy:	<i>Cal Chibnall</i>
Head Girl:	<i>Carmen Krosnar</i>
Sports:	<i>Olivia Mallows & Ben Fry</i>
Outdoor Ed:	<i>Bonnie Davenport & James Cook</i>
English:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale</i>
Maths:	<i>Elliot Raybould & Teisha Barrey</i>
Science:	<i>Jamie Barrington</i>
Humanities:	<i>Peter Message</i>
Art:	<i>Rachel Williams-Schoeller & Hannah Stanhope</i>
IT:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale, Jacob Horton, Charlie Blake & Xan Airy</i>
Drama:	<i>Joni Denne-Loader & Millie Durkin-Jones</i>
Citizenship:	<i>Oliver Shutt & Fifi Collett</i>
Library:	<i>Alexander Valadas Marques</i>

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Weekly diary and communications

WHOLE SCHOOL	Mon 8 th	Form 3 Hooke Court Reception Blue Bell Walk
	Tues 9 th	Form 5 Art Day with Darryl Wakelam U8/9 Cricket v BCS (A) 2.15 pm U13 & U11 Swimming Gala @ Leweston 4.30 pm
	Wed 10 th	Whole School Photo 10.00 am U13 Pairs Cricket v Sandroyd (A) 2.30 pm U11 & U10 Tennis v Leweston (A) 2.30 pm U11/10 Cricket v BCS (H) 2.15 pm U13/12 Cricket v BCS (A) 2.30 pm
	Thurs 11 th	Form 6 Chamber Choir Milton Abbey Form 4 Swimming Gala 12 noon After School Golf 4.30 pm Form 3 - 8 After School Sailing 4.30 pm
LETTERS ON THE PORTAL	Fri 12 th	Open Morning 9.30 - 12 noon Parent and Toddler Group 10.00 - 11.30 am Form 3 & 4 Sailing Enrichment Form 5 & 6 Dorset Schools Orienteering 2.00pm
		Reception to Form 8 Music Timetable Whole School Menu Forms 3 - 8 Sports Team Sheets
Fledglings		No news
Nursery		No news
Reception		No news
Form 1		No news
Form 2		No news
Form 3		Form 3 Hooke Court Day
Form 4		No news
Form 5		No news
Form 6		Form 6 SATIPS Orchestral Day Form 6 Chamber Day Milton Abbey
Form 7		No news
Form 8		No news

Clayesmore Athletics Results

Name	Event	Position	Time/Distance
Henry T	100m Long Jump	4th in heat 10th	16.35 2.92
Tallulah T	100m Long Jump	3rd in heat 8th	16.38 2m 80
Dylan W	100m 200m Long Jump	7th in heat 4th in heat	15.50 34.54
Tilly J	100m	4th in heat	15.99
Ben E	800m	6th	2.53
Robert C	800m Shot	11th 5th	3.03 6m 43
Lily R	800m	8th	3.08
Sebastian P	800m	7th	2.57
Izzy H	800m Shot	14th 4th	3.21 6m 45
Merry P	800m	10th	3.11
Lily B	200m	4th in heat	36.64
Harry Y	200m	4th in heat	33.75
Kian B	1500m	12th	6.50
Joni D-L	1500m	13th	6.36
Carmen K	Shot	11th	5.96
Amalia S-M	Shot	14th	4m 33
Adam D	Cricket Ball	12th	22.75
Khalid M	Shot	9th	6m18
Henry E	Javelin	7th	12.56
Tom H	Long Jump	7th	3m 17