

Be Safe, Belong, Be Inspired

Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter



A message from our headteacher Alex



It was inspiring to see children and staff coming together on Friday for our glimmers of success assembly, where staff shared their highlights of the week and recognised children's successes.

Some amazing recognition goes out this week to:

- Harley for making such great progress in English.
- To Jess, for being in her classroom and accessing lessons with a special recognition for her maths work.
- Elliot for starting the week so successfully and completing such great work across the curriculum.

There were so many great moments shared with pupils by staff on Friday afternoon, all of the children who attended swimming were mentioned especially our years 7's.

Impact of the therapeutic work we do at Haywards Farm school.

All year 7s took part in a dedicated session where all the children were encouraged to discuss their risk assessments and look at what they thought they would need in place to help them make the swimming trip successful. Children then came up with a set of rules they thought should be in place to ensure everyone was safe, this was a whole class effort and great teamwork was shown by all the children. Jack identified that he thought the staff at the pool should know that our students don't like to be rushed and need time to process what's happening. Jazmine felt it was important for everyone to know she may find it hard to get out of the pool, and we agreed that an incentive would be needed, the agreed incentive was a can of sugar-free fizz.

Additional updates:

Kirsty Haywards Farm Schools, SENCo is now in post and as we continue to work hard to ensure that all of the children's EHCP's are being honoured. Kirsty has been supporting staff with interventions and ensuring adaptations are being made in the classroom in line with the children's needs and requirements.

Emma our Careers lead has this week, met with some students to look at year 9 pathways and map out career plans with them. All parents will be invited into meet class teachers and both Kirsty and Emma the week of 23rd.

Dates for the Diary

- **Monday-** Maple and Cherry class- Stables, Year 7- Paddocks
- **Tuesday-** Maple class and year 8/9 class Sailing.
- **Wednesday-** full day, Maple class Swimming
- **Thursday-** Year 7 Swimming, Year 7- Stables, Maple and Cherry class- Paddocks.
- **Friday-** 1pm finish for all children.



Class updates:

Cherry and Chestnut Class

In Cherry Class, we've had a fantastic start to the school year! Over the first two weeks, the children have settled in wonderfully and have been getting to know each other through engaging activities, like a fun True or False game during our Personal Development sessions. In Geography, we've explored how to use an atlas, identified Europe and the UK on a world map, and answered questions using the atlas. In English, we've begun our new literacy book "The First Drawing" by Mordicai Gerstein, using clues from pictures to discuss our thoughts, and learning about different types of verbs, including modal verbs. Each day ends with a lovely storytime in our cozy corner, where we read our class book together. Our Personal Development sessions have also been a highlight, with visits to the stables and paddock, offering valuable outdoor learning experiences and the chance to develop new skills. It's been a brilliant start, and we're excited for the weeks ahead! We also incorporated Lego Therapy and the "Who Knows Me Better" social game as creative icebreakers. These activities helped build resilience, encourage conversations about emotions, and develop communication skills, and gradually prepare them to access learning in the classroom.



Maple Class

Week Two in Maple Class has been super busy with Stables on Monday, Sailing on Tuesday, Swimming on Wednesday and Paddocks on Thursday. But we have made it to the end of the week still smiling and having completed some amazing activities and brilliant learning. In English, the children were learning how to write a figurative poem "Sea roars like a lion crashes against the shore, Sea tumbles like an earthquake, Mists creep and curl through the night, Mists slithered across the sea" extract from Ice Island by Skylar. In maths, we have been building on our place value knowledge with numbers up to 10,000,000! In geography, the children have been learning about time zones, exploring night and day across the globe and using an atlas to discover which countries fall along the Prime Meridian line. In cooking, we explored food linked with our history topic and made Trench Stew with vegetables, corned beef and stale bread!



Secondary Classes

What a fun filled and productive week for our secondary students. Year 8's have been sailing as part of their PE curriculum as well as cooking some tasty treats and working hard in all their lessons. Our year 7's have been busy reading Alice through the looking glass and learning about all of her adventures using some excellent descriptive language to interpret pictures. Swimming has started and our children were great role models for the school. Beforehand we completed risk assessments with the students who identified their own challenges and risks and came up with ideas that can support them with this when offsite, some great reflective practice was completed and this led to a very smooth transition in and out of the pool. We finished the week with some personal development working on patience, resilience and working together as a team which was carried out through dungeons and dragons games, building challenges and ELSA and OT input as well as some litter picking to keep our community clean and safe.



Have a restful weekend, Alex.

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