

October Newsletter

A welcome break

And like that, the half term is at an end, but there is so much to share with you and celebrate in each class, which you can enjoy over the next few pages.

On top of that, the duration of this half term has largely coincided with the duration of our last Prime Minister's tenure as a whole—now there's a thought. Added to this, with so many changes in leadership, it's no surprise that there have been five different Secretaries of State for Education since 2019, showing how low a priority education seemingly is. Of course, you can make of that what you will, because as a school, we're entirely impartial.

In more positive news, what a response we had to our Smart-move Harvest donations! Thank you so much for thinking of others, especially when it seems that each week the food we're putting on conveyer belts is shrinking, whilst the cost at the checkout is rising. Still relatively new to Hebden, it's another example of what makes this area special, not least, the children and families.

Enjoy the half term, whatever your plans!



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Diary Dates

Tuesday the 1st of November—School re-opens

December 6th (Tuesday) and 8th (Thursday) - Parent consultations

December 14th (Wednesday) and 15th (Thursday) morning and afternoon—Riverside Christmas Shows @ the Little Theatre

Friday the 16th of December—Christmas Celebration at the Hope Baptist Church 10.30 -11.30am

School closed for Christmas until Wednesday, January the 4th.

Twitter Feed

We're now up to 82 followers, which is great, but in order to hit minor celebrity status, we need more of you to sign up, not least to gain an insight in the day-to-day experiences of the children and our brilliant teachers @HebFed1



Wrens!

What a wonderful start to **Year 3** we have had! We have had so much fun and the learning has been really impressive. From learning about skeletons and digging up the Shang Dynasty to getting muddy at Forest School and learning a new instrument, we certainly have been incredibly busy!

A highlight of our half term has been learning all about The Shang Dynasty in **History**. We have gone back in time studying ancient artefacts which have told us about how this great civilisation lived. Taking part in an archaeological dig and presenting our findings was very exciting and we loved designing our own Shang cities and learning about the great warrior Fu Hao.

We have been lucky enough to have **Music** lessons this half term where we have been learning how to play the recorder. We have really enjoyed learning lots of different tunes and we are so proud of our new skill!

Finally, **Forest School** has been great fun. It has been a wonderful opportunity to connect with our new peers and we have engaged in lots of exciting team building activities such as bow and arrow making, weaving and games! Though the rain fell for some of our sessions, we certainly didn't let that stop our fun!

We have already formed a wonderful class and we are so excited for what's to come. Here is our rainbow which we think shows community, friendship and hope for a great year ahead.





Goldfinches!

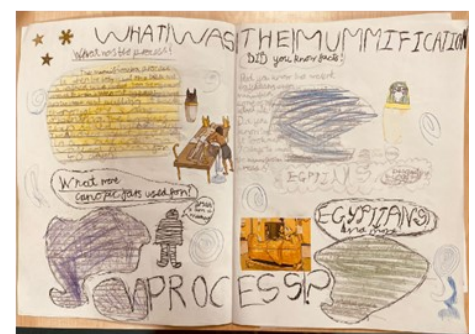
What a brilliant start to the year. **Year 4** have come back with the most amazing attitude and have acquired some fantastic learning as a result! As we come to the end of our first half term, we have time to reflect on our awesome achievements and look back at the exciting and creative things we have been up to!

Have we loved our **English** book this half term! 'Oliver and the Seawigs' has taken us on a delightful adventure alongside nautical hairdressing, saltwater primates and sarcastic seaweed. It has been a story that captivated our imaginations and one that allowed us to really connect with the lovable characters! As a result, we have produced some exceptionally creative outcomes including poetry, narratives and not to forget, our beautiful sea wigs...



In **Science**, we have been learning all about how our bodies work. From how our skeletons keep us upright to learning about the important things our bodies need to survive and stay healthy. Learning about our bones was a highlight this half term when we created life sized skeletons thinking about the names of our different bones and of course, giving them a name!

We went over 5000 years back in time in **History** to learn about the fascinating, Ancient Egyptians! Studying ancient artefacts led us to asking curious questions about this wondrous period of time and we've certainly loved being historians and getting stuck in to our creative project based learning. From writing hieroglyphics to learning about the mummification process, we weren't short of wide eyes and shocked gasps at some of the awesome yet gruesome methods the Egyptians once used...





Year 4 have been loved getting creative in our new **STEAM** room (Science, Technology, Engineering, **Art** and Maths)! This half term, they have been inspired by a painting from the National Gallery called "a Shipwreck on Stormy Seas" by Vernet and created their own colourful collage ships with Mrs Taylor!



We are growing in to talented musicians in Year 4 **Music** and are developing our skills when it comes to learning how to play a brass instrument. We have been having weekly sessions with Mr Atkins and we are really starting to sound impressive!

We have been learning skills needed in **PE** for Orienteering this half term with a real focus on team work! We have had lots of fun engaging in a variety of team games and have put these in to practice when it came to communicating and working together when going on a variety of different hunts around the school grounds.



Check out our beautiful collaborative piece of art that now takes its place in our Quiet Room! We were given a part of an art piece, coloured it in using oil pastels and were amazed at the result when we put our pieces together! Not to forget, the tower made during Golden Time. Members of our class again applied their brilliant team work to create this impressive structure...



Kingfishers!

Kingfishers have had a fun filled, jam packed half term to start off Year 5!

In **Maths** they have been developing their place value knowledge, working with numbers up to 1 million. They have applied their new learning to addition and subtraction problems.

In **English** we have been reading *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce. The children have worked in groups to create dioramas of theme parks, role played a chat show about teenagers and create persuasive leaflets. We have learnt about expanded noun phrases, parenthesis and modal verbs and worked in guided groups, in pairs and independently to write letters, non-fiction leaflets, setting descriptions and newspaper reports!



We have been lucky enough to go **swimming** every Tuesday this half term. The children have gained confidence, some focusing on learning how to stay afloat, others learning how to breathe when doing front crawl.

In **Science** we have been learning about Earth and Space; using fruit to help us compare sizes of planets in our solar system, learning about the different phases of the moon, time zones and scientists Ptolemy, Copernicus and Aristotle! Year 5 have been getting creative in our new STEAM room (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths).



In **Art**, we have been exploring seascapes and have been inspired by the National Gallery's painting "a Shipwreck on Stormy Seas." We have taken part in an eco-printing workshop using recycled tetra packs to create these stunning works soon to be seen in our Riverside Art Gallery.

In our Ancient Maya topic in **History** we have learnt the (rather gruesome) story of the Hero twins, practiced paper weaving, designed and made Mayan masks and even tried a Mayan hot chocolate recipe.





Merlins and Kestrels

It's been a busy half term for Year 6! From residential to sculpture workshops, the children have benefitted from a wide range of experiences over the past few weeks and have enjoyed every minute.

Our first written piece in **English** this half term was a residential survival guide! A bound copy will be making its way to our current Year Fives but these will also be on display outside our classrooms – we'd love you to see them! Our study of the Ancient Greeks in **History** has inspired us to write our own trial for our hero, Odysseus, and has led to some fantastic examples of cliff hanger endings!



Our **Maths** groups have had plenty of success over this half term and we would like to thank children for all their super learning. While this will continue in the run up to Christmas, we'd like to remind families that groups may change and will remain flexible to best meet the needs of our children.

Science has focused primarily on evolution and inheritance and we had a blast experimenting with different 'beak' types last week in role as Galapagos finches. We have learnt all about birds' adaptations and how these have enabled populations to survive and thrive.