



# PTCPS Newsletter



Issue 4

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the blink of an eye our first term is complete. It has certainly been a very different start to the new academic year but it has been highly successful. All children are settled and working well. The progress that has been made is a great display of the children's resilience after missing so much from the last academic year. The staff are a superb team and have certainly pulled together to ensure every eventuality is catered for, which they have managed implicitly.

Thank you for supporting the school with all of the initiatives that have been launched this term. I am especially grateful for the array of goods sent in to support our Harvest collection for the Hailsham Food Bank. The Harvest video has proved to be an additional challenge to our first term. This will be available to buy for £1.00 a copy on our return to school. Please send the money in a sealed envelope with your child's name and we will issue accordingly.

Please can we ask all children to bring a water bottle into school daily and a book bag / rucksack. School reading books are needed in school and at home to support our home learning policy.

We still have a few families needing to register on StudyBugs. This is our platform to communicate newsletters, updates and key messages and it is imperative we have all families connected (especially in the turbulent times we are living in). If you are experiencing any problems in registering, please contact the school office and Mrs Saunders will do her best to support you.

## Reading with Your Child at home

We have worked hard in school to produce some question prompts to help with focused discussion when reading with your child and to develop your child's knowledge of the text. Beech and Hazel have questions in their reading record and Oak and Elm have separate question cards. When reading with your child try to alter the type of questions you are asking and ask more than one type of question per page, up to a maximum of three so as not to interrupt the flow or the enjoyment of the text. If you have any questions please ask your class teacher.

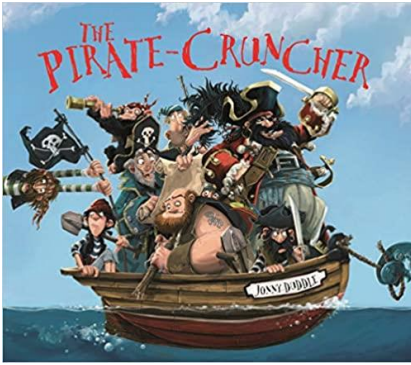
### Beech class

On 13th October, Beech class enjoyed the story of The Ugly Duckling read to them by C S Clifford; our visiting author. They joined in with the story making the relevant noises as required!

We have played lots of games this week to help us with our phonics; Year 1 are learning Phase 5 phonics and Reception have started Phase 2 so look out for reading books coming home soon.

In maths we have been very busy; Year 1 have been learning to add using the + and = symbols whilst Reception have been sorting, matching and comparing objects to find the biggest, smallest, tallest, shortest, the group with more or is greater than and the group with less or fewer than. Happy half term everyone, see you in November!

### Hazel class



In Hazel class we have been continuing with our topic Land Ahoy by looking at Pirates in books. We have spent time reading and enjoying many pirate story books. One text was *The Pirate Cruncher* by Jonny Diddle. We did lots of different types of writing about it. We retold what had happened so far and then predicted what we thought would happen at the end. We then wrote our own endings. Rosie said "The Pirate Cruncher is a really good book, there is an exciting ending!" Jacob responded "The best thing we did was retell the story. It's an amazing story." Rufus wrote -The story starts on Pirate Lane when an old fiddler lures some pirates into a trap! For the fiddler was actually a puppet being controlled by a sea monster." We are now writing our own poems about the story. We have also found out and made posters about the RNLI. We hope you

get to see them when they are finished.

### Oak Class

Oak Class have been learning how to classify animals, have learnt about vertebrates and invertebrates and had great fun going on a bug hunt.

We enjoyed our visit from C.S Clifford and had fun using description when writing the beginning of a story. We have also planned plot points for our own story, which we have been busy writing this week.

In Maths we have developed our understanding of negative numbers and Roman numerals and are looking forward to coming back after half term to learn more!

Olivia P and Mrs W



### Elm class

The past two weeks have seen Elm focused on Harvest and festivals of the autumn. We have been learning our lines for the Harvest assembly and finding out about other autumn festivals such as Sukkot, Eid and Mabon. We celebrated our own harvest of two Pumpkins from Elm allotment.

In English we have been looking at creative writing, with a focus on settings this week, describing and elaborating the information in our narrative writing. Some lovely stories to follow next term!

Our time travel topic comes to a close this week and we start to look forward to our new topic called *Stargazers next term*. If you get the chance to look at the moon over the holidays that would be great as we are studying the moon in particular next term.



### Attendance:

Attendance has certainly been a challenge to start our new school year. Pupil illness has certainly been important to manage well and we thank you for your support in this area. As a school we aspire to achieve 97% overall attendance. For term 1 we have achieved 96.2%.

### Stars of the week:

This is awarded by the classroom staff based on pupil's attitude to learning, behaviour, effort and progress throughout the week. I am always delighted to award these certificates and to have the opportunity to hear about the accomplishments.

Last week the awards were given to Mia in Elm, Matilda in Oak, Poppy in Hazel and Evelyn in Beech.

This week I am delighted to have presented these certificates to Mabel in Elm, Olivia in Oak, Arthur in Hazel and Lola in Beech.

Well done to you all!

My final achievement to know all children's names is complete and it is a delight to know them all already.

I wish you all a very safe and happy half term and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November is an INSET day).

Kind regards

Mrs Claire Kinsella  
Acting Headteacher  
Punnetts Town Community Primary School

### Dates to note

We have not included a lot of detail at the moment because of the on-going uncertainty surrounding Coronavirus. We will send updates as soon as we are able to book and confirm events moving forward.

Term 2		
Week 1	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	INSET
	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Pupils to return to school
	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Poppies can be worn
Week 2 & 3	9 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent consultations via phone or virtually
Week 2	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu vaccination day
	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need – fundraising arrangements to follow
Week 5	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas decoration afternoon
Week 7	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas lunch day
	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
Term 3		
Week 1	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Pupils return to school
Week 6	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term
	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET
Term 4		
Week 1	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Pupils to return to school
Week 6	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Last day of term
Term 5		
Week 1	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET
	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Pupils to return to school
Week 6	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of term
Term 6		
Week 1	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Pupils to return to school
Week 7	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of school year