



Issue 18 Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we fly into the last few weeks of this academic term there is so much to reflect on and be proud of. Thank you to all of you who were able to attend sports day this week and then come over to the school to see your child's work and their learning environment. As the teachers complete the end of year reports and we all have that feeling of starting to unwind, please can I ask you to continue with a 'little but often approach' through the end of term and through the summer holidays. Children learn through so many experiences, especially when at home and being 'out and about' with their family and friends. However, a story, some time to read, some quick recall of maths facts and writing can really help and maintain skills across the summer break. Please try where you can the 'little but often approach', thank you.

**Summer Reading Challenge:** We will be launching the summer reading challenge in school next week when Claire Morley, from the library service is visiting to share the challenge for this summer. I have attached some more information for your reference. I would like to remind all parents though the library is a free resource and the summer challenge is a good way to help commit to a 'little and often' approach to reading through the holidays. If your child chooses to take part please send the certificates into school so this can be celebrated in our new school year.

Transition Day: All children have now had the opportunity to work with their new class for the next academic year. Our secondary school risers had a great day in their new schools and it has been lovely to hear what their next steps look like. The current Early Years class through to year 5 enjoyed a day's transition yesterday. The children managed the change wonderfully and all had exciting days meeting different peers and staff. We have welcomed a new family who will start with us in September and Harriet will join September's year 2 class. Finally, it has been exciting to welcome our new Early Years children into school. They have all come into school happily and seem very confident already, which is a superb start. There will be some further sessions across the next few weeks. I would like to welcome all of the new families and know they will all be made to feel very welcome by the Punnetts Town School community.

**Staffing News:** I am delighted to share that Mrs Golding is pregnant with her 3<sup>rd</sup> baby, due in November 2023. Therefore Mrs Golding will finish this academic year with Oak class and will teach in Hazel class for the first part of the Autumn term. When Mrs Golding goes onto her maternity leave Mrs Fletcher will then teach Hazel class full time. We are all very pleased for Mr and Mrs Golding and their 2 daughters and look forward to hearing the new baby news later this year.



**Sports Day:** What an amazing day! The children were absolute superstars. The year 6 made the most superb leaders during the early years and key stage 1 activities in the morning. Thank you to all of the parents who gave such positive feedback about how well our year 6 children were able to share the activities and help the younger children through the tasks and kept them motivated. Well done to key stage 2 for participating in the array of races during the afternoon: you all showed clear enjoyment, which was definitely seen in the space hopper race! Thank you to all of the staff for their efforts throughout the day to ensure the children were active and



safe. Thanks are sent to Friends for providing refreshments and finally thank you to all

who attended and participated, this really is appreciated by all staff and children.







#### Wilderness Wood:

Elm and Oak visited Wilderness Wood on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June and took part in activities organised by Charlie and Joanna from 'Schools Without Walls'.

Oak Class: Last Friday, Oak and Elm classes had a wonderful trip to Wilderness Wood. They did leaf printing, by putting a leaf between a piece of material then hammering on the material until the leaf's pattern emerged. They made leaf prints using clay and Plaster of Paris. The children explored

down by the river and played games amongst the trees. They learned about how to make an effective and stable den using logs, branches and leaves, and made s'mores using a fire that they started. They all enjoyed toasting and eating their marshmallows, and some even made a story stick to take home to remember the day.





Elm Class: The day was spilt into two parts and both classes took part in all of the activities. One session was shelter building, fire lighting, whittling (Elm only), s'more making, 'Hapa zome' ('leaf dye', the Japanese technique of smashing flowers and leaves into fabric), creating a pot from clay and leaf pressing, so an imprint would be left in plaster of paris, a visit to the river bank. As well as all of these super things we also had: many different habitats pointed out to us; learnt the importance of understanding an environment such as building a fire on ground near fir trees is dangerous, due to the risk of the layer of pine needles under the

soil catching light; that tree roots can catch fire under the ground and lead to trees catching light and lead to the devastation of a forest and how we can use different senses to appreciate to world around us.

"We had a lovely time," said Neve, "and enjoyed all of the day."







#### Beech and Hazel visit to Battle Abbey:



Beech and Hazel Class had a very exciting day out to Battle Abbey on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023. For some it was their first experience of travelling on a coach so it was lovely to see the very grown up year 2's supporting our littlest children in Reception. We were lucky enough to spend some time with Brother James, who gave us an insight into the history of the Abbot's Great Hall and library with some interesting stories and great facts from the past.



They learned how William, the Duke of Normandy, tricked the Saxons into breaking their clever shield wall defence. We couldn't believe it when we saw the stone marking the exact spot that King Harold fell in the Battle of Hastings! We were amazed to see

the ruins, especially the architecture of the basement which

was a great unexpected surprise.

The museum allowed us to see explore examples of weapons used in 1066 and of course, after a very challenging climb up the curved, steep steps we all

enjoyed the rooftop view from the turrets. What a brilliant day!



At the end of week 4 our school attendance is 93.7%, our target is 96%.

Class attendance Year to date	Beech	Hazel	Oak	Elm
Week 3	94%	93%	95%	93%
Week 4	94%	93%	95%	92%

#### Out of school achievements:

It is so wonderful to hear about the success of our pupils outside of school.

Congratulations once again to Daisy who continues to excel and win trophies in her Irish dancing – well done Daisy, this is fantastic news.





**Star of the week:** Each week the adults and children reflect in their classes and choose a member of the class to receive the 'Star of the week' certificate. I am pleased to share that in...

Week 2:

Beech: Merlin Hazel: Ben Oak: All of Year 4 Elm: Rosie S

Week 3:

Beech: Alex Hazel: Erin Oak: Rhys Elm: Rufus

Week 4:

Beech: Stanley Hazel: Poppy Oak: George Wo Elm: Neve

Thank you for being the best you can be!

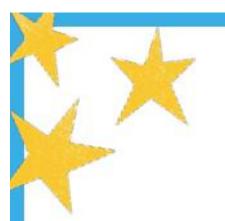
We wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

C. Kínsella

All dates are subject to change – more details will follow regarding specifics. Yellow highlight shows new additions/ changes from the previous newsletter.

Term and Week	Date	Event	
T6 W5	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4/5/6 Swimming gala – details to follow	
T6 W5	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3 Federation Day at Punnetts Town (details to follow)	
		Y6 Federation Day at Dallington (details to follow)	
T6 W6	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 & 5 to visit Young at Heart	
		Y1 Federation Day at Dallington (details to follow)	
		Y2 Federation Day at Punnetts Town (details to follow)	
T6 W6	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 End of year production at the Village Hall	
T6 W6	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Summertastic Mufti Day – children to wear their own clothes for £1	
T6 W6	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Friends Summer Fete – details to follow	
T6 W7	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Farewell to Toni & Sandra, from Pre-school, at the Village hall 3.15pm	
T6 W7	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 Federation Day at Dallington (details to follow)	
		Y5 Federation Day at Punnetts Town (details to follow)	
T6 W7	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Punnetts Towns Got Talent – child to share a talent to the school	
T6 W7	Friday 21st July	Last day of term	
	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July –	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August Summer Holiday	
	<mark>Fric</mark>	day 1 <sup>st</sup> September – INSET	
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sen	otember – Children to return to school	



**Summer Reading Challenge 2023** 



Delivered in partnership with libraries.



### Ready, Set Read! Starts 8 July 2023 Ends 9 September 2023

### Join this year's Summer Reading Challenge at

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src



The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by public libraries that encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays - and to enjoy anything they like to read! Children aged 4-11 are invited to take part and collect rewards for their reading, giving them a positive experience of reading for pleasure.

It's FREE to take part, and last year 75% of children taking part nationally improved their reading skills over the holidays.<sup>1</sup>

Sign your child up at <a href="https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src">www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src</a> If you don't have a smartphone, computer or tablet, you can sign up using a computer in the library. You can ask a one of our volunteers or a member of staff for help if you need it.

The Challenge will begin in East Sussex libraries on Saturday 8th July and end on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

The Challenge is to read any six books borrowed from the library or downloaded from our ebook library. For children under 4 we have the Pre-school Challenge, where you can collect stickers for each book shared and a special medal sticker at the end.

Children signing up for the Challenge get a character sticker and a Reader Record. Children will be able to collect a prize for each of the six books they have read. When they finish the Challenge they will get a certificate which they can receive in school or at the library. The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books.

To take part in Read, Set Read! children need to have their own library card and PIN. It is easy and free to become a member of the library. Take something with your name, address and signature to the library and you can join the whole family, or you can join online and have your cards posted to you. You can reset your child's PIN online if you can't remember it, or ask in the library for a new one. You will need the PIN to sign up to the Challenge.

> Visit http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/ for fun games, author interviews and book recommendations.













