



Newsletter ~ July 2018

Heacham Junior School



The end of the year is upon us and it's hard to believe just how much we have managed to cram into the year!

This term has been particularly busy with a residential visit to Grafham Water, the Poppy Line workshops, a Year 5 Transition Day at Smithdon, as well as a fantastic joint Sports Day with the Infant School!

Move up days were a huge success and gave pupils an opportunity to get to know their new teachers, as well as a taste of what next year has in store. Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed the time they spent at Smithdon High School too; meeting new friends and familiarising themselves with the layout of the school site.

Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a day of Mathematics and Art at Smithdon High School on their transition day. The children explored perspective, which can be used to create the illusion of three-dimensions on a two-dimensional surface. Results were very impressive given the complexity of the task. In mathematics, the children were keen to share their knowledge and understanding of area and perimeter to the delight of the teachers.

The children have embraced their topic this term, 'Britain in the Twentieth Century' and have completed many hands on activities. The children have discovered how families stayed safe during the blitz, building Anderson and Morrison shelters in their homes and gardens. They designed shelters of their own, evaluated them, and then tested them for durability.



Our Year 6 end of year performance on Friday 20th July, 'School Daze', was a polished performance! The children had all learnt their lines very well and performed with confidence and good humour to the delight of the audience. We wish them all the best of luck as they move on to secondary school in September.



Grafham Water Residential

In June, 55 children from Heacham Junior School went to Grafham Water Residential Centre. The coach arrived at lunchtime on the first day and after some delicious food the children began their activities! There were a mixture of water and land based tasks. Kayaking was really fun and due to the great weather the children didn't have to wear wetsuits! That evening they enjoyed barbeque chicken for tea – which was well earned!

After a good night's sleep and a delicious breakfast on the second day the children's first activity was Bush craft. The children worked well as a team to build a shelter and then the instructor poured water on it while they were inside to see how successful their shelter was! Next was archery which was great. The children learnt how to use a bow and arrow and all the technical terms for the equipment.

During the afternoon the children tackled climbing and problem solving activities. Good teamwork was essential! There was only one person climbing up the wall but everyone else had to hold the ropes and control their descent. The teachers also had a go and Mrs Jones, Mrs Nurse, Mr Feeney and the other staff all got to the top! Problem solving was another great opportunity to develop their teamwork skills. The trickiest was the balance board: the children all had to stand in a line and keep the balance board (like a see-saw) level.

After a cooked breakfast on the final morning, the children had to pack up their rooms and have an inspection to check nothing was left behind. The final activity was sailing! Sailing was great because the children got to go out on the lake and explore more independently. They were able to share a boat with their friends. They learnt to use the sail and change sides when they were turning.

The children were all tired on the bus on the way home but they had made amazing memories and tried new things that they had never done before!



Love of learning

Bright futures

Happy memories



During this term, the School Council have worked exceedingly hard to complete the tasks for our Green Flag Eco Project. Healthy eating posters were created by year 3/4 council members explaining the contents of a healthy lunch box and an unhealthy lunch box. They also chose recipes for a two course healthy, nutritious meal and their work is displayed in the dining hall and on the media board in the entrance hall.

A transport survey was completed by the whole school to highlight areas for improvement in tackling environmental concerns. The results were collated by the School Council. It was found the most popular way to come to school was by car, with walking second and then cycling. With this in mind and to encourage more cycling to school a level 1 cycling proficiency course was offered to children in year 5, with the level 2 course beginning in October for year 6 children.



As part of environmental improvements to our school a survey of creatures and plants in the wildlife area and the pond was undertaken. Many insects including ants, spiders and ladybirds were discovered in the bug hotels. Water spiders, leeches, frogs and water snails were found in the pond. Straw mats and water lilies were added to enhance the pond and encourage more wildlife.



Recently the school advertised for an Assistant Head Teacher and the school council representatives were delighted to be involved in the interview process. Each candidate answered questions from the council and then children graded the replies from 1 to 5. The children acted in a very professional manner and enjoyed being part of the decision making at this level in school. What a busy term!

WELL DONE SCHOOL COUNCIL!



As part of our topic work this term, the whole school took part in the North Norfolk Railway 'Poppy Line' Workshop. This fantastic, interactive 'Evacuees Day' enabled the children to extend on their WWII school studies with an 'in character' workshop that concentrated on WWII Home Front Life.

Period characters such as the Billeting Officer, ARP Warden, Observer Corps, WVS and various civilians among others added reality to the day and the children and staff remained in 'period character' for the duration of the workshop which greatly enhanced the experience. For lunch, the children even chose what they would eat according to their daily rations, which proved to be a real eye opener for some! The combination of historical fact and immersive drama fueled the children's imaginations, helping to consolidate their learning in school. The children returned to school having thoroughly enjoyed the whole day!



Notice Board



Lost Property

Please check the lost property box for any missing uniform items! At the end of term any unclaimed items will be re-cycled.



Autumn term Diary Dates 2018

Thursday 6 September - Wednesday 17 October 2018

Half-term: Thursday 18 - Friday 26 October

2018 Monday 29 October - Tuesday 18 December 2018

Christmas holiday: Wednesday 19 December 2018 -
Wednesday 2nd January 2019