



HUNTLEY NEWS April 2024

Our School Vision

Nurtured individuals, learning together with God's love, living life to the full.

Curriculum:

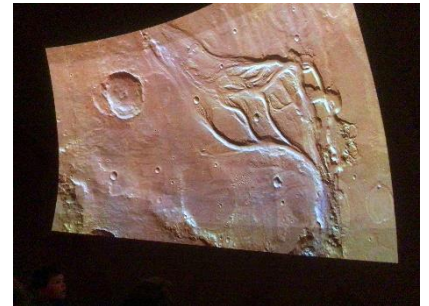
Space Dome

On Wednesday 9th April we had a very special day in school.



The hall was filled with a giant 'Space dome' and we all went inside to learn about the wonders of the universe!

Years R,1 and 2 found out all about space and the different planets. Years 3 and 4 looked at the water cycle and how this impacts life on Earth.



Year 5 and 6 also learnt all about the space. They found out all about the different constellations of the stars and identified the North Star. They also looked at the different conditions on all the planets and the moons that they have. They found out that the Earth used to be one large land mass and then the land drifted apart to form the continents we have today. Conditions on early Earth were very different to today and life could not



survive on Earth at first.

It was great to have the dome back in school and this is certainly a unique learning experience!

Stone Age day

Class Estuary and Ocean went back in time to the Stone Age for the day Hamish says.... We went down to the field and learnt how cavemen lived. We made a sled which would have been a piece of leather with a piece of rope attached. They would have pulled the sled to transport heavy loads, which they could not carry on their own, such as carcasses of animals which had they had killed to eat. We also built a Stone Age village having made our own wooden frames. The shelters had to be transportable and we had to move them around the field.



We then got to eat mammoth meat (actually marshmallows) dipped into a fruity sauce which we made using berries.

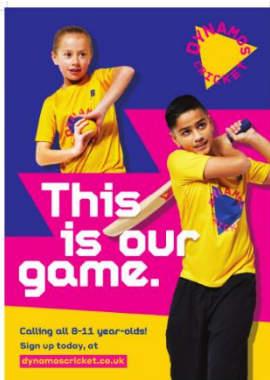




My favourite parts of the day were the ones where we worked as a team -sled pulling or shelter building. James says.. We played a big game of Mammoth ball. We stood on a circle and man in the middle rolled the ball to us. We had to use one hand to stop the trampling mammoth coming through our legs! We also practiced spear throwing at wicker animals he had made. My favourite part was eating the mammoth marshmallows and building the shelters.



Chance to Shine cricket coaching



This term all the children are have having a lesson with an England Cricket Board coach in the Chance to Shine programme. We take advantage of this every year and it is great that see many children play cricket locally. This will continue for the rest of the term. Most of the local clubs are running All Stars / Dynamos programmes if your child fancies playing more cricket over the summer.



Behaviour/ Attendance

Attendance across the school was 94% last term – lower than usual. However we saw a spike in illness in some classes and it was a short term overall. Just a reminder that fines will be issued for holidays taken on term time and next year (from September) this fine will increase. More information in the changes around attendance being issued at a national level, will be shared as they become available. Next year's term dates are published on the website to refer to.



Clive Challenge

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the CLIVE challenge over the Easter holidays. This challenge involved designing and building a plan for a farm of the future.





Certificates: These children have been awarded certificates over the past couple of weeks.

Class Stream- Isabella and Isaac

Class River- Tilly and Milo

Class Estuary-

Class Ocean – Izzi and Megan

Writers of the week- Harlow

Hand writer of the week- Willow

TT Rockstar- James



Numbots

Amelia

99 Club passes

Florence

Zip Challenge

During half time at the recent Glos v Exeter game at Kingsholm stadium, James competed in the final of the Zip challenge.

Where he had to race from the half way line to the try line.

The Zip Challenge, as part of Mark Atkinson's testimonial year, Gloucestershire rugby clubs have been running a sprint race in all age groups across their youth teams to help find the fastest young feet in Gloucestershire.

James was the fastest U7 in his club, which meant he made it through to the semi-finals, he then went on to be one of the 5 fastest in the county so made the final this weekend at Kingsholm. Whilst he didn't quite win, he did amazingly well by running in front of over 11,700 people (he was quite nervous so very proud he overcame that and did it!).



Photography Club and Cheltenham Camera Club photography competition

Well done to the Photography club who made some beautiful Easter cards to sell and made £37 for club resources.

In addition, we had 11 entries this year into the Cheltenham Camera Club photography competition. Please look on the website to see all of the entries.

A massive thank you to Anne Bryson – one of our governors who runs the club and organised our entries for the competition.



Cave Crystals – Charlotte



Rest is best – Jessie



Izzi's football final

Congratulations to Izzi and her team at Ross who qualified for Herefordshire Junior finals on the bank holiday weekend. They didn't win on this occasion but did very well to get this far!!

Eco Committee update

The children on our school Eco Committee recently led a worship to tell us all about the three areas they have chosen to focus on, in order to make our school more environmentally friendly. They shared Power point presentations about: soft plastic recycling, food waste composting and reducing electricity usage. Posters have been put up around school reminding people to switch off lights when the room is not in use and the members of the Eco-committee will be carrying out spot checks! They explained that our school electricity bill has nearly doubled over the last few years so reducing usage is good for many reasons! Food waste bins are now in the playground for people to put their fruit waste into. Bins were introduced in the dinner hall some time ago and this is going well. It cuts down on the number of plastic black bin bags we are using and the food waste is taken away to be composted. Lastly new bins can be found around the school to collect soft plastics for recycling.

Other

Mr Gooding

After Easter we welcomed Mr Alex Gooding to the team. Mr Gooding is covering in Class River two days a week, job sharing with Mrs Hulse. He will also be in Class Estuary on a Wednesday when Miss Bramley is out supporting other schools. Mr Gooding has previously taught in New Zealand and has been a cricket coach in lots of different schools. We welcome him to the team!



Miss Dawson visit

We had a long-awaited visit from Miss Dawson and her daughter Elsie. It was so lovely to see them both. Elsie had plenty of cuddles and the children had lots of questions for Miss Dawson. We also gave them the gifts from everyone from the money collected before she left. Thank you to all who contributed.

We bought a pamper kit and flowers for Miss Dawson when she went on maternity leave.

For Elsie we bought a bouncy chair and some outfits. Then the rest of the money was put on a John Lewis gift card.



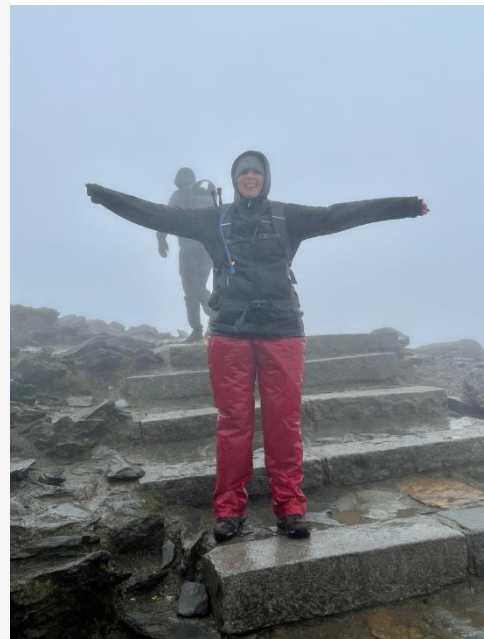
Conquering Snowdon – Sian Ogden

A HUGE thank you to one of our parents (and PTFA members) Sian who took up the challenge of walking Snowdon to raise funds for school. The money raised will be used to build a new wooden structure outside Class River which can be used for reading, small group work and interventions. We are all really excited about this and hopefully work will get started soon. Thank you so much Sian and thank you to those of you who sponsored this cause! Sian raised over £3100!!!!

On the 13th of April I will be walking up Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) I was keen to do this challenge as a fundraiser and after some thought, decided to keep it within the local community. After having a discussion with the Headteacher at my daughter, Georgia's school (Huntley C of E Primary) we are hoping to raise some funds to transform an outside area of the school into an all weather snug where the children can enjoy the many benefits of being in an outdoor environment where they can practice reading and phonics, group reading and 1:1 Interventions. Any extra space for the pupils would be great, so a new area for learning would be very beneficial. To transform this area would provide teachers with a tranquil calm environment for learning to take place, the perfect place to concentrate.

The route we will be walking is 13km to an elevation of 1,085 metres above sea level.

Anyone that knows me will know that I'm not a huge lover of exercise so this will be a challenge and a great achievement for me. Doing this for a cause that will benefit the school children is a great motivation. Any sponsor/donation would mean a lot and would be very much appreciated.



Important dates

Sports Day Thursday - 27th June 1:30

Founder's day- Friday 15th July 5:00

There will be an earlier start this year, following feedback about the start time for the younger children. Children can be picked up at 2:00 if parents wish to allow a bit more time to get ready.

Please check the calendar on the website to keep up to date with what is going on.