



**Honesty, Respect,
Kindness, Perseverance**

Lower Halstow School

Newsletter

June 2023

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Update from Miss Crowe

I can't believe that we are just 1 term away from the end of the academic year! There is so much still to fit in that I think Term 6 will be a super busy one! More information on this can be found in the calendar at the end of the newsletter.

I would like to start by saying a huge well done to Year 2 and 6 for tackling their SATs positively and showing great resilience. We look forward to the Year 6 results arriving with us later on in Term 6. Thank you to parents and carers for the support that you have given the children – they have all done us proud!

This term it is the turn of Year 1 (with a few retakes for some Year 2 pupils) and Year 4 for their phonics and multiplication screening checks. We wish them lots of luck but I am sure that they won't need it as they have been working so hard and fitting in lots of practice!

Reports are currently being written and will come out in the last week of term when the latest assessment data is available. We're sure they will reflect what a busy year we have had as well as how hard the children have worked throughout the year.

We are still adding to our school art gallery, however we have now used up all of the donated frames. If you have any frames that you now longer need please do send them into school as we will make good use of them – thank you.

At the end of Term 5 the children were working on pieces of art and poetry to display at the Lower Halstow Poetry and Arts Festival on 10th June, 10.00am until 4.00pm, at St Margaret's church, this year the featured poet is Lord Byron as he had many connections with the village. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

A few reminders

* Despite the half term break not being as summery as we had hoped, I have it on good authority that the temperatures will soon rise giving us hope that the Summer really is just around the corner. With this in mind please apply sunscreen before school, bring in a sunhat and water bottles.

*Don't forget to order your school photos directly through the Carmel Jane photography website.

*Please, please, please continue to listen to your child read at home. We have started to see this drop off as the weather has improved and families have other plans, however reading with your child is so important to support the teaching we are doing in school.

Best wishes
Miss Crowe

Coronation Street Party

One of the highlights of the term was our celebration of the King's Coronation. We had hoped to have a street party on the playground however the wind and rain meant that we re-located to the school hall. Despite this, there was still a lovely atmosphere, the TAs spent time decorating the hall with balloons, bunting, flags and even a life sized cardboard cutout of King Charles III. The children ate lots of party food, listened to music through the ages, sang God Save the King and played traditional party games.



TCS Mini Marathon Event

To counteract the cakes and treats that were eaten at the Coronation Party we used up some of our energy completing the TCS Mini Marathon event. As a whole school, we took part and every child in the school made a pledge to run the mile. We all managed to get out and complete the run in order to be part of the TCS World Record attempt of the most children completing the mini marathon in one month. We have got our fingers crossed that we helped to break that record!



School Attendance

Unfortunately Chicken Pox has continued into Term 5 so our attendance hasn't picked up as much as we had hoped it would. The whole school attendance stands at **93.3%** which is better than at this point last year, however we still need to work together to get in line with the national expectation of 96.5%.

Term	2021-2022	2022-2023
1	94.4%	94.2%
2	88.0%	92.9%
3	92.9%	95.2%
4	91.4%	93.1%
5	95.0%	94.9%

Smart Money Award

We were very excited to hear that we had won an award from the work we did during the last academic year on being smart with money. Due to the number of workshops that took place in Lower Halstow School, we were awarded the HSBC Smart Money award and for our efforts, we received a beautiful glass trophy. This was another lovely award to add to our trophy case.



Eco Week

Another key event in this term was the work the school completed on being Eco friendly. Every class made a pledge of something they were going to do in order to help look after our environment. Year 5 and 6 focused on turning off lights and appliances when they are not needed/being used. Year 1 and 4 completed litter picks around the school; Year 1 also created a recycling box for all their paper and

card. Year 2 have started composting their fruit scraps from their morning break. As a whole school, at lunchtimes, we are now separating our food waste from the packets etc. that can be recycled. Everyone is working so hard to look after our environment.



Class Trip Summary

As the weather has started to improved several of our classes have headed out on class trips to a variety of venues.....

Year 5 – Leeds Castle

Beech class headed off for a day at Leeds Castle, they enjoyed dressing up in period costume and participating in role-play as occupants of the castle. They also had a tour of the castle and grounds and completed various workshops to help them with their understanding of monarchs – several of the children said it was their best primary school trip so far.



Year 3 – Horton Kirby River Trip and Living Land at Detling Showground

Meanwhile Year 3 were very busy as they managed to squeeze two trips in. Firstly, they headed off to Horton Kirby to complete a fieldwork trip at the river. They focused on the physical features of the river, played Pooh Sticks, looked at how the physical and human features have changed over time and even got to look at the permeability of rocks under the microscope. The following week they headed off to the Living Land Show at the Detling Showground, here they learnt about different aspects of farming and country living, they came back from both trips with lots of stories to tell.



Year R – Curly's Farm

Acorn Class tried their hand at being farmers for the day. They learnt what it takes to care for the livestock, where our food comes from and engaged in lots of hands on learning activities, including feeding the animals.



Year 5 Bikeability

It is an annual event that our Year 5 pupils participate in Bikeability Safety training. The children took their Level 1 and 2 Bikeability course and all successfully passed; they were awarded with Bikeability certificates and badges certifying that they were able to ride safely in the school grounds and on the roads around the village.



Charity Week

Term 6 begins with our annual charity week. The classes have all chosen their preferred charity and have planned out what they want to do to raise the money. The two charities that the children have chosen to support are Cancer Research UK and World Wildlife Fund. Please see the table below for each class's event. Further details will be added to Dojo.

Class	Charity	Activity	Planned date
Year R – Acorn	World Wildlife Fund	Class decorated biscuit sale	During the week
Year 1 – Rowan	World Wildlife Fund	Break the Rules day	9.6.23
Year 2 – Willow	World Wildlife Fund	Lemonade and Ice lolly sale	9.6.23 after school
Year 3 – Maple	World Wildlife Fund	Break the Rules day	9.6.23
Year 4 - Hawthorn	World Wildlife Fund	Sponsored Run and Cake Sale	Run – during 7.6.23 Cake Sale – after school
Year 5 – Beech	World Wildlife Fund	Break the Rules day	9.6.23
Year 6 - Oak	Cancer Research UK	Break the Rules day	8.6.23



Dates for your diary

Date	Event
5.6.23	Term 6 begins
June	Year 4 times table statutory national screening check
12 - 16.6.23	Year 1 phonics statutory national screening check week
13.6.23	Author – Nicholas Sayer visiting the school.
14 – 16.6.23	Year 6 Kingswood Residential
19.6.23	Year 6 money workshop
20.6.23 at 9.15am	Year 5 Beech Class Assembly
21.6.23 pm	Sports Afternoon – details to follow
22.6.23	Year 1 trip to Wingham Wildlife – details to follow
23.6.23	Staff Development Day (Children do not attend)
27.6.23	Year 6 Together day – details to follow
28.6.23 pm	Reserve Sports Day
3.7.23	Staff Development Day (Children do not attend)
6.7.23 am	Transition Morning
7.7.23 am	First Aid training for Year 6
11.7.23 am	Transition Morning
13.7.23 am	Year 1 Synagogue Trip – details to follow
14.7.23 4.30 – 6.00pm	PTA Disco
17.7.23	Year 6 World of Work Day
18.7.23 at 1.30pm	Year 6 Production to parents
19.7.23 3.15 – 4.00	Open Classrooms
19.7.23 at 6.00pm	Year 6 Production to parents
21.7.23 2.00pm	Year 6 Leavers' Service
21.7.23	End of term 6

2023-2024

Term 1 begins: 4.9.23