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Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you have continued to keep safe during what we hope is our final part of the lockdown. Hopefully we are all starting to see some light now at the end of what has been an extremely long tunnel. It has been absolutely wonderful welcoming the large majority of pupils back over the last few weeks and we look forward to greeting even more of you back after the Easter break.

We would like to thank our fabulous team of staff who, I'm sure you will agree, have continued to provide an engaging curriculum for the children who have continued to attend school throughout the pandemic and for those children who have been accessing home learning and have returned to school recently. School has been a wonderful place to be and we have had lots of exciting activities going on which I know you have also supported by helping the children participate from home, so thank you!

Early Years Update Class JB and HJ

Our Early Years classes have been enjoying texts by Julia Donaldson this half term including 'Sharing a Shell', 'Monkey Puzzle', 'Room on the Broom' and 'Counting Creatures'. The role play area has been a beach with their very own rock pool, which has been very popular, with lots to explore, investigate and talk about.



In maths, as well as counting shells, we have explored patterns and shapes, looking closely at the patterns on shells and in the outdoor environment.

They have made chips from sweet and white potatoes (we all love chips at the seaside), investigating the similarities and differences but everyone agreed that they loved all the chips no matter what colour they were. For science week the children made their own sensory bottles and used torches to look at the chosen contents through the lights. Children have created their own potions and created jungle scenes using playdough and broccoli. More recently they have enjoyed an Easter discovery tray, full of eggs, chicks, carrots, feathers, bunny ears and lots of other things to explore. This week they have been making Easter cards, decorating bonnets and eggs, going on an Easter egg hunt in the forest school and having an Easter Bonnet Parade.



Pod 2 Update Classes; BL, KH and the Communication Class

The Communication class and class BL have had lots of fun this half term and have really enjoyed the immersive activities linked to their core text; 'The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig'. They have explored materials and their properties. This has included looking at the different materials that homes are made from. After doing this the children designed and built a model of a dream home of their own, with lots of fun things inside including a ball pool, a trampoline, waterbed and a carousel. The children have also compared the materials that homes would have been made from in 1666 and made models of homes from that time, which tied in nicely with the children's history topic where we were learning about the Great Fire of London. The pupils have also continued to enjoy visiting forest school where on one Tuesday we re-created the Great Fire of London with our model homes from the past and set them alight by starting a fire in the bakery, seeing it spread and then attempting to put out the fire with water squirters similar to what would have been available at the time.

KHa have been busy practicing using hammers and saws to build wooden bridges. They have carefully designed their bridges and learnt how to use tools safely. The finished bridges look fantastic!

This week the children have made Easter nests in Food Technology, which linked to their maths skills; the pupils weighed the ingredients on a balance scale to identify which were heavier/ lighter. They have also been busy designing an Easter scene and decorating a hard-boiled egg for the pod competition. An exciting Easter trail in Forest Schools and a disco has also taken place this week.

Sensory classes update CRI/SD, FH and HHa

The Primary Sensory Class have continued to work on the theme of Buildings and Homes, and the topic of Carnival of Colour, in the second half of this term. They have continued to 'construct' a house each week using sensory items and also continued to have a green, eco time, based around our main sensory text My Green Day by Melanie Walsh. The children have used switches and buttons as well as a 'hands-on' approach to create art work and songs and cooking celebrating the colours the children love and the homes they live in. The children are now use the swimming pool which is great and as the weather has improved, we have also been more active in our Jigsaw and RE work playing games with friends and doing more activities outdoors. The class finished the term making some wonderful Easter Bonnets.

Class FH have continued to explore the world. They have looked at African patterns, fireworks in Australia, celebrated Chinese New Year, smashed a pinata in a Mexican fiesta and celebrated Polish 'Wet Monday.' The pupils have really enjoyed experiencing the scents, textures and tastes of foods from these countries in our food technology sessions and they have been busy creating lots of colourful artwork to fill the classroom.

This week we have been doing lots of Easter activities including chocolate sensory play, making and modelling Easter bonnets, creating Easter egg cheesecakes, making table decorations and having a big Easter party.

Class HHa have continued to explore all the sights, sounds and smells of the Big Tent within our Circus story, we have developed our understanding of how to interact with lots of different props and actions and have begun to show remembered response and excitement in anticipation of the bubbles, elephant march and flame hula hoops. During science week, pupils explored the outdoors and collected lots of natural materials to create our own ice gardens. They explored the power of paint and bubbles....and created their own bubble bowls and they were brave enough to hold them over their heads.... Fortunately, none of the

bubbles fell out of the bowls!! The young people then used the coloured mixture to create some awesome artwork.

SCERTS CLASS UPDATE

SCERTS class have continued to explore different countries including Mexico and Ireland. They experienced Mrs Hook playing the ukulele and had attempted it themselves also. The children then went on to make their own craft ukulele. The pupils explored the many colours of Mexico including creating flowers from tissue paper, fingerprint flowers and explored foam soap in the colours of the flag. This also involved making and tasting Guacamole, Salsa and Tortilla chips. During their Ireland theme they celebrated St Patrick's Day, made shamrocks and danced to Riverdance and the Rattling Bog Song. In Science the class have looked at plants and what parts they have and then moved on to planting their own.

14-19 Classes LM, SL and LS

Classes SL and LM have had a busy time. They have been reading an adventure book and play-acting some of the scenes in the book, pretending to be one of the characters and forming a plan to escape a locked room. The young people have also written a blog as a character to recall the story. In maths pupils have been learning about Length and Mass. This has involved singing lots of songs and doing lots of actions to help us remember what is heavy and light, long and short. Class LM have also been learning about inverse operations, capacity and percentages. In Science the classes have been investigating 'Light' and made simple circuits, making their own torches using a simple circuit. During Science week the young people carried out lots of experiments, even making batteries from lemons and potatoes. Pupils have been looking at how to keep healthy and the dangers of smoking and drinking, they have also learnt about basic first aid and what to do in an emergency. In History the classes have researched the Tower of London and the Crown Jewels including researching famous prisoners that have been locked up in the Tower.



Art lessons have been a real plus point of the term as the class got to make famous London buildings. The pupils and staff placed the buildings together and lit them up which produced an amazing effect.

The class Easter celebrations have included designing and creating our own Easter bonnets for the parade, using their co-ordinate and map skills to discover where the Easter eggs are hidden and finally an Easter disco!

College Class LS

This half term the students in the college centre have been working extremely hard completing challenges to achieve their accreditations. They have also been developing their independence and basic skills by completing these challenges. The students have been enjoying the breakfast club where they have had the opportunity to prepare their own drink and snack each morning. They have also used their mornings to set up a mini enterprise by selling drinks and snacks to staff members, in the pod, to raise money. The students have also



made a range of both savoury and sweet snacks in their cooking sessions. During the PE sessions the students have really enjoyed participating in the yoga sessions and have found these very relaxing. The college centre has also had a lot of fun this week for Easter. Students have taken part in a scavenger hunt, baking, bingo, quizzes, Easter bonnet parade and the annual Easter disco with their very own class DJ, DJ G Dogg.

Whole School Events

Despite the whole school physically not being able to come together due to the pandemic this hasn't stopped our amazing staff and pupils participating in World Book Day, Red Nose Day and Science Week. World Book Day; staff and pupils dressed up as their favourite characters and took part in some amazing sensory story, drama sessions and workshops linked to their favourite texts. Everyone had lots of fun and the costumes definitely get better every year. We also launched our Sponsored Read/Listen event for pupils to participate in at home and school throughout March. We already know through our Frederick Holmes School Family and Friends Group that a number of our pupils have raised a fantastic amount of money and look forward to hearing more of your fundraising efforts when we return after Easter and purchasing some exciting new books for our library.



Red Nose Day last Friday transformed staff and pupils into superheroes for the day and once again everyone made a fantastic effort and we had Batman, Spiderman, Superman/woman, Hulk to our own community hero's police, nurses and firefighters. Different pods within school held their own special activities including a fair in 14-19, cake/bun sales and much more.

Science Week also saw classes involved in lots of mind-blowing activities including; creation of ice gardens, bubble bowls, exploring floating and sinking and using a salad spinner to create pictures of the planets and this is only a few of the activities which pupils had the opportunity to participate in.

Following the success of the Christmas Tree Trail, we have teamed up again with We Made This Hull for their new 'Helping Hands' Trail that honours those who have lent the residents of Hull a helping hand during the pandemic. Our 'train' has been created by classes across the school, thanking many different people who help us and is once again on display along the school fence. The trail is running from March 20th- April 10th. Links to the map are available from our Facebook and Twitter pages- we are number 8! A special thank you again to one of our caretakers, Rob, who has created the fantastic shapes and attached them to the fence!



Finally this week has been focused on Easter celebrations and classes have enjoyed Easter Crafts, Disco's, Egg Hunts, decorating eggs, making Easter gardens and bonnets.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing staff at the school for all their hard work and commitment they have shown our children and young people despite the difficult

circumstances we all find ourselves in at the moment, I'm sure you will all agree they are truly the best!

IMPORTANT END OF TERM INFORMATION

- Please note your child's personalised plan including their end of term review and targets for the summer term will be sent out to you at the start of next term.
- Our full school risk assessment continues to be followed rigorously throughout the school, this has been updated recently and is available to view on our **brand new school website**; www.frederickholmesschool.org.uk if you have any questions or queries regarding the risk assessment or the safety of your child in school during this time please don't hesitate to contact the school.
- **Notification of Positive Test Result Over the Easter Holiday**
Testing will continue over the Easter break. If your child tests positive on an LFT or PCR then can you report this to Mr Weller: 07866602176 or Mrs Maddison: 07973824293 up to and including the 1st of April. From the 2nd April any positive results should be reported through the government track and trace system.
- **REMINDER- if you haven't returned your Data Collection Form or Parent/Carer Questionnaire please send it in straight after the Easter Break.**
- **Please note school reopens to pupils on Tuesday 13th April**

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and wish you a safe and lovely Easter Break.

Kind regards



Helen Maddison
Head of School



