

Dates for the diary

March

Wednesday 20th March

Dragonfly assembly - 2.40pm

Wednesday 27th March

Duck assembly - 2.40pm

Thursday 28th March

Infant Music Festival

PTA Mother's Day Sale

Friday 29th March

PTA Mother's Day Sale

Early Help drop in - 9am

April

Monday 1st April

Rev Goodliff Assembly - 2.30pm

Tuesday 2nd April

Year 2 Colchester Castle visit

Reception - Reading & writing workshop

Wednesday 3rd April

Heron assembly - 2.40pm

Friday 5th April

Early Help drop in - 9am

Break up for Easter

Monday 8th to Monday 22nd

April

Easter Holiday

Tuesday 23rd April

Return to school

May

Wednesday 1st May

Class photos

Wednesday 8th May

Tag Rugby competition - 12:30-3pm

Thursday 9th May

KS1 Quad Kids - 10.30-3pm

Monday 20th May

Rev Goodliff Assembly - 2.30pm

Friday 24th

Break up for half term

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May

Half Term

June

Monday 3rd June

Return to school

This week, we said a sad farewell to Bill White, our old lollipop man. Bill was Hamstel's lollipop man for over 11 years before he retired in June 2017. He was a much loved and well respected member of our school community and will be sadly missed by many. We would like to thank you for your generous donations and memories of Bill which we will be sending on to his family.

Our Year 1 students are featured in this week's Echo Newspaper sharing their experiences of the Great Fire of London from their History off the Page workshop.

Please could we remind parents of the need for children to bring a full swimming kit to school with them on their swimming day each week. A kit includes a one piece costume or tight fitting trunks, a towel and a swimming hat in a drawstring bag. Swimming is an important element of the school's physical education and all children are expected to swim weekly. If your child is well enough to attend school there should be no reason for them not to swim unless there are exceptional circumstances, which need to be put in writing. If your child does not have a swim kit in school they will still be expected to swim using spare kit.

Sneak peek at our week

Year N - Nursery

This week we have been learning about hygiene and decay. We have looked at the importance of brushing our teeth and washing our hands properly. The children seemed to really enjoy our little experiment using glitter on how far germ spread.

We have been predicting what will happen to bread after it has been touched and left in a warm place, as well as what happens over time to fruit that is left. We looked at the results at the end of the week and noted the changes.

This week some children have been continuing their learning of alliteration whilst others have been continuing to practise using their listening skills. In Read, Write, Inc. the children have learnt the sound 't'.

In Maths this week some children have been learning to count two groups of objects together, others have been looking at shapes and making different arrangements with them and some have been looking at shapes within our environment.

Year R - Reception

This week we have continued our learning about under the sea as the children have been so interested in this topic. We have been reading the book Barry the Fish with Fingers. We have been thinking about all the different things that we are good at not just in school but outside school as well.

During outdoor learning this week we have been learning about Spring. We have learnt about the different signs of Spring including blossom, buds and daffodils. Whilst in the wildlife area we looked for the different signs of Spring and took photos using the iPads.

In literacy this week we have been learning about adjectives. We have been thinking about different adjectives we can use to describe fish.

In Maths we have been learning about money. We have been learning the names of the different coins and have been playing shops and paying for different things using the coins.

Red Words for this week: **were, school, love**

Outdoor Learning

Monday 18th March

Fox

Tuesday 19th March

Hedgehog

Wednesday 20th March

Otter

Thursday 21st March

Squirrel

Friday 22nd March

Badger

Year 1

This week we have continued learning all about the Great Fire of London by looking at a Minecraft video depicting the fire. We sequenced pictures from the fire and wrote sentences to describe what happened.

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on multiplication. We have been making and drawing arrays and writing the repeated addition. Quantum Theatre visited us to celebrate Maths through theatre; we helped them solve mathematical problems involving fractions, multiplication, number and place value.

In Geography, we have been locating the capital cities on a map of the UK and locating the surrounding seas.

REMINDER: Dragonfly Class Assembly Wednesday 20th March 2.40pm

Year 2

This week we have been reading the story 'Beauty and the Beast' by Ursula Jones. We have explored lots of vocabulary to describe the different settings and characters in the text. The children have written some lovely descriptive writing.

In Maths, we have been learning about Time and developing our clock reading skills for telling the time to quarter past and quarter to. We have also carried out some problem solving tasks.

On Monday we enjoyed the visit from Quantum Theatre to celebrate Maths, where we loved joining in to help solve all their mathematical problems.

This week we have also started to learn about 'Knights', what they wear and their job.

REMINDER: Next week is Outdoor Learning in Year 2, please remember to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Next week we would also appreciate any donations of large cereal boxes or similar so we can start making our Knight Shields. **Please make sure they are not boxes that have contained nuts due to allergies in the classes. Thank you.**

Smarties Challenge Fundraising

The final total for our Smarties Challenge fundraising is **£1815.87.**

Thank you again for your support, without your support we would be unable to fund projects like this. We are hoping to start the works to update the pond soon.

Digital Parenting

We are sending home today a copy of the latest Digital Parenting guide. Please take some time to have a read through as it contains some valuable information and guidance for parents.

School Dinners

Next week we will be sending home copies of the new School dinner menu for after the Easter holiday.

The menu is already on the school website for you to view.

Weekly Attendance Award

Reception: Peacock – 98.3% - **2nd Win!**

Year 1: Dragonfly – 99.3% - **3rd win!**

Year 2: Fox – 97.3% - **2nd Win!**



Dinner menu

Monday

R - Beef Bolognese sauce with herby spaghetti

G - Red lentil & cheese loaf with rich tomato sauce & hand cut potato wedges

P - Jacket potato with baked beans, tuna mayonnaise or grated cheese Broccoli & carrots

Poached Pear & Apple crumble with custard
Jelly

Tuesday

R - Chargrilled Chicken fajitas with Mexican rice

G - Linda McCartney Sausages with mashed potato & caramelised red onion gravy in a Yorkshire pudding

P - Pasta with tomato & basil sauce
Mixed peas & sweetcorn
Sticky Toffee pudding with custard
Homemade Mousse

Wednesday

R - Roast Turkey, stuffing & bread sauce with roast potatoes

G - Rosemary, Feta & Pepper quiche with roast potatoes

Wednesday continued...

P - Wholemeal pasta with cheese sauce

Roasted seasonal root vegetables & curly kale

Warm waffle with chocolate custard
Jelly

Thursday

R - Classic homemade British Beef Burger quirk hand cut potato wedges

G - Sweet potato & chickpea curry with steamed rice

P - Jacket potato with baked beans or grated cheese

Carrots, cauliflower & green beans
Apple & blackcurrant shortcrust pie with custard

Homemade mousse

Friday

R - Fish Fingers & chips with tartar sauce

G - Bean burger & BBQ sauce with chips

P - Jacket potato with baked beans or grated cheese

Baked beans & garden peas
Baked banana flapjack
Jelly