

# Hamilton School

An honest school that strives to do the best.

HamiltonSch



@HamiltonSch



Feb -  
Mar 2023

No. 47

# Newsletter



Happy  
EASTER

This has been a very short term but we have been very busy here at Hamilton! During the course of the half term the children have had the opportunity to watch a live theatre performance of Scrooge, which a large number of children seemed to really enjoy. This was performed by M&M theatre productions and paid for by the charity Happy Days. We also had a morning of Silly Science where an external company called the Education Group came in and carried out experiments with the children. Again this was something that the children all enjoyed. Gabriella, our Assistant Headteacher, has been putting lots of posts on Class Dojo of progress towards the common ground Arts project. Our contribution to this is felting and we have had a brilliant artist in school over the past 4 weeks working with all the children to create a finished product which will be displayed at the MAC exhibition centre in the Summer Term. Look out on Class Dojo for more information regarding this and more videos and pictures of the finished product.

### **Snow day**

Thank you for all your support and understanding with regards to the two snow days we had this half term. It is always difficult to make the decision to close the school when we have bad weather. Hamilton Road, along with many of the other side roads across the city, is treacherous in icy weather and that has to be part of the decision making process. So many of our children come into school on minibuses that if it is not safe on the roads, we cannot have the children in. I hope the ideas for home learning that came home via the teachers on the Friday were useful to you and that your children enjoyed the snow!

### **Snack money**

As a school, we are also affected by the rise in the cost of living. We also have an old school building that costs a lot to maintain. Costings for maintenance have risen greatly however the money coming into school has not. Snack is an important part of the day for our children. Many children will struggle to concentrate when hungry and have some very restricted diets. We also use snack times as a communication session as many children are motivated by requesting food. Please can we ask for a contribution of £1 a week to help us pay for snack in school. This is something we are struggling to pay for currently. Any contributions can be paid via ParentPay, the same way dinner money is paid.

### **Attendance**

Whole school attendance for this half term, is 90.80%. We are aiming to improve this to above 93%. We strive to work with children and their families to ensure that we are as supportive as possible.

Our pastoral team regularly review children's attendance and put in support where needed. Please do contact us if you are in need of support regarding attendance.

## Coffee morning and donations to school

Thank you to those parents who attended the coffee morning last week. Unfortunately it was not attended as well as we would have liked down to the bus strikes and the difficulties many parents had in getting here. We hope to see more of you at the next one on 10th May. We are looking to add an additional date as well so keep an eye out on Class Dojo for this additional date.

Handsworth Lions Club have donated a hamper full of Easter eggs to raffle in order to raise money for the school. Thank you to those of you who bought tickets. The money raised will go either towards new sensory room equipment or outdoor play equipment. Both of these areas are in great need of investment.

Thank you to PK Recruitment Agency, who we use to supply staff when our staff are off sick. They have provided us with an Easter egg for every child in the school so many thanks to them.

## Expansion

The plans for the new secondary provision are going well. We are working with Birmingham City Council to ensure that the provision we will be providing will be the best possible. Next term we will be investing a great deal of time into curriculum development and are hoping to share these plans at one of our coffee mornings in the Summer Term. Look out on Class Dojo for further information on this nearer the time.

## Staff changes

At the end of this term we have our Assistant Site Manager, John, leaving. We wish him all the best in the future and we are sorry to see him go.

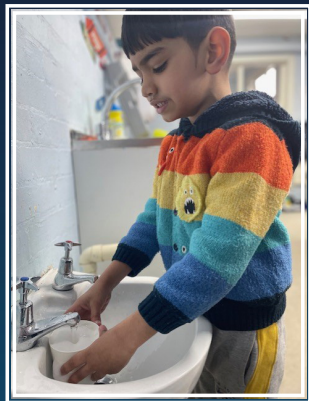
We have a new teacher, Maxine, starting after Easter and have recruited 6 new Teaching Assistants who will be starting with us over the course of the next half term.

As ever it is a busy time here at Hamilton! I hope all families have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday 17th April for the start of our Summer Term.

*Katie Williams*  
Headteacher



# Class One



Another successful term completed in Class 1. The children have made lots of progress this spring term, particularly in focus areas such as Reading, Number and Shape, Space and Measure.

As part of our topic animals, we have looked at animal habitats and explored these through a range of sensory tuff trays. Children have learnt to recognise where different animals live and some could categorise animals according to their homes.

Our animal story 'Say Hello to the Jungle Animals' was a huge hit. Children have learnt to match parts of the story through images, symbols and words.

We have developed our communication with the support of our speech and language team. We have all tried hard during our 1:1 session with the team and effectively continued to develop or targets through the school day.

The staff are proud of each and every one of the children in class 1. Bring on the final summer term together. Have a great break all.





Glass  
wo

# MR HART, WE'VE SHRUNK<sup>K</sup> THE KIDS



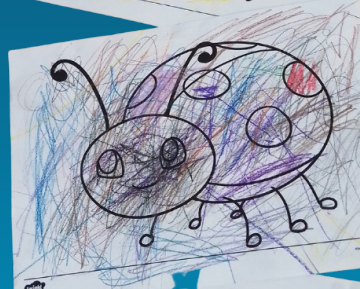
This term we have shrunk down to the amazing world of Minibeasts. The pupils have been fascinated with the tiny creatures and have loved taking part in exploring the wide range of bugs we can find. We would also like to give Hana a huge thank you for the wonderful cooking lessons where the pupils have been super engaged in key skills. Everyone has enjoyed making some wonderful dishes and learning to carry out actions like spread and cut. Our jam packed term has also included the children taking part in the common grounds community arts project. Thank you Ildi for all of your time, effort, and patience to teach us how to join in with felting, its looking great!



# Class Three



The children in class 3 have loved learning all about their topic 'It's a Bug's life', they particularly enjoyed science where we have been growing out sunflowers, made a wormery and had fun making bubble snakes. The children have enjoyed felting in art, where all the children participated in felt workshops and explored the different textures. In cooking the children continued to focus on particular skills which they have shown great progress. Well done to all the children in Class 3 for all their hard work this half term, have a nice Easter



# Class Four



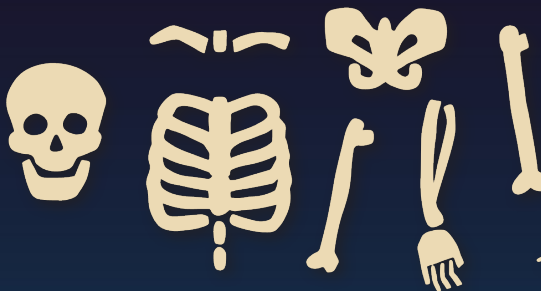
This half term in class 4 we have had lots of fun learning all about our bodies, we have stuck with the theme of 'Me, Myself and I' and have been doing lots of activities learning about our faces and our friends faces too. We also have done some work on our emotions and how actions may make us feel. At the start of this term we enjoyed nature week and had lots of outdoor fun and collected leaves for creating collages. We look forward to an exciting summer term.

Miss Lois





# Glass Five

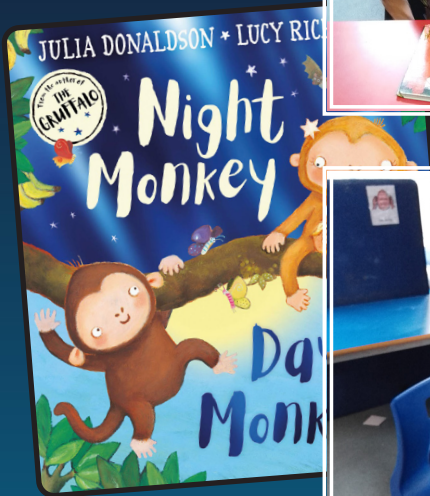


This term, our topic has been 'Me, Myself and I'. We have enjoyed learning about our families, our homes and most importantly, ourselves. We kicked off our topic by making self-portraits with different artistic approaches. We also learned about our bodies, where our bones are and how our heart beats for science and how to independently look after ourselves for PHSE. Furthermore, we have explored our local area this term as well as observing our homes and creating a collage of what our homes look like. We have really enjoyed learning about our families and celebrating mother's day. Overall, we have worked together to really delve deep into our own interests, differences and hobbies and had fun exploring these!





# Class Six



What a short but productive half term! Theme for this term was “Me, Myself and I”, children have enjoyed completing matching activities with their own photos, own photo puzzles and learning about their own likes and dislikes. During English we have read “Day Monkey, Night Monkey” Book and “Barnaby Bear”. Children enjoyed these stories and worked very hard during these lessons. Children’s favourite this term was Music, playing “Musical Chairs” and exploring the keyboards. All children also enjoyed creating gifts for “Mother’s Day” and celebrating “Easter”. Well done Class 6. You all continue to make us all very proud.



# Class Seven

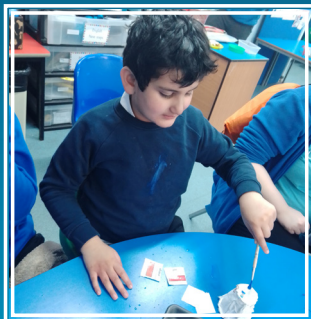
This half term our topic was “Me, Myself and I!”. Relating to this topic we have made self portraits in art, explored different emotions in PSHE and have been looking at our shadows in Science. The children particularly enjoyed using chalk to draw around peoples shadows and we used torches to make different hand shadow puppets.



We also celebrated world book day. This world book day our theme was nature. We focused on a book called “The Leaf Thief” in our English lessons. The children enjoyed the story and we made junk model characters from the book in our art lessons. We were especially proud of the squirrel we made!

In the run up to Easter, we have made chocolate nests in cooking and went on a easter egg hunt around the school grounds.

We wish all of our pupils and their families a very happy Easter!



## Squirrel Class 7





# Class Eight



Our topic this half term has been 'It's A Bugs Life'. We have had fun completing a lot of different activities relating to this topic through art sessions, gardening, sensory play, exploring and looking at toy bugs and cooking.

We also carried on going shopping each week to buy some ingredients for our cooking lessons, the children have explored the new environments and in shop helped to find items from our shopping list.

All the team from class 8 wishes you all a lovely break. We look forward to seeing the pupils return for the 1st half of the summer term for lots more fun activities relating to our new topic - Pirates.



# Glass Fine



This term our topic has been “Me Myself and I.” We have been learning about all about ourselves and our friends in the classroom.

In Science, we have loved carrying out lots of experiments. Our favourite experiment this half term has been making slime. We loved adding the ingredients to make the stretchy and colourful slime.

This term we have loved learning about different events such as Mother’s day, Red nose day, Ramadan and Easter. We have loved making a range of different art activities and exploring the different sensory trays.

Have a lovely half term





# Glassen



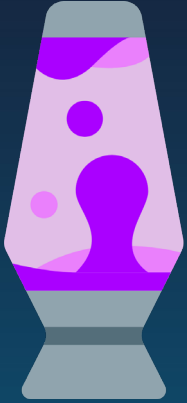
This half term, our topic has been "All About Me." We have had a lot of fun exploring and learning about different body parts and actions we can do during our lessons!

We have enjoyed reading a new story called 'Barry the Fish with Fingers' and we have done amazing work on learning new words. In Art lessons, we had so much fun mixing primary colours to create secondary. We also looked at Andy Warhol's pop art portraits for children to paint their own self-portraits.

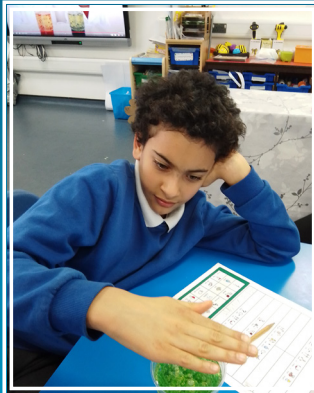
We enjoyed designing different faces with loose parts such as pipe cleaners and string, and making choices over our designs!

We have had an exciting term and we hope you all have a relaxing half term!

# Class Eleven



At the start of this term, we enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and reading lots of books. Our topic of Imagination World has kept us busy as we have done lots of Science experiments such as growing a rainbow, making crystals and creating a homemade lava lamp. We have made a Minecraft dirt block out of Chocolate Rice Crispies in Cooking. We have read a story called Poppy Pickle in English about a girl who imagines all sorts of weird and wonderful creatures which come alive! In Music we have listened to different types of music and created patterns and art linked with it. In Computing, the children created a story and puppet show of their own and they have filmed each other's stories. A great half term in Class 11!

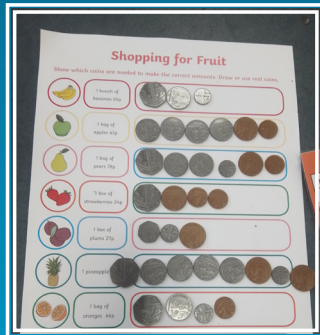


# Class Twelve



This half term in class 12 we have continued our swimming lessons and have really developed our confidence swimming on our backs and our fronts. Swimming has also really increased our independence as we have all got much faster at getting ourselves ready.

In school our topic was imagination world and we have really put our imaginations to good use within our English lessons. Our story was about a little girl with a big imagination and this week we will write our own stories thinking of our own imaginary things and creatures.





# Class Thirteen

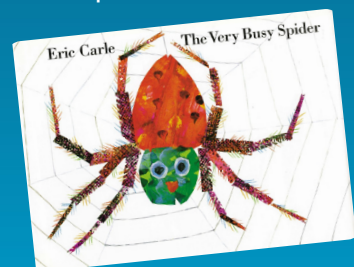


It's been a creepy half term!

Our topic this half term has been 'It's a Bug's Life' and the children have been up close and personal with a range of bugs. We have been on bug hunts, observing bugs closely and learnt all about the features of minibeasts and where they like to live. After learning about their habitats, we made minibeast hotels using plastic bottles and natural materials. We kept checking to see if we had any mini visitors.

In art, the children have made symmetrical butterfly prints and handprint flower art. The children have had so much fun moving like a minibeast in P.E, where they have been learning to create dance sequences out of minibeast actions such as wiggling like a worm, fluttering like a butterfly and creeping like a spider.

As well as this, the children have enjoyed the books 'The Very Busy Spider' and 'Our Planet' as our focus text for English and they have discovered ways they can help save our planet.







## Dinner money



## Snack money

Please remember that all dinner money and snack money should be paid every Monday

## STUDENT SNACK MONEY

Voluntary donation of £1 per week



Works out at only 20p per day

Mon



Tues



Wed



Thurs



Fri



## Green Destinations

Thank you to Green Destinations for donating a large number of bubbles and chunky chinks. We will make sure that we have lots of fun in the playground with these items.



# SILLY SCIENCE



Wow!





**GET  
READY**



**WHOOSH**



**HOT!**



**SILLY  
SCIENCE**



# TERM DATES



## Dates

### Half Term

Mon 20 February to  
Fri 24 February

### Spring Term 2

Mon 27 February to  
Fri 31 March

### Easter Break

Mon 3 April to  
Fri 14 April

### Summer Term 1

Mon 17 April to  
Fri 26 May

### Half Term

Mon 29 May to  
Fri 2 June

### Summer Term 2

Mon 5 June to  
Tues 25 July

### Training Days

Monday 24 July 2023  
Tuesday 25 July 2023

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