



HAWTHORNS SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE...




WELCOME to our brand new newsletter for families, governors and stakeholders to find out all about what has been happening over the past term here at Hawthorns School!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our pupils, staff and families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We look forward to welcoming you back in January.

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INTERACT WITH US!

This term we have launched our brand new Parent App 'Parent Connect', aiming to keep you up to date with what is happening at school on a day to day basis. If you haven't already signed up to the app, please contact us for support.

We have also launched our own facebook page this term... just search for Hawthorns School or click the link via our Parent App for regular updates from our staff and young people.



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Dear Everyone

As we come to the end of term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all – children, families, staff and governors – for your continued support, hard work and patience over recent months. This term has been challenging for us all, and while there was some trepidation back in September about how the term would unfold, you have all been amazing in ensuring that we remain open and the children have been able to access school. I know the COVID situation has been frustrating and stressful in equal measure, but I always have great faith in the fact that the whole Hawthorns family community will come together to fend off any challenges that come our way. I am so grateful for all your efforts to help us to keep our very special children at the heart of everything we do.

The holidays coming up will allow us a brief breather to look back and reflect on what we have had to learn from the year's events, and to consider how we will all recover in 2021. It is the challenges that we face in life that proves our strength, and all of you should take some comfort from that. Family and community will always stand together and triumph in the face of adversity.

The year has been exhausting, and Christmas will be somewhat more sober than usual because of the experiences you have all had and due to the restrictions still being in place. Please keep yourselves and your loved ones safe this holiday and don't take any unnecessary risks, we haven't seen the back of this virus yet. In particular, be careful around older relatives and those with medical conditions, goodwill this season will have to take a different form this Christmas to protect them.

Keep your chin up Everyone, continue to be the fabulous people you are, and have yourselves the very best Christmas that you can in the circumstances. Make sure you take some time to rest and replenish yourselves.

Take care and stay safe,

Mr C

MESSAGE FROM ROSARIO SARNO, SCHOOL GOVERNOR

This year has been a challenge for everyone. We would like to thank all the staff for their devotion, and hard work; to the parents for their understanding, compliance and support, and to the children for the sunshine they bring during these dark times.

A warm welcome to the all the new children who joined Hawthorns this year. Each and every single child is very special to us. We aspire to helping every child to be the best they can be.

A sincere welcome to all our new staff. We're happy that you've joined our 'family'. May you learn from us as we from you.

We are pleased to see our new external mobile classrooms and new EYFS playground are up and running this term. Over 30 more children now have a place where they receive the care and education they deserve. Moreover, they now have a place where they feel a part of and included within.

The countdown to Christmas has begun and there are signs for optimism as we look ahead to the New Year. We hope that you are able to celebrate Christmas with the ones you hold most dear.

To every single Child, Parent, Guardian, Staff, and associated member of Hawthorns may this Christmas and the New Year, bring to you the gifts of joy, happiness, laughter and goodwill.

Rosario Sarno
On behalf of Hawthorns Governing Board



Rosario Sarno
School Governors

SCHOOL COUNCIL

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The 9 new school councillors met with Mrs Kippax and Miss McCormick on the 18th November.

Issues discussed were:

- How safe we feel in school and whether we are glad to be back after lockdown.
- What we think about being in a group bubble.
- Any improvements we can make to playgrounds.

We then sent out a questionnaire to all classes and it was amazing to hear that all of our children feel safe in school and liked to be back with their friends. People are really happy with the changes to the playgrounds and we will be looking at how we can incorporate as many ideas suggested by each class as we can. Watch this space!

Council will be reminding everybody to keep recycling whatever they can during the Christmas break.



ECO COUNCIL

The Eco Council has met with Mrs. Cottrell twice since the return to school in September. The members remain committed to upholding the school's Eco Code and continuing to support the ongoing recycling projects.

The team have been collecting crisp packets for quite some time, with the aim of sending them off to Walkers to be recycled. However, after watching a short video called "Pen's Project," the team voted to switch their efforts to this worthwhile cause. The crisp packets are used to make "survival sheets," which are then distributed to the homeless. The children have been writing messages on the inside of the packets to let people know that they are thinking about them.

As the term draws to a close, the Eco Council will be reminding everybody to keep recycling whatever they can during the Christmas break.

ASH CLASS

Wow! What a fantastic first term we have had! All the new children in Ash Class have settled in so well and have made us so proud with how well they have progressed and got stuck in already! Even with a week isolation in the middle!

We have been working hard this term on getting to know each other and ourselves, the routines of school, emotions, building our confidence and independence, learning about Monsters and now enjoying all things Christmassy!

Amazing development and progress has been made already across all the areas of our curriculum by all the children—Social Communication, Interaction, Literacy and Number activities, Life Skills and Physical Development. Don't forget to keep updated with all our fun and activities by checking out our Twitter page: @hawthorns_ash !

After Christmas our next topic will be based on Traditional Tales.

Ash Class will be focusing on: The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will also continue to work on and develop our Social Communication and Interaction, Play Skills and Life Skills. In Spring 1 half term we will be starting cookery in the kitchen with Mrs Whittaker.

We hope you all have a brilliant Christmas and get some well deserved rest and we look forward to seeing everyone back in January for a new year of fun!

Miss Green, Mrs Shaw, Miss Dunning and Miss Handley x



We have already done some fantastic Christmas work
We have made a stained glass card for our mummy and daddy. We have made a moving Christmas tree and star decoration. We particularly enjoyed the 3D Rudolfs!
Ho Ho Ho! We are practicing our song When Santa got stuck up the Chimney for the Virtual Christmas show.

Check out our pictures below, showing some of the work that we have been doing over the past half term!

We would like to wish all of our children and families a very Happy Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year!



OAK CLASS





HOLLY CLASS

It's been a really busy few weeks here in Holly class and we have done lots of work about light and dark, autumn, and now as we race towards Christmas we are fully festive preparing for our Christmas show!

We have enjoyed loose parts play in the Forest, we really love the mud.

We have had lots of fun in our dark den exploring sparkly objects with our torches.

In our STEM corner we have been exploring autumn and we have been making patterns out of autumn colours and winter whites.

We are really excited for you to see our Christmas show and to see how hard we have worked on all our Christmas crafts.





BEECH CLASS



We have had a very busy Autumn term here in Beech Class. All the children have settled extremely well in the new Engagement Pathway and have shown great progression throughout all areas, especially their independence and social skills.

In the first half term our topic was 'Mirror Mirror on the Wall.' We shared the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, looked at different emotions and introduced Talk4Writing to retell the story.

In the second half term we have been focusing on Heroes! We have looked at the books Supertato and Real Superheroes. Then thought about people who help us, where they work and when they help us. Now we are thinking about Christmas and are all very excited.





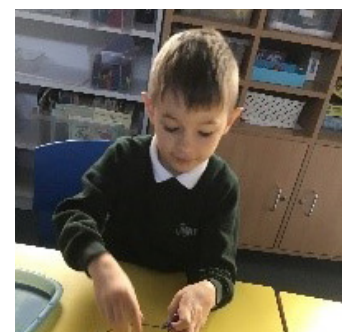
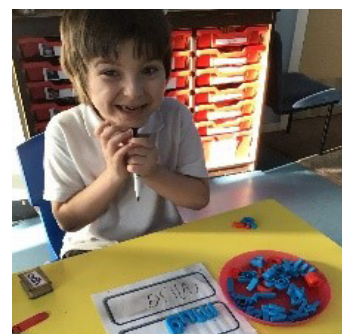
WILLOW CLASS

WOW!!! What a start to the year!! Hopefully you have been keeping updated on our daily 'Willow News' in your child's communication book and you have been able to follow us on Twitter to see the amazing things our children have been doing.

The children have blown us away with how incredible they have been on their return to school, engaging, focussing and loving life back at Hawthorns! They really have made us immensely proud and have been a credit to yourselves.

In Literacy, the children have worked very hard on their guided reading and phonic recognition. The children have worked to answer comprehension questions from texts and pictures. This has helped the children develop their vocabulary, use of descriptive words and their understanding. They've used our 'Say it, Make it, Write it' activities to segment, blend and write words and we have really focussed on our handwriting formation.

In Numeracy we have been working on our Number recognition, making groups to specific numbers, using addition sums, ordering numerals and developing quantity to number awareness.





We have been working on developing the children's confidence, self esteem, interaction and independence through a variety of tasks and activities. We have learnt about our topic 'Under The Sea' and developed our knowledge about different sea creatures. We have worked independently and in small groups in cooking with Mrs Whittaker to develop our everyday life skills. The children were really engaged in their development and understanding of emotions, recognising emotion and learning to self-regulate their emotions, we've been doing amazing work with Miss McCormick in PE to keep us fit and healthy. The children have loved outdoor learning and forest school with Mrs Cottrell, as well as our Story massage with Mrs Adderley. We've had Halloween, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Birthdays..... It's no wonder we are all shattered, yet the children return everyday, smiles on their faces ready to make us all proud, they are an incredible group that we are lucky to spend each day with. Have a great Christmas break, the children deserve it, you deserve it. We will be ready and waiting in January to hear all about their Christmas Holiday!

Mr S, Mrs Raynes and Miss Ratcliffe.

CHESTNUT CLASS

Chestnut Class have been back in school with a BANG! The children have had so many changes, new teacher, new class members, new ways of working. They have coped amazingly well and have been a credit to Hawthorns School and their parents/carers.

We have been working so hard in the Primary Model with our numeracy, literacy, cooking, forest schools and our space topic its been a fun filled term! In Numeracy we have been learning about shapes, measuring and adding more or less to 50. We have played lots of numeracy games and even been on a number hunt!

We have been practicing our handwriting and letter and number formations so we can write a letter to Santa. We have been learning about space in our topic and going to Infinity and beyond! We learnt about the names of the planets, the sizes and the order.

We have been cooking with Mrs Whittaker making sandwiches with different fillings, winter soup, apple bonfire cake, jacket potato and many more yummy treats!

We love being out in the forest getting messy and working as a team! We have been making a space buggy in loose parts play, team challenges involving relay races, outdoor snack with hot chocolate and of course marshmallows.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Stay safe, have fun and we will see you all again in the New Year!



MAPLE CLASS



We found out what remembrance day means and we presented an assembly to remember all of the soldiers.



In science, we learnt all about the features of different types of animals and how to classify them.



Our topic this term was all about the rainforest. We found out about lots of different things such as;

The journey of chocolate, features of the rainforest, the plants and animals that live in the rainforest and Deforestation.

It is December which means one thing.... CHRISTMAS! This month we have been receiving special videos from Father Christmas, our class elf Toto is up to his old tricks and lots of smiles all round!





SYCAMORE CLASS



In forest school, we took part in a minibeast hunt, finding how many different species live in our wildlife garden.

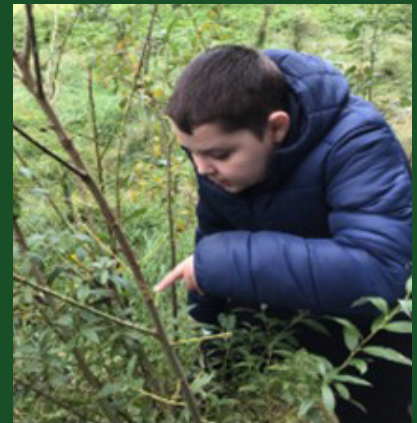
We explored different habitats and found many different minibeasts in trees, flowers and under logs.

We created a bug hotel to encourage minibeasts to live in our wildlife garden.

This term in Sycamore class, we have been learning all about Minibeasts.

We have found out lots of information about different minibeasts and their habitats. We created information books and posters with all the facts we researched.

Sycamore class lead the Harvest celebration (our first virtual assembly) We collected lots of food, to donate to different food banks, to help the home-





ROWAN CLASS

The Rowan boys and girls have had a SUPER busy term! Here are some of the things we have really enjoyed...

Finding out what's in the magic box.

Going to the forest with Mrs Cottrell

PE with Miss McCormick

Sensory motor & relaxation

Music

Communication and attention groups

But the Rowan boys and girls favourite thing to do is.....MESSY PLAY!

The children have settled in fantastically and we are very proud of their progress so far!
Have a sparkling Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



BUDS CLASS



What a fantastic 1st term we have had! All of the children have settled into Buds Class exceptionally well and we are super proud of them.

The children have been very busy and have all made brilliant progress with their attention and communication skills. We have worked hard in our attention sessions and speaking and listening focusing on animals and Christmas.

Thank you for all of your support over the past term. We hope you have a magical Christmas and a happy new year. Miss Foden, Miss Latham, Miss Price and Mrs Vaughan look forward to welcoming you back into Buds class in January.

ELM CLASS

Elm Class have had such a busy Autumn Term! We are all so proud of the way the children have settled back into School. They have coped amazingly well with a new classroom; new friends and new staff and we have all had an amazing term!

We have been working so hard on our communication skills and are all developing different ways of communicating. We have been using picture exchange, symbols, gesture and speech. We have practised these daily in our Communication Groups.

We have been learning to regulate our emotions and are all starting to really enjoy our Sensory Sessions.

Another big focus for us has been increasing our attention skills and we have worked very hard in our Attention Group and Magic Box sessions.

Forest School is one of our favourites and we have had so much fun in the forest this term.

We have also really enjoyed our Play Sessions and getting messy in Messy Play.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Stay safe, have fun and we will see you all again in the New Year!





All of the children have had a brilliant first term in Cherry class. We are all really proud of how they have settled in to our new classroom and learnt our class routines.

We have been learning about different animals in our attention sessions and all of the children have done some fantastic work in number, phonics, reading and writing. We have been creating some brilliant sentences with lots of different verbs in our speaking and listening sessions. We have also really enjoyed being outdoors every Wednesday with Mrs Cottrell for loose parts play in the wildlife garden.

We hope everybody has a lovely Christmas and a Happy New year. We look forward to seeing everybody again in January.

CHERRY CLASS



ELDER CLASS

We could not be prouder of the way the children in Elder Class have returned to school. They have had an amazing term. Their enthusiasm and creativity has inspired the adults in class and everyone has made fantastic progress in both their communication skills and learning. We have done excellent work around emotions, transport and Christmas. However, the best thing about Elder Class is that everyone is so kind and looks out for each other.

Mr Brown has thoroughly enjoyed his first term at Hawthorns and would like to say a big thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for their generous welcome, support and encouragement over the past few months. Special thanks must go to Miss Rutley and Mrs Kippax who look after the children (and Mr Brown), with exceptional warmth and considerable skill.

We hope everyone enjoys a very healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Fingers crossed we're all on the nice list!



BLOSSOM CLASS

It's been a very busy term in Blossom class! We've welcomed back some familiar faces and met some new ones! We started off the term with our all about me topic! We found out about things that we all like and dislike and what we have in common with each other.

After half term we began our 'Oh what a wonderful world' topic. So far we've visited Manchester to see our homes, India to celebrate Diwali, London to see a west end show, France to have croissants at the Eifel tower and Italy to have some Pizza (all virtually of course). Antarctica and the north pole will be our final destinations where I'm sure we'll meet some very important people. We're very excited to take part in the our first school show too.





Creating Meaningful Futures



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