



Written by the pupils for their local community to enjoy.

Easter Reflection Activities

Every class got to take part in Easter activities on Thursday 1st April. Each activity reflected upon an important part of the Easter story.

Hot cross buns, planting an Easter garden, making a palm cross and protect and decorate your special egg, were the fun and engaging activities that all classes took part in on their last day before Easter break. Children found out what each had to do with Easter and what these meant as part of the Easter story. Why do we have eggs at Easter? Why are palm crosses given out in churches at Easter? See if your children can remember and tell you about the Easter story.



An End of Term Message



Well, I have to be honest and say that I have been holding my breath this term! And now, I sigh with relief and congratulate everyone on returning to school so well, engaging in so much learning and us managing to keep school open for the duration of the term. May we go from strength to strength!

So much has been achieved this term. I cannot believe how much has been packed in. You are all ready for a rest!

We started with Science week and celebrating the special ladies and people in our lives who have juggled so many plates navigating us through the lockdown. Home learning was managed with parents own work and busy family lives. Such an achievement. Assessments have been undertaken to ascertain where children are at in their learning and inform us of the way forward. And a true highlight was being able to visit the forest and engage in a circus workshop out in the sun! We are very aware of needing to maintain a healthy balance between grasping every teaching and learning opportunity available to us, with that of nurturing well-being.

We have observed that the children (and staff) quickly tire. This is both due to the amount jam packed in to each and every day, but also the fact that we have been used to managing things at our own pace and in our own time. Sometimes perhaps without even realising it!

We have also found that adjusting to life back in a community is a challenge. We have been used to circulating in very small and insular groups. Now there are many more people around us, increased noise levels and always a buzz of activity. We have had to learn to take our turn, share an adult's attention and meet high expectations, both in our learning and in our play.

It has been great to offer a full range of extra-curricular clubs. These have afforded the children the opportunity to have longer with their friends, engaged in something of interest to them. It has also given parents a little more time to catch up on things you have not been able to do. We are pleased to be continuing this provision in to next term.

The new PTFA have been voted in to office and they are busy planning fun activities to benefit the children. Do follow everything that they are up to on their Facebook page. If you are having issue finding this, do message Mrs Collier, who will be pleased to point you in the right direction. A huge thank you to them for presenting each child with an Easter Egg, following the Easter Egg hunt in the forest.

And so, we end term 4, on a high note having enjoyed an Active Easter event. Today, we have journeyed through Holy Week, remembering what happened on each day. We have left our journey at a point where all that is left for me to say is to wish you all a very "Happy Easter!" I hope that you will have the opportunity to start meeting up with those that you love.

Thank you for a special, busy and happy term. One in which I believe that we have journeyed together, 'Learning to Live, living to Learn!'

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 19th April 2021

Mrs Jerome



A Thoughtful Message From Our Governors.

Dear Mrs. Jerome, members of staff and children

Here we are already at the end of Term 4 and how wonderful it must have been, since March 8th, to be back at school and re-gain some sort of normality, albeit with the restrictions of class 'Bubbles,' social distancing and constant hand washing!

As one of the Co-Chairs of the school governing body it has saddened me over the past year that, when you have been open, I have been unable to come in person and see you all. However, along with the other governors I have kept in touch with what is happening by joining Zoom sessions, led by Mrs. Jerome and individual teachers.

As Link Governor for Literacy I have been able to observe Writing and Handwriting lessons and feed back to the other governors on how hard you are all working.

At lunchtime on World Book Day I was also able to join a 'Developing Reading Skills' training session, led by the Lead teacher for Reading. Aimed to assist parents, the session was interesting and informative and open for parental questions at the end. Unfortunately only three parents were visible on screen and took advantage of the situation and received the professional advice on offer. I would really advise parents who may be reading this to take advantage of any opportunities offered. As a teacher and Literacy Co-ordinator in my working life, I recognise that techniques improve constantly and there is always something new to learn.

I know that at Hartlip School your motto is 'Learning to Live, Living to Learn' and this applies to the whole school community-adults and pupils alike. In order to provide you, the pupils, with the best education and encourage you to achieve your full potential teachers, TAs and governors need to keep refreshing their skills. To this end I have joined the staff, as the Lead teacher for Writing has introduced weekly training sessions in the 'Talk for Writing' programme, which will be gradually introduced, with the aim of improving pupils' creative writing skills. I look forward, in due course, to reading some of those stories!

I cannot close this letter without thanking Mrs. Jerome and all the staff at Hartlip for their dedication and sheer hard work during yet another challenging term. The use of technology and their skills in delivering 'online' teaching have been amazing.

For me, joining your 'Zoom' Friday morning Worship has been a real privilege.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter
Have a wonderful time with your families
Liz Hadley



Roll Up, Roll Up To The Magnificent Circus!

Amazing tricks and skills of the circus practised by Hartlip pupils proved to be a fun packed day for all.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of the last week of term every child was treated to a Circus experience. Scott, a children's entertainer wowed the children with his tricks and skills in the playground. They thought he was so clever and a top entertainer.

After he had got their full attention and managed to pick their jaws back off the floor, they were allowed to try them out for themselves in the morning and afternoon sessions throughout their circus day.

Not only was this about circus tricks, but the classes got to secure their knowledge of science or find out more about: friction, push and pull and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, tension!



Clubs are back

After school clubs started back this term and the children have been having so much fun.

Horticultural Heroes

The new members of after school Gardening and Creativity club have never been afraid to show their green fingers. These creative gardeners have been busy in the flower beds, wildlife areas and raised beds, planting and potting to get ready for spring. The raised beds have been dug within an inch of their life, adding in much needed air and clearing them of a mountain of stones. Children were fascinated by the many worms found whilst digging and learnt of their importance in recycling wasted leaves and foliage to provide nutrients for new plants. Some of the children even challenged themselves to undertaking some weight lifting; earning additional huff-puff points as they emptied bags of compost to enrich the top soil. Apparently, according to Poppy, "After horse feed, bags of soil weigh next to nothing!"

Clearing the sensory garden of debris was a job enjoyed by all. These fallen sticks and branches did not go to waste however. They were recycled to furnish our new Bug Hotel, to encouraging a much needed variety of insects and mille-beasts to the area. The bug hotel is officially complete and is now ready to welcome a swarm of guests. (As soon as covid restrictions allow gatherings in such numbers.)

Children have also been demonstrating their creativity, painting pine cones and chalking flowers on the playground. Their colours can be enjoyed whilst we wait patiently for the newly potted seeds to take root and sprout into life.



Super scientists, have had great fun making and launching their rockets in the school grounds. They definitely went up with a whoosh! And soaked spectators in the process.



Boxing Fit. Many of our pupils have enjoyed keeping fit during after school boxing club. So good to see how all ages have taken to this sport



Science Week

From a visit from mad scientists to child initiated investigations, messing experiments and stinky scientific tricks. The pupils had so much fun and found out so many interesting facts.

The mad scientists visited Hartlip school and wowed the children, not only with their wacky hairstyles but with hair raising tricks with eggs and toothpaste large enough for an elephant.

Eagles built their own light mazes to bend the beam of light (or did it bend?) all the way around the inside of their purpose made boxes using mirrors. This entailed excellent communication and team work to put their initial designs in to workable models.

Robins got mucky with colour mixing and play dough making. They found out about how colours mixed differently in hot and cold water. Not only did they learn about the water temperature, they found out how to make different colours. They also received a very special gift and were eager to open it. Inside were tiny caterpillars. They've watched them wiggle, creep and munch their food to be able to grow. They have enjoyed finding out about the seasonal changes.

Science week was a very constructive event in blackbirds class with making measuring and creating gift for our class, creating helicopters and measuring their scattered distribution from a fixed point to explain the advantage of the rotation of Sycamore seeds. We also engaged in some exciting experiments demonstrating air pressure and reactive chemicals with our two specialist visiting scientists.

Peacocks in science week tested the melting points of different types of chocolate (white, milk and dark) to see which one would melt the fastest. They used tin foil as a vessel on top of boiling water we then timed each chocolate and recorded our results.





Round up from the classes this term. What have they all been up to?

Have a look at what each class has been up to this term. They've enjoyed being back in their learning environments and making the most of all the outside learning spaces.

Red Riding Hood has been the theme of the term for Robins. They have been retelling the story and becoming the characters to be able to remember each part. They have used music and singing about the colour red and really enjoyed making, talking and tasting healthy snacks. Also mixing colours, did they find red?



Blackbirds have gone bug mad in class. With their topic on the world of Eric Carl creativity has taken hold. Miniature hungry caterpillars, collage paintings and a flight of a hundred butterflies now adorns the classroom. This is all inspiration for their new story writing with ideas from The very worried worm to the very angry ant.



In Peacocks class we have been using our papier mache skills to create explosive volcanoes. We also wanted to make sure that the volcanoes were made from materials that would otherwise be wasted. We used plastic bottles from home and old flip chart paper. We had great fun erupting them!

We have also been working hard with our maths this term focusing on our addition and subtraction skills using place value with the column method. We have really enjoyed using manipulatives like base ten and counters to help us.



In Eagles they have been writing like Shakespeare. Learning about Sonnets and rhyme and how these can change with character and theme,. From love and comparisons of a summers day, to mischievous fairies and wise manipulative witches, their taste of Shakespeare has been poetic for sure, with some rather disgusting cauldron potions galore. They spent time in the school's rainbow reflection garden to gain some nature inspiration with their fairy jobs.

The whole class worked in small groups to research and then present their findings about the Mary Rose and included a quiz to get the class remembering interesting key facts.



Move, Music, Action!

All classes have loved their music this term and taken part in a range of musical activities and dance.

It's great to be back in school singing, playing and moving together!

Doing music lessons on Zoom just isn't the same although we gave it our best! Well done to you for joining lessons and doing some tremendous work at home.

This term, Robins have been exploring loud and quiet, fast and slow, and long and short sounds through the musical story of 'Little Red Riding Hood.' They have had fun being the Big Bad Wolf!

Blackbirds have been listening to 'Spring' from the Four Seasons by Vivaldi. music for and singing songs about creatures found in the garden. We played xylophones to the song 'Lots of worms'

Spooky Music!

Peacocks have been listening to 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' by Edward Grieg. We've been doing body percussion patterns to the music to help us learn the rhythms.

Terrific Tudors!

Eagles have been playing recorders in their Tudor music and learning some Tudor dance steps.

We also had fun celebrating St Patrick's Day with Irish dancing!





Mother's Day Treats for Special Ladies in Our Lives.

Thank you to the special ladies in our lives was celebrated the week before Mother's day.

Every class celebrated this special occasion by baking and making special sweet and fruity treats, decorating boxes and making beautiful heartfelt cards for their special people.

Our wonderful special people joined in for morning worship as a whole school and also had the chance to join in on class zoom coffee mornings. This gave each child the chance to see their own special guest, share poems and activities.



Hartlip Helping Others

At Hartlip the pupils are very aware of those less fortunate than they are and that some people have different needs.

Although we are all different, Hartlip enjoy celebrating everyone's uniqueness and always want to support good causes and those that are close to their heart.

See below some of the wonderful things pupils and staff have taken part in this term to support others and build awareness and understanding.



Support to our Lent charities with filling a penny jar, smarties tubes were bought and refilled with coins and children enjoyed exercise to give sponsorship for walking for water.

I wonder how many toilets and taps we will be able to twin to provide for such vital support to those less fortunate than ourselves, particularly at a time when water is so vital to protect us and keep us safe.



Down Syndrome Awareness Day. We received great support and many parents and Governors joined us for morning for worship. The children as ever asked great questions to which Elodie, Jazara and Claire (mummy) answered for them. Later in the day Elodie checked each class to ensure everyone was wearing odd socks and she gave out millions to each



We raised £143.30 for Comic Relief. Thank you all for your support, particularly in times that are not easy. We feel very humbled that children are encouraged to look beyond themselves when many are facing their own difficulties.



Zak's Hedgehog Diary

Term 4 update - March 2021

In total, this Winter we've looked after 19 hedgehogs – 16 of these we've had in our garage (overwintering) to feed up or provide health care to, the others we've had living in our garden and we've given food to, to make sure they were fat enough to survive hibernation. My friend Mia also helped to look after 4 of our hogs as we ran out of room! Unfortunately we lost Lucky (who was blind and very poorly) but the rest have all gained lots of weight and were ready to venture back outside.

The weather started to warm up in March which has allowed us to release the hedgehogs back into the wild (and give Dad his garage back!). Where possible we have released them back to where they came from and neighbours have been really pleased to have their prickly friends back in their garden.



You might even have a hedgehog living in your own garden? They should all now be out of hibernation and will be extremely thirsty and hungry. Even if you haven't seen one yet – have you seen any hedgehog poo left behind – this is always a good sign there's one around! The poo is dark brown/black and looks quite hard – often up to an inch long!

Even though we all love hedgehogs their populations are dropping really fast and are listed as “Vulnerable” on Britain's red list of mammals. Numbers have reduced by up to 50% in some areas.

The problem is that hedgehogs are struggling to find somewhere to breed and hibernate, and to find enough food to survive. Now's the time that you can really help hedgehogs . Have a look on the next page to see what you can do to help.



Congratulations !

Year 3

Huffing and Puffing through Term 4

Fantastic working out and keeping fit goes year 3.



Trophy for Year 3

Year 3 have gained the most minutes this term with skipping, walking and dancing their way to the Huff Puff winning spot this term.

Great work year 3 and let's hope we see all years continue into next term with their keeping fit Huff Puff minute counting.

Congratulations !

Brave Blues

Trophy Winners for Term 4

Brave Blues win hands down this term in the House Point Battle.



Trophies for Brave Blues

Brave Blues are the overall winners this term in the house point system with an amazing 4,686 points.

It was quite a battle this term, with so many children showing how great they really are and resulting in neck and neck results each week.

Top 10 tips to make your garden hedgehog-friendly

1. Link your garden with Hedgehog Highways
2. Make your pond safe with a ramp
3. Create a wild corner
4. Deal with netting and litter
5. Put out food and water
6. Stop using chemicals
7. Check before strimming
8. Be careful with bonfires
9. Make a home for hedgehogs
10. Become a Hedgehog Champion

Logos: Heddon, British Hedging Preservation Society, HEDGEHOG STREET, CITY OF WILSON



If You Go Down To The Woods Today...You might find a big bad wolf!

Outdoor learning starts back and children were so happy to be out on the fresh air and sunshine.

Robins were in search of the big bad wolf after leaning Little Red Riding Hood this term. But no need to worry, they didn't find the wolf or the bear that they thought they might come across in the forest. They did however, enjoy a day of den building, picnics in the great outdoors and some much needed meditation.

Eagles enjoyed a fruity treat of fruit kebabs, which they had to prepare by themselves but found so refreshing in the spring heat.

Blackbirds and Peacocks made 3D shapes with the materials in the forest and completed treasure hunt puzzles. Whilst Peacocks tested out their building skills of 3D shapes and became construction experts.



Have a wonderful Easter.

'Learning to live, living to learn'