



Friday 18 September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

It has certainly been a busy week and it is fair to say that we are back in full swing! On Monday we welcomed to school our new Robins and their families. They have had a brilliant week and settled well. They will be very tired this weekend and the inevitable tears will set in at some stage. This is similar for any child at any age. When the excitement of something new becomes a daily reality, it can get tough and tiring. Never be worried if this happens and it often comes out of the blue when we are least expecting it! We are always here to nurture and guide your child through such a situation and support you too. A very big well done to all the Robins parents who have coped with the huge transition and new chapter in your child's life.

This week...

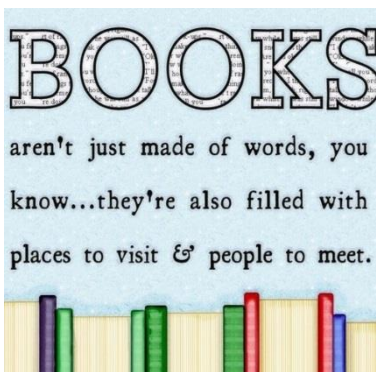
We held a whole school election for School Captain. The children even had their very own ballot papers. Our candidates: Alexandra, Amelia, Isabelle, Max and Tihana, applied for the process by submitting their personal statements. They then addressed children and staff on Monday afternoon, telling us all about themselves and why they should be School Captain. All staff in school will be voting. The results will be shared on Monday afternoon. We have decided to wait until Monday for this moment to allow the candidates focus on their Medway Test on Saturday.



On that note, we wish our year 6 children all the very best for their Medway Test on Saturday. Remember, we are all very proud of you and for the hard work that you undertake on a daily basis. We send you with our very best wishes and will be thinking about you.



On Wednesday, our choir resumed! The Year 3 children have had the opportunity to join and our first project is The Young Voices Concert at the O2. This will be our third year in attendance. It is a truly amazing experience, hard work, but well worth it. We will keep you posted in our preparations.



On Thursday, Mrs Fowler and I took the Year 4 children to visit the mobile library which visits Dane Close fortnightly. I feel that it is essential in fostering a love and joy of reading to allow our children to borrow books from beyond their own home and school. Therefore, every fortnight, a year group will make this visit and the other year group in the class, will have the opportunity to visit our school library with a lesson led by Mrs Osborne and the opportunity to borrow a school library book. Unfortunately, the mobile library did not arrive when expected yesterday. We are following this up. I was advised by residents of Dane Close that the driver Tony retired two weeks ago and I'm guessing that the library are arranging his replacement. The children were naturally disappointed, but we look forward to working with the library in weeks to come.

We celebrate the achievements of:



Robins: All the Robins for being so clever coming in to school all week and settling so well. And Mummy and Daddy too... they have been so brave!



Blackbirds: Billy, Sophie and Megan.



Peacocks: Lois and Maurice.



Eagles: Amelia, Alexandra, Harriet, Luke, Isabella, Ty, Henry.

Games Crew: Anna May, Henry, Abigail and Ryan.

Birthdays: We had a busy Celebration Worship, celebrating all these Birthdays: Anna May, Dean, Colby, Molly, Michael, Oliver, Jazara, Nikita, Ella, Maurice, Jessica, Meghan, Matthew

Happy Birthday to you all!



Outside school:

We celebrated the achievements of:

Jacob: Completed the Kent Library reading challenge over the summer.

Rebecca: a reward from VSK for dedication and engagement in learning

Lois: sharing information about a visit in America, depicting Biblical Stories

Harry S: for gaining sponsorship for his boxing.

Well done to you all, we love to hear about your achievements.



Next week...

Our clubs start on **Monday**. Some clubs are fully booked, but there are places in others. We hope that you will enjoy this new way of working and provision.

On **Tuesday** we start our new initiative of: Bring a Guest to lunch! We start with Eagles Class. Advance warning: Tuesday 28th: Peacocks, it's your turn!

On **Friday**, the village of Hartlip Hartlip Community Hub, on behalf of Hartlip Parish Council, are organising a Remembrance Service for Hartlip's Fallen. Ten men gave their lives during WW1. The first to fall was Private Robert Neville Cooper on 25th September 1915 and so Friday will be the date of the first service at 10.30am at the War Memorial.

The Hub have planned the service to which Hartlip School has been invited to attend and participate by nominating a child to lay a posy after Graham Addicott OBE, Chair of HPC lays the wreath on behalf of Hartlip. Church Worship will take place in the normal way at 9am and then our year 6 children will attend this Service to represent the school. **Please note that there will be no parking in front of the war memorial on this day and it will be coned off.** Thank you.

General Information...

Thank you for attending the parent information presentations last week. I hope that you found them useful and I hope that you are finding our new initiatives improving the daily life of your child in school. Please feel free to offer us feedback on the attached sheet. As I said many, many times last week, you are our customers and we are passionate about getting things right for you and your child. The key to this is communication.

On the communication subject, we are finding that Class DoJo is so effective in managing just this. If you have not yet signed up, please do so. It means that you can not only monitor your child's achievements in class and be aware of any difficulties, but you can also instantly message with teachers and myself regarding any worries, concerns or the need for information. In addition, we can keep you updated with all that is going on in school.



Likewise, today we go over to electronic newsletters. We are pleased to bring you a newsletter every week, reflecting our weekly news and communicating with you effectively. If you haven't yet signed up to ParentMail2 please contact the School Office.

We expect exemplary behaviour at Hartlip School. The introduction of Class DoJo is aiding us in this expectation and facilitation. It is our expectation that each child achieves 90% or better positive on a weekly report. We shall notify you at the end of the term if your child has consistently fallen below this expectation and on a weekly basis if your child's report is particularly low. Tree team points are allocated to reflect Class DoJo. It works like this:

90% is an expectation. Tree team points from each child will be allocated as follows:

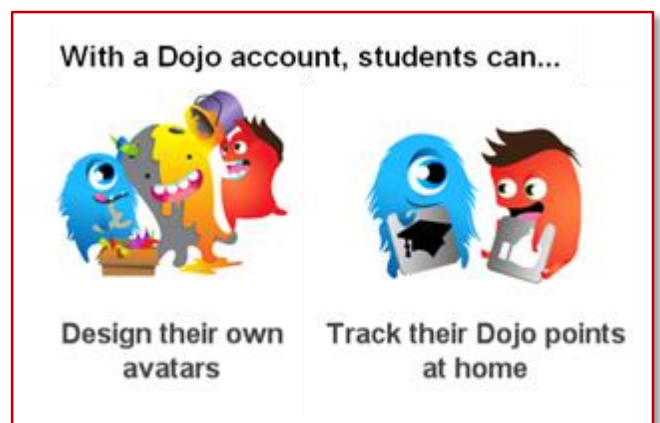
- 91% 1 point awarded
- 92% 2 points awarded
- 93% 3 points awarded

And so on until 100% = 10 points awarded.

The children met for the first time in Tree Teams today. Thank you for your support in our new behaviour systems.



Please may I remind you about safety online. It has come to my attention this week that children are accessing You Tube at home for inappropriate materials. We have no control over what is permitted or accessed at home and we respect parental control and discretion. Naturally though, what is permitted to be watched, enjoyed and engaged with, is then perceived as acceptable and will be reflected in play and language. Thank you for assisting us in keeping children safe.





That leads on to mobile phones. Mobile phones are permitted in school if a parent feels it necessary for their child to have it on their person for safety reasons. It is an expectation that this is handed in to the office at the beginning of the day and collected at the end. This is to ensure the safe keeping as well as ensuring that 3G is not accessed in school.

Do we need a breakfast club? Often a parent's choice of school is extended school services. If we had a daily breakfast club, it would need to be viable. Keep talking to us if this is something you would like to see happen at Hartlip School and something that you need as a family.

Would your child be interested in learning the guitar? There are spaces available to start this term so please ask the school office for details.



Yours sincerely

Mrs. T. Jerome
Headteacher

FEEDBACK FORM

Please use this form to feedback to us anything that is concerning you or you would like to bring to our attention:

Feedback forms can be placed anonymously in the feedback box in the lobby

Robins



We have had a wonderful week in the Robins and I am very pleased to report that all the children have settled in very quickly. This week we have been learning the rules and the busy routines of the school day. We have also visited the church and attended worship with the rest of the school. We have been learning about one another and the children's special boxes have been most interesting; thank you for sharing them with us.

Please can I ask you to encourage your child to dress independently. Now that the bad weather is upon us, it is important that they can put on their coat and hood by themselves.

Here is this week's Class DoJo report:



I hope both you and your children have a restful and enjoyable weekend!

The Robins team.

A message from Mrs Jerome:

Congratulations to you all on a wonderful first week in school. You and your children will be exhausted this weekend. A word of warning: please do not be worried if you have already experienced tears or if they come next week... they will come for sure! It doesn't mean that there is something terribly wrong or has gone wrong, it is just normal human emotion dealing with new routines, expectations and a stage in life. We will love them (and you) through it. Sometimes with some tough love, but all for the good of everyone. Have a great weekend.

Remember: your child will have a Forest School session with Mrs Byatt on **TUESDAY**. Please make sure that they come to school in long sleeves and long tops on this day. They will be well looked after by Mrs Byatt, Mrs Luckhurst and Mrs Fowler. This is an exciting experience and when we have the children nicely settled in to the routine, you will be invited in to join them.

Blackbirds



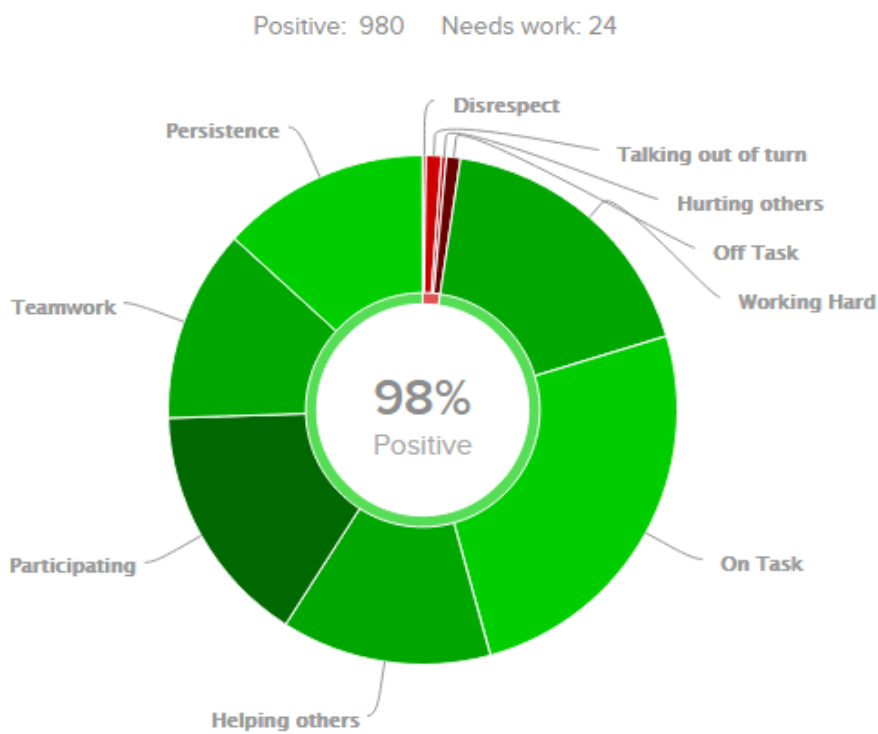
Dear Parents/Carers,

Our story of the week has been 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy. We have explored special words called 'contractions'. Ask us to give you some examples! We have also planned our own story and will complete our 'Big Write' today. Hopefully we can use some of these special words.

In Maths, we have been focussing on money. We can recognise different coins and have started adding some money totals together and making totals using coins. Some of us need a little more practise and so we will look at money again in a few weeks time.

We have also learnt more facts about The Great Fire of London. Ask us to tell you some of the events during this time.

Here is this week's Class DoJo report:



From The Blackbirds

Peacocks

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have continued to read Macbeth in literacy. We have acted in role of the different characters and explored these characters in detail. We used dictionaries to look up some unknown words from the story. Hopefully we can begin to use some of this new vocabulary in our own writing!



In maths we have continued to practise our place value and number skills. Next week we will go on to addition.

We continued with our topic on Mountains and used the laptops to do some research. Mrs Byatt took us for our first science lesson. We learnt about exoskeletons and sorted different animals in to groups. Mrs White had Year 4 this week for recorders, while Year 3 had music in class. We performed a new song with actions, beats and rhythms. We also had Mrs Ridge for PE.

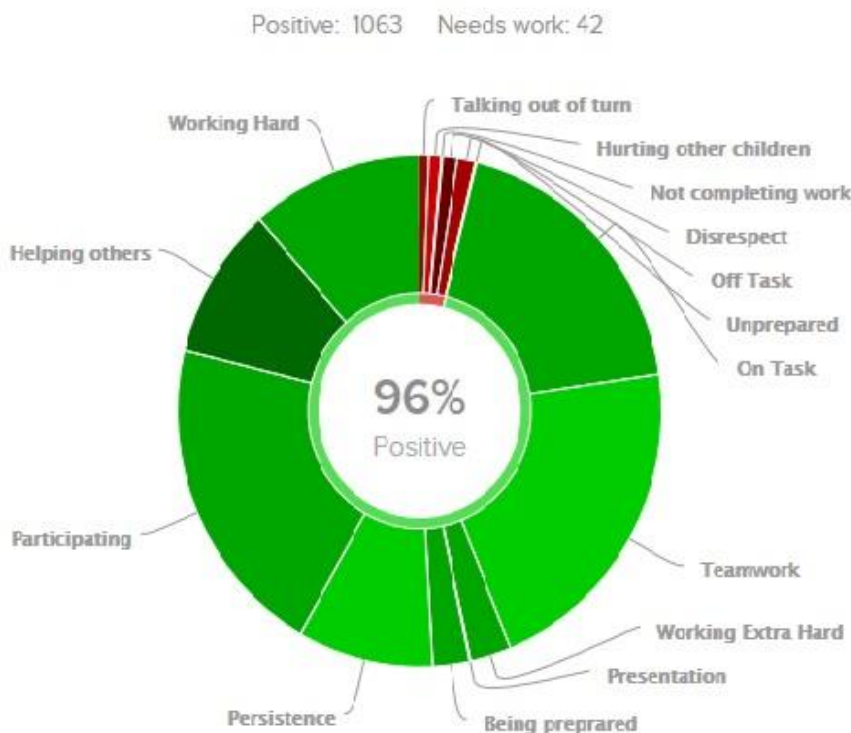
Homework for this week is as follows:

Literacy - While reading your reading book this week, note down any words you do not know the meaning of. Use a dictionary to find the definitions and record in your homework book.

Spellings - Learn these words, ready for a test on Friday: three, eight, eleven, twelve, thirteen and fifteen, eighteen, thousand, hundred, and million.

RE - Find out what you can about Saint Augustine and his pilgrimage to Canterbury.

Here is this week's Class DoJo report:



Have a lovely weekend.

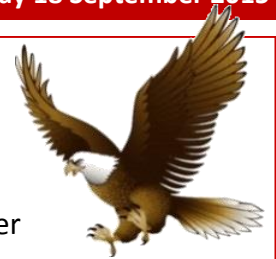
A note from Mrs Jerome:

Don't forget: Monday is Forest School! Watch the weather at the weekend and bring in the clothes that will be suitable in accordance with the forest school dress code. We will still take you as you are if you forget as this is a vital piece of your learning! It just means that you may get wet, muddy and very uncomfortable!

Eagles

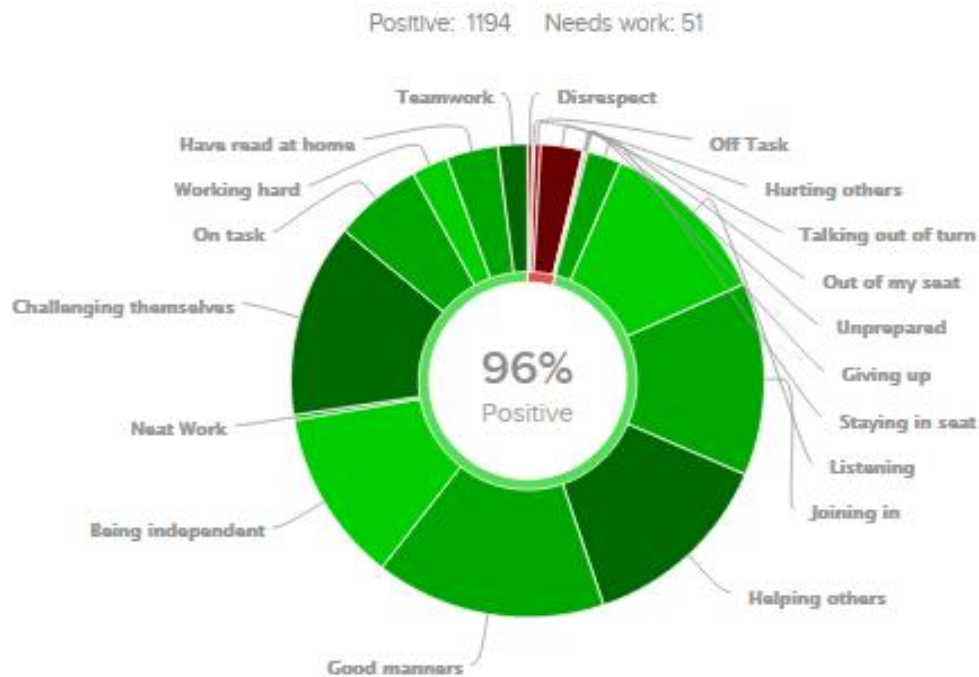
Dear Parents/Carers,

This week Eagles have been re-enacting the story of Great Expectations and starting to describe the setting of our story. Maths has been concentrating on logical puzzles, number skills and starting division.



Homework will be given out today in class along with spellings. Mrs Burrows and I would like to thank those of you who help their children with times tables and spellings - your extra work really shows in class. Spellings and times tables are tested on Wednesday.

Here is this week's Class DoJo report:



Mrs Hunt and Mrs Burrows

A few notes from Mrs Jerome...

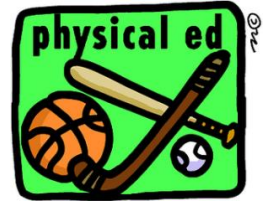
We all wish the children sitting the Medway Test the very best on Saturday. We will be thinking about you. We are all so very proud of you, the young people that you are and the hard work you apply to your school studies on a daily basis. Go with our very best wishes and support being proud of all that you have and will achieve and the special young people that you are.

Please take note of what I have mentioned on the main newsletter about ESafety, particularly You Tube and mobile phones. We know that you are all getting big and grown up, but we also have a responsibility to keep you all safe! Please do heed our advice and concerns and if you have any worries at any time, speak to us.

Year 6 will soon be visiting secondary schools to inform choices for Year 7. Please may I ask that wherever possible, these visits are made out of school time at this stage in the school year. The learning is very concentrated and children not in attendance means that they miss valuable parts of that, as well as causing disruption to the rest of the class. Evidence in books is also particularly essential should an appeal need to be made. Many schools organise evening sessions, which whilst I appreciate doesn't allow you to see the school in session, it does mean that conversations can take place with staff and pupils. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

And finally...

Look forward to seeing you all at lunch on Tuesday @ 12.40pm. Please come to the hall door.

PE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please note that last week's PE newsletter can be viewed online on KLZ, under PE & School Sport.

Although Blackbirds lesson was modified to take place indoors, we seemed to get a huge amount of learning done. The children played 'Ride my bike', a REAL PE warm up and we learnt and sang a related song. We also listened to a story about a bike show and the children joined in with the actions. Other warm ups included rocket launch. Team building games included a frogs and lily pads challenge and a ball relay where the children had to find different and creative ways of getting the ball from one end to the other, without it touching the ground. We had huge fun playing with the parachute too! We had to learn to work together, especially when we were trying to get the ball through the hole.

Peacocks played some icebreaker games like body circles and splat to warm up, alongside REAL PE 'Hi Baby'. We then split into groups and half of us worked on our REAL PE skills, in particular locomotor movements like skipping, galloping, side stepping etc through playing a matching pairs game and the other children played a tyre challenge where they had to get their whole team from start to finish, without touching the ground. We learnt how to encourage each other and the importance of planning before you start!

Robins – I look forward to teaching the new Robins children for the first time today. This afternoon we plan to participate in some actions song and games, as well as learning to play with the parachute.

Congratulations to all classes with 100% children having PE kits in school. Fabulous, keep it up!

Thank you for your forms regarding extra-curricular clubs. Places have been allocated and you should be informed today if they were successful in gaining a place.

HOME CHALLENGES (same as last week as not convinced that anyone did them!!!)

EAGLES – Practice your ball handling skills from REAL PE at home. What other interesting objects could you use instead of a ball? (Do NOT use anything without asking an adults permission...I do not want to be blamed for broken vases or antiques!!)

PEACOCKS – How many different ways can you travel? How could you improve your movements? Try making up a routine where you link some actions together e.g. hop scotch, skip, 2 foot jump.

BLACKBIRDS – Practise your running, jogging, skipping, jumping in different ways, side stepping, galloping etc. How many different ways can you travel?