

Newsletter



Spring Term 2019



A Message from Mr Ley - Headteacher

During Spring Term pupils are always very busy and a lot of work is completed. Pupils' progress in school is excellent and we are all very proud of this.

Our current attendance is at 97.2%. This is one of the highest percentages in all of Middlesbrough, but we would like to be the best.

Holmwood School had a fantastic World Book Day, the pupils looked incredible dressed up as their favourite character from a book. We were visited by M&M Productions, who performed 'Narnia'.

Year 6 pupils had a fantastic 3 day residential at Kingswood Activity Centre.

Hope you all had a Happy Easter and it was lovely to see all the children back in school after the Easter holiday.

Mr Ley



Miss Pilkington's Class

What a wonderful Spring Term we have had! The children have settled in well and we have been doing lots of exciting things including planting our very own beanstalk! A highlight of the term was our class trip to the cinema to see 'How to Train Your Dragon - The Hidden World'. The children had a fantastic time!

This term we have started our new topic which is 'Mini-beasts'. The children will get the opportunity to learn about different creatures and the habitats they live in. Alongside this topic, we will be taking part in Forest School. In Forest School we will be looking at how to build shelters, searching for mini-beasts, making bug hotels and cooking on a camp fire - we can't wait!

SAT's WEEK

**MONDAY 13 MAY 2019
TO THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019**

As with every school, our SAT's results are an important indicator of the school's success. It is especially important that all Y6 pupils attend during SAT's week, and we have emergency procedures if a child is very ill during this week.

In some cases, the local authority could issue a £50 fine per pupil per day if a child does not attend.

Mrs Callaghan's Class

We have had a very busy Spring Term! We have worked really hard on our topics for this term. Our topics were 'Trains' and 'CSI Investigators'. What great fun we had when we made our very own wanted posters. Recently we enjoyed a visit to Shildon Railway Museum. The children and staff had a great interactive time, we experienced how a steam train operated!

In our Literacy we have worked on our spelling, grammar and comprehension. Our reading ages have continued to improve. Mrs Callaghan's team are very happy with all the pupils' efforts and achievements!

It was lovely to see the parents and carers supporting us at the Easter celebration at Holmwood School.



Mrs Ahmad's Class

I am delighted with how hard all the children have worked in our class throughout the Spring Term!

We thoroughly enjoyed our CSI themed topic.

All children continue to make good progress in all areas of the curriculum and are really keen and enthusiastic to learn even more!

We had so much fun at Jump 360!

We now have a lovely term ahead and we hope to be lucky enough to have lots sunshine too!

Mr Ford's Class

Once again, we have had a very busy Spring Term. We have worked really hard in all subjects in preparation for SAT's, which is fast approaching.

One of the highlights of this term has been our residential trip to Kingswood Activity Centre. We had a fantastic time learning new skills and having a go at team building activities. For some of us it was our first time away from home but we all really enjoyed it!

Our topic this term has been Great Explorers: Christopher Columbus, Hernan Cortes, Neil Armstrong, Scott of the Antarctic and Sir Francis Drake. These subjects have been incorporated throughout the curriculum and there are some fantastic displays throughout school, showing our art work and writing skills.

In Science we have been looking at animal habitats and adaptation.

We would like to thank parents and carers for all your support during the term and for encouraging us with our homework. We are looking forward to visiting our new schools in preparation for September and of course Year 6 activity week!



Mrs Cairns' Class

What a wonderful Spring Term we have had in Reception/Year 1! Our topics this term were 'How have things changed since my parents were little?' and 'Why can't a meerkat live in the North Pole?'. We had lots of fun learning about other countries and how things have changed over time. In Literacy, we read a mixture of fictional and non-fictional texts that have supported our understanding of animals and their habitats and the world. In Numeracy, we have focussed a lot on counting, addition, subtraction, money and shape.

In the Summer Term, the children will be learning more outdoor skills during several Forest School sessions with Mrs Miller. Our topics will be 'What is special about Middlesbrough?' and 'Why can't we live under the sea?'.

Miss Kelly and Mrs Wake's Class

In the Spring Term, our first topic was '**What makes the Earth angry?**'. We learned about what volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis are and why they happen. We looked at maps and atlases to find where they were located around the world. We looked at the effects of extreme weather on the environment. In Science we identified different types of rocks and researched palaeontologists.

After the half term, we learned about '**Who were the Romans?**' This was a history-based topic and the children have enjoyed finding out about the Romans and why they invaded Britain. We researched life in Britain before the Romans invaded and what the Romans left behind. We learned about the different Roman gods and enjoyed writing our own Myths and Legends.



Miss Kazeminia's Class

We have had an extremely busy Spring Term! All of the children in Year 4 have worked very hard and have made fantastic progress across the curriculum. This term our topics were 'Vikings' and 'Birds'. We learnt about how vicious the Vikings could be and how they attacked and raided England and came here to settle. We enjoyed learning about Viking longships and how they made the Vikings such successful sailors.

In the second half of the term we enjoyed learning about different types of birds, what they eat and why they have feathers. We ended our topic with a fantastic trip to Saltholme Nature Reserve where we were able to further our understanding of birds and view them in their habitat.

In the lead up to Easter we made Easter crafts and prepared for Easter celebrations and our performance by practising our Easter songs - it was lovely to see so many of you there!



Mr Slowther's Class

Once again we have had a very exciting Spring Term where we learnt about 'The Vikings' in the first half of the term then 'Animals and their habitats' in the second half.

The children really enjoyed learning about 'The Vikings', especially where they came from, where they ruled and the different Norse gods. The children particularly enjoyed working with Mr Dale in woodwork where they created their own Viking longboats.

After February half term we came back and learnt all about 'Animals and their habitats'. The children had so much fun researching about the different types of animals as well as understanding food-chains and why certain animals have become extinct over the years.

This coming term our topic is 'Middlesbrough and the surrounding areas'. We are going to learn about the history of our town and organise a class trip to gain a first-hand experience of the history of where we live. We are also going to be learning about 'Electricity' in Science and continue having fun experimenting. Finally our last topic of the year is going to be 'Travelling around Modern Europe' and finding out about many of the different countries in Europe.

We would like to thank parents and carers for all your support during the term and for supporting your child's learning at home through assisting them with their homework and reading.



Mrs Mansbridge's Class

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, we reflect on the exciting times that we have shared. As part of our Spring topic, we enjoyed a fun trip to Tweddle Farm, where the children enjoyed learning more about the animals and they got the opportunity to meet the new born animals and hand feed them. We also enjoyed a KS1 trip to Eston Leisure Centre for a Snappy Spring Music Festival. We have had World Book Day and Red Nose Day activities.

We have a busy Summer term planned with new exciting topics including 'Growing and Staying Healthy'. We will look at growing our own plants and vegetables and link them with healthy eating and good exercise.

The children have all worked hard this term, they have been eager to take on new challenges across the whole curriculum. We are really looking forward to future fun activities and challenges within the Summer Term.



Holmwood School would like to thank all the parents and carers for all of their support.