

Dear friends



It is with great delight that I write to you this term, able to talk about some new experiences now that restrictions have started to ease in schools. We have hugely missed having our families and school community on site and so we are really excited about the months ahead.

Flyers have been sent out for upcoming parent workshops, Premier Sport are planning their Easter holiday sports camp and our Parent Teacher Association have been planning their Easter Egg hunt.

This term has been filled with exciting learning opportunities. A month or so ago, Early Years had been inspired to plan a royal tea party and sent a letter to invite the Queen to join them. They had a wonderful tea party, having baked their party food and prepared their party hats.

They were so excited and delighted to receive an official letter with the royal crest back from Buckingham Palace to gracefully decline the invitation as Her Majesty was rather busy! The Queen also included some more information about the palace and their traditions such as changing the guard.

Alison Weir
Headteacher

ASPIRATION:

Good weather sees outside activities back on the agenda

It has been tremendous to see the children enjoy learning some new skills and pushing themselves further with their sporting goals.



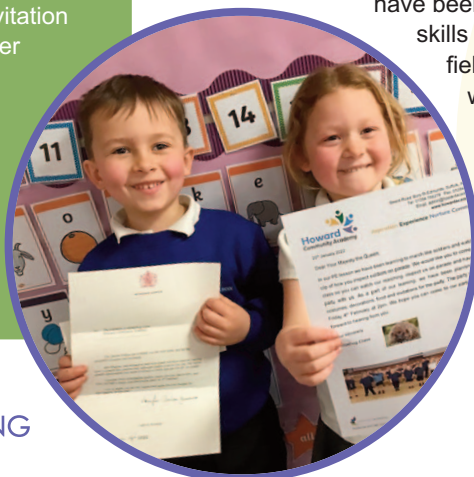
As the weather has steadily improved, it has been wonderful to see our children get involved in different sporting activities. Working with Chance to Shine

cricket coaches, our children have been learning key skills – how to bowl, field and be a wicket keeper.

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skills and pushing themselves further with their sporting goals.

We are also incredibly proud of one of our pupils, who took the initiative to write to local councillors and local businesses to ask for sponsorship towards a new school football kit and equipment. As our new Year 5/6 school football team started training in the Autumn term, preparing for inter-schools matches, he was keen that we put our best foot forward and looked professional. As a result, our new kit has been ordered and we look forward to the children representing us proudly in their next game.



EXPERIENCES:

Howard's musical Artsmark journey continues

Hearing the children sing from the musical Annie was a magical moment to share



As part of our Artsmark journey, we have been focusing on developing our love of music through singing. With help from Tim Parsons and his team from the Cathedral and Fran Hart at Westley, our choir have been busy regularly practising lots of different songs. Our Year 5s and 6s are preparing to sing as part of the Young Voices choir later in the year.

In March Miss Attwood took a group of nervous, yet excited, Year 3s and 4s to perform at Snape Maltings as part of the celebration event with other schools from across Suffolk. The children had been practising for weeks some songs from the musical Annie. As they sang "You are never fully dressed without a smile" they beamed and performed beautifully. It was a really magical moment to share.

Learning goes into the forest

It has been wonderful for the children to connect with nature and to connect with themselves, discovering hidden talents and experiencing success in different ways.

Working in partnership with Abbeycroft Leisure this year, we have been able to offer all our children the opportunity to learn about themselves outdoors as part of our forest school experience.

Learning skills such as hammock making, how to build outside shelters and cooking on an open fire are brilliant ways for children to develop their skills in resilience, taking turns, sharing, problem solving and perseverance.

Many of the challenges require working together with others and a key element to the learning is the children recognising their own talents and attributes to bring to the team. It has been wonderful for the children to connect with nature and to connect with themselves, discovering hidden talents and experiencing success in different ways.

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NURTURING:

Pride at being chosen to be part of Healing Woods project

Nurturing and caring for ourselves and the world around us is one of our key values. We have a very active eco-committee who have been campaigning for sustainable energy use and recycling in school, as caring for our planet is high on our agenda. As a school we have also been developing our forest schools area, in partnership with Abbeycroft Leisure, to ensure all pupils have access to the wonderful outside space that we enjoy here at school.

We are hugely excited to have been chosen as one of four sites across Suffolk to be part of Suffolk County Council's Healing Woods project. In March Councillor Rout joined us for the launch of our planting day with many of our local community members and families joining us on this special occasion.

All children in the school had the opportunity to plant a native species tree to start the growth of our community healing wood. This will be a space, which will be open to the community, for people to access, to enjoy the beauty of being in nature and explore their connection with the natural world. It was a real treat to be part of the day, seeing this new generation making their mark in leaving a legacy for years to come.



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COMMUNITY:

Ukraine uppermost in children's fund-raising efforts

Children are planning to bake cakes to sell and wear yellow and blue for the day to raise money to send to those affected

Our children have not only been thinking of others in their local community, but also further afield. We celebrated Red Nose Day, raising over £100 for Comic Relief by wearing red for the day. In addition, our school council have been working hard behind the scenes. Moved by the situation in the Ukraine, classes talked with their teachers and decided to hold a fundraising day for the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal. Children are planning to bake cakes to sell and wear yellow and blue for the day to raise money to send to those affected by the recent crisis.

Our Parent Teacher Association are keen to hold some events for our families and are planning for the months ahead. Later this month we are starting off with our Easter Egg hunt. We look forward to the children enjoying hunting for clues and getting out and about with their parents/carers.

