



The Holne Chase

Herald- Issue 1

Head Teacher update

It has been lovely to welcome the children back after their Easter break. They have returned full of enthusiasm and have really enjoyed diving into their new topics!

We would like to welcome 2 new members of staff to the Holne Chase family. Miss Griffith joins us as the new Class Teacher in Penguins and Miss Stone joins KS1 as a valuable member of the Support Staff team. We are delighted to have them both on board

There are exciting changes happening across the school this term, the EYFS classroom is having a complete revamp, and preparation is underway in the Annex for the upcoming building works.

As ever, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support during these strange times. Your enthusiasm during home learning has really enabled the children to come back to full time school with resilience, and we are delighted with how they have adapted once again to the challenges and changes they face. I am looking forward to a successful and hopefully sunny end to the school year as we enter the summer term!

Best wishes,

Mrs. Dunckley

Dates for your diary

May 3rd: Spring Bank Holiday

May 31st- May 4th: half term

July 20th: School closes for summer!

Wellbeing

As the world starts to open up again, it is perfectly normal to still feel overwhelmed, or even just a little unsure of things. The school continues to maintain its strong partnership with the NHS Mental Health Support Team and we are here to support both you and your children in any way we can. Whether that's a chat at the gate or a scheduled appointment over a cup of coffee and a biscuit!

(Covid friendly, of course) Don't forget you can contact our mental health support team directly at wellness@holnechase.com

Rhino Sports

Don't forget you can still sign your child up for Rhino Multi-sports clubs! Sessions can be booked via the website Rhinosportsacademy.co.uk .
Session times can be found below.

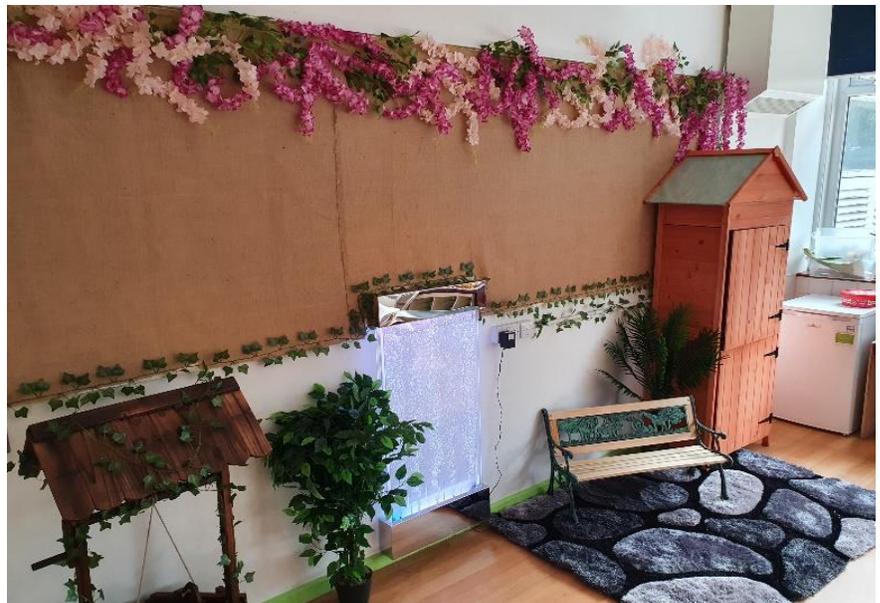
Penguins - Tuesday- 8.00 - 8.40
Jaguars - Thursday-8.00 - 8.40
Lions - Friday - 8.00 - 8.40
Turtles - Wednesday- 8.00 - 8.40
Tigers -Friday -3.15 - 4.00
Dolphins- Thursday -3.15 - 4.00
Giant Pandas- Wednesday- 3.15 - 4.00
Snow Leopards-Tuesday- 3.15 - 4.00
Polar Bears - Monday- 3.15 - 4.00

Jaguars

The Jaguars are all settling back into school with their usual enthusiasm. Miss McConnell and I have been blown away by how hard they have been working on their phonics. In RE we are continuing to learn about festivals and why it's important to celebrate life and have fun. We have planted some broad beans and will be monitoring their progress over the next few weeks. The children have been very exciting to see that the "poo" left behind by a "unicorn", has blossomed into some beautiful tulips and daffodils!

EYFS

Penguins class has had a complete make over during the Easter break and the children are loving the new room. We have brought the outside inside and turned the space into a garden classroom, complete with campfire, writing shed, sensory area and a variety of new resources to support the children's learning. This term, the children are learning all about Dinosaurs and they are having a roar-some time! The Penguins have impressed us with their excellent vocabulary as they have understood the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. They have learnt to pronounce some very tricky dinosaur names too!



Lions

Lions are learning about weather patterns in Geography. We have already started looking at the effects of the wind. We used tissue paper, bubbles, wind streamers and carrier bags to find out which direction the wind was blowing using the compass points. We then made our own wind streamers so that we can find out the direction of the wind every day.

In science we are learning about plants and trees and we are so excited to see that the bulbs we planted in September are now flowering in the flower bed outside our classroom. Interestingly, there is an enormous tulip which is so much bigger than all the others. We are wondering how this has happened. We are also looking forward to growing some vegetables in our KS1 allotment which Mrs Capp is kindly preparing for us.

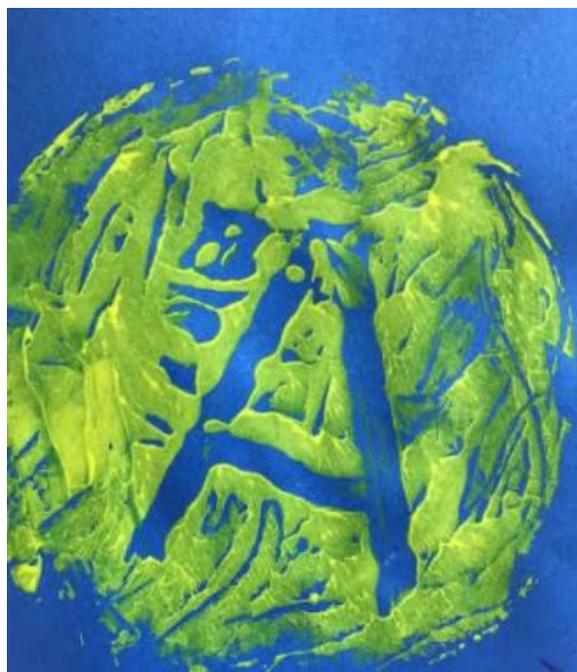


Tigers

The children in Tigers have settled back into class beautifully and are ready for a new term of learning!

This week, we have been excited about our new Science Topic - Light with our first lesson filled with some fun activities and interesting discussions. The children were amazed to learn that light is the fastest thing on earth and that lightning is seen before thunder is heard. In History, we are continuing to learn about Romans and comparing the Roman lifestyle to that of today. We discussed some famous Roman buildings and different jobs which existed.

In English, we are reading extracts of Anne Frank's Diary and learning about her time in hiding as well as identifying and understanding the features of diary writing. In Maths, we continue our learning on fractions and to understand how we calculate fractions of quantities. Art this half term, we are looking at various techniques on printing. Our first lesson was on monoprinting where children had to create a template out of card and foil, paint over it and then to add a design which would then be printed onto paper. Here are some examples of our designs...



Dolphins

In Year 4, we have started a topic all about Springwatch! We are going to be looking at the environment around us, the animals that live there and ways that we can improve biodiversity in our forest school areas. We are also using this nature theme to help us in Art to create a piece of work using different printing techniques inspired by nature. We started looking at printing techniques last week and although we got very messy all the children enjoyed the work they created!



Turtles

This week, Turtles have begun a new topic called 'Let's go fly a kite'. Our focus this term is DT. By the end of the term, our aim is to research, design and create a kite that we can fly in the summery blue skies. Did you know that kites are over 3000 years old?

In English this week, we have begun a new story called Lightning Lucy by Jeremy Strong. Our class is really trying to improve our reading and writing. It has been lovely to see so many children reading for pleasure and enjoying what they are doing.

In Maths, we have finished our measurement topic by measuring and calculating the perimeter. See attached the pictures of our fabulous learning- we all really enjoyed finding the perimeter of a range of 2d shapes. (Shh, don't tell Mr Capp we drew on the tables) Next, we are going to be looking at Shape and time. In preparation for this, it would be really beneficial if you could begin practicing telling the time using the correct terminology i.e. 20 past, half past, quarter too etc.

In Science, we have begun our forces and magnets. We will be investigating magnets and forces using a range of fun and interactive experiments. Keep your eyes peeled for the pictures.



Polar Bears

The Polar Bears have had an enthusiastic return to learning this term and are loving their learning around Business, Enterprise and Social Media! The children have just finished the Science topic 'light' and they particularly enjoyed the experiments and creative ways of learning.

Online safety will underpin a lot of the computing curriculum this term and the children will also begin to explore Website design!

In Maths we are currently delving into Algebra and in Literacy we have finished exploring Poetry and are beginning to focus on Report Writing as this will link beautifully with our Business and Enterprise topic! Don't forget to keep up to date with Google Classroom for all updates.

Snow Leopards and Giant Pandas

Following our learning about NASA's latest rover, Perseverance, Year 5 have been working on a Design Technology project to design and make model Mars rovers. We have considered: the purposes rovers have to visit Mars, appropriate materials for the different design features, permanent joining techniques as well as practicing measuring and cutting lengths of wood accurately for the chassis.



Safeguarding

Can we please remind all parents to ensure that their contact details are up to date and correct. You can update your own details via Arbor, or feel free to email the office staff on **office@holnechase.milton-keynes.sch.uk**

If you have a safeguarding concern regarding a child (whether in or out of school) please do not hesitate to contact the designated Safeguarding Leads on **mdunckley@holnechase.com**

Can parents please remind children of the importance of vigilant road safety. We have had several reports of Holne Chase children not demonstrating appropriate road safety measures and running out in front of traffic. We are obviously concerned for the well-being of both the drivers and our pupils.