



# Heather Field School

## Newsletter Summer Term 1 – May 2023

Our pupils have blown us away with their hard work and we have loved seeing everything that they have produced! From visits to Blists Hill Museum to homemade puppet shows in class, it has been a half term of new skills and experiences, which our pupils have flourished with.

I would like to take the time to share some of our 2022/23 School Improvement Priorities below:

1. To further develop the broad database of well-matched, work/training experience opportunities, providing a range of work-based learning.
2. To continue to implement enterprise initiatives.
3. To continue to use our expertise to support other schools within the community, particularly with respect to behaviour management and management of ASD in mainstream education.
4. To increase the frequency of opportunities for pupils to enhance their cultural capital and feel part of their locality.
5. To continue to engage in school council ideas to improve the school and environment to enhance pupils' experience.

As we come back after the half term break, we will look forward to more sunny days; which will hopefully provide further opportunities to explore the local community and educate our pupils outside.

We will also look forward to our Summer Concert on the 16th June at the Victoria Hall in Stoke-on-Trent and our Summer Fayre on 14th July at Heather Field School. The monthly coffee mornings for parents and carers are continuing to provide a fantastic opportunity for us to chat and catch up with our school community. However, our door is always open to welcome parents and carers in for a chat and a cup of tea. Should you wish to come and see us please contact the office to make an appointment or contact me on the school number 01785 550940 or via email: [rleech@heatherfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:rleech@heatherfieldschool.co.uk)

I wish everyone a lovely break.

Richard Leech  
Head of School

Upcoming school events to look forward to in Summer 2, 2023:

- ❖ World Ocean Day
- ❖ Summer Concert
- ❖ First Aid Day
- ❖ Summer Fayre
- ❖ Topic Week
- ❖ Independence Week





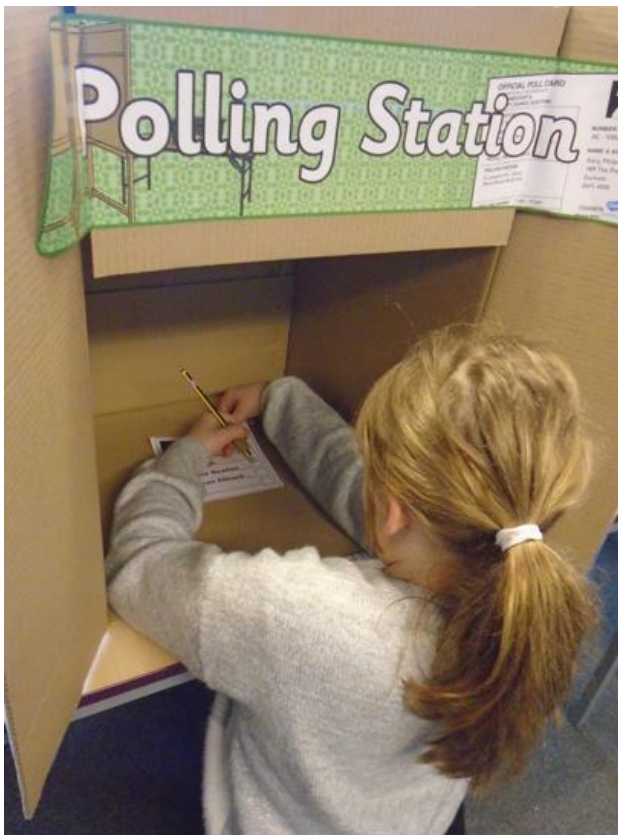
### **Class Dove – Key Stage 3**

In social skills this term, Class Dove have been exploring rules and how to get along with one another. They looked at the consequences of their behaviour and Shayla produced a fantastic storyboard of what happens if people do not follow the rules. The class then investigated at all the rules that are around them in everyday life and why they should follow them. Finally, the class looked at how being considerate to others help them get along with each other. When suggesting family bonding activities, Kieron suggested bowling and Bailey enjoyed playing board games and cards – he commented, “I really loved chase the ace.”



### **Class Manifold**

Class Manifold have enjoyed PSHE this half term. They began studying democracy in the UK and a highlight was the children taking part in a democratic vote. Ronnie said, "the voting age should be lowered to include children". They then went on to learn about how parliament works and who their local councillor is, exploring the results of the local elections in May. The children showed a great understanding of British Values in relation to our democracy; Izzy commented how "we're all accepting of each other's beliefs". What a beautiful sentiment!



## Class Severn

Class Severn have had a fantastic term at college! They have learnt how to create a brake clamp. This involved sawing and filing down two pieces of metal to exactly 100mm, drilling two holes into each block and adding threads for the screw and bolts. This can be opened and then clamped around the brake. Louie said, "It's tricky to get the exact measurement." All the pupils persevered and were proud of themselves with the finished product.



### **Class Waldron**

Key Stage 1 began exploring a range of different flowers and plants and had lots of fun using their senses and describing what they could see, feel, smell and hear! The pupils then explored the texture of a range of leaves and creating their own leaf prints in clay. The class enjoyed their trip to Fletchers Garden Centre where they identified types of indoor and outdoor plants.

Key Stage 2 began identifying different types of rocks. They identified igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and discovered how each type of rock is made. They loved 'mining' and digging out a range of rocks and minerals and use their senses to explore each rock type. Bodhi said his favourite was the Tiger's Eye and said, "It's smooth, striped and glassy." Tyler John said, "Rocks can be used for building and decorating".



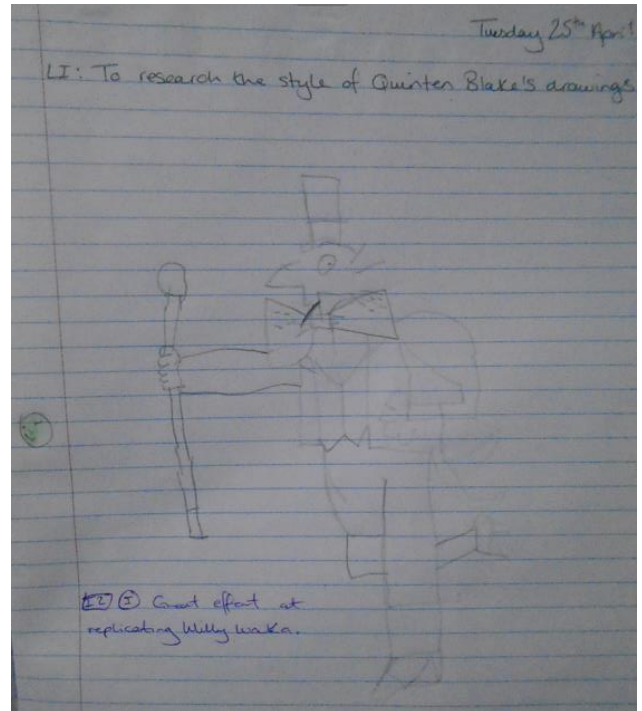
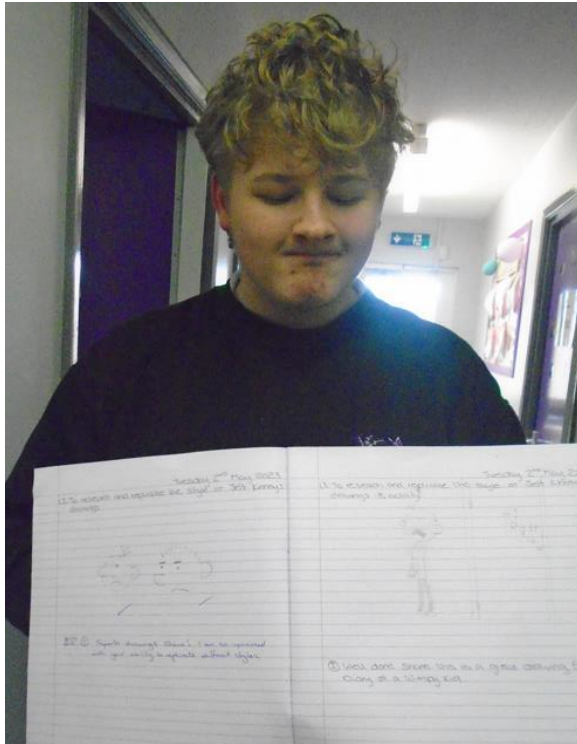


### **Class Blithe**

Class Blithe have really enjoyed their French lessons this half term. Pupils in Key Stage 2 have studied the features of a newspaper. Dylan said, 'If I go to France, I'll be able to know what's on TV now!' They particularly enjoyed picking out important information from an article and translating it into French to create an overview.

Key Stage 3 pupils have learned about the planets in the Milky Way. Bailey said that he really enjoyed learning how to say système solaire. They particularly enjoyed creating their favourite planet out of playdoh in their independent task.





### **Class Churnet**

Class Churnet have loved topic this half term looking at comic strips and illustrators. They have researched the drawing styles of famous illustrators of Roald Dahl, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Marvel and DC. All of the pupils produced some amazing replications of famous characters by following step-by-step guides. Adam said, "I can't believe I have actually drawn this, I am so proud of myself." Jamie asked if could take a copy of his drawing home to show his parents.





### **Class Dane**

Class Dane have enjoyed PE this half term. In PE, they have been visiting Entrust, to complete outdoor education activities. The boys have enjoyed climbing, caving, fire lighting and crate stacking. The boys have practiced personal skills but have also showed excellent teamwork in some of the activities. They especially enjoyed crate stacking and the Class Dane record now stands at 16 crates.







### **Class Dove KS2**

In topic, Class Dove have been learning all about mountains and rivers and how they are formed. The children showed great team work while building a model of a mountain, they really enjoyed this group activity and worked together really well to use the materials at hand to build their mountain model.

The children have also enjoyed visits to Penkrige to see the River Penk and to the Shugborough Hall estate to visit the Essex Bridge where the River Sow meets the River Trent. During their visit Esmai and Rowan discussed how fast the river was flowing, they threw sticks from one side of the bridge to the other and ran to see who's came first, Rowan said, "Mine won", Esmai replied "Great job, Rowan!" Harry and Patrick were able to identify key features of a river as Harry recalled that the bottom of a river is called the bed and Patrick recalled that the end of a river is called the mouth.

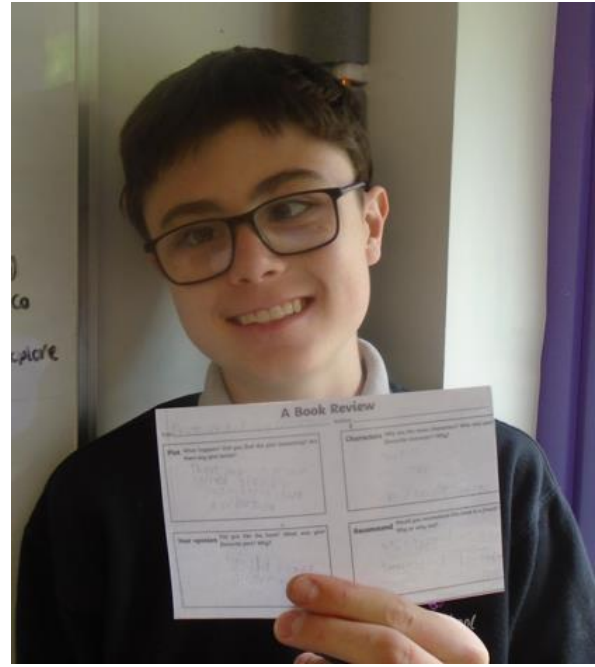
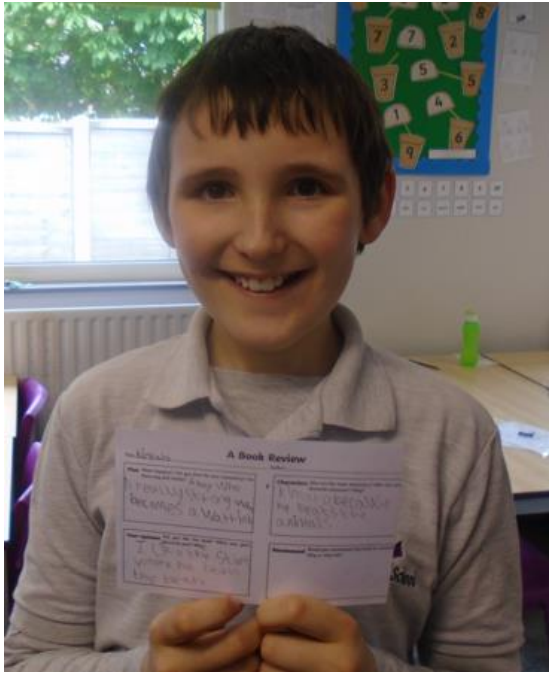


## **Class Penk**

Class Penk have enjoyed maths this term. In Key Stage 1 the children began the term exploring number recognition and formation up to 20, the children took on a very hands-on approach and were able to write numbers in sand, foam, hunt numbers around the school. Pupils then moved onto number bonds up to 10. A favourite activity was making planters using the numicon where they had to match the plant pots and numicon to make the number bonds. The class completed half term half term by exploring 2D shapes and their properties. Harry was thrilled to tell me "The clock is a circle and look that table is a rectangle I know that because it has longer sides here."

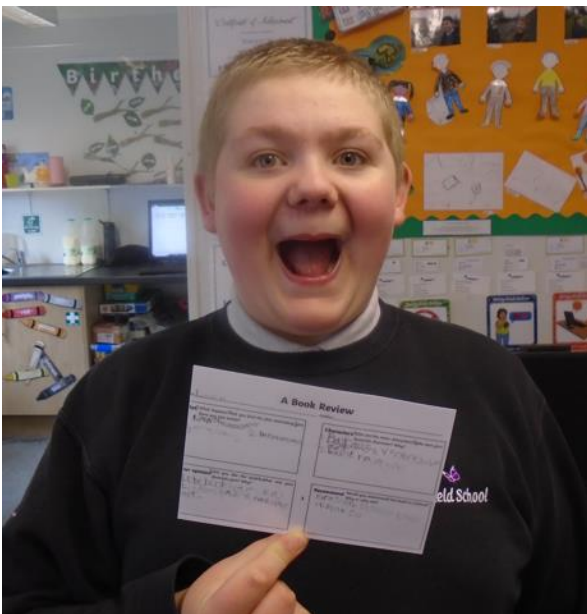
Key Stage 2 began the term with addition and subtraction using number lines. The children showed fantastic perseverance with this and fully immersed themselves into not only the sum itself but also working on using their math's vocabulary correctly. The children then moved onto time, which is always a tricky one, however the children have enjoyed getting inventive and using straws, playdoh and even themselves to become the clock and help secure that understanding of "o'clock, half past and quarter too".





### **Class Sow**

Class Sow have enjoyed English this half term. They began studying stories from other cultures and a highlight was when they created a book review to dive deep into their opinions. Dylan said, "I liked how Kintaro rescued the bear and liked that it linked to where his father was born." Key Stage 2 went on to learn about the Japanese story Kintaro. Key Stage 3 learnt about horror stories and enjoyed reading 'The curse of Cogston house'. James was the reader of the week for his fabulous reading and moving on from his long-awaited ditty books.





### **Class Stour**

Class Stour have thoroughly enjoyed their music lessons this term. They have been focusing on creating sound with percussion instruments as well as practising their songs for the Summer Concert, perfecting incorporating their Makaton signs in time with the words. Adar said he has loved learning the 'When It's A Sunny Day' song! The children particularly enjoyed integrating their English topic into our music lessons by playing the drums to the beat of the 'Funnybones' story. Amelie has done a fantastic job of singing into a microphone in preparation for the concert.





### **Class Trent**

Class Trent have enjoyed participating in lots of diversity events this term. They particularly enjoyed celebrating the momentous occasion of the King's Coronation, completing numerous craft activities and taking part in their very own class street party. Much like King Charles III, students took time out of class to appreciate the real beauty of nature, spending the day walking through the Chase and finishing with a traditional English picnic. One student commented, "I loved the walk over the Chase. I can't believe how lucky we are to have so much wildlife so close to school, it is amazing!" Class Trent also had great fun celebrating being the host country for the Eurovision and were allocated Romania as a country to explore. Students spent the day learning about Romanian traditions and were lucky enough to get to sample traditional Romanian snacks.

