

Year 5 Newsletter December 2023

Welcome to our latest Year 5 letter, our last one of 2023.

We continue to be impressed with the children's enthusiasm to learn and the hard work they have been putting into their lessons. Beech and Cedar's learning was showcased through their class assembly, and Rowan look forward to presenting their new knowledge in their future assemblies.

We have had another half term of great learning opportunities. The children have participated in music workshops taught by Mrs Lawrence and have attended a trip to Wintershall to watch a Nativity performance. The children were thoroughly engaged with Christmas Pause Day, answering our big question, 'Why is light an important sign at Christmas?'

On behalf of the year 5 team, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas. We look forward to welcoming your children back in 2024.

Miss Freed and the year 5 team

Homework

All the children are now completing their weekly homework. Please remember that our expectations are

- CGP Maths book
- Times Table Rockstars 10 minutes practice per week
- Spelling practice – Weekly spelling list in their HSO
- SPAG.COM
- Reading 5/7 days to be recorded in their HSO

Each task should last at least 10 minutes.

We also ask that you sign your child's HSO each week.

If you have any queries about homework, please email your class teacher.

Spring assessments

In March, we will be taking part in assessments for reading, SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and maths using NTS formal assessments. Teachers will also be assessing writing using the independent writing activities which the children have already completed over the previous half term. As a school we use this information, along with in-class teacher judgements, to map out our future planning, intervention groups and highlight any gaps in knowledge which may need to be taught again.

Teachers and senior leadership (which includes Mr Stevenson, our Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for inclusion and SEND) meet to discuss all children within our termly 'Pupil Progress Meetings'.

We will let you know how your child has performed through our parents' evening session, and also through our 'Snapshot reports' which will be sent directly to you as parents on 28th March 2024.

Book bands will also change if appropriate, based on these assessments.

Communication.

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please e-mail:

Rowan - Miss Freed n.freed@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Beech - Mr. Dunsford j.dunsford@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Cedar - Mr. Ross p.ross@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Parents evening Spring 2024

During week commencing 15th April 2024, each class teacher will be hosting a 10-minute parent consultation in school. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child.

Times Table Rockstars year group battle

The results for this half term's battle were:

1st Rowan- 1074

2nd Cedar - 266

3rd Beech- 245

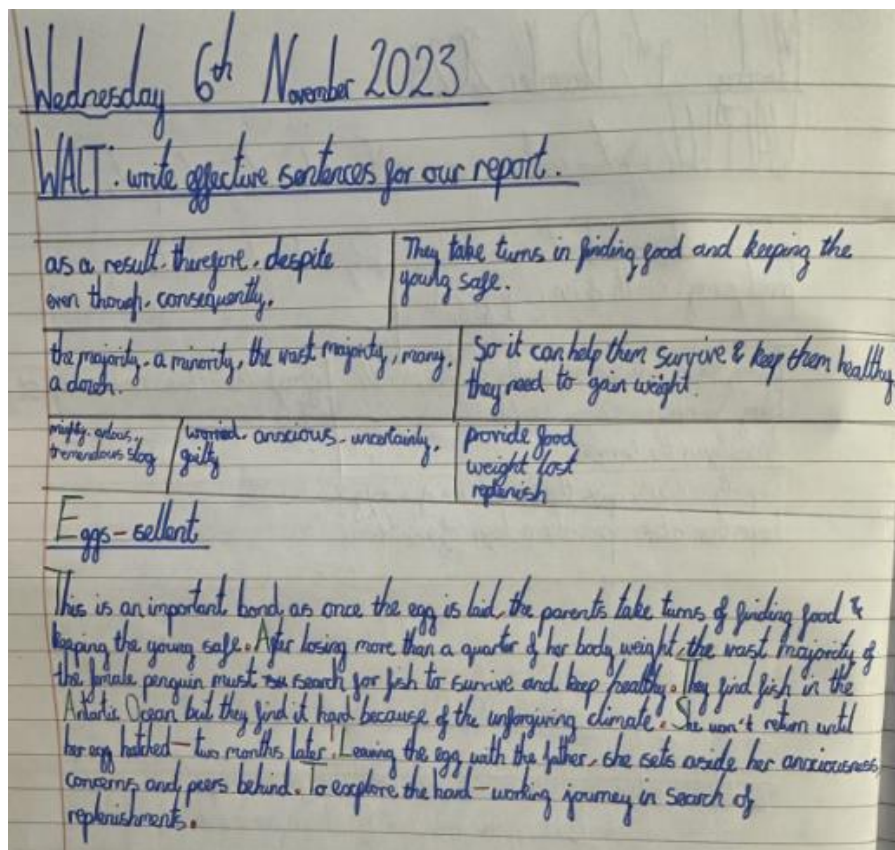
Wintershall

On Thursday 14th December year 5 attended a trip to Wintershall to watch a performance of the Nativity. The children also participated in a behind the scenes workshop. It was a great experience for the children to view part of the story outside before moving into the theatre to watch the remainder of the story. As always, the children demonstrated excellent behaviour outside of school and represented our school with pride.

WOW Work!

Every year group newsletter this year will include a piece of writing published from a child in our year group. It is a great way to showcase what we have been doing in school but also allow the children to see that their writing can have an audience.

This half term's work has been written by Zahra in Cedar Class. She has demonstrated excellent vocabulary choices, punctuation and range of facts to inform the reader. This sentence stacking piece will help towards a Non-Chronological report about Emperor Penguins. Well done Zahra.



Autumn 2 skills

Rowan- PE with Mr Coles on Tuesdays; Swimming on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Tapley

Beech- PE with Complete Coaching (Tuesdays)

Cedar Swimming with Mrs Tapley and Art with Mrs Dayekh (Tuesdays)

Beech and Cedar will also have forest school on Thursdays next half term. Please see dates below. Details of what they will need to bring can be found on our website, under "Our Learning" and "Forest School".

Year 5 Topics

During this half term the children have particularly enjoyed our Science topic which has been Forces. A particular highlight was being able to plan and make paper aeroplanes. This enabled them to launch and test the air resistance force. We were able to then use our maths skills to measure the distance each plane travelled before evaluating the most effective plane made.

In English, the children's favourite piece this half term has been their non-chronological report about Emperor Penguins. The children watched a clip presented by David Attenborough to help with their learning.

The children have continued to develop their learning in Maths with a unit on multiplication and division, before moving onto fractions. Children quickly learnt how important knowing their times table were in order to simplify and convert improper fractions into mixed numbers and also adding fractions with different denominators.

We have now finished our unit on Canada where children used different geographical skills and looked at data on the population of Canada. Next half term we start our History unit, 'What did the Greeks ever do for us?'

In RE the children have been answering the question, 'What do Christians believe about creation?'. Feel free to ask them the question and see what they can remember.

Diary Dates

January	Inset day: Tuesday 2 nd January 2024 Back to school: Wednesday 3 rd January 2024 PTA Good as new sale: Saturday 27th January 2024 Forest School, Beech Class: Thursday 4 th January 2024, 11 th January and 18 th January Rowan Class Assembly: Friday 12 th January 2024, 8:55am Forest School Cedar Class: Thursday 25 th January
February	Forest School Cedar Class: Thursday 1 st February and 8 th February. Safer internet week: Monday 5 th – Friday 9 th February 2024 Finish for half term: Friday 9 th February 2024 at 15:10 Inset Day: Monday 19 th February Children return: Tuesday 20 th February 2024