



Hillside Specialist School & College

Providing exceptional education for all students

February NEWSLETTER 2022

DIARY DATES

11 Feb- LAST DAY OF TERM, 3.10pm finish
HALF TERM
21 Feb—SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS
1 April - LAST DAY OF TERM, 3.10pm finish
EASTER BREAK
19 April—INSET (no pupils)
20 April—SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS

Reminder

This year we have an extra bank holiday for the Queen's jubilee on the 6th June 2022

Class 14 have been working very hard this half term. We have been adding different coins together in maths and reading 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' in English, we have especially enjoyed acting out the scene of the children running after the piper while Laura has been playing the penny whistle! We have been getting crafty with our creativity module using different objects to print and have been learning how to use a CD player in music and dancing with our friends. Our favourite day is when we visit Longridge library and choose a book to bring back to college and read! We have been doing lots of work on understanding our emotions and what it means to be a good friend. Class 14 would also like to say a big thank you to all of you who bought a Christmas picture as part of our Enterprise lesson, we raised £130!! THANK YOU!!



Class 9

In Maths this half term, we have continued to work on developing number skills. Some pupils have also been working on Time – reading and matching different times on normal and digital clocks. Our semi-formal curriculum theme for the half term has been Africa. In English, the pupils have enjoyed reading the story "Giraffes can't Dance". We have completed art work on an African theme looking at African masks and completing an African silhouette picture. The pupils have also followed instructions in written / symbol form to colour pictures of African animals.

We have continued to work on the ASDAN New Horizons award completing units on dangers in the home and health related occupations.

Each week, the pupils have participated in playing turn-taking games either with members of staff or their peers. The class have continued to develop physical skills during weekly PE lessons and they continue to enjoy our daily walk around the school grounds.



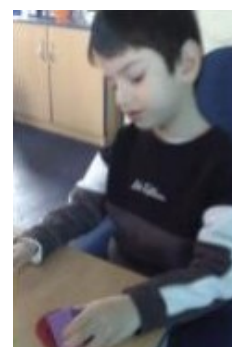
Class 1

This half term our topic has been 'Food'. We have had lots of fun with our sensory story 'The Gingerbread Man' and have enjoyed singing lots of food related songs in our daily music and movement sessions. In Maths we have been looking at measures and comparing sizes and weights of everyday objects. In the afternoons we have been exploring messy play with different foods and have been getting creative, for example decorating gingerbread men templates and printing with different fruit and vegetables. We are also now enjoying weekly PE sessions in the hall- we love exploring sensory and PE equipment!

This Spring term we have been exploring space with our sensory stories; Whatever next by Jill Murphy and Man on the Moon by Simon Bartram, lots of brilliant role play and fun tuff tray activities too. We have had lots of fun dressing up as astronauts, making rockets, experimenting with shimmering stars and creating comets. We have experienced the moon landings during sensory play and even tried moon walking. In maths we have been exploring numbers using our rocket launch and printing using 2d shapes to make aliens and spaceships. We have enjoyed playing sound lotto during phonics and trying to identify what we can hear using symbols.

We continue to practice our life skills this term too and accessing new and exciting areas of school such as the contemplation room. During playtime we have been playing board games and taking turns with our friends, we especially liked hungry hippos and pop up pirate!

The class 3 team wishes everyone a safe and happy half term.

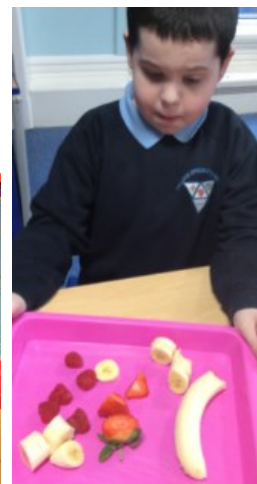


Class 5

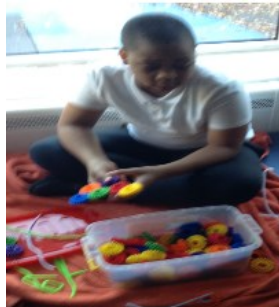
This half term Class 5 have been enjoying learning about France. We have been role playing travelling around France by different modes of transport, visiting tourist attractions. The children made some fantastic Eiffel Towers using bricks, The Arc de Triomphe out of Playdoh, a snowy mountain collage and a painting of the Lavender Fields. The children have also been preparing French desserts such as crepes and fruit salads.

In English we have been reading 'Animal Boogie' and then completing colourful semantic activities based on the book. We have also linked in our science lessons to the topic learning about the different animals and their features. A few of our children have enjoyed coming up to the front of the class and singing 'Animal Boogie' with the actions. Class 5 have also been engaged in our shape maths lessons. They have been naming lots of 2D shapes as well as discussing their properties and making pictures and patterns out of shapes.

Our trip out this half term has been to Longridge Young Peoples Centre. The children have been exploring different activities linked to themes such as The Gruffalo. They have had a lovely time.



Hola! It may have been a cold and windy January here in Longridge, but **Class 6** have been lovely and warm inside our classroom; listening to flamenco music, playing maracas and castanets, as we have been 'whisked off' on a Spanish adventure this half term! We have been learning all about Spain through our senses, using musical trays, finger paints and fruit, tactile fans, and creating a vibrant art display. The pupils were immersed in the traditional Spanish folk tale 'Vain Little Mouse' through our sensory story. Then we 'flew' on a plane and walked along the soft, hot sand during our 'Spanish Holiday' story massage, which has been relaxing and calming for all. I have been impressed by all our pupils' courage to take part and try (and taste) new things! Well done Class 6! We hope you all have a great half term **Adios!**



Class 8 have had a busy term with swimming and shopping. We have visited a range of supermarkets. Our focus is on writing a shopping list, finding the items in store and then being able to pay for the items. On all trips we work on travel training with a big focus on crossing roads safely.

In school we have learnt about weddings in RE, answered questions about our stories in English and money in maths. Throughout the term the children have learnt about Asia in the creative curriculum looking at different animals, and Chinese celebrations such as Chinese New Year.



Class 13 have had a wonderful half term. During our careers, futures and life skills sessions we have been completing a variety of maintenance tasks around the college and taking care of our classroom environment. We have also been designing and planning an outdoor college area which will become a wonderful wooded sensory and quiet space for our students to enjoy. We have so far looked at seating, how we can decorate the branches and trees, and what maintenance work we need to carry out to create an inviting path and entrance.

Some of our students have joined the local library as part of their ASDAN Transition Challenge accreditation and have been enjoying weekly visits. We have all been working hard to develop our individual reading skills using a variety of tools and skills including colourful semantics folders, iPads/APPs and entry level 1 English accreditation resources. Some of our pupils have also enjoyed a trip to the Preston Space Centre.

We have continued to work on money and number during our maths sessions through a variety of practical means and have spent time practicing several printing and art methods during our ASDAN creativity sessions. Working on our handwriting and letter formation has been a priority this half term and the students have responded brilliantly to our weekly tasks, which is something we will continue with next half term.

Have a nice half term break,
The Class 13 Team

This half term Class 7 have enjoyed listening to the story of the Iron Man in English. In Maths we explored fractions and practised cutting things in half and quarters. For PE we have been practising moving like different types of animals. Our Science topic was animals and their habitats and we focused on minibeasts and enjoyed finding them outside. Our history topic was Baghdad. We enjoyed writing our initials in the cuneiform alphabet. Have a good half term 😊



A big thank you to Clitheroe Rotary for their kind donation of £500 towards musical instruments. We got presented the cheque at Clitheroe castle by Jenni Schumann, President of Clitheroe Rotary and Ian Lloyd, President Clitheroe Lions.



This half term Class 2 have been very busy heading off to Space. We have explored the different planets and even met an alien up there. We made friends and had a picnic together with the things that we made in class. They particularly enjoyed the fruit rockets and rock buns.

Thank you for your continued support,

Class 2



School Council

The school council have made an amazing £205.00 by selling their handmade bird boxes.

The money raised is being split between the RSPB and communication boards for the playground

Bird boxes are still available to buy for £10, please contact the office if you would like one.



In **class 10** we enjoyed reading 'Treasure Island' and our entries to the school council art competition were inspired by the book.

In Maths we have been learning skills in number and weight. We have explored evolution and inheritance during our Science lessons.

Creative curriculum lessons have focused on the Weather. During PSHE we have explored safety and this included recording safety advice videos about road-safety and stranger danger. In RE we explored the Muslim faith. We have continued to measure how our 'engines' are running throughout the day to help us to understand how to monitor how we are feeling.

We have developed our fitness and skills through Badminton and Table-Tennis sessions, yoga and dance. During our Skills Builder/Careers lessons this half-term we explored the skills and qualities required for a variety of different jobs including fitness instructor. We look forward to visiting a gym for 10 gymnastics sessions next term.

During Asdan New Horizons lessons we have recorded our likes and dislikes and shared these with our class-mates.

Please explore the class 10 section of the school website to watch our safety advice videos.

Have a great half-term holiday everyone from Class 10



Staff news

Leavers

Siobhan Fahey left after Christmas—we wish her all the best in the future.

New starters

Erin Roche and Louise Ayton have both been newly appointed as TA1's

Changes to staffing

Hamnah Makda has been appointment as a permanent TA2 from an apprentice

Debra Marginson has been appointed as a permanent TA3 from a TA2

Congratulations to our class 5 teacher Emma Pettitt who has been appointed our new Assistant Head teacher—she will be starting her new role after Easter.

**Pupil
absences
can now be
submitted
on school
spider app!**

PSFA

The PSFA is back up and running

The wheelbarrow of booze made an amazing £344.99
Thanks to everybody for donating a bottle and buying raffle tickets

The winners were -

1st—Tracy Smith

2nd—Lindsey Pickering

3rd—Lee Sutton

Well done to all the winners!

The PSFA's AGM is on the 1st March via Teams and anybody is welcome to attend the meeting, please get in touch with the school office if you would like to join

Don't forget to book your child's school dinner's on school spider for the start of next term.

They are available to book now until the end of summer term!

It's pleasing to see how busy our students have been this half term, despite the continued disruption from COVID-19. Staff have worked hard to ensure that pupils continue to receive a wide range of learning opportunities and experiences.

Can I thank you all for your support in our latest fundraising activity and invite you to get involved with our PSFA to help organise further fundraising events.

If any parent would like to be more involved in the development and direction of the school, we will shortly be advertising a Parent Governor post. Please contact school if you would like more information on this. I would like to thank parents for their continued support and I hope you have an enjoyable and safe half term.

Paul Leaper
Headteacher

SCHOOL RE-OPENS MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY AT 9.10AM

