

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

ISSUE 22 | 25th February 2022

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Welcome back to the new half-term. The sun is shining, the mornings/evenings are getting lighter – despite the hail storm yesterday, spring is definitely in the air!

There is much to look forward to and get involved in this half-term, including a range of opportunities for you, our Parents and Carers. As per our Parental Engagement Cycle (included further on) you'll see activities related to your child's learning (e.g. Open Classroom/Annual Report part 1), parental learning/information (such as various Parent and Carer Cafes), and social/community/celebration events (e.g. PTA Quiz Night!). We do hope that you will join us and get involved with as much as you can.

With the lifting of Covid restrictions this week, we have now received updated guidance on managing Covid-19 in schools. Our Trust have put together a useful document summarising the key points/messages for you. Please see the separate attachment to your Hamlet Herald email today.

We continue with our series of Curriculum Specials. This week it is the turn of Maths. Thank you to Miss Thornton Smith, our maths subject lead, for bringing all of this useful information together. It serves as a reminder to me how different maths is now taught to when I was at school... (It's much better!)

KEY DATES

Monday 28th February

Y5 and Y6 Live World Book Day lesson, streamed from the Cambridge Theatre

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd March

Y3 and Y4 Creative drama workshops with EastSide

Thursday 3rd March

Y6 Junior Citizens Scheme workshop, now taking place here at school

Friday 4th March

DHJS does 'World Book Day'! Dress-up – our theme is 'Fairy Tales'

PTA uniform shop open 9-9:30

Parent and Carer Café on the topic of Dyslexia 9:00-9:40

Please see separate communication & book via the office

THANK YOU!

You raised a terrific £449.00 from our Valentines Cake sale before the half-term break. Thank you for all your donations and to the team 'working' the tables too!

Look out for two more baking opportunities this term:

Friday 25th March: Mother's Day Cake Sale

Wednesday 30th March: Cake sale in support of 'Purple Day'

DOODLEVISION



Come on everyone, we need more Doodling...!

The top three classes with the highest % of being in 'the green zone' this week are:

First place (12 points): **6S** **67%**

Second place (11 points): **6W** **59%**

Third place (10 points): **5P** **57%**



Many congratulations.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
81	71	83	56

PTA QUIZ NIGHT

The Hamlet **QUIZ NIGHT** is back!!!

We are delighted to announce the Quiz Night is back in person for 2022, in accordance with current Covid guidelines.

Save the date: **Friday 25th March 7:30pm to 10:30pm in Turney Hall.**

These fundraising events require volunteers and cannot be the success they are without you. Please contact us indicating how you can help on the night, and receive free drinks for your efforts! We need help setting up, serving food and drinks and clearing up. Join in the fun as well, so don't hesitate to grab a ticket and join in the quiz too.

So get your thinking caps on, chat to fellow quiz champions for table numbers and keep an eye out for more information soon!

Lucinda & Kate

The PTA team can be contacted on:

dulwichhamletpta@gmail.com

SCHOOL UNIFORM (and other associated bits!)

Our school uniform is simple and when everyone wears the combo of blue and jade, the pupils look fantastic and proud to be part of Dulwich Hamlet School. Recently, variations on our uniform have started to creep in, and we kindly remind all parents and carers to support us in sticking to the DHJS uniform.

We ask that the children wear the school jade polo shirt or navy t-shirt, navy trousers, shorts or skirt. We also have the option of a navy cardigan, a navy sweatshirt and the navy hoodies. Socks should be blue, black or grey and we ask that all children wear socks every day. Shoes should cover the whole foot, be dark in colour and be practical for moving around the school and running at break and lunchtimes. We also allow plain black trainers.

All of our uniform is available online or we have a very good second-hand uniform shop run by the PTA on alternate Friday mornings from 9-9:30am. Equally, you can purchase non-branded uniform in our school colours from most supermarkets.

Our PE kit is a white t-shirt with the school logo, navy shorts and trainers. Tracksuit bottoms are allowed for outside PE in the winter months although the children do need shorts for dance and gymnastics. If your child chooses to wear black trainers as their 'school shoe' they will need a separate pair of trainers for PE and the daily mile.

The additional things we ask the children to bring in are: a named water bottle. We no longer have drinking fountains. We have filling stations and the children are able to refill their bottles at points during the school day.

We have also been asking for the children to bring in a small washbag with a flannel, with the option of having hand sanitiser if preferred. The children are welcome to continue bringing in these items.

Our aim is to get the children in the playground at break and lunchtime. We will send them out in light rain, colder weather etc. We only keep them in if it's torrential rain, a storm or dangerous to be outside. It is therefore vital your child has an appropriate jacket or coat in school every day.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to have every item clearly named.

We have a reminder bell for the children to collect their belongings at the end of every lunchtime and staff are constantly reminding children to pick up coats, hoodies etc.

Our lost property is quite astonishing! If an item is named it will eventually be returned to its owner. Any unnamed items will be given to the PTA for the second-hand shop. Coats will be given to a charity and lunch boxes will have to be thrown away. If your child is a 'regular' at lost property, they will be requested to join Mr Salomonson at his 'Lost Property Awareness Training' session.

Our playground becomes a play area for wildlife when we've all gone home. Your children must take responsibility for their possessions and collect their items when reminded.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to remind you about jewellery and hair. The only jewellery permitted is stud earrings and a watch. We would prefer the children not to wear either on PE days but we can keep them somewhere safe if necessary.

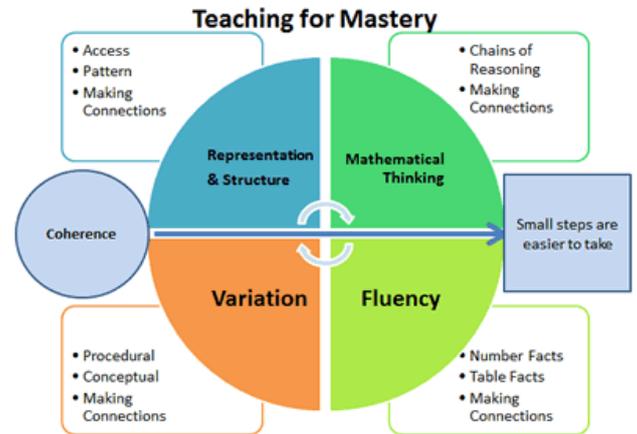
Hair that is shoulder length or longer should be tied back away from the face; equally hair that covers the face needs to be tied back or in a hairband to keep it out of eyes during lesson time. This is particularly important during PE.

CURRICULUM SPECIAL: MATHS

At the Hamlet, we aim to transform our pupils into problem solving mathematical thinkers, who are fluent in their thinking and confident in their approach to reasoning. We have a carefully crafted curriculum which draws influences from recent pedagogical research - but also one which is engaging and accessible. We wish as many children as possible to feel confident and competent mathematicians who will be able to:

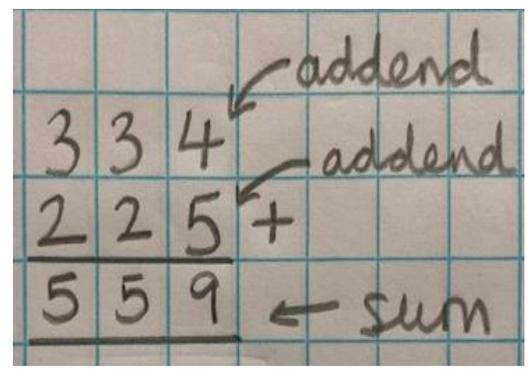
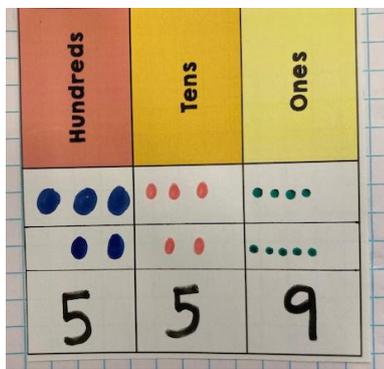
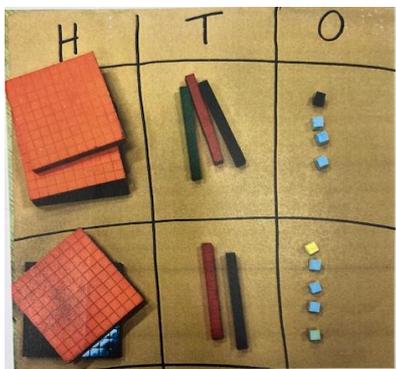
- solve problems of greater complexity demonstrating creativity and imagination;
- independently explore and investigate mathematical contexts and structures; communicate results clearly, and systematically explain and generalise the mathematics.

We have created a progressive, sequenced and bespoke curriculum and our teaching and learning centres around the Five Big Ideas in Teaching for Mastery: Representation and Structure, Variation, Fluency, Mathematical Thinking and Coherence.



Representation and Structure

We use a range of representations across all year groups to uncover the specific number structure that is being taught. In planning, teachers select the most effective models to explain a particular concept in order to create flexible mathematical thinkers. There is not just one way to show your answer, there are many! In maths lessons, particularly when we are introducing a new topic, we use the Concrete Pictorial Abstract (CPA) method of teaching, which is a system that uses physical and visual aids to build a child's understanding of abstract topics. In the example below you can see how the teaching of column addition in Year 3 would be sequenced across a series of lessons using the CPA approach (first using dienes, then drawn on to a place value grid, finally as the formal written equation):



Research suggests that, although pupils should not become overly reliant on concrete representations after they master the mathematical skills and understand the concept, "representation is a critical part of mathematical work and it is often the first thing that proficient problem solvers do" (Boaler, J. 2015. *The Elephant in the Classroom*. Souvenir Press, London). At the Hamlet, we challenge all learners to explore in depth mathematical structures through multiple representations.

Variation

In order to unpick the critical mathematical concepts that help our pupils progress through the curriculum, we represent number structures in a variety of ways. Students are exposed to high levels of variation to ensure that they are more flexible in their thinking and are autonomous in selecting their own methods for solving problems. We plan carefully designed questions that encourage pupils to look at a specific element of the topic and focus them on uncovering the similarities and differences in patterns.



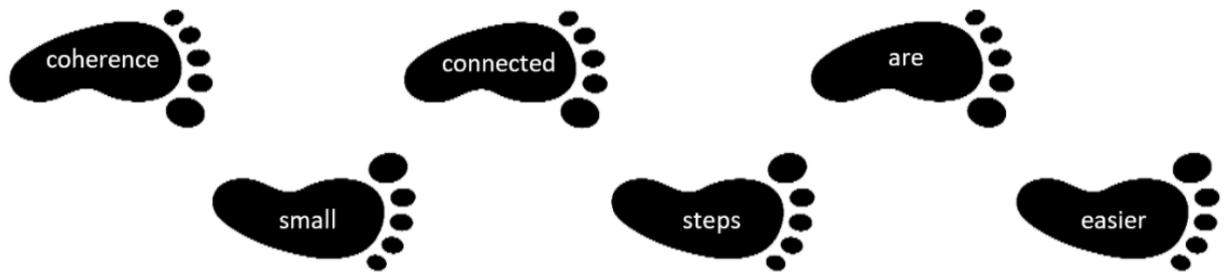
Fluency

It is essential that our Hamleteers revisit previously taught mathematical concepts, so we ensure that topics from weeks, months and years prior are revisited regularly. We teach children to be quick and efficient recallers of number facts and processes through continued fluency practice. This is done at the start of the day as part of Early Morning Work, as well as through 'Fluent in Three/Five questions' at the beginning of the maths lesson, and as part of homework activities (Doodle and Times Tables RockStars). We want our pupils to become automatic in their recalling of concepts, so they can focus on creating mathematical generalisations; spotting patterns in number sequences and forging relationships between different mathematical concepts.



Mathematical Thinking

We set high expectations for our Hamleteers with regards to their use of mathematical language, often using stem sentences and vocabulary banks to promote high quality written outcomes. Pupils are taught to be active mathematicians, using language that challenges their thinking and allows them to spot patterns and make generalisations. Gone are the days when maths was about "getting it right"! Now maths teaching is about encouraging children to look closely at numerical and logical structures, and engaging pupils in analysing the underlying patterns. We want our Hamleteers to be active learners, who engage in mathematical discussion and draw upon previously taught knowledge. There are many skills that are taught in maths lessons at the Hamlet which are achieved through our carefully designed classroom activities. These include: exploring, questioning, working systematically, visualising, explaining, justifying and proving. In maths lessons, children are questioned as to how and why they know the answer and encouraged to represent their findings in a variety of ways.



Coherence

We use 'small steps' teaching in our maths lessons because we aim for children to reach achievable milestones to progress through the curriculum, allowing them to gain confidence and deepen their understanding of mathematical concepts. Maths is taught daily for one hour per day and lessons are broken down into small connected, sequenced steps that gradually unfold the concept, providing effective access for children, as well as developing their ability to apply the concept to a range of contexts. In order to draw out the connections between mathematical domains, we revisit previously taught concepts as often as possible.



Beyond the Classroom

In order to strengthen your child's understanding of mathematical concepts, we encourage regular use of Doodle Maths and Times Tables Rockstars. Both programmes are effective ways to ensure pupils are revisiting concepts and developing their automaticity in recalling number facts. If your child cannot access either of their accounts, please contact your child's class teacher.

Impact of our teaching

What children say about maths at Dulwich Hamlet Junior School...

I love being able to use counters and dienes to show my answers.

I like maths because [the teachers] challenge us to use dienes."

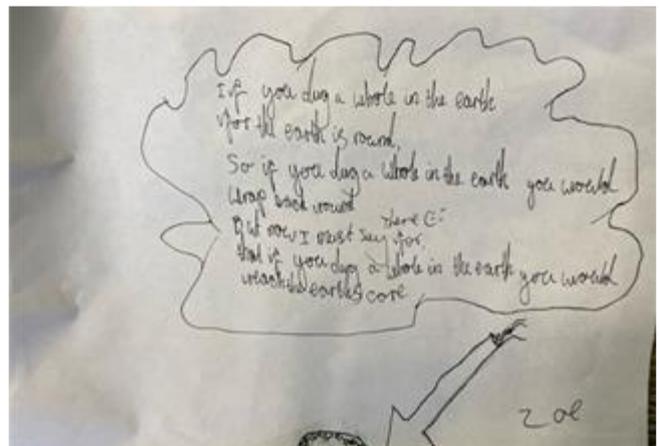
Teachers make it fun for me to learn maths!

I love maths at school because my teacher is very enthusiastic about it.

I enjoy maths lessons because the teacher explains things really clearly for me to understand.

STEAM: QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Last half term's STEAM Question was: 'What would happen if you dug a hole through the earth?' The children educated us about the core, inner core and outer core. It doesn't sound appealing digging towards a heat of 12,000 degrees Fahrenheit! This time, children created papier mâché sculptures, posters, Lego sculptures to demonstrate their understanding of our planet and what is below our feet. See some of the entries below. As always, they were creative, imaginative and well-researched. A big congratulations goes to our winner for this month, Imogen in 3H, who created a fantastic model of earth that you can see below.



Key Dates for Spring Term 2 2022

Y3 -
 Y4 -
 Y5 -
 Y6 -
 Whole School -

Key Dates	Events	Further Details
	14.02.22 HALF TERM HOLIDAY 18.02.22	
21.02.22	Spring term 2 starts	Normal start time 08.55
28.02.22	Y5 & Y6 Live World Book Day lesson	Streamed from the Cambridge Theatre – link to World Book Day
01 & 02.03.22	Y3 & Y4 Workshops in school from EastSide	Creative drama sessions – link to World Book Day
03.03.22	Y6 Junior Citizenship Scheme	Afternoon, Old Kent Road Fire Station
04.03.22	DHJS World Book Day Celebrations	Dress-up day! Theme this year is 'Fairy Tales'
04.03.22	Parent and Carer Café on the topic of Dyslexia	Facilitated by our SENDCo Mrs Koder 08.45-09.30 Burbage
07.03.22	Y4 Re-scheduled: Portals to the Past Workshops	At school, all day
08.03.22	Parent and Carer Café on the topic of Dyslexia – repeat session	Facilitated by our SENDCo Mrs Koder 08.45-09.30 Burbage
09.03.22	Open Classroom – all year groups	15.25-16.15
10.03.22	Open Classroom – all year groups	08.25-08.45
18.03.22	DHJS does Red Nose Day	Details in due course
22.03.22	Y3 visit to Buster Farm	All day, off-site
22.03.22	Y4 Parent and Carer Taster Lunch	Details to follow
22.03.22	Y6 Annual Report Part 1 sent out to parents and carers	Via email – English & Maths comments with next steps
23.03.22	40 Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
23.03.22	Y6 Parents Meetings to be scheduled from today until the end of term	Class teachers will communicate booking slots for meets via Google Classroom
25.03.22	PTA Mother's Day Cake Sale	Please bring in your sweet treat donations. Village playground 15.25
25.03.22	PTA Quiz Night	Turney Hall – details to follow
w/c 28.03.22	ABRSM Music Exams	At school – relevant children will be notified of their day/time
28.03.22	DHJS Celebrates 'Purple Day' – supporting Epilepsy around the world	Wear something purple! Special assembly facilitated by Young Epilepsy
29.03.22	Y6 Parent and Carer Café on the topic of SATs	Facilitated by the Y6 Team 08.45-09.30 Burbage
29.03.22	Y3 visit to Dulwich Woods	Back for lunchtime
30.03.22	Cake Sale in support of Purple Day and Young Epilepsy	Please bring in your purple sweet treat donations. Village playground 15.25
30.03.22	45 Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
31.03.22	Y4 Visit to Battle Abbey	All day, off-site
01.04.22	DHJS Easter Egg Competition	Details to follow
01.04.22	Y3/4/5 Annual Report Part 1 sent out to parents and carers	Via email – English & Maths comments with next steps
01.04.22	Last day of Spring term	Normal finish time 15.25
	04.04.22 EASTER HOLS 18.04.22	
19.04.22	Summer term starts	Normal start time 08.55