



Celebrations at Tenterden Primary Federation Term Two 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of Term 2 our newsletter enables teachers to take time to celebrate some of our schools' achievements, experiences and memorable moments. It has been a busy and rewarding time across both schools. Your children always enjoy sharing their ideas and developing their knowledge and skills in their lessons. I thank all the staff for their continued hard work this term. The staff are busy refining their curriculum plans, that will be on the TPF Website, for Terms 3 and 4.

This term we have continued working on using our new comprehension resources to help children understand text. Little Wandle assessments ensure that we celebrate and identify next steps for children's phonic understanding. The foundation staff have been looking at oracy and how learning develops through the conversations that happen in each activity throughout the day. This aligns with our Talk for Writing English curriculum that your children work on; using toolkits to create their own compositions.

We love reading and being inspired by interesting stories. Each class is changing over their reading corner. This includes your children choosing books that interest them. If you have any outstanding reading books please bring them back next term.

I would like to say another well done to all the children for their hard work and their role in their Christmas performances, sport teams and monitoring roles. Thank you to all adults for your donations -this goes into the costume and prop pot for future presentations. Well done Year 4 presenting your work to the school and parents/carers, we always enjoy these and look forward to the next year group!

The school is currently filled with Christmas cheer and lots of card making, decoration construction and special Christmas activities enjoyed by all. We promote our kindness rules across our schools with everyone helping each other and being respectful of other people's feelings.



We were very pleased to have won the community Christmas Tree parade in the Baptist Church. Thank you to Miss Bryant's Construction Club – the community were impressed with their use of foil to reflect the coloured lights spiralling our tree. The children from our Singing Club sung to residents at Caxton Lodge, we really enjoyed sharing our Christmas carols and welcomed the after treat too!



Thank you for your kind donations for the Big Wrap and your support throughout this term. The children delighted in the Movie Night and Junior Discos and we thank all adults for your help. Thank you TePTA for arranging such great events for the children and enabling our schools to use funds for curriculum and extra-curriculum resources. It is lovely that we can provide the children with an amazing Panto experience – Oh yes, they did!

Next term we are looking at developing our outdoor learning to sit alongside our active learning approach in class. We will be welcoming our local PSO, Ricky Apps, who is going to be leading a group of Junior children in Police Cadets.

I would like to say a big thank you to Ms Adensusi who has been supporting Orangutan Class in Year 3 and has helped all the children with their learning. We wish Ms Adensusi all the best for the future and will miss her.

We look forward next term in which we will be continuing our school development. Our preschool plans are moving forward as we work with the TST and DFE. This is an exciting project. We have completed our EYFS Tours and will be sharing our Play and Stay Sessions that we offer to the community.

I would like wish you a calm, safe and enjoyable family Christmas break. Please enjoy reading our Term 2 celebrations written by the teachers.

Kind regards and Christmas best wishes
From Mrs McIntosh, Executive Head Teacher

Parable of The Mustard Seed
Together, We Learn, Grow and Flourish.
Love, Respect, Perseverance and Faithfulness



Tapir and Snow Leopard Celebrations

This term we have been working very hard on our Christmas performance, learning lots of songs and actions. The children were fantastic singing on the stage in front of all of our special adults. We have been busy making lots of Christmas and advent themed crafts including Christmas cards, Christmas tree decorations and Calendars.

In our Phonics we have been learning lots of new sounds and practising blending sounds for reading and segmenting words for writing. We have also been learning lots of new tricky words and remembering which letter or letters are tricking us. We have also begun focussing on letter formation, starting with the curly caterpillar family.

In Maths, we have been mastering our numbers to 5, learning about the composition of the numbers, ordering them, thinking about more and fewer and using our subitising skills to subitise patterns of objects up to 5. We also explored the properties of 2D shapes.

Next term our topic will be Traditional Tales. We will be learning the story of The Three Little Pigs, we will learn our story map and be able to re-tell the story using the pictures. We will be working on sequencing a story, thinking about the beginning, middle and end of the story and use collage and loose parts to build the three little pigs houses.

We will also be learning about Chinese New Year, learning about why the festival is important in the Chinese culture and reading some traditional Chinese stories.



Thank you for all of your support this term and we look forward to a fantastic 2026!



Lemurs Year 1 Celebrations

This term the children in Year 1 have worked with great enthusiasm across all areas of learning. In History, they explored the past by finding out what Tenterden used to be like and discovering how schools have changed over time.

In Design and Technology, the children enjoyed creating their own Christmas decorations using a variety of textiles, producing some fantastic and imaginative pieces. In Science, they learned to identify different materials and began to understand their properties through practical experiences. During PE lessons, the class developed their ball skills and showed increasing confidence and control.

The children also took part in the nativity, singing and dancing beautifully and demonstrating super enthusiasm when

performing. Overall, it has been a wonderful term, and the children should be very proud of their achievements.

Next term, the children will be learning about Kenya, exploring its location, culture, and key features. As part of our art work, they will be creating beautiful art pieces inspired by the vibrant style of Edward Tingatinga. In science, we will be learning about living things, with a particular focus on identifying and grouping different animals. This will help the children develop their understanding of the natural world and how living things can be classified. In mathematics, our focus will be on 2D and 3D shapes, where the children will learn to recognise, name, and describe a variety of shapes and their properties. Have a wonderful Christmas.



Jaguar Year 1 and 2 Celebrations

Jaguar class have had a very busy term learning about Tenterden in the past. The children enjoyed looking at old photos of Tenterden in the past, making a timeline and finding out about what some buildings were used for.

Our term began with a trip to the middle garden where we found clues about our new story. The children guessed straight away that it was 'Little Red Riding Hood.' We used adjectives to write character descriptions and learnt how to add suffixes to words. We also enjoyed a hunt to find out facts about wolves.

In Maths we have learnt the place value of numbers to 100. We practised counting in tens and partitioned numbers using base ten. We have learnt the names of 2D and 3D shapes. In Science we learnt the names of different materials and investigated their properties. The children learnt their speaking parts, songs and dances for the Nativity concert. They were all super stars and we were very proud of them.

Next term, we are excited to find out about our new Geography based topic on Kenya. We are looking forward to exploring and creating our own artwork and studying the common features between animals. The Mayor is going to be visiting us and we also will have an interesting time looking at birds with The Bird Man.



Polar Bears Year 2 Celebrations

It has been another wonderfully busy term in Polar Bears, filled with creativity, curiosity, and festive excitement! In History, the children have been exploring Tenterden in the past. They loved discovering how the town has changed over time and comparing old photographs with the places they know today. Our DT lessons have been full of careful hands and patient stitching as the children learned how to sew their own Christmas stockings. They have shown fantastic perseverance and are very proud of their creations.

In Computing, the children have been experimenting with different tools to create digital art. They have created beautiful Christmas cards by filling in the background and drawing their own design. In Science, we've continued our topic on materials. The children enjoyed investigating different objects, discussing their properties, and thinking about why certain materials are chosen for particular jobs.

Finally, the children have worked exceptionally hard on their Nativity Play- Baarmy Bethlehem, there were lots of sheep! Everyone enjoyed the story and hearing the wonderful singing. The children have used their music and RE learning to help them rehearse songs, understand the Christmas story, and bring their characters to life. Thank you to everyone who came to watch it, we are so proud!

Next term, we will be learning 'What is it like in Kenya?'. The children will learn about human and physical features in Kenya, comparing them to the UK. The children will also learn about some Kenyan artists in our Art lessons and learn more about Kenyan animals in our 'Habitats' Science learning. Our focus story is going to be 'The Papaya Who Spoke', which is a fantastic meeting tale where different inanimate objects come to life!



Rhino and Orangutan Year 3 Celebrations

The children have continued to settle beautifully into the Junior School and have shown such enthusiasm and excitement for the curriculum units we have covered this term. It has been an incredibly busy term, with lots of excitement leading up to Christmas; the children have completed some fantastic learning and we are extremely proud of them.

In English, we have been exploring traditional tales. Through these units, the children have worked on character descriptions and diary writing. Their writing continues to develop and improve as they move through each unit, and they are doing really well at using the writing toolkits to help them produce their best work. The children's descriptions have been beautiful and are always a pleasure to read.

In Maths, we completed our addition and subtraction unit before moving on to multiplication and division. The children have mastered using the column method for addition and subtraction, and we continue to practise this weekly so the skill is not lost. We have been exploring sharing and grouping and learning to count in 3s and 4s, as well as consolidating our 2s, 5s and 10s.

One of the children's favourite subjects this term has been Geography. Our unit focused on volcanoes, but we also learned about the four layers of the Earth, tectonic plates and plate boundaries, the seven continents, mountains and earthquakes. We finished the unit by making mini volcano models, which the children thoroughly enjoyed!

In RE, we have been learning about the Trinity – God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The children explored what this means to Christians and how this belief is helpful in their daily lives. We began by learning about the Baptism of Jesus and visited the church, where Reverend Lindsay led a workshop explaining what baptism is and why it is important.

In PE, Mr Fraser has been leading our tag rugby lessons. The children have been absolutely fantastic at listening to instructions and picking up new skills quickly. They have worked beautifully in small groups and taken part in games that show what they have learned. On Wednesdays, Mrs Brookes has been teaching dance, and the children have enjoyed creating sequences in small groups and performing them to the rest of the class.

In Science, we have been learning about forces and magnets. The children have enjoyed investigating pushes and pulls, exploring how forces can make objects move, stop or change direction. They have also carried out practical investigations with magnets, discovering which materials are magnetic and exploring attraction and repulsion through hands-on experiments.

Over the last few weeks, we have enjoyed some festive activities in school, including watching the pantomime, taking part in the school quiz, visiting the church for the Christingle service, and enjoying our class movie afternoon and party. The children have been amazing this term and have shown such a love and enthusiasm for learning.

Well done, Orangutans and Rhinos! We wish you all a very happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



Hippos and Lion Year 4 Celebrations

What a roaringly busy term it's been for Lion Class and Hippo Class! We've packed in learning, fun, and enough adventures to make even the most energetic of us slightly dizzy, but the children have tackled everything with curiosity, determination, and the occasional cheeky grin.

We kicked off the term with a visit from Kent Fire and Safety. The children listened brilliantly, proved they knew what to do in an emergency and how important it was to stay calm. We all joined in, celebrating Children in Need and enjoyed watching Homewood's fantastic Dance Dash, which had us tapping our toes and clapping along. Parents' evenings were a wonderful chance to meet and share all the amazing things the children have achieved, and the generous donations for The Big Wrap reminded us all what a kind-hearted group Year 4 is. Add in a school disco, where the dance moves were hotter than a toasted marshmallow and a fulfilled panto! You can see why this term has been full of energy and laughter.

The talent shone through in Lion Class's assembly; sharing learning about significant women who changed the world. Their confidence and pride were absolutely lion-sized, and the audience could tell how hard the children had worked! Hippo Class assembly took us on a splashy journey through rivers, revisiting last term's learning and their trip to the RNLI and Rye Harbour. Using their knowledge of solids and liquids the children made their homemade and asked some Year 6s to try it, - science has never been so tasty!

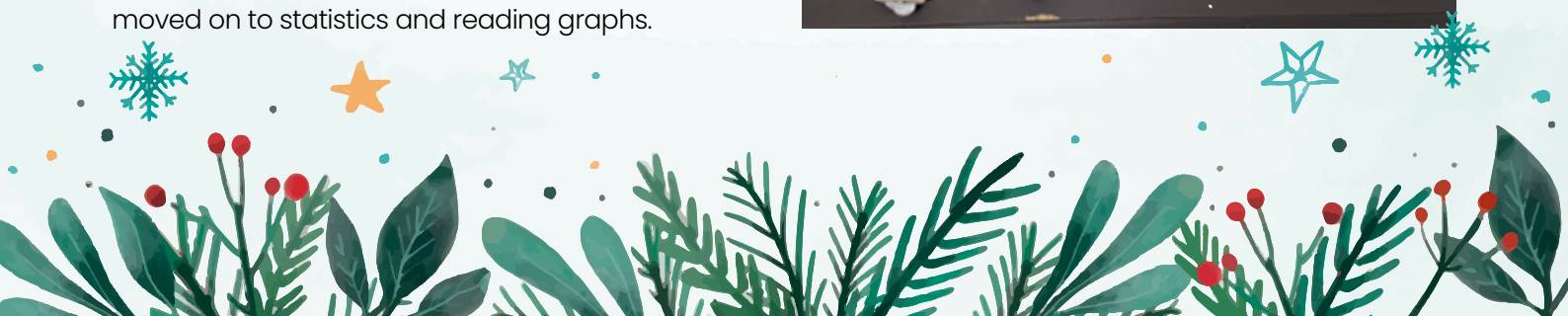
In English, we've read and written biographies about some truly inspiring women: Boudicca, Queen Victoria, Jane Goodall, Malala, Marie Curie, and for the football fans among us, Jill Scott. We've also explored non-chronological reports on Christmas traditions around the world, helping us get into the festive spirit while practising our formal writing skills.

Maths this term has been all about multiplication and division, with our Times Tables Rock Stars heatmaps glowing brighter than a Christmas tree! Keep learning your times tables everyone. We then moved on to statistics and reading graphs.

History lessons have been packed with stories about remarkable women who changed the world: Queen Victoria, Ada Lovelace, Rosa Parks, the Suffragettes, Emmeline Pankhurst, and Wangari Maathai. The children designed their own monuments to Rosa Parks and even thought about how they could record history by writing a book, featuring all these incredible women.

In DT, we built mechanical cars using lollipop sticks, cardboard, and a bit of tape. We then tested them to see how stable they were. The children showed determination, creativity, and teamwork throughout the design, make and evaluation process. RE saw us exploring incarnation and the Trinity, learning symbols, and linking hymns and songs to the 3 Gospels (Matthew, Luke, or John). Science made plenty of noise as we explored sound through: pitch, volume and vibrations. We also studied the parts of the ear and enjoyed making inter-linking string telephones.

It's been a term full of learning, laughter, and plenty of "aha!" moments. Lion and Hippo Class have been absolutely magnificent, and we couldn't be prouder of everything they've achieved. Now it's time to relax, enjoy the festive season, and make the most of Christmas with family and friends. We can't wait to see all the children back in the New Year, ready to roar, splash, and make some serious noise once again. Happy Christmas from all of us in Year 4!



Sharks and Whales Year 5 Celebrations

This term's educational journey saw children explore the captivating world of the Ancient Greeks, unravelling tales of gods, philosophers, Athens and Sparta. We linked this to our English; looking at the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World and a biography of Archimedes – Eureka! The children found his inventions fascinating, and this helped spark their curiosity and a deeper understanding of classical civilisations.

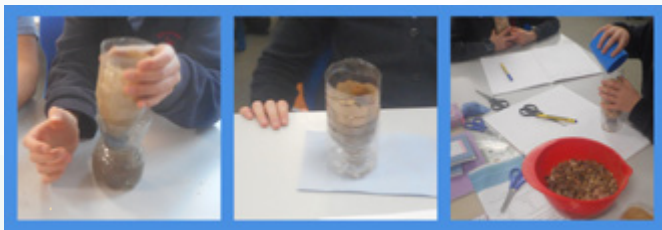
In Mathematics, the children further enhanced their already impressive knowledge of fractions and learned how to convert denominators and improper fractions to aid calculation. Our DT unit on structures meant the classroom transformed into a construction site, where the children used their knowledge of different styles of bridges to create simple models. The highlight was the crafting of the spaghetti truss bridge, a hands-on experience that seamlessly merged physics with DT and creativity. In Science, we have explored Materials and their different properties and how to separate different materials in solutions and mixtures – even making our own water filters!

On a musical note, ukulele lessons have been very successful. We're becoming a rather marvellous band! These lessons have recently covered chords, types of musical notes (semibreves, crochets, quavers and minims) and learning the riff for 'I Gotta Feeling' by the Black Eyed Peas and 'Jingle Bells'.

Looking ahead to our exciting journey next term, our children are set to explore the profound significance of our oceans, unravelling the mysteries of these vast bodies of water and understanding why they matter for our planet's well-being. In Mathematics, the children will be studying the formal methods of multiplication and division, learning structured approaches to tackle word problems.

To launch our English lessons next term, we'll be exploring non-fiction and writing our own explanation texts. These will be based on our model text, 'How Does a Space Rocket Work?' Following this, we will then be focusing on using dialogue within narrative writing. Our narrative genre will centre on warning tales and will be based on the model text, 'Trouble at Penrhyn Point'. We're already excited to get started!

We will also be heading into space, with our Science unit on Earth and the Solar System! The children always find this unit fascinating; this will inspire their imaginations and creativity in their writing. A great term's learning to look forward to!



Penguin and Pangolin Year 6 Celebrations

We've had a very busy few weeks and are now looking forward to Christmas!

In English, we have learnt about building atmosphere in our writing by studying the beautiful film, "The Alchemist's Letter". It tells the story of an alchemist who created a machine that turns any metal into gold but burns his most powerful memories as fuel. We explored the themes of loss and regret and designed our own machines, writing our own letters to loved ones, capturing the themes. In English, we have also explored how characters are created using our class text, Goodnight Mr Tom as our inspiration.

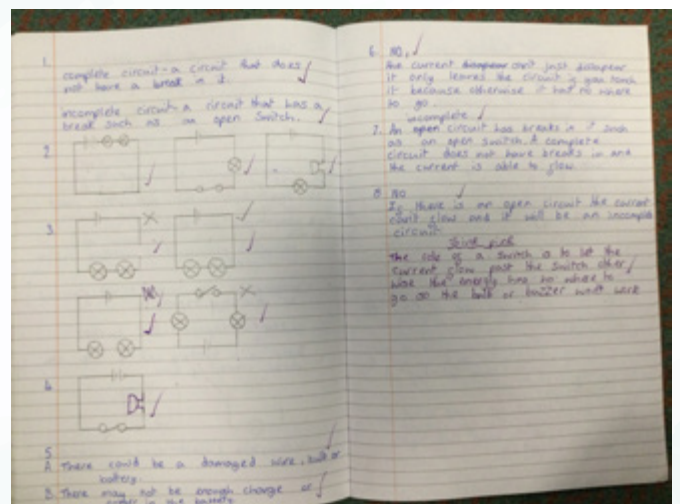
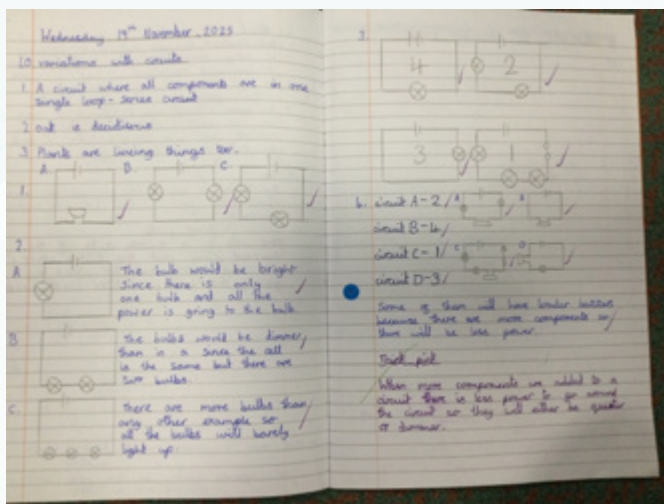
In Maths, we have been working hard in our fractions lessons and have revised simplifying fractions and converting mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice-versa. We have also learnt how to multiply and divide fractions by integers and other fractions.

In Science, we have been learning more about electricity. The children have explored simple circuits, components, and how electricity flows. They have shown lots of enthusiasm in this area asking lots of thoughtful questions and enjoying hands on experiments.

In P.E the class have been developing teamwork, coordination and confidence through Rugby and Pop Lacrosse. These lessons have been energetic and fun and the children have really enjoyed learning a new sport.

Next term, we are looking forward to studying ratio, algebra and decimals in Maths. In English, we will be focusing on persuasive writing and a creating an in-depth character study.

The focus for our topic work will be The Tudors where we will learn about changes that happened in this time, including the Tudor monarchs and the exploration of the "New World". We are also looking forward to our school visit to Hever Castle in February.



We hope that you all have a lovely, restful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all next term. From Year Six Team.



**We wish you a happy and restful
Christmas break and we look forward
to seeing you all in the New Year.**

**From all the staff at
Tenterden Primary Federation.**



With God as our companion, we learn, grow and flourish with love,
respect, perseverance and faithfulness.

