



# Celebrations at Tenterden Primary Federation Term Three 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome to Term 3 newsletter. All Year groups have been busy and it has been great to see how children are delighting in sharing their work. Across our schools, we have focused on developing the ways that children can represent their maths problems using practical resources and using drawings to help work out the solutions. Part of our maths has focused on developing ways children share their answers using full sentences to explain the problem-solving process. This helps them to link ideas to their long-term memory. The children have applied these skills in their recent maths assessments.

Well done to everyone working on their times tables and Mathletics tasks. Mathletics enables all children to work on their areas of Maths that need a bit more practice. Mrs Hood and Mr Rogers, our Maths Leads, always enjoy presenting the children with their certificates in our Celebration Assemblies.

We continue to support all children through our nurture and caring approach to school life. The Nest, in the Infant School, is a place of calm to help complete class learning in a small group. The Bubble Room and Library, at the Junior School, provides additional spaces for learning support along with the shared areas that each year group have.

The Tenterden Pre-School is progressing well and works are going to plan. We have the builders in who are now on to decorating and putting in the new kitchen area. Building works is to be completed at the end of February and then we will be moving to developing the outside area. We have shared Pre-School Posters within our community and have an open invitation for parents and carers to register their interest for a pre-school place for September 2026 for a 3-4 year old. More information will be shared as we progress.

All staff work hard to elevate and make relevant our curriculum, which is shared on our TPF website. School trips and invited speakers are woven into the term plans to provide additional enrichment and opportunities for children to ask questions. We are mindful that children are exposed to a variety of speakers from different careers.

We are looking forward to Science Week, 9th to 13th March. Tenterden Wildlife, The Woodland Trust and Tenterden Recycling Group are supporting TPF Science Week with whole school assemblies, workshops and resources. We intend to have our Science exhibition in both halls on the Friday 13th March after school. This was a great success last year and the children enjoy showcasing their work to you.



As we complete the term, I am sure that you would like to join me, in passing on all our good wishes to Miss Merrifield who begins her maternity leave. We have welcomed Mrs Whitehead, returning to us to teach Hippo Class for term 4, 5 and 6. This week Hippo class have enjoyed working with both teachers as we complete our class handover.

At our recent Governor Meeting, we have said a fond farewell to Maureen Kavanaugh who has been a terrific, supportive Governor for 8 years. Maureen has been our Maths and SEND Governor and has helped with developing our strategies in these areas. We all wish Maureen a very happy time in her new adventures.

We continue to develop our reading areas and each class are updating their reading corners. The children love to talk about their books and then in the Junior School children are working well in their Genre Challenges. We are looking forward to Book Week 2nd -5th March, a week in which lots of reading for pleasure and with an emphasis on sharing stories. The week always ends with classes sharing their work and we hope to invite you into school for a sharing reading session, dates tbc. Have your favourite book ready!

I wish you a peaceful, safe half term break and look forward to working with you all in Term 5. Please take time to read all about the year group's curriculum work written by your class teachers.

See you in Term 4 that starts on Tuesday 24th February.

**Kind regards**

**Mrs McIntosh, Executive Head Teacher**

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



# Tapir & Snow Leopard Foundation Celebrations

During Term 3, our Snow Leopards and Tapirs have thrown themselves into the world of fairy tales. We have read, retold and compared different versions of some traditional tales and immersed ourselves in their storylines.

Whilst learning about capacity and mass, we measured the ingredients to make porridge for Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and of course had a little taste ourselves. We attempted and succeeded in building houses for the Three Little Pigs that could not be blown down by the Big Bad Wolf, and even built bridges for the Billy Goats Gruff to safely pass over the troll to the fresh green grass.

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Lunar New Year in EYFS. We put up decorations, dressed up in Chinese clothing and did some crafts. We really enjoyed trying some real Chinese food

with our friends and our visitor reading a Chinese children's story that explained why we celebrate Lunar New Year.

In phonics some children have now finished learning Phase 2 and 3 sounds and tricky words in our Little Wandle scheme and have spent some time concentrating on reading longer words. The others have finished their Phase 2 sounds and are focussing on reading and writing short CVC words. All of the children have made fantastic progress with their reading and writing this term and we are very proud.

Next term we will be introducing our new topic, 'Growing and Changing' when we will learn about the lifecycles of plants and animals. Well done for a super Term 3, EYFS!



# Jaguar

## Year 1 & 2 Celebrations

This term Jaguar class have really enjoyed their geographical topic about Kenya. We have learnt the names of the continents and oceans and can identify them on a map. Our work began by tasting papayas and retelling our class story 'The Papaya that Spoke.' The children made puppets and created their own little shows. We changed the papaya to a pineapple and enjoyed another tasting. We found out facts about giraffes and wrote non-chronological reports.

In Art we explored printing and colour mixing with paints. We found out about the artist Edward Tingatinga and based our artwork on some of his pieces. In Science we have learnt to group animals. We have worked with numbers to 100 in Maths and are learning to add two 2-digit numbers.

We learnt about Humanism in RE from a visitor to our school who told us all about his beliefs. We asked lots of questions. We also had a special visit from the Mayor of Tenterden who had read our letters from Term 1 suggesting new ideas for our local park. We are so excited to be told that our ideas are being incorporated into the park's future development plans!

Next term we look forward to reading traditional stories. We will also be having a Book and Science week.



# Lemurs

## Year 1 Celebrations

This term has been full of exciting learning and wonderful achievements, the children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum. In English, we have enjoyed exploring the story 'The Papaya That Spoke'. The children used the story as inspiration for their own writing, focusing on using capital letters correctly and choosing descriptive adjectives to make their sentences more interesting and engaging. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they begin to think more carefully about how they present their ideas in writing.

In maths, we started the term by learning about different 2D shapes, identifying their names and key features. We then moved on to place value within 20, where the children have been developing their understanding of numbers, counting, and recognising how numbers are made up of tens and ones. The children have approached this with enthusiasm and are becoming more confident mathematicians. Our science lessons have been a real highlight this term.

The children have loved learning about animals and their diets, discovering what different animals eat and why. We have explored a range of animal groups and discussed how animals are similar and different from one another. The children asked lots of thoughtful questions and showed great curiosity about the world around them. As part of our topic work, we have been learning all about Kenya. The children created some fantastic posters, sharing what they have learned about the country, the wildlife, and the culture.

We also explored Tinga Tinga art, using it as inspiration to create our own colourful artwork. The children produced some brilliant interpretations and showed creativity, care, and pride in their work.

Next term, we are looking forward to learning about the Wright Brothers and the history of flight.



# Polar Bears Celebrations

## Year 2

It has been an action-packed term for Polar Bears! In Geography, we have been exploring Africa, comparing the climate and landmarks of the UK to the vibrant landscapes of Kenya. This linked perfectly to our Science learning, where we investigated how different animals are adapted to their unique habitats. To deepen our understanding of worldviews, we welcomed two special guests. Steve from Humanists UK helped us explore how Humanists use kindness and science to lead meaningful lives and allowed us to ask questions and make connections to our own beliefs.

We also welcomed the Mayor of Tenterden, Andrew Holcombe, who gave us some excellent feedback on our writing from Term 1, including some ideas about what might be included in some upcoming plans for Tenterden.

Finally, our Art sessions were an explosion of colour as we explored the works of Edward Tingatinga. The children combined his iconic, bold style with collage techniques to create stunning African landscapes that now brighten our corridors. It has been a wonderful journey of discovery across every subject and the children have been able to work brilliantly in teams to build on their collaboration skills.

Next term, we are going to be taking part in World Book Week by learning the Fairy Tale Cinderella and writing our own stories. We will also be using our enquiry skills to answer a variety of questions as part of our Science Week learning, such as 'how do you know how old sharks are?' and 'How do birds make nests?'. In History, we will be starting a new topic- 'How did we learn to fly?'. This learning will connect the Wright Brothers flight in 1903 to modern day commercial flights around the world. This will link with our DT learning about vehicles and mechanisms.



# Rhino and Orangutan Year 3 Celebrations

What a fantastic term it has been in Year 3! It has been a busy six-week term filled with fun, exciting and purposeful learning. The children returned after Christmas refreshed, motivated and ready to challenge themselves, which has been wonderful to see.

In English, we have been developing our descriptive writing through our Ancient Egypt topic. Using Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx as inspiration, the children wrote fantastic setting descriptions of Egypt. Their writing included beautiful personification and detailed noun phrases that really brought their ideas to life. We then moved on to writing explanation texts about how the Ancient Egyptians made and used papyrus paper. The children wrote clear and detailed explanations, describing why papyrus was so important and explaining the process of how it was made thousands of years ago.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. This can be a tricky topic, but the children worked incredibly hard and have shown confidence in recognising, adding and subtracting different coins. We have now moved on to our second unit in multiplication and division, where we are beginning to multiply a two-digit number by a one-digit number.

Our History lessons have focused on life in Ancient Egypt. We absolutely loved our visit from Mr Egypt and learnt so much from him. The children explored what daily life was like, the process of mummification, the importance of the River Nile and the beliefs surrounding Egyptian gods and goddesses. We even mummified tomatoes and made our own papyrus paper — what a memorable and hands-on topic!

In Science, we have been learning about rocks, fossils and soils. The children have explored different types of rocks and their properties, discovered how fossils are formed and investigated different types of soil. They particularly enjoyed examining fossils and discussing where they are found — including having the opportunity to look at Mr Spain's fascinating collection!

In RE, we have been learning about the Sikhi faith. The children have learnt about Guru Nanak, who founded the religion, as well as the other Gurus. We have explored the significance of the Five Ks and discussed how Sikhi people show their faith through their actions and daily lives.

There has been so much fantastic learning this term and the children have worked incredibly hard. Well done, Orangutan and Rhino classes — you should be very proud of all that you have achieved!

Next term, our Geography unit focuses on Antarctica, we will be delving into what it is like and the flora and fauna that live there. We will be exploring light and dark in our science unit and in PE we will be learning the rules and techniques of Handball.



# Hippos and Lion

## Year 4 Celebrations

As we come to the end of a very busy and exciting term, we would like to share some of the wonderful learning experiences the children have enjoyed.

In English, we stepped into the magical world of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children explored the different personalities of the characters and had great fun investigating what makes each one unique. They also developed their persuasive writing skills by coming up with imaginative ideas to convince people to visit the chocolate factory – some very tempting arguments were made!

In Maths, we have been focusing on multiplication and division. This has required a great deal of perseverance, resilience, and determination, and the children should be very proud of the effort they have put in. Their confidence and problem-solving skills have grown noticeably over the term.

Our Science lessons have been both fascinating and a little bit gross! We have learned all about the digestive system and carried out experiments to test the impact of different liquids on our teeth. The results were very interesting and sparked lots of thoughtful discussion.

In Geography, we travelled the world to learn about fair trade and to discover where our food comes from. We were lucky to have a visit from Lee, our school chef, who spoke to us about the origins of our school dinners. We then took our learning beyond the classroom with a visit to Waitrose, where we searched for fair trade products and applied our knowledge in a real-world setting.

During PE, the children have been busy dodging balls and striking them in dodgeball and hockey. They have developed tactics, improved their teamwork, and built many other important skills such as communication and coordination.

Our DT work followed the food theme, with the children donning their Michelin hats to test biscuits and evaluate flavours. They also designed and made their very own biscuits, adapting recipes to suit different tastes – a delicious success!

In Music, we have been rock and rolling our way through the term and learning the Hand Jive. The children brought fantastic energy and enthusiasm to every session.

Next term promises to be just as exciting. In PE, the children will be taking part in swimming lessons, focusing on water confidence and developing their swimming skills. In History and Music, we will be travelling to Mexico to learn about the Mayan civilisation, alongside exploring Samba rhythms and Carnival music. In Maths, our focus will shift to fractions and decimals, building on prior learning. In Science, we will be investigating electricity and circuits, with plenty of hands-on experiments planned.

This term we are also saying a fond farewell to Miss Merrifield, who has been a valued member of our team, and we wish her all the very best as she begins her maternity leave. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Whitehead to the team for the remainder of the year. It has been a pleasure to see the children's curiosity, teamwork, and positive attitudes across all areas of learning this term. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break.



# Sharks and Whales

## Year 5 Celebrations

This term both classes have been working extremely hard across a whole variety of exciting curriculum subjects!

Maths saw Year 5 navigating the complexities of formal multiplication and extending their knowledge of fractions. English classes delved into the art of crafting explanation texts, and the creative spirit shone through as students explained their own spy cars.

Geography ventured into the pressing matter of our suffering oceans. Thought-provoking discussions unfolded, addressing the challenges faced by our oceans and brainstorming tangible actions to lend a helping hand.

Space has been a common thread this term. In Science, we have been looking at our solar system, and how our orbit around the Sun and our rotation lead to day, night and the seasons. We have used this knowledge in French, where we have described and compared the planets.

In Art, we have explored different techniques of mark-making, how to show different emotions and tried our hands at lino-cut printing!

Year 5 have had several extra-curricular opportunities this term and it was lovely to see so many taking part in Sportshall Athletics. We also had several children lend their vocal chords to the Young Voices Choir in preparation for a concert at the O2 in London.

Next term Maths will see us relate decimals and percentages to our fraction knowledge, and develop this further when we look at statistics. In English we will be describing characters, and writing a diary entry. This will be linked to our History unit where we will be focusing on Central America and the Maya civilisation. Art will see us focusing on mixed media by creating poem self-portraits. Science will see us continuing to think about nature, looking at living things and life cycles. Lots of fun ahead next term for Year 5!



# Penguin and Pangolin Year 6 Celebrations

What a busy term we have had! Our term started off with a dive into Tudor times. We studied the life of Henry VIII and asked the question, "Was he a fair ruler or a tyrant?" The children found this extremely interesting which then resulted in some fantastic research projects. They particularly enjoyed learning about the Tudor family tree and were able to explain the line of succession.

In English, we immersed ourselves further into the lives of the Tudors and that period of time studying a persuasive text titled, "New Wife for Henry VIII". The children wrote emotional and heartfelt letters in character as Anne Boleyn to Henry VIII, persuading him to release her from the tower. We then studied biographies, initially starting with William Shakespeare and the class have written their own biographies of Henry VIII and their own choice of a person from the Tudor period such as Anne Boleyn, Kathryn Howard and Thomas Cromwell.

In Maths we have been working on Ratio and Algebra and revising key skills such as long multiplication and division as well as fractions. The children were a little hesitant to start with but have made a great start in their understanding of algebra and we are really proud of them!

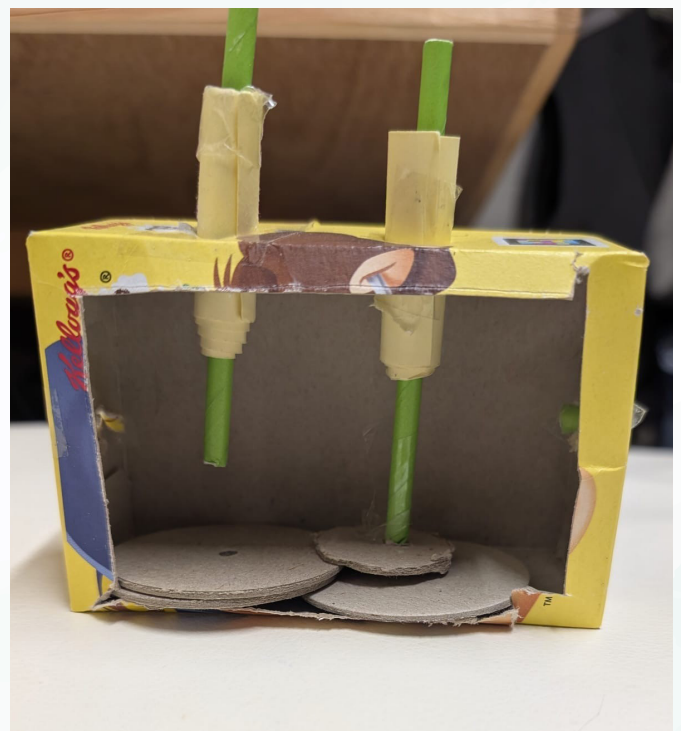
We have had lots of fun in Science this term by focusing on the circulation and health, looking at factors influencing health, the heart, circulation, the role of the blood and heart rate.

In PE, we have studied netball where we have worked on a variety of skills such as passing, movement and teamwork. In yoga we have learned a variety of poses and focused on the transition from one to the other and creating their own yoga "flow". We have thoroughly enjoyed the relaxation part of the session, focusing on mindfulness and breathing.

Next term we are very much looking forward to setting sail to the Americas on a journey of exploration. Over the week we will be trying out many skills that would have been necessary to use on board a ship in the 1500s; we hope our crews will successfully make their fortune!

In English we will be learning a Cherokee creation myth and will be writing our own to include other animals that could be found in North America. We will also be looking at the narrative poem The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes and writing in character. We will be continuing our Maths journey with decimals and converting between fractions, decimals and percentages.

Have a lovely half-term break and we will see you soon. Year Six Team.





**We wish you a happy and restful half term and we look forward to seeing you all next term. From all the staff at Tenterden Primary Federation**

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

