



Celebrations at Tenterden Primary Federation

Term Three 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I would like to start our Term 3 newsletter with a big thank you to all the children and our volunteers from the community for their care and kindness whilst planting our trees. We joined in with the KCC project to plant trees to help increase the tree canopy across Kent. In 2020 we had began planning a sensory, wellbeing garden on the lower field. This is with the vision that there will be spaces for outdoor learning amongst the trees and a pathway to create pieces of art and areas to plant wild flowers. This area will also be a place that children can play in the shade on hot days as this is increasingly more of a safety concern than snow or wet days. We had many helpers on the four planting days from many groups in Tenterden including, Tenterden Wildlife, U3A and Sustainability Group. We had volunteers from KCC and thank you to parents for planting the avenue trees. Everyone planted nine native tree varieties and it is our job to ensure they are looked after and watered. We were very proud to work with our local community groups and we have other projects in the future that we hope to work together on.

Thank you to TePTA for their hard work in organising activities for the children. Everyone enjoyed eating popcorn during movie night and the Krispy Kreme doughnuts! Everyone appreciates the time and creatively you put in to your events. If you would like to join TePTA or help at an event then please let us know. Thank you to TePTA for supporting our fundraising day for the NSPCC on the National Number Day by selling delicious cakes and thank you to all of our baking volunteers who contributed with wonderful treats. Mrs Cripps and Mr Rogers, who lead our maths, are still counting all the coins that were laid out along metre sticks and in the playground! We will let you know the grand total that was raised to pass to the NSPCC to support the work they do in keeping children safe. Well done everyone.

The Little Wandle reading books are coming home and we appreciate them being looked after and returned the following week so another child can enjoy the book. If you would like more information about reading at home then please let Mrs McIntosh know via Dojo.



We are seeking reading volunteers and I would ask you that if you are interested then to see Mrs Crook who can begin the DBS checks with you.

Part of being a volunteer would involve some training about how we use Little Wandle reading books and how it links with the phonic progression. I am sure you and the children would find these sessions rewarding.

Children in Year 5 and 6 have been enjoying Bikeability and great fun was had at the O2 with Young Voices. Well done to the junior teams who took part in The Sports Hall Athletics in Ashford. They all did really well with Lower School coming 1st in their competition and Upper School coming 8th in their

competition. Congratulations to the football team who played Rolvenden (5-1). Year 6 are undertaking training, with our PE coach Mr Fraser, to become play leaders to support play at lunch times. They are looking forward to leading play activities. Thank you Year 6.

The children and staff have been working hard on their curriculums. Please continue to visit the TPF website to find out more information. It is always lovely to hear singing and share in the children's joy showing and explaining their learning. Seeing the smiles in the after school clubs is lovely and thank you to parents and carers, for continuing to support your child with their homework.

Happy half term.

Kind regards
From Mrs McIntosh, Executive Head Teacher

Together, we learn, grow and flourish with love, respect, perseverance and faithfulness



As part of Tenterden Schools Trust, we are striving for excellence in education; please celebrate with us our term's work and look forward with us to next term's delights.



EYFS

Our Celebrations

This Term we have continued to practice our sharing, turn taking and negotiation and have been playing games that involve these skills. We continue to talk about how to be kind and helpful, and how to look after our environment.

New year, Valentine's day and Chinese New Year have been a brilliant way to think about how different cultures celebrate all around the world. We have learnt about China, watched dragon and lion dances and listened to stories about the animals of the Chinese Zodiac. Chinese paper lanterns, drums and dragons have been great fun to make and we even got to try some Chinese food. Through our playdoh table, sensory touch spot and Chinese restaurant role play, we have explored food, numbers, clothing and culture that is different from our own and had loads of fun while doing it.

Valentine's day has given us a chance to speak about the people that we love and care about. We have made pictures, collages and letters to give to our closest friends and family. Roses, gems and pink playdoh have brightened up our playdoh table and love-hearts have decorated our role play area.

We have practised balancing and moving in a variety of ways through our dancing and gymnastics all while building up the strength we need to grow and learn. We have moved like animals and Chinese dragons. We have performed our movements to each other by going over, under, around and through equipment. We have enjoyed learning to control our balances as we have tried moving into different shapes.

Next term, the spring sunshine will help us welcome in our new topic 'Growing'. We will explore how things grow and change over time. We will talk about how our human growth compares to the growth of the plants and animals that will be springing into life around us and take our learning outside to think about all the things plants need to grow. Have a lovely half term break.



Year 1

Our Celebrations

Year 1 has been learning all about medieval castles this term. We have learnt the names of the parts of a castle. While we looked at artefacts from castles, we have talked about how they have changed and which parts have stayed the same. We enjoyed debating about which account of the 1216 Siege of Dover Castle was telling the truth! We especially loved role-playing a King's feast in the school hall with Tudor music playing as we feasted. The children made great comments when we explored the different castle jobs and we all decided that we would rather live in modern times.

Thank you so much for all the fantastic castles that you have been making at home and bringing into school. They are wonderful and we have a collection of many different designs and colours.

We have been learning more about the properties of materials in Science. We have conducted experiments each week to test which materials are flexible, waterproof, absorbent, rough and strong. We have been true scientists during our experimenting. We found out the best waterproof coat for the Teddy Robber's teddy. This is our English focus and we have loved reading it. We used our DT skills to design and make the coats. Most teddies remained dry during our testing stage!

Next term, we will be comparing aspects from the United Kingdom and Japan. We will be learning about physical and human geographical features and considering how life in Japan is the same and different to ours here in the UK. We will be learning about animal classifications in science, alongside the diets and body parts of different animals. I wonder what animals can be found in Japan? We will also be learning how to complete flower blossom paintings and taking part in Easter celebrations!



Year 2

Our Celebrations

What a busy term we have had once again. The children have enjoyed exploring the topic Winter Wonderland. The snow arrived a bit early (in Term 2!) but we have enjoyed exploring cold places around the world and the animals that live there.

In geography children looked at different temperatures around the world and identified Antarctica and the Arctic on the globe. They began to understand why some parts of the world are colder than others and how this affects habitats. We collected facts about emperor penguins and polar bears, learning how they are adapted to their environment. We found out that the emperor penguin is the same size as an average 6 year old! In art, the children demonstrated excellent observation skills and developed their sketching skills using a range of sketching pencils with hints of colour, learning how to shade, producing their very own Emperor penguins!

In history, we have compared modern day Polar explorers with those in the past. This has helped us to recognise the challenges faced then and now, and how they are overcome.

In music, the children have been learning about the different sections in an orchestra and identifying some of the instruments they can hear in a piece of music. They particularly enjoyed exploring how music can enhance the story telling in a film (Frozen), recognising changes in mood and "intense" moments.

Printing has been a focus in art. The children printed winter tree silhouettes using cabbage leaves, exploring mixing paint and layering colours for the background. They also created a print by designing their own printing block.

Next term we will continue with this topic for two weeks before we move on to "Food Glorious Food". The children will be sketching still life using charcoal, chalks and pastels. As part of food technology, we will be planning and making a sharing dish. In PE the children will be developing their attacking and defending skills in mini team invasion games. Our PSHE is all about healthy lifestyle and in science we will be growing vegetables and finding out where in the world our food comes from.



Year 3

Our Celebrations

In Maths this term, we have been focusing on multiplication. We have had so much fun using different objects to help us with our learning, representing calculations in different ways – sometimes, even sweets! The children have worked so well to understand the idea of grouping different objects, forming arrays and partitioning amounts; working with numbers to explore a variety of equations.

In history and geography, we have been out and about in the school woods, hunting for materials that would be useful in making our very own Stone Age style teepees. The children have enjoyed making Stone Age shelters both outside and inside using a combination of natural materials such as sticks and moss as well as clay.

In PE, we have been enjoying participating in games of handball. This involved some key sporting skills such as creating space to set up a passing line in each team, catching the ball quickly into our chest to secure a controlled pass and developing our accuracy when throwing the ball. We have also built upon previous learning to develop our communication skills and portraying good sportsmanship, including congratulating the opposing team for their efforts.

This term in English, we have focused on creating suspense by using the five senses to add detail in our writing as well as using ellipses and ambiguous vocabulary to add an air of mystery. We have created 'Conquering the Monster' tales which focused on using our model text 'In the Rough' and writing out a step by step guide of 'How to train your teacher'. It has been lovely reading the creative and effective ways in which the children decided how to trap a monster (mainly by adding sweets, chocolate and coffee).

We have been learning about the difference between writing in the first and third person, using past tense verbs and inverted commas for speech. Our instruction writing has improved our use of imperative verbs and prepositions.

Our French lessons have consisted of learning the key vocabulary to explain when something happens. We started the term with learning the numbers from zero to twenty, building upon our previous learning when we learned the numbers one to ten. We have also been learning the days of the week.

In Science we have been looking at rocks and have explored the three different types of rock that we have on our planet: sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous. We have focused on the hardness and permeability of each rock sample and we are looking forward to continuing our investigations next term.



Year 4

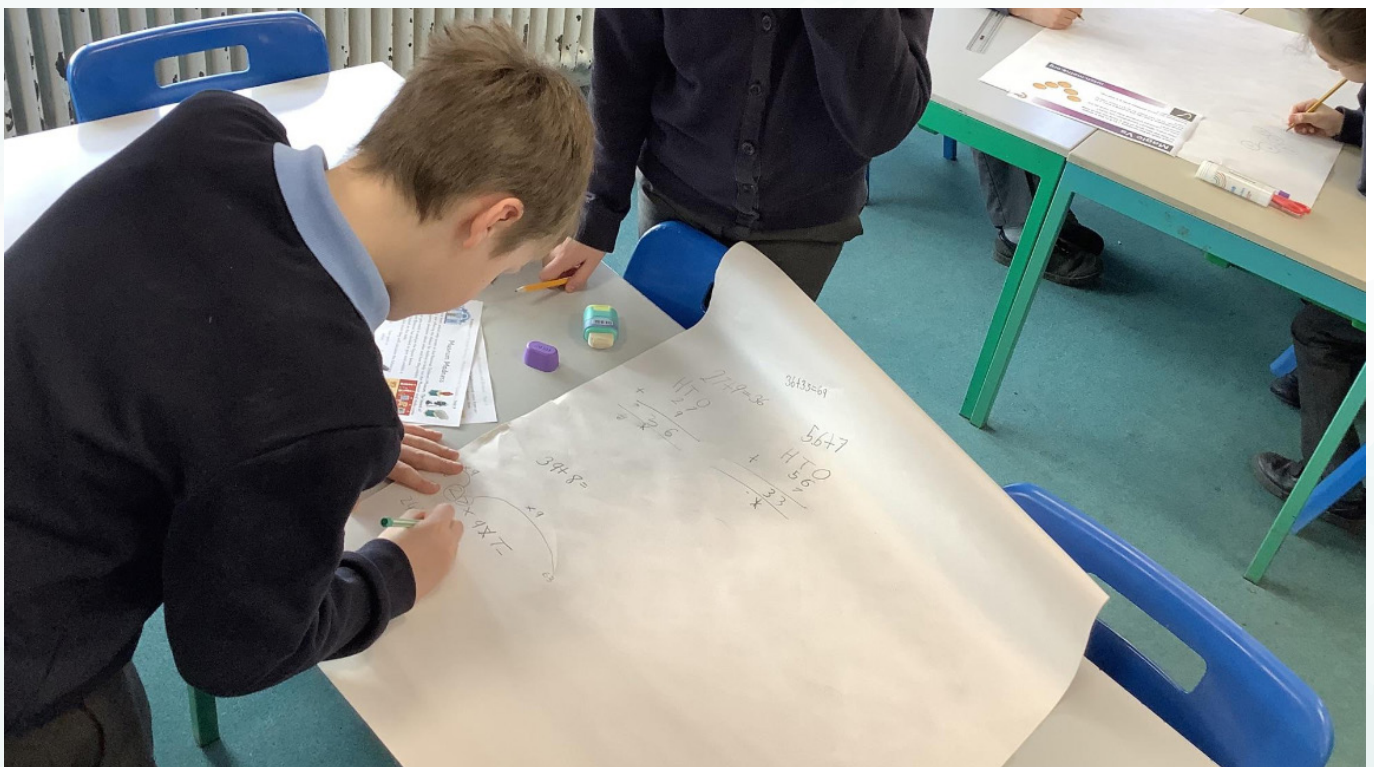
Our Celebrations

In the blink of an eye, we're half way through Year 4. It has been a term packed with learning, events and fun!

Our term started with a visit from Mr Egypt himself, who shared his extensive knowledge of everything Ancient Egypt with us. He told us stories about those who lived in Ancient Egypt and traditional Ancient Egyptian dance. In what was an incredible experience for the children, they were also able to handle real Ancient Egyptian artefacts! Within English, we started with diary entries about an archaeologist discovering and exploring an unknown tomb. We then moved onto writing our own versions of traditional tales with a fairy tale twist, for example 'The Three Little Pharaohs' and the 'Big Bad Sett.' Our Music lessons have also had an Ancient Egyptian twist, as we have been learning Ancient Egyptian songs and simple notation with instruments.

In Maths, we continued with multiplication and division, before moving on to area. Our work preparing for the times tables check continues, and this knowledge will be very important in our work with fractions. We will be finding fractions of shapes, fractions of amounts and developing our knowledge of mixed and improper fractions! We have been experimenting with electricity in Science! We have created our own circuits, developed our understanding of how they worked and created our own switches.

Next term, our Ancient Egyptian theme continues and we will be writing biographies about Howard Carter, and finish making our own Egyptian pyramids in our DT project.



Year 5

Our Celebrations

As a year group, we have showcased our learning in our class assemblies, performing in front of peers and parents. Whale Class shared their learning on Black History, while Sharks Class shared their insightful instructions and knowledge of the planets.

This term we have added to our writing genres by exploring instructional text and explanation texts. We created and tested clear sets of instructions, detailing to make a sandwich and we constructed explanations about how a spy car works! The creativity and detailed sentences throughout both of these pieces has shone through. Our Maths work has gone from strength to strength, finishing our work on fractions, which we will pick up again next term. We have been refining our understanding of multiplication and division. Our science work has led us to explore living things and their habitats. The children found it interesting creating life cycle wheels of a mammal of their choice. Next term we will be extending this theme with work on the life cycles of humans! In DT, we have completed our bird box prototypes and will

now be learning new practical woodworking techniques. Look out for wooden creations for the garden!

In Music we have been looking at Southern and West African music and the children have been learning the call and response song Shosholoza. We can now sing it, and accompany it on both the glockenspiel and djembes. Next term we will be studying composition, and linking our music to colour. Geography this term has seen us link to our science and design technology work by studying animal migration. This has involved us using atlases and OS maps to follow the migration path of the osprey. After half term, we will be looking into human migration and the reasons behind the movements of people from one country to another. We have also enjoyed our PE sessions. The children have embraced gymnastics this term, practising balances and then using them to aid travelling.

We have a lot to look forward to next term, and we thank you so much for your continued support.



Year 6

Our Celebrations

In term 3, we have enjoyed starting to learn about The Americas and, in particular, South America. We have learned about the topography of the continent and carried out research into the layers of the Amazon Rainforest, creating some beautiful multi-storey rainforest dioramas. In English we have been working on non-chronological reports and for our Hot Task we found out about a country or topic from the Americas, researching under a variety of sub-headings. We have also written biographies, featuring a South American icon in Frida Kahlo with whom we have linked to our art and have been studying her self-portraits and painting in her style. In Maths we have covered ratio and the relationship between it and fractions as well as algebra. Our Science lessons have involved looking at organs and systems of the human body, thinking about circulation, the respiratory system and digestion. In PSHE we have embarked on a new series of lessons about money and finance that will feed into the Secondary school citizenship work. At the end of term, we enjoyed, along with the rest of the school, improving our environment by planting trees that will thrive over the coming years and, perhaps, will have matured when our pupils bring their children here in years to come.

Next term we are very much looking forward to setting sail to the Americas on a journey of exploration. Over 2 weeks 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. In Maths, we will be working hard to learn the links between the concepts of fractions, decimals and percentages as well as studying area and perimeter of shapes. In Science, we will be looking at light and electricity and how to create circuits and read standard circuit symbols.



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.

