



Celebrations at Tenterden Primary Federation Term Five 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

The sunshine and warmth are in the air, which is always good for everyone's wellbeing as Summer approaches. We will soon be able to use our fields during break times and I see summer uniform and sun hats are appearing, which is lovely. Please don't forget we have our Pre-Loved uniform in each of the school's foyers that you are welcome to choose from at any time.

As a whole school we are continuing to embed 'Zones of Regulation' which helps children to accept how they are feeling and which strategies to use to help calm or gain a moment of peace and reflection. We often use breathing or tapping techniques as these are always available no matter where you are.

We continue to develop our PE curriculum with expert coaches not only teaching children but providing great training for staff. Well done and thank you to all children who have represented our schools in the sporting events. Our extra-curricular clubs continue to be popular. All our clubs are well attended and children have enjoyed a variety of opportunities from Lego club, to dance and drama, to different sport clubs. I would like to say thank you to staff for continuing to share their talents and time to provide these additional opportunities. Gardening Club has been planting seeds and the garden is full of lush vegetables, but no radishes!

Thank you to everyone who joined our wonderful 'Walking Bus Activities Week' and for the Buddies who organised it. There was fun everyday with our Bus Band making a noise; litter picking; keep fit and walking with wildlife. We were joined by Mayor John Crawford (his last event as Mayor). Look out for photos of all the fun on our website. Walking to school is great for our physical and mental health, as well as helping the environment. We have 3 routes around Tenterden to choose from which operate every Wednesday, just look for more details on our website of where they run and how to sign up.

A heartfelt thanks to our parents/carers who both organise TePTA events and offer their time to help with running these. The May Fayre was a wonderful success and a joy for all our school community to take part in. Thank you. Although we are large schools, we have a strong caring, family ethos with our school values at our centre and aim that our whole school community works in partnership for the benefit of all our children. The King's Coronation Tea Party was great fun and the children loved that you came in and helped with craft activities and singing. Thank you to our chef and cooks for supporting the event; the quiche was delicious and almost everyone tried a piece!





Early Birds and our After-School Club continue to be a great success. The children enjoy meeting and socialising in the morning, the younger ones really enjoy it when the older children share a book with them. After School Club have enjoyed getting active with Just Dance, making pom-poms and friendship bracelets. Knitting has been a big hit and Cosmic Yoga has focused the children's mind and body. They look forward to outdoor activities and having a go at some new crafts next term.

We have all enjoyed Term 5 and it takes us all to make it the successful term that it has been for the children. It is always very busy with the addition of the Year 2 and Year 6 SATs: a big well done to all the children who have worked hard and concentrated well during this time. At Tenterden Primary Federation we are working on our ambitious curriculum which we aim not only to be sequential and progressive but to be fully engaging and interesting for the children to take part in. We focus on an enquiry led philosophy in which children share their knowledge and work towards answering a subject based question. We have been developing our Geography and History subject skills and knowledge.

Please take time to look at the website, which we are continually working on and adding to each term so you can support your child's learning too. Your children have lots of questions and take pride in sharing with us what they think and they are learning to explain how they have made progress in their lessons.

Our school values of: love, respect, perseverance and faithfulness hold us together as a team supporting each other and taking time to listen to each other. In this way we aim to link learning together not only in the topic but also across the year groups.

Each lesson is part of our jigsaw to understanding the world and having the skills to research, describe and explain man made and natural phenomena. You will read how proud we are of the children and see how staff also enjoy and share equal passion for learning with the children in the celebrations below. Teachers are not able to include everything and have selected 'snippets' to share with you.

Kind regards
Mrs McIntosh, Executive Head Teacher

**Together, We Learn, Grow and Flourish.
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 been Learning about sea creatures and ocean conservation in our topic 'The Deep Blue Sea'. We have been learning facts about different sea creatures, learning our story 'The 3 Clever Rainbow fish' and learning why it is important to look after the Oceans and sea creatures. Our classrooms have been transformed into the ocean with hanging jellyfish and even an octopus! We have loved working in the sea! We have been making lots of different crafts including jellyfish, rainbow fish and a coral reef.

To finish our topic, we had a trip to Hastings to visit the aquarium, there we learnt facts all about different sea creatures, we got to watch the

tropical fish being fed and learnt what they eat. The staff at the aquarium spoke to us about ocean conservation and we shared all of the ways we learnt to protect our oceans.

Next term our topic will be 'Stomp, Munch, Crunch!' where we will be learning all about Dinosaurs; where in the world different Dinosaurs lived, finding out which dinosaurs were herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. We will be reading and learning stories about Dinosaurs and using our Fine Motor Skills to cut, fold, pinch and stick when completing arts and craft activities.

Thank you for all of our continued support, we look forward to a fantastic Term 6!





Year 1: Our Celebrations

Our topic 'In the Garden' this term has taken us on lots of adventures. Our trip to Hole Park Gardens was great fun. We enjoyed going on a hunt for different plants and mapping our route on a map of the park. Using our Science skills and identification keys we were able to identify several species of plants. This is a great activity to do at home too! In English we retold the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We used our Talk for Writing skills to help us learn the story through our story maps and we discussed how we would change the main character. The children changed the setting at the top of the clouds to their own ideas, for example there was a school at the top of the beanstalk! This made our stories unique and the children could confidently write their whole tale using their story maps. We are very proud of how their independent writing is developing. The children are using their phonic knowledge to help them spell lots of great words in their chosen sentences. We have also learnt how to write a recipe and enjoyed making and eating fruit kebabs. In Maths we have learnt to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. We can recognise and make equal groups and share equally. We can recognise halves and quarters and can find a half or a quarter of an amount. We have encouraged children to look out for fractions in their environment and how they may use halving at home. In Science we have focused on learning what plants need to survive so we grew sunflowers and beans. We particularly enjoyed our visit from the Kent Wildlife trust when we found out more about hedgehogs and their habitats and went on a minibeast hunt in the woods. The children have enjoyed finding out and developing their printing skills and this will continue into next term when we will be using clay. We all enjoyed our country dancing and learning how to dance around the May Pole.

We are excited to discover a new world in next term's topic 'Under the Sea.' This is building on the knowledge that the children gained in their foundation class about the oceans. We look forward to finding out about the journey that Christopher Columbus took and changes in ships over time. We are looking forward to developing our geography skills to use atlases and globes to plot Columbus's journey. In Science we will be doing lots of fun, practical experiments to help

us explore and understand our senses. We will also be learning about position and direction in our Maths lessons as this links well with our geography and thinking about where we are in the world too! Our music skills will continue into practising copying musical forms using rhythm and understanding dynamic and pitch. Thank you for all your support and reading the Little Wandle reading books. We have the phonic screening assessment in June and the tasks your child does at home really helps consolidate their skills and embeds that love of reading as we all enjoy our stories and non-fiction books.





Year 2: Our Celebrations

The children have truly sprung right into Spring this term and have thoroughly enjoyed our Spring Watch topic. They've undertaken science experiments to discover what conditions plants need to grow. The children worked in teams to find out if seeds would grow when they were given a different liquid to grow. We compared these to the 'control group' which were given water and surprisingly the seeds that were given a fizzy drink grew just as well!

The children wrote fantastic riddles using the frog facts that they researched. Did you know that frogs can secrete an oil that they spread over their body to create a sunscreen? The children created some creative descriptive pieces of writing based around the Frog Prince. Using the story's structure, the children excitedly chose their own character to help the princess so, for example, we had the helping frog become: an eagle, a squirrel or otter.

We have also been so impressed with the children's sketching this term. They really took their time to look and follow closely as they drew daffodils and other spring flowers from observation. Their flower collages showed great colour and texture choices. We have so many budding artists!

This term the children have benefitted from some brilliant experiences including a visit from Cycle Ready. The cycle team were very impressed with improvement the children made in their coordination and confidence. We had a visit from Tom from the Wildlife Trust. He spoke to us about hedgehogs and how to keep our gardens hedgehog friendly. The children loved bug hunting and were fascinated to spot a leopard slug on our school grounds! (Could this be the slug that ate the gardening clubs' radishes?)

Next term we can't wait to travel on the globe across the world to take part in a colourful safari to Africa for our final term's topic. In music we will be singing folk songs and comparing rhythms to African music, that we learnt about in Term 1.

We are proud of the children completing their SATs and we shall be revisiting and consolidating math skills. Thank you for your support with reading this term. Some of the children's reading diaries are filled with very useful reading comments from yourselves and we celebrate these with your child in class. Please continue to fill in the reading diaries next term as this is really important to help your child enjoy a love of reading and to help them continue to make good progress.





Year 3: Our Celebrations

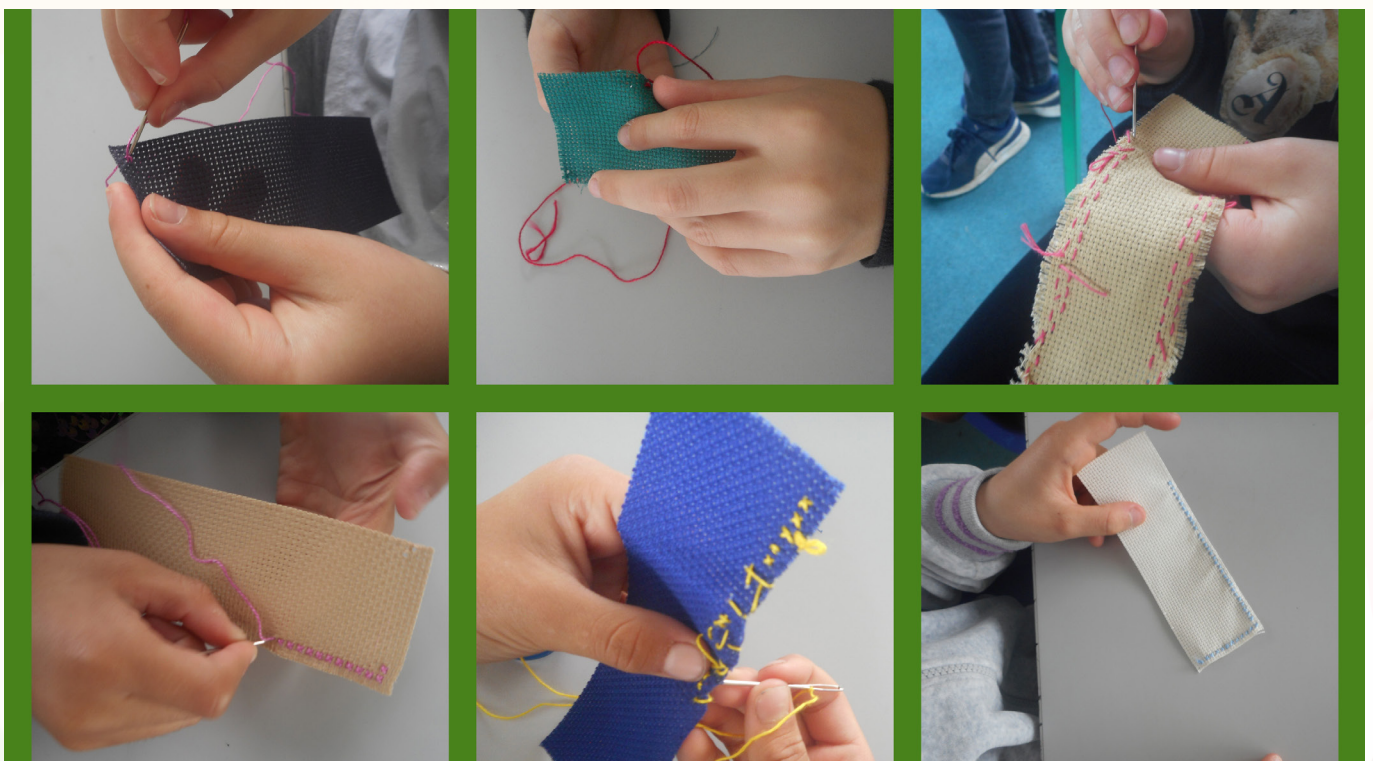
What a busy term! Over the past few weeks both classes have been involved in planning and performing our class assemblies. The children had so much fun doing this and overcame several fears. They truly were amazing little performers and we are all so very proud of them. We have also contributed to the May Fayre which was also a very exciting time.

In English we have been writing brochures about Kent and London. We have looked at a number of brochures and leaflets and have been using the chrome books to search for lots of places for information. We have looked at the term 'hyperbole' and have created our own sentences using 'hyperbole', which we think were the best sentences in the world! We also have been working on Greek Myths, specifically Theseus and the Minotaur, and creating our own settings, characters and mythical creatures. In Maths we have been learning about unit fractions and non-unit fractions. This has involved a lot of talk about pizzas and chocolate bars! We have also continued to develop our understanding of the values within money, learning to add the cost of items and calculate change. We have started to learn how to tell the time to the next 5 minutes.

This is a really good skill to practise at home as you can link it to your daily activities and makes it real for your child. From next term, we will be focussing on statistics and shape.

In Science we have been learning about the musculoskeletal system. We investigated the question, 'Do people with longer femurs jump the furthest?' This was a fun activity which resulted in some interesting extended thinking. We have also started to study flowers and plants, which will continue next term.

Our Geography learning has focused on learning about the UK, looking in more detail at Kent, where we live, and where the UK is located in Europe. As part of our study of the UK we have also been learning about rivers and seas. In DT we have been learning how to cross-stitch and have made some fantastic bookmarks that were then sold as part of the May Fayre. In Music we have studied Jazz, including Ragtime and Dixieland along with Syncopated rhythm. We have had a great term working together in Year 3 and we can't wait for next term. Thank you for your support from the Year 3 team.





Year 4: Our Celebrations

We've had a busy term in English and covered 3 separate genres of writing! We began with a conquer the monster story, with the children conjuring original and terrifying chimeras to be defeated by Roman heroes. We then looked at a different type of monster that needed to be conquered using 'Ruby's Worry', with the children considering how to conquer a range of fears and anxieties. We've written a range of wonderful descriptive poems, focusing on using powerful vocabulary to build atmosphere. Finally, we've drawn everything together to create atmospheric setting descriptions. We are really proud of the children independently using their skills to bring their creative ideas to life in their writing.

In Maths, the children have learnt how to add and subtract fractions with different denominators. We have then moved onto understanding the place value of decimals, learning how to order, compare and round them.

In History the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Romans and how the Roman Empire spanned and spread. We have built on what we knew about the Romans and used enquiry questions to deepen our historical knowledge about how a country can develop. We placed the Romans on a timeline, and compared them to other historical eras we've learnt about. We looked at how far their reach extended and the tactics the Roman army used to overcome their many enemies. Finally, we learnt about the Roman invasion of Britain. Next term, we look more into Romans in Britain and the changes they made when they settled.

In Science, we've continued to work on sound. We've learnt about how vibrations cause sound through the classic string telephone experiment. We then moved onto learning about pitch and volume, and how the soundwaves change. In computing, we've begun to work on learning how to edit images for a specific purpose.

Next term, in English we will be writing a final narrative and instructions to create something that we're keeping under our hats for now! Within Maths we'll be looking at money and time. Our Science focus will be on Changes in Matter, with some very exciting experiments lined up! Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting your child with their homework, this helps your child to embed the skills they are learning in class. Year 4 are looking forward to next term!





Year 5: Our Celebrations

Another term comes to an end, and in the words of Whale and Shark, Term 5 has been 'as extraordinary as a shooting star.' In English we have created suspense tales, based on a journey. The children chose their own unusual methods of transport. One example was a hot air balloon which was struck by hail and burst, before being saved by another balloon! Each of the children's stories had great moments of suspense. They used sentence length and descriptive vocabulary to make the reader want to read on. I am sure you will enjoy reading these too!

Angles and degrees have been at the forefront of our Maths learning. We have learnt about the different classes of angles and have really grown in confidence when using a protractor, ensuring that we can both measure and draw angles accurately.

In Science, we have explored different forces, conducting experiments to aid in our understanding of air resistance, simple machines and buoyancy. We have shifted our focus in History towards the sixties and have continued to look at the diverse population in Britain, focusing on the arrival of the Windrush and the Bristol Boycott. We have visited Tenterden Museum to look at their 20th Century room and learn more about everyday life in the sixties. During R.E., we learnt about aspects of Judaism, focusing on several different festivals. Our P.E. topics this term were Athletics and Yoga, understanding pace and flow in poses. In D.T. we finished building bird boxes, and sold these at the May Fayre raising over £200! Thank you to everyone who put in a bid. In Art we have been using self-reflection to create amazing self-portraits. Music has seen us exploring the history of musical theatre and learning to sing and dance to The Greatest Showman, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

Next term has lots to look forward to, such as Sports Day! We will be continuing to learn about the 1960s in our History topic, covering important events, history, music and art. Our English work will be a recount focusing on an astronaut's journey to space. We will be moving onwards to consolidate decimals in Maths, and then on to negative numbers and converting between units. In Science, we will be consolidating our learning for this year by completing more investigations and focusing on the different ways we can represent the data. As always thank you for all of your support from the Year 5 team.





Year 6: Our Celebrations

This term we have worked incredibly hard preparing for our SATs in May. In English we revised key grammar, punctuation and spelling rules and in Maths we have looked back at fractions, decimals and percentages.

In the last part of the term, we have been using a beautifully filmed story, "The Alchemist's Letter" as our inspiration for our writing. We have learned about the concept of atmosphere in film and text, what it means and have used strategies in our own writing to illustrate the themes of joy, sadness, anger and loss. In Maths, we have learned about angle and statistics and put our understanding of the Year Six Maths curriculum to the test with some tricky problem-solving.

We have very much enjoyed our creative activities and our topic work. Our topic has been linked with PSHE and the idea of transitioning to secondary school and changes as we move into our teenage years. In Art, we have continued to explore the idea of perspective and creating some beautiful "Spring Path" artwork.

This explored the idea of creating depth to a landscape on a 2-D surface. In music, Mr B has worked very hard with both classes on learning the songs for our production, discussing timing, pitch, rhythm and the formal notation in a musical score. They have made great progress!

Next term, in Maths we will be revising our knowledge of our Year Six topics through problem-solving and mathematically based projects. In English, we will be focusing on speaking and listening (including public-speaking and performance) through our preparations for our end-of-term production of Mary Poppins. We are all very excited!

In PSHE we will be continuing to prepare for transition to secondary school. We are also very much looking forward to our Residential and Activity Week straight after half term. The Year 6 team wish you a happy and restful half term and we look forward to seeing you all for a busy, fun-packed final term.

**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.