

Sporting Success!

52 of our amazing KS2 pupils travelled to Oathall to represent the school in Area Sports. Area Sports is a Haywards Heath area competition with track and field events being contested between 9 local schools. Children took part in howler throw, long jump and speed bounce in the field and then 50/75m sprint, bean bag relay and 400/600m sprints before finishing with class relays. Our children did superbly well and managed to finish 3rd in the whole event! Highlights included Eriko and Gabby finishing 1 and 2 in the 600m Year 6 girls event and many other first places being achieved from Year 3 up to Year 6. Thanks to Mrs. Drayton, Mrs. Ramsbottom and Mr. Dullard for their support as well as Mr. King and Mrs. Ripley for their organisation and help on the day.

School	Overall total	Place
Lindfield	693	1st
Bolnore	630	2nd
Blackthorns	598	3rd
Holy Trinity	576	4th
Northlands Wood	510	5th
St Wilfrid's	503	6th
St Joseph's	485	7th
WPPA	423	8th
Harlands	222	9th

9 Year 3/4 children travelled to the sunshine capital of the south, Eastbourne, to take part in the Sussex Year 3/4 Tennis Festival. This was an amazing morning in which we took part in 9 different stations scoring points along the way. We weren't told our exact position but we were proud to receive certificates for our participation. We also were lucky to meet current world number 19 tennis player Francisco Cerundolo who talked to us and even had a rally with Jessica.

We then walked down to Devonshire Park and watched the Eastbourne tennis tournament! We got to see two games on court; numerous players warm up; get autographs from former British number 1 Heather Watson; photographs with the LTA mascots (although one lost an eye pre-photo) and finally have a yummy icecream!

Thanks to Elliott's Dad and Lexie's Mum for their help and support on the day.



Inside Our Classrooms

The Hive

This week in The Hive, we have been learning about the Mayan story of creation. We created some role plays retelling the story. In maths, we have been practising our different skip counting songs and learning how to multiply by counting in 'groups of' a number.

Thinkers

This week in Thinkers, we have been looking at the story of The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, we decided to help Mrs. Grinling come up with a disgusting sandwich to stop the seagulls from stealing Mr. Grinling's lunch. We had lots of ideas for terrible concoctions. We learnt about 'bossy verbs' and have begun using them in our instruction writing. Mrs. Wheller also brought in her bread maker and we all got to make and eat the bread - yum yum. In Maths, we have been looking at halving a shape; learning that in order for it to be half, both parts have to be equal - we tried this with food and unsurprisingly the Thinkers were quick to notice who had the bigger part and when the parts were equal!

We have also been learning about what it was like to go to the beach long ago and we were shocked that not only did you have to pay to sit on a bench, but had to use a bathing machine to get changed!

Inventors

This week in Inventors was an extremely busy one! We have been reading our chapter book 'The Wind in The Willows'. The children answered four questions about Mr. Toad to write a detailed character



description. We discussed and wrote about what Mr. Toad looks like, what he wears, what his personality is like and how he sounds. We created detailed and powerful adjective mind maps to help build sentences. In order to write in more detail, Inventors were encouraged to use the conjunction 'because'. Their sentences turned out brilliantly! On Wednesday, we took a local excursion to The River Ouse and passed Toad Hall on the way! Inventors were so surprised at how grandly it stood in

the distance! We stopped for a picnic and saw Ratty's home from across the river. Mole had a perfect place to hide in the ginormous oak tree that sheltered our picnic. Inventors used their imagination to spot all of the characters along the way and enjoyed every minute! Mr Toad is currently in jail and has made some bad choices along the way. Next week, we will continue our Wind in The Willows journey and see what happens next!

Explorers



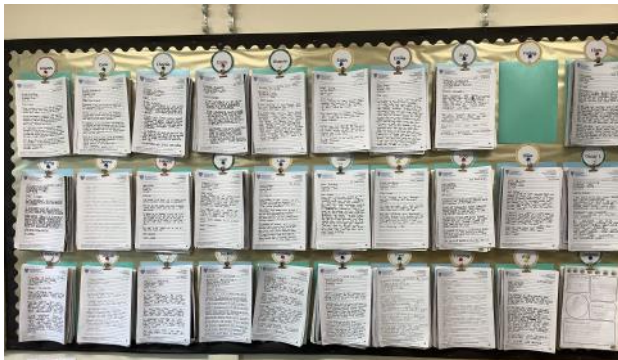
Explorers have been continuing their work based on being "Plant Protectors." Using the book 'Greta and the Giants,' they have completed and published a letter to the Giants. The children worked hard to include features of persuasive writing as well as expanded noun phrases and rhetorical questions. This week, we have been reading 'Dear Greenpeace' and have written more lovely letters. Following their own research on endangered animals, they wrote to 'Greenpeace' to say which animal they thought they had spotted in their garden and why. Keep an eye out for elephants, sea turtles or even pandas munching bamboo! In Science, they have learnt about survival and which three things all animals need to survive. This also

helped when thinking about how to look after the animals in their garden. In Maths, we have



been looking at the mass of objects, weighing in grams and kilograms and solving problems—lots of practical, hands on experiences which will continue into our work on capacity.

In PE, excitement is rising as we practise our athletics skills of sprinting, long jump and high jump ready for Sports Week.



Warriors



Year 3, as always, have had another busy fortnight! Last week, whilst looking at the Day the Crayons Quit, we came into our classroom

to find the chairs in the classroom had quit! We read the letter from the chairs that gave the reasons why they quit. They were annoyed that the children were swinging, dragging and even parping on the chairs! We had to write letters back to the chairs to persuade them to return, where the children learnt how to write a perfect paragraph. Charlotte, Jasmine and Freddie were chosen to read their letters back to their chairs and the leader of the chairs agreed to go back!

Alongside this, we have had science week looking at forces and magnets including testing which materials are or aren't magnetic (a key on Mr Luckhurst's lanyard was and kept getting stuck when he taught!). We also had RE and PSHE this week looking at Hinduism, money management and looking at what makes us male or female.

Groundbreakers

Groundbreakers have had a fantastic week of transitions and school trips. A big thank you to Ardingly College who put on a fabulous day full of Greeks, wigs, bugs, acting, science and much more! The children have thoroughly enjoyed meeting their

new teacher and are getting prepared for Sports Week.

Innovators

Year 5 have been getting to grips with decimal numbers this week in mathematics. They have talked knowledgeably about tenths, hundredths and thousandths whilst adding, subtracting, sequencing, multiplying and dividing these digits around a dot! Our class novel Holes is almost at its thrilling conclusion, which is great timing, as our brochures for the less than desirable Camp Green Lake are ready for publishing. We also carried on with our Hockney study and have learnt about Sikh weddings, the importance of equality to Sikhs and the principle of Sewa. Sewa is an idea of giving or doing something that is a selfless act to help someone or something. This tied in nicely with our PSHE, where we looked at ways we could 'Choose Kindness'.

Trailblazers



Trailblazers have been very busy this week. It has been Bikeability training, and the children learned to ride safely in the playground before embarking on the roads. There were a few nerves, but they all stepped up and performed so well. The trainers were very impressed by everyone's determination to succeed.

Special mention to Eriko and Cora who gave up their lunchtimes to support Aliona: both literally and metaphorically, who needed a bit of a confidence boost on her bike. They really worked as a team to get her through - absolute superstars, all three!

In Art, Trailblazers have been studying Vivienne Westwood, fashion designer. The children decided they wanted to incorporate her ideas into their own design, along with trying to recycle old plastic bags and clothing. After doing research and creating designs on paper, we spent a day practising some techniques like plaiting, weaving and making pompoms. Then today they made their outfits! As expected, there were lots safety pins, slogans and bin bags - Vivienne would have loved it! Top design went to model Tom and his design team who even made shoes and sunglasses as accessories!



Friends of Blackthorns

Summer Fair

STALL HELPERS: The summer fair is a community effort, and we need as much help as possible to make it a success. Please sign up to help on one of the stalls via your class reps – even just a few minutes makes a difference.

SET UP: Aside from the stalls, we also need to set up the fair during the day! If you can help during for an hour or so (perhaps during a lunchbreak!) please message 07801670231.

GAZEBOS: We need gazebos - please label with your name and drop in the field in the morning.

Terra-Cycle

Reminder that we are still collecting items to be sent to terra-cycling. Please pop the following items in the large bin in the ks1 playground: toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, make up, pens, contact lens packets and refill pouches.



Sports Week Approaches!

Sports Week will take place during the week of Monday 3rd July and gives children the chance to trial lots of different sports to not only learn the skills associated but also to build teamwork, perseverance and self-esteem. During the week, a range of different clubs and societies are coming into Blackthorns to deliver sessions to every class with the week culminating in our annual Sports Day (which will follow the same structure as last year). All these sessions are funded by the PE Premium budget to enable all children to get active. We ask for the children to come into school each day in sports kit (doesn't have to be school PE kits) to minimise hassle, washing and time to get changed. For our sports day on Friday, we ask if children could wear a plain col-

oured shirt to match their house (Air-White; Earth-Green; Fire-Red; Metal-Yellow and Water-Blue) along with shorts from their PE kit. Also, Julys should bring lovely weather –so please make sure that children have sun cream, a sunhat and a named water bottle.

Farewell and Thank You!

This week, Thinkers class said goodbye to the wonderful Miss Crute, who has completed her teacher training at Blackthorns. Miss Crute has been superb in her role and we wish her every success for the future and the many years of successful teaching ahead of her. She has been full of great ideas and has shown herself to be a real team player in her time at the school. We will miss you, Miss Crute!

School dates for your diary:

3rd July— Sports Week

7th July—Sports Day

13th July—New Reception Teddy

Bear Picnic

13th July—Year 6 Performance

14th July—FoBs Summer Festival

20th July—Year 6 Leavers' Assembly