

Houghton Primary School Newsletter

Issue 2

Friday 23 September 2022

It has been an incredibly busy fortnight at Houghton Primary with the children engaged in their topic work and settling in to their new classes. Please read on for a round-up of recent events and news...

House Captains

This week, for the first time, we held elections for Year 6 House Captains. Members of Year 6 were invited to give speeches that they had written in class explaining why they should be elected for the role and they then presented these speeches to all Key Stage 2 members of their house. A secret ballot was then carried out to decide each House Captain. It was an incredibly close race and the following children were elected as our new House Captains:

Lords – Ben & Sophie

Wimbledon – Bell & Hugo

Wembley – George & Jake

Twickenham – Elliot & Hallie-Mae

All the children did so amazingly well and we were so proud of them for standing in front of an audience to deliver their speeches.



Vikings Trading Game

This week, Year 6 have been playing a Vikings trading game in class. The game helped them to deepen their understanding of why the Vikings left their homelands to settle in England.



School Development

During this week's staff meeting, we spent time mapping out the progression of texts across our writing curriculum and continued our work on assessment and tracking systems for all curriculum areas.

The packs that were circulated at parent information sessions include a writing checklist that teachers are now using to assess and measure progress in Years 1 – 6. These are also a useful guide for parents as they show key end-of-year expectations for all National Curriculum children.

Playground Revamp

We are currently in the process of revamping much of the equipment on the main school playground. With the support of FoHPS, we will be installing a new trim trail over the coming months and we are really excited about the new play opportunities that this will offer our children.

In order to make space for this, some of the existing equipment will need to be removed. At the present time, a number of items have been "closed" as they are no longer fit for purpose and these are soon to be taken down. This is a huge stage of transition for our outdoor area and we are incredibly excited about the next phase of its development!

Kestrels Science Experiments

This week, Year 4 have been exploring sound and pitch. They conducted a number of experiments to see how sound travels. Take a look at some of the pictures below:



Busy Wrens

Last week, Wrens celebrated the life of Queen Elizabeth II by learning about her family and pets and also made their own sparkly crowns.



This week, the children have enjoyed their first Walking Wednesday, getting out and about in the local environment. The children spotted the church spire, the river and people on holiday in their caravans!



Mrs Mead

I would like to extend our congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Mead and her family as she will be leaving us temporarily at the beginning of 2023 to go on maternity leave. We wish Emily well over the coming weeks and months and look forward to the exciting news of their new arrival!

Diary Dates

Please be aware of the following dates for your diaries:

Harvest Festival: Fri 30 September

Open Evening: Thurs 20 October (1800 – 1900)

Half-term: 24 – 28 October

Parent Consultations: Tues 8 and Thurs 10 November

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Spencer

Headteacher