



### **Celebration of Learning Newsletter: Autumn 1**

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a joy to welcome the children back after the summer break. They have settled in marvellously to the new school year. Walking around the school, many visitors have commented on how they can feel a real buzz for learning in the air and the children have really embraced all of the challenges given to them.

They have also exhibited our school drivers persistently in 'being a force for positive change' and reading widely and enthusiastically. In the short time we have been back at school, we have already given out numerous certificates for reading and being a force for positive change. We are very proud of the dedication the children have shown!

In class and out of class, there have been many wonderful learning experiences along with some exciting enrichment opportunities for the children to take part in.

Please see and celebrate with us all of the wonderful learning and events which have happened at Enfield Heights during Autumn 1.

### **Photo Permissions:**

There are still many children for whom we do not have permissions to share their photos in newsletters and other school correspondence. If you would like your child's photo to be celebrated in the school newsletters, please do let the office know.

## **Reception**

This half term, our focus has been on the theme of "families." The children in Reception have thoroughly enjoyed exploring this topic, bringing in family photos to discuss who lives at home with them. We emphasized that families come in various shapes and sizes, and the children expressed their creativity by drawing their own houses, sharing details about their homes and how they differ from those of their classmates.

In Maths, we concentrated on number recognition, particularly focusing on the numbers 0-5. We incorporated various counting songs to enhance our counting skills and practiced ordering these numbers. Recently, we have begun learning about concepts such as greater than, less than, and equal to.

In Literacy, we had two main books: "The Great Big Book of Families" and "Five Minutes' Peace." "The Great Big Book of Families" illustrates the diversity of families, celebrating the uniqueness of each personal situation. On the other hand, "Five Minutes' Peace" tells the story of Mrs. Large, an elephant who craves just five minutes of peace away from her lively children. After reading the story, the children engaged in retelling it using three sentence starters: "Once upon a time," "One day," and "Unfortunately."

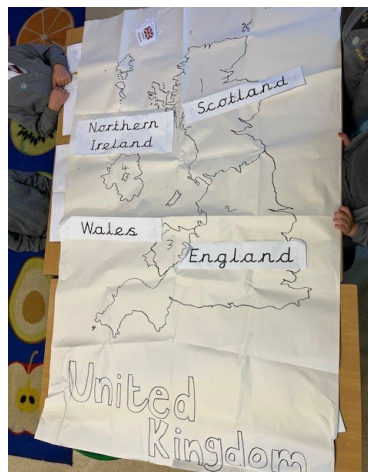
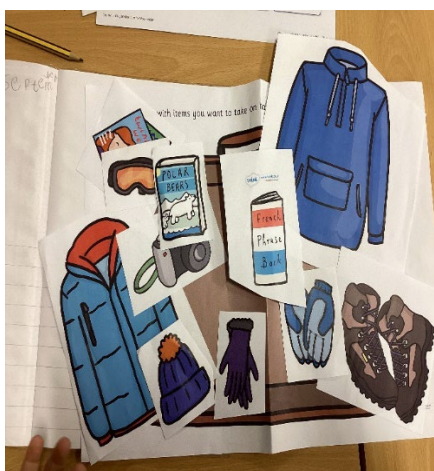


## Year1

In English this half term, Year 1 have been focusing on the book 'The weather monster'. We have retold the story with lots of oral rehearsal and have used capital letters and full stops to write simple sentences. The children have written their own endings for the story whereby they have used a story map to plan their story ending. We have also written a postcard from the main character Ron telling the readers about his holiday.

In maths this half term, Year 1 have been focusing on place value, adding, 2D shapes and halves. Children have begun to count beyond 20, order numbers to 20 and add within 20 using the part part whole model. They used manipulatives to support including numicon, cubes and counters. The children have been learning to halve objects and shapes by cutting, folding and colouring.

In science year 1 have been learning all about the seasons. Children have produced excellent projects at home including weather vanes and spinners. In class, we have made wind socks to measure the weather and rain gauges to collect and measure the amount of rain across a week. We have become scientists by measuring and recording data. In geography, we have been learning about the countries in the United Kingdom and locating the United Kingdom on a map. We have also looked at the equator and how the climate changes as we get nearer and further away.



# Year 2

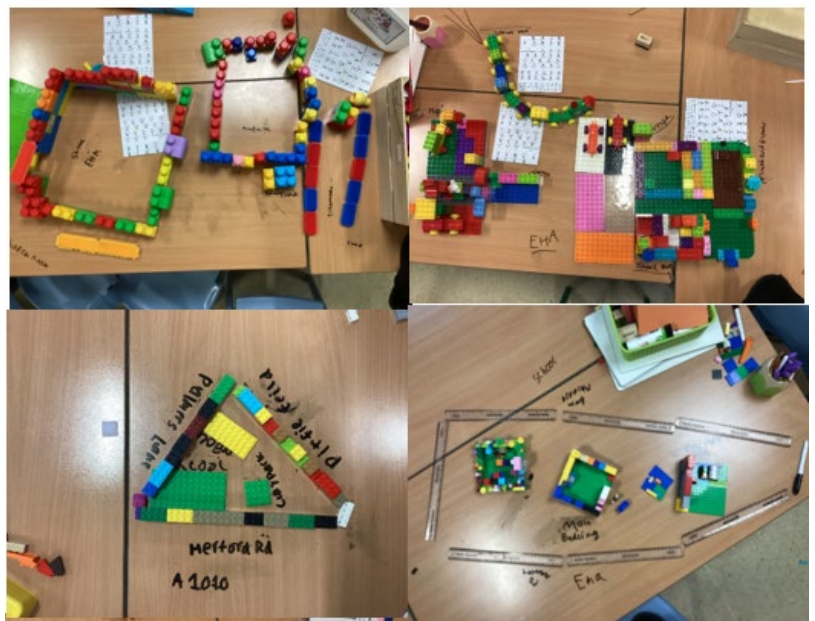
In our English lessons, we've been looking at expanded noun phrases to describe the personalities and appearances of various characters. Our most recent creative writing task involved creating a character description for the "Everywhere Bear." We've also worked on retelling fictional and nonfiction events, emphasising past tense, time conjunctions and compound sentences.

In maths, we've been exploring the world of numbers, with a focus on place values up to 100. Children identified tens and ones in a variety of numbers, comparing one- and two-digit numbers. Using the "Build it, Draw it, Write it, Say it" model, children were able to explore addition in engaging ways, such as partitioning numbers, part-part whole models, and bar models. We've explored multiplication by learning the two times tables. All children have discovered repeated addition patterns and are laying a solid mathematical foundation.

In geography, we went on a journey around our neighbourhood. Children have identified and named both human and physical characteristics. Following our local walk, the children constructed and labelled a local area map. In science, children attempted to identify living, dead, and non-living objects in their surroundings. The classic tale of "The Gruffalo" provided an inspiring framework for our investigation of food chains. We discussed the essential needs of animals, including food, water and shelter.

In PSHE, students have learnt about their classroom roles and responsibilities. They've had thoughtful discussions about appropriate and inappropriate behaviour, as well as the potential consequences of their actions.

We had an amazing time at Whipsnade Zoo! We had a fantastic workshop all about habitats. We explored different artefacts and discussed which habitats they belonged to. We had some great conversations about the importance of rainforests and the alarming effects of deforestation. We spotted so many amazing animals – from penguins and flamingos to tigers, elephants, bears, and red pandas. We visited the butterfly house and the aquarium. What a memorable adventure it was!



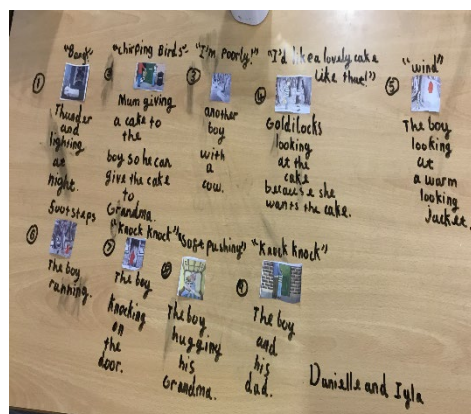
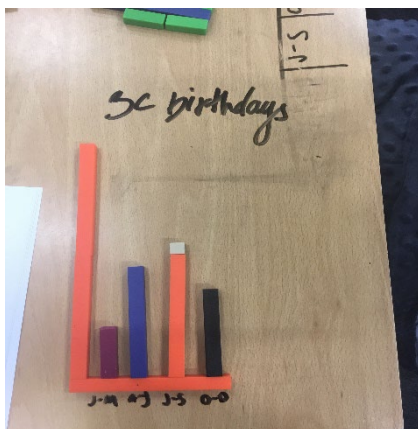
## Year 3

Children in Year 3 used the story Into the Forest by Anthony Browne to create a twisted tale where they changed one element of a traditional story to give it a new and unique change. The children worked on their use of paragraphing around a theme to create longer more in-depth stories. The children also wrote a balanced argument about if they should be served a healthy, balanced meal every day. The children have worked hard to learn how to use adverbs effectively and have been adding prepositional phrases to their expanded noun phrases.

In maths the children have been studying the place value of three-digit numbers, and then applied this knowledge to help add and subtract these numbers too. The children benefitted from using the manipulatives and the build it, draw it, write it, say it approach. The children also learnt about statistics where we used our bodies to build a pictogram and a bar graph. The children learnt about reading the key of a pictogram and used that to work out what it means if the whole image isn't shown. They also explored perimeter and properties of 2D shapes.

In science, the children have studied light. They have learnt about what light is, what dark is, and how light travels. The children have begun to learn to draw diagrams to show scientific concepts. The children have also learnt the meaning of the words transparent, translucent and opaque.

We also enjoyed a trip to the Temple where children got to see their RE learning in action. The children got to see statues of deities and saw special symbols. The children were well behaved and asked well thought through questions.



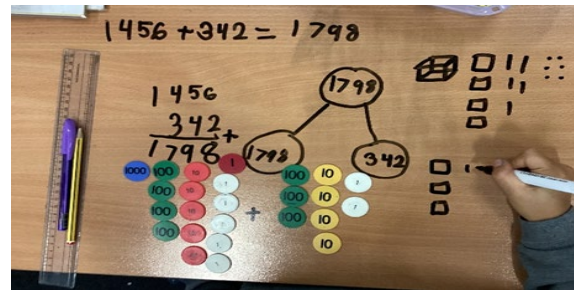
## Year 4

This half term, we have been busy exploring the world of numbers! We've focused on the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. In geometry, we've been learning about 2D shapes, especially different types of triangles and quadrilaterals.

In English, we have been looking at the Iron Man by Ted Hughes. We started with creative found poems, using alliteration to play with words. Then, we wrote our own missing chapter story for Iron Man fans. We also had an opportunity to act as news reporters, interviewing characters to create an exciting newspaper report about the mysterious arrival of the Iron Man.

In Geography, we learned about food and where it comes from. We took a local walk to draw messy maps and plot the shops we saw. This helped us understand that many foods are imported and taught us about trade.

In History, we've travelled back to ancient Rome and discussed its impact on Britain today. The children learned about how Roman roads, buildings, and even some words we use came from that time. We discovered that many towns in Britain were influenced by Roman architecture and planning, shaping the way we live now. We also had an exciting Roman workshop to bring our learning to life.



It's been a fantastic term of learning, and we can't wait for more adventures next term!

## Year 5

In maths we have been learning about place value, developing our skills of using the formal written method when adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing up to four digits by 1 digit including exchanging. We have also been learning about polygons, as well as 3D shapes.

In English, we enjoyed created and performed our own Tanka poem to one another. We have also written a persuasive speech to Cadbury, persuading them to launch a new flavour of chocolate! We learnt all about the different features that make up a persuasive piece of writing, such as modal verbs and emotive language to attract the reader.

In our Art lessons we have been learning about different artists such as Banksy, Tilt and Steel. We have looked at a variety of their artwork and used this as an inspiration to create our own piece of street artwork.

During design and technology, we looked at where our food comes from, what we do at school to prevent food waste and we even had a chance to make a pasta salad, using ingredients from our school kitchen to prevent food waste.

Finally, our class visited Heron Hall, alongside our sister schools, to take part in a creative workshop, where we used art and drama to solve a murder mystery. The children were able to showcase their amazing acting and art skills.



## Year 6

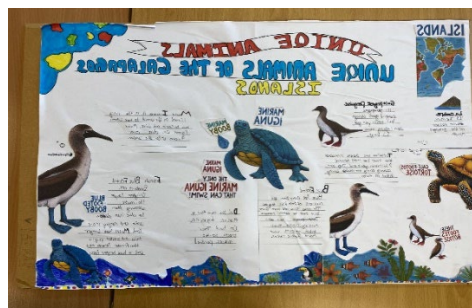
In maths, year 6 started the half term focusing on place value. We learnt about different methods to compare and order integers and decimal numbers. Following from this, we reconsolidated our knowledge on rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000 and 100,000. In the final weeks of the half term, we turned our focus to working with the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). We worked with integers and decimal numbers when using these operations and then applied them to reasoning and problem-solving questions.

In English lessons, we started the half term with a focus on narrative writing. Year 6 pupils studied the purpose and effect of expanded noun phrases, relative clauses and dialogue and then applied these to their own narrative pieces. The focus of our narratives was derived from a video - an extract from the Jurassic World film. Children were given the opportunity to act out the scene to explore the use of dialogue - how it builds character and moves the story along. Following on from this unit, we turned our attention to writing to persuade. Children were tasked with writing a persuasive speech with the intention of banishing something that they despise to an imaginary world called Room 101. They used persuasive techniques such as emotive language, rhetorical questions and hyperbole to persuade the judges that they had the most convincing argument.

In science, we have been studying evolution and inheritance. Children have learnt about the characteristics that animals and plants inherit from their parents and compared these to characteristics that are acquired. This knowledge was then developed and applied to the process of adaptation; we looked at how the characteristics of animals and plants make them suited to their surroundings, and how certain living things can survive in extreme environments (such as the arctic and hot deserts).



Our class trip to the National History Museum's Human evolution gallery



A learning journey project with the focus on unique animals in the Galapagos Islands

## **Special Events this half term:**

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

We are thrilled to announce the incredible success of our recent Scholastic Book Fair, raising an impressive £1,011.81! Sixty percent of these funds will be allocated to the school, allowing Miss Michael -our English lead- to purchase exciting new books for our class libraries. Thank you to all the children and families for your continued enthusiasm for reading, which is clearly reflected in this amazing achievement!"



### **Celebrating Black History Month with Steel Pan Success!**



The steel pan workshop was conducted to introduce children to a unique musical instrument with origins from Trinidad and Tobago as part of Black History Month. The workshop aimed to enhance the children's understanding of rhythm, teamwork, and cultural appreciation through hands-on music-making.

The sessions began with a brief introduction to the history of the steel pan, explaining its role in Caribbean music and culture.

Children learnt how steel pans are made from oil drums and how they produce distinct sounds based on where they are struck. They learned basic rhythmic patterns and melodies suitable for their age groups.

The children successfully performed short ensemble pieces depending on their year group, showcasing their newfound skills. The sense of achievement and excitement was evident as the children expressed joy in making music together.

Overall, the workshop was a resounding success, prompting interest in further musical exploration.



## Harvest

Harvest time is traditionally a time to remember those who may benefit from others sharing the bounty that they receive. At EHA, we are pleased to work with our Trust Community Outreach Team and help with food collection for those who might need it most within our local community.

Thank you for all your donations! If you are able to and would like to do this regularly, this is a positive and easy way to teach your children about giving.



## Skip2bFit Skipping into Success

We are excited to share that after a successful introduction of Skip2bFit last term, we have officially launched it as part of our whole-school approach to Healthy Living. Since the week beginning 23rd September, your children have been actively engaging with Skip2bFit during their PE lessons. Please see launch link and feedback from our children:

<https://youtu.be/eJn4Wg93kuA>

Thanks to the generous funds raised by our wonderful PTA, we were able to provide every child with their very own Skip2bFit rope. These ropes are adjustable, allowing each child to personalise them, and they are kept in school to ensure they don't get lost. The ropes are equipped with counters that motivate the children to exercise and track their Personal Bests.

The children have embraced using the ropes to warm up in PE lessons, and we are running weekly challenges with a league table for Top Skipper, Most Improved, and Best Effort. The whole class competition each half term is already building excitement and healthy competition.

We are also planning a Parent Workshop soon in Autumn two, where you'll have the chance to see how your children are benefiting from this initiative, so please stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for your continued support as we work towards achieving our healthy lifestyle goals.



We hope you all have a restful and most enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to seeing the children on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November**, dressed smartly in your uniform and ready for Autumn Term 2.