



It has been lovely to see the children in their bright clothes today, it has made the school feel very jolly indeed. Thank you so much for your kind generous donations for the PFA Christmas raffle hampers, there were some very ingenious ideas, the gifts looked amazing and I can't wait to see the hampers made up.



It has been a busy week in school this week, with children taking part in our first formal assessment week of the year. It has been good to see how much the children have already been able to catch up on their learning with their hard work, and the dedication of the staff in school as well as yourselves at home.

Phase News!

In EYFS this week, we have continued with our Julia Donaldson theme by reading *The Gruffalo Child*. In literacy we have compared different environments. We have talked about why some animals live in particular environments and how they are adapted to live there. We thought of words to describe the environment in the story and had a go at writing these down. In Maths, we have been learning about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We have used ten frames to represent these numbers in different ways. We have also looked at 1 more/ less for each of these numbers. In the creation station, we have been busy painting our clay Diva's that we made during the week of Diwali and we have also been busy making a home for the Gruffalo's Child or the characters in the story using the junk materials.

In KS1 the children have started to record a weather diary for the week, in their science learning. Our DT focus has been on finger puppets and the children have started to design their own elf after watching the story of the Elves and the Shoemaker. The children have been learning about Thomas Gotch in history – a famous Kettering shoemaker who established the first shoe factory in Kettering in 1761. In the Hub, the children have been developing their sewing skills further by sewing on felt and trying to use different stitches to join two edges together. They have also been drawing different shoes and identifying what they are used for.

In LKS2 this week the children have written their own version of Beware of Bears, using all the features we have learned about in the last few weeks. We have all been so impressed with the quality of the stories. Well done everyone! The afternoons have been slightly more relaxed with the children making clay pots or other stone age related art projects. In History, the children have been finding out about the different jobs in the Iron Age and deciding which ones they themselves would have been good at. Learning about light has continued in science, with Silver Birches making the most of the sun to be able to track shadows across the playground.

In UKS2 we have started a new topic: World War Two. The children have been enthusiastic and engaged with the topic. It has been lovely to hear some of the children telling stories of members of their own families who were in the war. It's lovely to know that these personal stories will continue to be told for generations to come. During this unit of work, the children will find out about when and why the war starts, evacuation, The Blitz and general day-to-day life during these times. We continue to read voraciously within our classes and are keeping up with developing our vocabulary skills using Vocabulary Ninja.



WOW WORKER WALL OF HONOUR



EYFS		KS1		LKS2		UKS2	
Cherries	Sonny	Ash	Isobel	Redwoods	Calvin	Cedars	Emmanuela
Apples	Anastasia	Bay	Sapphire	S. Birches	Harry	Maples	Maya
		Elm	Alan	Willows	Filip	Oaks	Kailen

Well done to these children who have been chosen by their teachers as their classes 'Wow Worker of the Week'. They are rewarded for their special efforts or achievement this week and should be bringing a certificate home with them today.

The generosity of Hawthorn families always amazing me. This week I received a lovely letter from the Kettering foodbank to say thank you for all your kind donations that were collected during our Harvest period. They have noticed an increase in families that are visiting them in 2020 and with winter upon us they fear that many more will require their services.

This year has been incredibly challenging for many families and with Christmas fast approaching some are finding things even more difficult. Many charities are set up to support families. As well as the Kettering food bank; home start, the Salvation Army and Kettering Street Pastors are close to our hearts, they are important charities in our local area. They are set up to support families and people in a variety of situations. They look for donations of food, healthcare products, warm clothing, coats of all ages, sleeping bags and toys. Toys are required for all ages but especially teenagers, as this age group is normally hard for charities to find gifts for.

There are many ways to support these charities if you are in a position to do so. "The Entertainer" toy company have teamed up with the Salvation Army for a toy appeal to not only support families but to help with the reduction of plastic waste <https://www.thetoystore.com/bigtoyrehoming>

To support home start you can also order straight from their Amazon wish list -

<https://www.facebook.com/449970095151411/posts/1848580785290328/?d=n>

Kettering Street Pastors also have an arrangement with Amazon where they will receive 0.5% of the value of your eligible purchases if you click this link.

https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/chpf/homepage/ref=smi_chpf_redirect?ie=UTF8&ein=1185084-0&ref=smi_ext_ch_1185084-0_cl



Online learning opportunities

Home learning is available each week on Class Dojo, remember to click on your child's profile to find out what the home learning tasks are. Staff are always happy to clarify anything that you may be unsure of.

There are many other home learning opportunities that are available to help your child.

Numbots, TTRockstars (KS2), Spelling Shed, Language Angels (KS2) and Purple Mash are all available via the tabs at the top of the school website. Children in KS2 also have access to www.readtheory.org. If you are unsure of login details for any of these online platforms please contact the class teacher who would be happy to send them to you.



Dates for Your Diary:

December	
11 th	Last day to bring in Christmas cards
16 th	Christmas dinner – hot Christmas bap
18 th	END OF TERM 2
January	
4 th	START OF TERM 3
February	
11 th	END OF TERM 3
12 th	Teacher training day
22 nd	START OF TERM 4
March	
26 th	END OF TERM 4
April	
12 th	START OF TERM 5
May	
3 rd	BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
w.b. 10 th	KS2 SATs
28 th	END OF TERM 5
June	
7 th	START OF TERM 6
w.b. 7 th	Year 1 Phonics Screen
July	
23 rd	END OF ACADEMIC YEAR



Cold weather

As the weather is getting chillier please can we give a polite reminder that all children should have a jumper in school and a warm coat and hat to wear. We will continue to have windows open a little to ensure that all rooms have good ventilation and PE lessons will take place outside as long as we can do this. Thank you for your understanding in these challenging times.

Christmas Cards



Our Class Christmas card boxes are filling up nicely. If you would like your child to bring cards into school for their friends, either in their own class or a different class, they will need to be in school by December 11th and placed in the quarantine post boxes. Any cards brought in after this date will sadly, not be able to be distributed to the children. Thank you for your understanding in challenging these times.

PFA News

Thank you for all your donations for our rainbow hampers today! These will be made into wonderful prizes for our Christmas Advent raffle which launches on Tuesday afternoon. There is still time to buy your raffle entries! One £5 entry = 24 chances to win. Follow the link in the email/text that has been sent out and bring your cash in to school by the end of Monday to be entered into the draws. Make sure you are following our Facebook page to view the draw announcements.

We had our first school lottery winner last weekend. **Congratulations** to Edwina Stanger who won £20.00! To buy your tickets simply go to <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/hawthorn-community-primary-school> So far this is raising an incredible £1768.00 over the year :)

As always, you can contact us with any ideas, questions or to get involved via
FB - Hawthorn Community Primary School PFA
IG - hawthorn.pfa
Email - pfahawthorn@gmail.com