



# HIGHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13/2020-2021

It has been an absolute joy to see the children back at Highampton Primary - we feel that the school is a proper school again! The children settled well into routines of handwashing and learning very quickly and were so pleased to see their friends after months of lockdown and blended learning. Staff had planned exciting and engaging lessons, which looking at the photos on this Newsletter, the children clearly enjoyed.

I am extremely excited to offer a fantastic opportunity for the Year 5/6 children that will provide memories that will last a lifetime: two whole days of outdoor adventure and a night camping away from home. It is going to be brilliant and will mark the Year 6s transition to secondary school. But that's not all; we are currently planning a series of sporting events that will culminate in Highampton Sports day. The children will be able to take part in a range of activities and compete against other children in Primary schools across the Trust. Better get your sports clothes on and start training! More details to follow shortly."

## **Dates for the Diary**

### **Term 2**

Exmoor Zoo for Class 1 – Virtual Visit

Year 5/6 parents should have received a letter about our Residential for 2021 Please reply via School Gateway by 17<sup>th</sup> March if you want to take part in our Residential

### **Term 3**

Residential 2021 – Dates to be confirmed

Swimming will start on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Tempest Photography Date to be confirmed

Sports Day, date to be confirmed

## Class 2:

In science, we made the most of the good weather and our fabulous field and took our learning outside. In this lesson we were considering the impact that changes can have on our environment.



This week we planted sunflower seeds so that we can watch them grow. This will form part of our topic to explore the growth and development of plants, animals and humans.



Collaborative learning in our library area.

To celebrate World Book Day, the children created vegetable book characters. Can you guess who they are?





The children have been reading a book by Julia Donaldson in which the main character is a stick man. The children have created their own stick men as part of our Forest School provision in collaboration with Northlew School.



It's lovely have the children back in the school, all together.

*"Learn together, care together, grow together"*

## UNIFORM

Our Highampton School uniform policy says “sensible dark shoes...” and we take that to mean low heeled shoes and preferably not boots. A number of our children are wearing ankle boots; some with substantial heels. Experience has taught us that when running and playing in the playground (which usually involves turning quickly), children can often get sore or sprained ankles when wearing ankle boots with heels.

Therefore, in the interests of safety, can we please ask parents to provide low heeled shoes and not ankle boots. We appreciate that shops are not open at this time and buying children’s shoes at the best of times can be stressful, but if you could consider this request when you are next buying shoes, we would be most grateful.

## CLASS 1

What a wonderful week! It has been fantastic to have all the children back in Class 1, enjoying learning and spending time with their friends.

Here are some photos of the children's learning in the last two weeks. As part of our Rainforest topic, we have been studying the artist Rousseau. Here are some pieces of work by the children in the style of Rousseau.

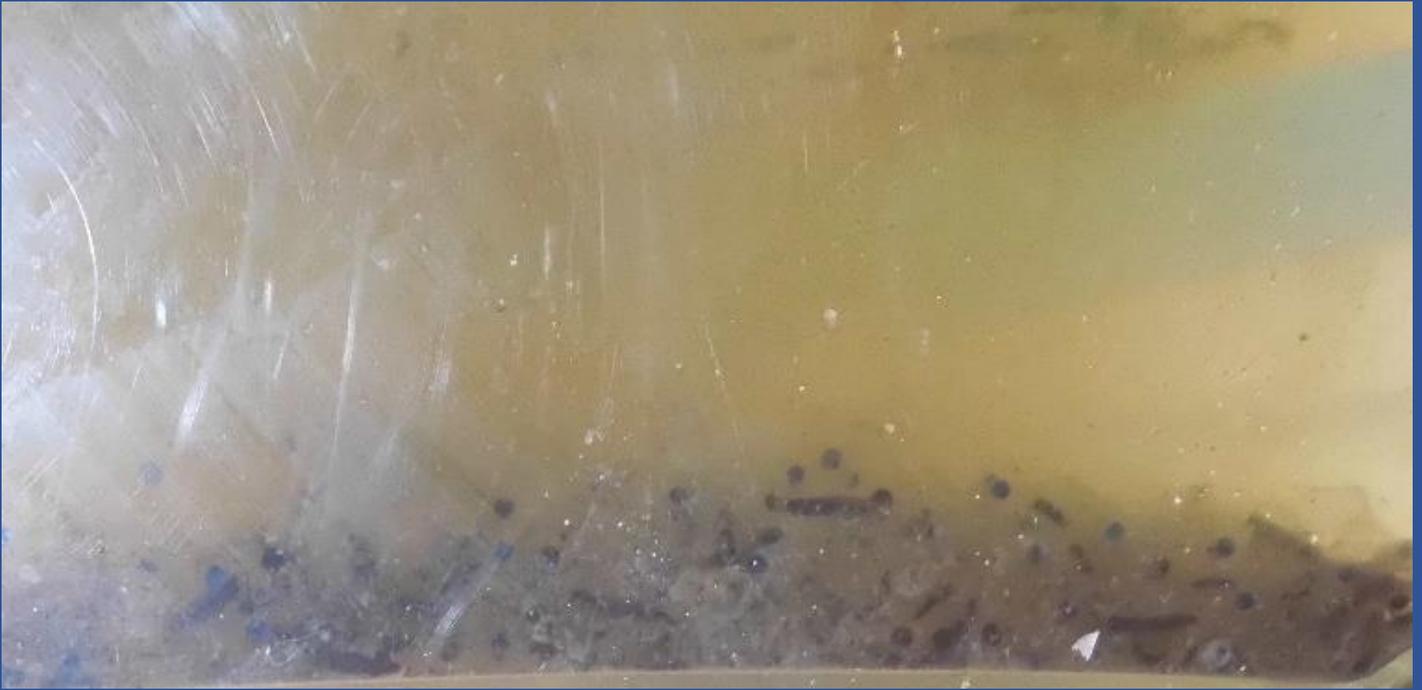


We have been exploring some learning which concentrates on construction and fine motor skills.



The children in Class I have been comparing differing eco-systems such as woodland, polar, rainforest and desert.





Moss very kindly brought in some newts and toadspawn!

We have observed the spawn developing and growing into tadpoles, demonstrating the life cycles from Winter to Spring. We wonder what will happen next?

We also have 5 painted lady caterpillars which have already doubled in size!



## EXMOOR ZOO

Even though Covid has stopped us visiting Exmoor Zoo, we decided to invite the Zoo to the School.

The Zookeeper was able to show the children a variety of creatures and discuss their varying habitats. The children were very excited to learn more about corn snakes, stick insects, pelicans, meerkats, capybaras, tapirs, snails, toads, tawny owls and more.



