

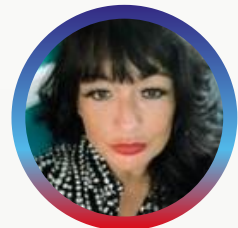


The Island Learning Trust Newsletter

Inside this issue:

CEO MESSAGE

A message from our CEO, Debbie Wheeler



OUR TILT FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

A look into what has been happening across our schools



PASTORAL NEWS

Latest information from our Pastoral team



FOREST SCHOOL NEWS

Creative outdoor learning





MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

● ● ● SUMMER 2023 ● ● ●



I am writing to draw the end of this 2022/23 academic year to a close and to highlight the many wonderful things that our TILT family have experienced and achieved across a very busy year.

We set out in September determined to support our young people to make exceptional progress, to redress any remaining COVID gaps, across all of our schools and this is indeed what we have achieved.

Y6 data for all schools is great and worth celebrating:

- Halfway Houses is 6% above National (59%) for combined 65%
 - Minster is 33% above National (59%) for combined at 92%
- Sunny Bank achieved 56% combined, 3% below National but 5% higher than last year and a significant lift from the 18/19 23% result, prior to joining TILT, a 33% uplift.

I do need to thank parents for being supportive of our hard drive to secure the basic skills: your support and interest in your child/ren's reading, spelling, tables and progress is a key factor keeping your children motivated in trying and practicing key skills. We do absolutely prioritise reading at The Island Learning Trust, and we make no apologies for doing so, reading opens doors for us all. We do indeed value your partnership in supporting learning.

The quality of provision in each school has continued to improve across this year: standards of care, nurture, the curriculum, teaching and learning and standards.

In addition:

- Sunny Bank's long awaited new build was delivered for September. It is beautiful and the Murston community so deserve a new purpose built school to be proud of.
- Our partnership with Meadowfield has blossomed and we truly view the satellite pupils and staff as part of the TILT team.

Unfortunately, as you will know the year has also seen significant bumps in the road: the identification of Reinforced Aerated Autoclave Concrete (RAAC) at Sunny Bank and the overnight closure of the original school building. Thank goodness, the new build offered some spare classroom space! The whole of the Sunny Bank community, demonstrated war like grit and determination. The school closed for only two days to enable the Sunny Bank staff team, the TILT Central Team and site teams to rally and perform miracles: 6 classrooms moved, data points, copiers, stock, library, school offices were shifted and rebuilt.

Our service providers all visited, alarms, gates, phones data, all achieved in just two days. Sunny Bank continues to operate with out a kitchen or hall. Support from all suppliers and Kent has been fantastic.



The Island Learning Trust

There are and have been, so many incredible things happening across our schools. This newsletter is about enabling the wider community to have an insight into the wonderful world of our TILT family of schools: each school unique yet bound together by our core Vision and Values, our desire to work in a partnership with parents and carers:

'To be the best we can be'

I feel privileged to work with teams of highly committed, talented and determined staff and calm, focused and caring Heads of School. TILT schools all have a fantastic offer for our young people and their families.

Building on our success to date and striving to constantly improve our offer to the children, families and the communities we serve, the Trust Board and I are currently drafting a new strategic document that details our ambition for the next five years. It will be ready to share early in the new year.

I am sure you are all in need of a break and a reset. Please take care and time to enjoy the summer, your children, family and friends. I hope you and your loved ones have a wonderful summer.

Debbie Wheeler



The Island Learning Trust



Be the best you can be





Minster in Sheppey

News



SPORTS WEEK 2023

What a FANTASTIC week of fun filled sporting activities!

The children have been amazing and even though the disappointing weather postponed sports day, the children haven't let that get them down and they have really showed their Minster muscles!

The children started the week with the opening ceremony which saw the children engage with fun and exciting music and parading with their peers! The children have had lots of fun completing the daily mile, sports arena and CREED outdoor learning throughout the week!

Saving the best till last some may say... the whole school dance and what a SHOW the children put on! We have some true kings and queens dancing along to the famous LION KING!

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

Such a fantastic week at JCA! Positive feedback from the staff about our lovely children and how we were the most well-behaved school here – representing Minster brilliantly! All the children had an amazing time!



SCHOOL DISCO



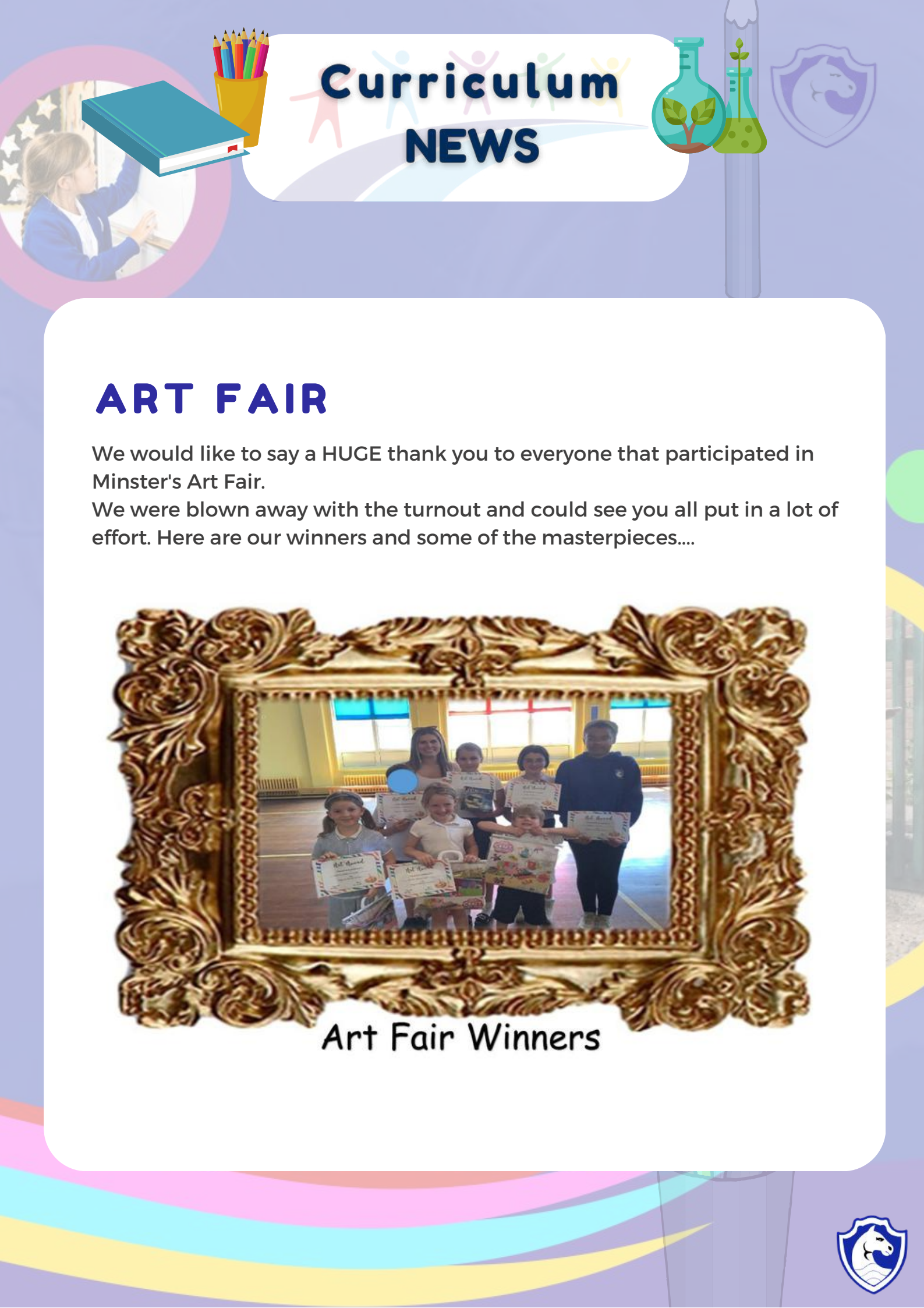
It was a last minute decision to hold the disco in the hall, rather than outside due to weather, and it was absolutely amazing!

DJ Jeffrey kept the decks spinning and the children were absolute superstars, with their kind manners, brilliant dance moves, lots of glitter & festival wear!

Thank you all for supporting the PTA!



Curriculum NEWS



ART FAIR

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone that participated in Minster's Art Fair.

We were blown away with the turnout and could see you all put in a lot of effort. Here are our winners and some of the masterpieces....



Art Fair Winners

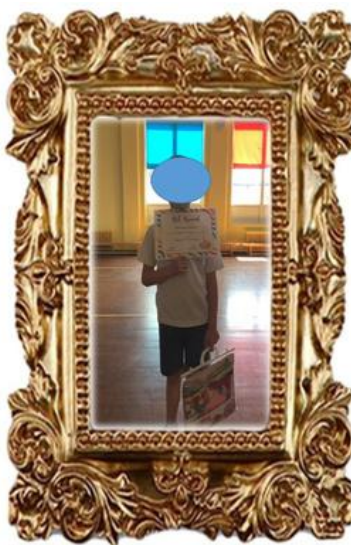




Year F Winner



Year 1 Winner



Year 2 Winner



Year 3 Winner



Year 4 Winner



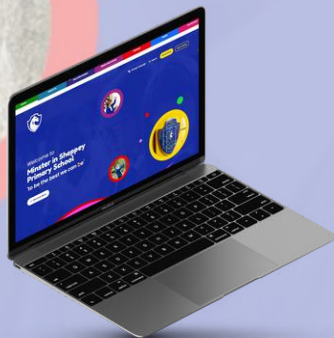
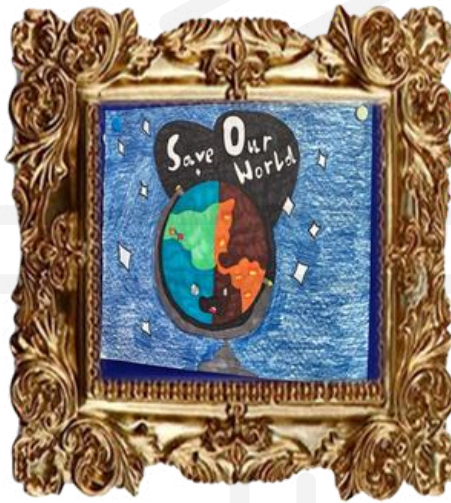
Year 5 Winner



Year 6 Winner



Just a few of the amazing works of art!



Visit our website

www.minster-sheppey.kent.sch.uk





Sunny Bank Primary News



SPORTS WEEK

Sunny Bank Primary wrapped up a successful Sports Week with an amazing Sports Day. Parents and kids alike had a blast, taking advantage of the beautiful weather to cheer each other on!

What a great morning of friendly competition!





BUSINESS AS USUAL

Sunny Bank Primary School is pleased to announce that it was back to business as usual following a temporary closure on Friday, June 16th. The school experienced an unexpected closure but was able to reopen its doors to all children on Tuesday, after a mere two days.



PRIDE MONTH

On Friday 23rd June, we invited children and parents to dress in bright, colourful clothing to represent the colours of the rainbow. We also invited children to bring in something that was special to them and makes them feel proud, something that represents them, their lives and who they are.



YEAR 6 CELEBRATIONS

It's been an unforgettable final term for our amazing Year 6! Not only did they have a residential trip and transition days for secondary school, but they also had a prom, leavers performance and a few other exciting projects, including a music video!

Join us in wishing them the best of luck as they take this big step in their lives!





Curriculum NEWS



MATHS AFTERNOON



We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the 144 parents who attended the recent Maths Open Afternoon. Parents had the opportunity to work alongside their children, engaging in various mathematical activities. Witnessing the children teach their parents the concepts they had learned in class was truly remarkable. This event not only showcased the importance of supporting children with mathematics but also emphasised the need to foster a positive attitude towards the subject. By instilling a love for maths, we empower our children to excel and embrace new challenges with confidence.



HAWTHORN BITE

Hawthorn class have been looking at the function of teeth. They conducted an experiment to see which teeth we use for certain types of food. We're sure you can see that they enjoyed it!

JUNIPER HEIGHTS



Juniper Class have been measuring children from across the school to answer their Science question - What is the height of children at different ages?

As a class they decided to measure four children from each age group (two boys and two girls) to make it a fair test and then they found the average age in each group.



SATS EXAMS

All of our Year 6 children worked incredibly hard on their SATS. This was followed by an afternoon of well deserved celebration!



Visit our website

www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk





Halfway Houses News



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Winning the semi finals 4-1 and the final 7-2

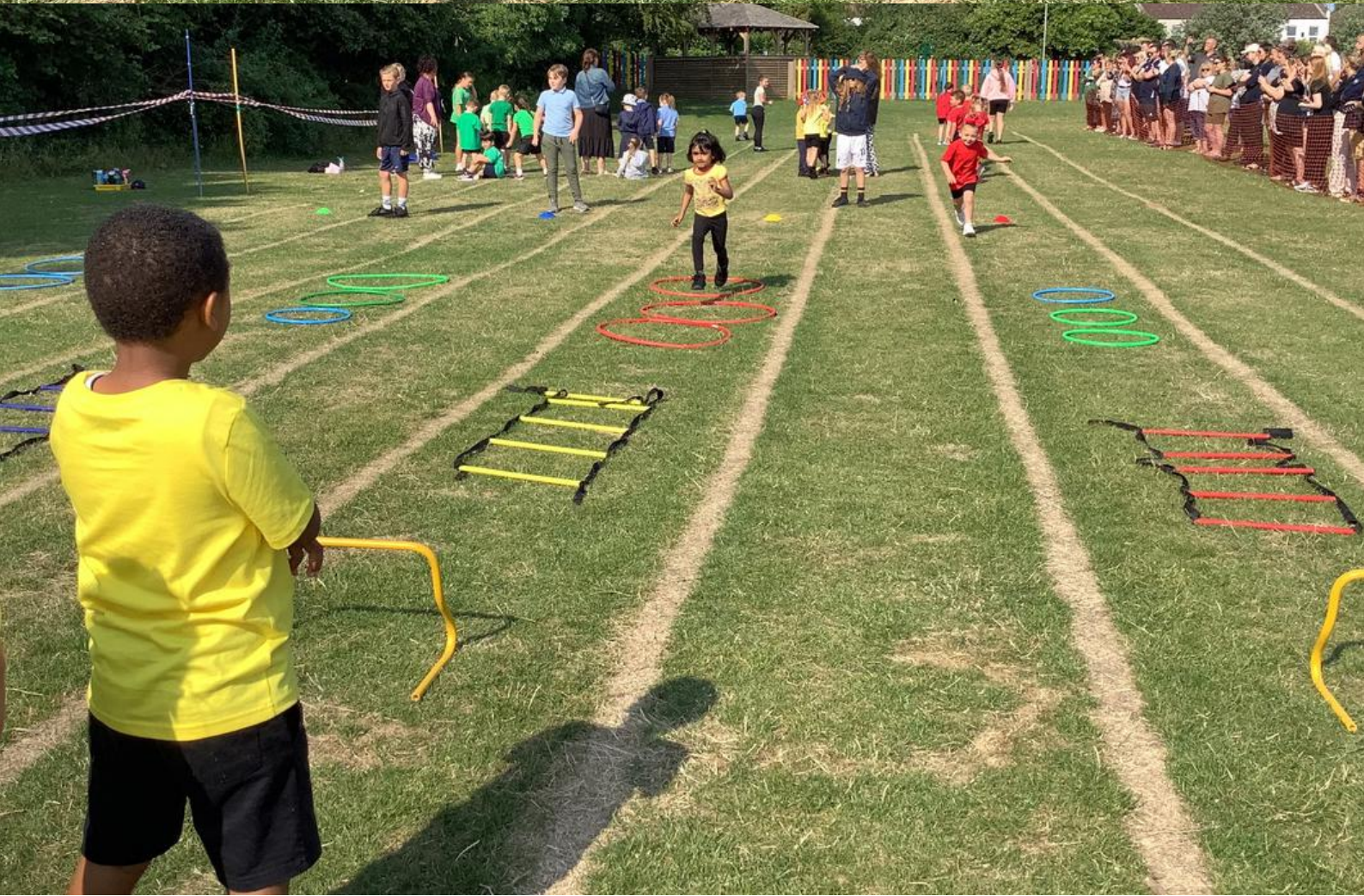
Well done to everyone that played this season in the league.
We are really proud of each and everyone one of them.
Thoroughly deserved!





HALFWAY SPORTS DAY

Firstly, well done to everyone for completing sports day 2023. Each day ran smoothly due to the help in KS1 from the year 6s. All students completed various different races to showcase their skills in our younger years and to earn points for their houses in our older years. Across sports week the children completed a variety of different virtual challenges and some completed personal challenges set by the teacher. All students took part in the daily mile completing 3 laps of our field.







KENT LIFE

Year One had a fabulous time at Kent Life. We did two hands on sessions in our classes. All of the children made their own bread roll in a session called from 'Grain to Bread Roll'. One of the highlights for most of the children was feeding the animals during our 'Field to Fork' session. During this session we learned how many varieties of fruit and vegetables are grown in England, how animals are reared and how they provide the food that we eat every day.

All members of staff were very proud of the behaviour of our Year One children!



CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Well done to the children who participated in the cricket tournament yesterday. We finished joint second, narrowly missing out by 1 run against the winners.

All students who participated made the school really proud.

Special mention to the two boys who hit a couple of 6s on a very large pitch



DRAWING CLUB

We love Drawing Club in reception! It inspires our creativity and writing. We explore exciting text from books, animations and traditional tales. We introduce new vocabulary each week linked to the text and create actions to help us remember the words. We then draw a picture to go with the story. We explore the characters, the setting and go on adventures through our ideas, drawings and passcodes. The passcodes add the magic and sparkle to our drawings. We've worked really hard and started using some of the vocabulary in our writing!





Curriculum NEWS



SCIENCE

This term in Science, Year 2 have been learning about and investigating materials. We have been finding out about their properties and explored which materials to use in different situations.



Amongst other things we found out which was the most easily squeezed plastic bottle, which wood would be best to make a fence and what would be best to make a ramp for a car.



Visit our website
www.halfwayhouses.kent.sch.uk





Forest School News



As part of the Sports week activities, Aspen, Willow & Holly class participated in our Woodland Olympics. The tree-mendous obstacle course was created from various natural parts, such as tree trunk log discs and tyres, as well as obstacles to roll and crawl under, covered with camouflage netting. The children completed the obstacle course over and over, practicing balancing, climbing, jumping, hopping, crawling, and they tested their agility skills.

The children got to wear Olympics style leaf crowns on a purpose-built podium to celebrate their achievements at the end of the session!

A tree-mendous time was had by all.





**The Island
Learning Trust**











**The Island
Learning Trust**



FAMILY SUPPORT NEWS



SUMMER FUN



The summer holidays can be a stressful and financially draining time of year, however there is no reason why these weeks can't be jam packed with fun and happy times. Keep it simple!

There is lots of pressure to fill every day of the summer holidays with amazing trips out, however the kids usually just want to spend time with you doing the simplest of things.

The summer is a fabulous opportunity for picnics in the garden or the local park. Where can you walk to and explore? Perhaps download fact sheets from the internet about flowers and trees, bugs and butterflies and get the kids to find and identify as many different species as possible. Even if you don't have a picnic blanket, take a couple of old towels.

Take the ball games from the garden with you and if there is a group of you, a good game of rounder's is always fun.

Remember – you don't have to fill every minute for the children with something fun. It's okay for them to 'be bored' now and then, this is what can get their creative juices flowing and encourage development of their ability to be okay with their own company and be inventive.

Included are a couple of pages of ideas to get you started!

Fun nature play ideas



Go on
a bug
hunt



Make
a leaf
rainbow



Build a
stone tower



Make
a bee
hotel



Watch
the
sunset



Track
wildlife
on a walk



Find shapes
in nature



Go on a
magnifying
glass walk



Take a
sketchbook
on a walk



Try
mindful
walking



Make
a stick
maze



Make a
bird feeder



Go
foraging



Keep a
nature
journal



Make
a nature
collage



Go on a
tree ID
walk



Grow
sunflowers
from seed



Build
a den



Spell your
name with
sticks



Take nature
rubbings

Summer bucket list



40 fun outdoor activities for kids



- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Make a butterfly feeder | ☐ Create pavement art with chalks |
| ☐ Watch the sunrise on midsummer's day | ☐ Go on a bug hunt |
| ☐ Play pooh sticks | ☐ Make your own plant markers |
| ☐ Decorate a flower pot then add plants | ☐ Have a picnic in the park |
| ☐ Go pond dipping | ☐ Play frisbee |
| ☐ Make a sun catcher | ☐ Hug a tree |
| ☐ Have a garden tea party | ☐ Make clay pressings with nature treasure |
| ☐ Make eco-friendly confetti from leaves & petals | ☐ Watch the clouds |
| ☐ Make a sundial | ☐ Make a daisy chain |
| ☐ Create beach art with shells & seaweed | ☐ Bury your feet in the sand |
| ☐ Try outdoor yoga | ☐ Press some flowers & use them for crafts |
| ☐ Hold your own sports day | ☐ Make a nature mandala |
| ☐ Turn sticks into magic wands | ☐ Help a tired bee with sugar solution |
| ☐ Go for a night walk | ☐ Have a water fight |
| ☐ Make a flower crown | ☐ Walk barefoot in grass |
| ☐ Create a mud kitchen | ☐ Make a journey stick |
| ☐ Have a bubble blowing contest | ☐ Go stargazing |
| ☐ Design & make a fairy garden | ☐ Make leaf faces |
| ☐ Fly a kite | ☐ Build a den |
| ☐ Camp out in the garden | ☐ Create a garden obstacle course |





SUPPORT



Meadowfield
Learning and Achieving Together
Proud Happy Safe Welcoming
Enthusiastic

MIDAS Parent Workshops 2023-24

Midas have released their parent workshop brochure for 2023 -24, most workshops cost £5.00 to attend and refreshments are provided. Please click the link below to find out more:

<https://www.meadowfield.kent.sch.uk/midas-and-stls/parent-courses-and-bookings-2/>



MIDAS
Meadowfield Inclusion Development and Support

**PARENTS, CARERS & FAMILIES
WORKSHOPS
2023-2024**





The Big Summer Stock Up

Calling all individuals, schools, businesses, retailers, wholesalers and anyone in the community!



This Summer we will deliver around 300 boxes every week to families and individuals in need.

Stock levels at the food bank are at an all-time low!

To fulfil this need we need 9,000 products every week!

We are currently short of:

Tinned Meat (Curry, Chilli, Meat Balls, Hot Dogs, etc.); Tinned Fish; Tinned Soup; Cereal; Long Life Milk; Tea/Coffee; Tinned Veg (Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, etc); Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Tinned Desserts (Fruit, Custard, Rice Pudding, etc.); Preservatives (Jam, Marmalade, etc) & Biscuits.

If you are able to help with a collection, please contact us urgently on

Tel: 01233 500477. Email familyfoodbank@children-families.org

For More information on the appeal or if you have already done a collection please visit <https://www.familyfoodbank.org/big-summer-stock-up.html>

*Have a
great
Summer!*

See you in September



STAY SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER

