

A message from Mr Copeland

This half term has been extremely busy across all age groups in the school. One part of our school that brings the year groups together is our House System. All pupils, including children in Pre-School, join one of our four houses (Brandesburton, Gore, Holderness and Trinity) as they enter the school. They will stay in this house throughout their Hymers education.

The children collect house point tokens throughout the week and add them to the small display tubes in their classrooms. House points are awarded for all sorts of reasons including: super academic work, effort, perseverance, kindness, displaying good manners, being helpful and following the values of our school CARE Code. At the end of the week each class' tokens are poured into the large display tubes at the end of Merit Assembly. The large display tubes are located in the school entrance hall and the pupils can see how their house is doing in the friendly competition. This term's winners were Gore, who will receive a house treat early in the new term. When the children return after Easter the display tubes will be empty for the termly competition to start all over again. Back in February we hosted our Inaugural House Pancake Race; this was a fun afternoon where the children and staff took part in a whole school relay race with a number of obstacles. The obstacle relay of course included a pancake toss and it was a fun way for the pupils to learn

about the traditions of Pancake Day. Throughout the race it was lovely to see our older pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 supporting the younger children and to see the pupils and staff strengthening their relationships. We have more house events coming up in the Summer Term including a Year 2 and Year 3 Swimming Gala and our Hymers Hessle Mount Sports Day. In the Key Dates section of the newsletter, you will find these events and a number of other useful dates for your diary.



I could not write my article for this newsletter without congratulating the children and staff in Year 1 for their wonderful performance of *Stella the Starfish*. I was blown away by all of the pupils who all had a speaking part in the performance and delivered their lines confidently and clearly throughout the three shows. They got in to character and showed enjoyment and good humour as they entertained their audiences. The productions are an important part of the pupils' education at Hymers Hessle Mount and each year group will be given the opportunity to perform throughout the academic year. The music and drama allows pupils to build their confidence and self-esteem and this can also allow pupils to develop and flourish in many other areas of the curriculum. I was particularly impressed with the bravery

of our solo singers and how well they were supported by the rest of the year group. I would like to say a huge thank you to Ms Ayre and Miss Chapman for all their efforts with the Year 1 production from creating the scenery, learning songs, choreographing dance moves and supporting all pupils to learn their lines from the script. I hope that the Year 1 parents, friends and family enjoyed it as much as I did!

This half term we also enjoyed celebrating **World Book Day** and it was wonderful to welcome all of the children into school dressed as a character from a story. In assembly I read Charlie Cook's Favourite Book to the children which the children enjoyed as each page links to a different



character and story. The children from all year groups then got to choose which teacher's story they would like to listen to and went to different places around the school to hear these stories. Celebrating World Book Day is of course great fun and promotes a love of reading. The pupils at Hymers Hessle Mount read regularly in school and it is a very important part of our curriculum. Reading improves language skills, develops imagination and creativity, can improve concentration and helps aid cognitive development. These are key skills that pupils will require as they move through the school and beyond. I would encourage all of our children to continue reading books and sharing books with adults over the holidays. I wish you and your family a lovely Easter break and look forward to welcoming the pupils back to school for the Summer Term.



PRE-SCHOOL

We have enjoyed a super half term in the Pre-School! It has been another busy one, full of fun, creativity, lots of learning and all types of weather! The new starters we have welcomed have all settled in beautifully and already love coming to school each day.

and we found the surprise ending very funny! On Shrove Tuesday we took part in a whole school Pancake Day Race; it was so much fun and even the sun came out to watch.

Other highlights this term have included getting messy with powder paints as part of the Hindu festival of Holi, dressing up for World Book Day, carrying out some fascinating experiments during British Science

Next term, our focus will be on **'Marvellous Mini-Beasts'**, which we are very excited about. We will be learning about different kinds of insects, exploring a range of different media to develop our creativity and spending lots of time outside, finding and observing bugs in their natural habitats.

As we move towards the summer, we will begin to support the children with their transitions to Reception. It is an



We have explored the theme of Traditional Tales, reading the stories 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have sung songs, created artwork, designed and built new homes for the pigs and acted out the stories using story stones and role play masks. We started the term by reading a story called 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'. The children really enjoyed talking about the different characters



Week and playing in the snow. Due to the rather changeable weather at the moment, the children have been wearing their wellies every day; we anticipate this will continue if we are to expect some April showers!

exciting time with plenty happening; keep an eye out for the school's diary dates and please ask us if you have any questions. We wish all of our children and families a wonderful break over the Easter holidays and we look forward to finding out what everyone has been up to when we return.

Miss Smith and the Pre-School Team.



RECEPTION

Reception have had a really busy few weeks which began with the arrival of the 'Supertato' story written by Sue Hendra. The children were immediately enthused by the characters in the book and came up with some really wonderful ideas for Superheroes of their own.



The children were shocked to see that Evil Pea had escaped from our school freezer and trapped some veggies in cages in our classrooms, so they came up with lots of solutions on how we could free the veggies and catch the Evil Pea. Lots of the children thought a good solution would be to teach the Evil Pea how to be good – so they wrote some rules and letters for him to read in the hope that he would think about

releasing the veggies. Meanwhile, a letter arrived addressed to the children asking for their help. It was from Supertato and he wanted us all to help to capture Evil Pea by making and setting some traps for him. They must have been very well constructed traps as they managed to help Supertato catch the Evil Pea and put him back into the school freezer.

The children have also been learning about Superheroes that live in our community, we have had lots of fun finding out about Doctors, Nurses,



Police Officers and Fire Fighters to name a few. We enjoyed our Teddy bear hospital afternoon, the children all brought in their toys from home and

had lots of fun diagnosing and treating their patients! The children then spent a week learning about Easter and why people celebrate Easter each year. We made Easter cards, Easter baskets and went on an Easter egg hunt!

It has been lovely to see the children enjoying this half term so much and we are really pleased with all of the wonderful things they have been busy doing over the past few weeks.

After the holidays we will be starting our new topic 'Minibeasts'. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the

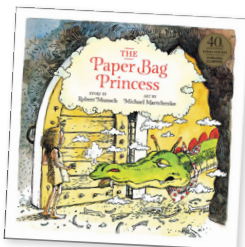
children! We would like to wish you all a lovely Easter break.

The Reception Team

YEAR 1

Firstly we must congratulate the children on performing an amazing production of 'Stella the Starfish'. WOW is all we can say because they were amazing! Thank you for supporting the children by helping them to learn their lines and sourcing some fabulous costumes.

In Literacy, the children have delved into the wonderful world of knights, princesses, and dragons. We have enjoyed looking at the *Paper Bag Princess* story and decided she was super brave and clever for defeating the dragon. She managed this wearing nothing but a paper bag and a bent crown! We learnt the difference between character traits and physical appearances. We all decided that the princess didn't need to wear a pretty dress to be a true princess!



In Maths, we have been having fun using various forms of measurement around the classroom. We have also been splitting numbers into tens and ones. Working on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables is ongoing, so please continue to chant these at home with your children, or even join in with the tables' dances.

History took us back in time to when different vehicles were invented. The children were surprised to see the



design of the first car and laughed when they watched people trying to fly in their creations.

We are very much looking forward to creating new memories with your children next term.

Enjoy the Easter break and we look forward to seeing the children soon.

Well done Year 1! You have worked hard and made us so proud!



YEAR 2

The children in Year 2 have really excelled themselves this term by working very hard and visibly maturing with each passing week. The standard of their work has improved noticeably and they are learning to be more imaginative and independent.

In English, we have been studying the Katie Morag stories. The children have had fun hearing some of the characters and perfecting their Scottish accents! They wrote their own brilliant Katie Morag stories with amazing illustrations.

Katie Morag lived on the Isle of Struay, and we learned a lot about this island and others in Geography. We were very impressed with the islands the children made out of Modroc to show what they had learned about human and physical geography.

In Science, we have looked at forces



and motion. Using different materials, we investigated which surface would prevent a car from rolling down a ramp when the height was increased. The children thoroughly enjoyed making predictions which material would cause the most friction. They also made incredible bottle rockets in British Science Week and had a lot of fun launching them.

The children's costumes for World Book Day were wonderful! They created some great characters in groups and thought about what personality and physical characteristics they would have.



It has been a very busy but productive term, and we look forward to an equally exciting one after a well-earned rest at Easter for Year 2.

HCA Easter Quiz



Towards the end of the Spring Term two items magically appeared in school (with a little help from the HCA): A huge fluffy Easter bunny, cute but nameless and a jar full of mini chocolate eggs, total number unknown.

Anyone could join the guessing game for a small donation to the HCA and in our last Assembly before the Easter break all was revealed: Brother-and-sister

team Isabelle and Noah guessed the exact number of eggs in the jar and have confirmed they will be having chocolate eggs for their tea. The cuddly bunny's name suggestion **Strawberry** was picked at random, making a very lucky and excited Year 2 student the winner and its new owner.

Happy Easter break from Strawberry, the HCA and everyone at Hymers Hesse Mount!



Key Dates for next half term

April

Monday 17 – Return to School

Friday 21 – HHM Open Morning

May

Monday 1 – *Bank Holiday*

Friday 5 – School Photo & King's Coronation Picnic

May (cont.)

Monday 8 – *Bank Holiday*

Monday 15 – Year 2/3 House Swimming Gala

Monday 29 – HALF TERM to Friday 2 June (inclusive)