



Rudgwick Primary School News

Thursday 12th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

A shorter week comes to an end today as we have our Inset Day tomorrow which brings the beginning of the half term holiday.

I am sure all of the children are ready for the break, particularly the Year 6s, who returned to school this week following their week away for their Residential last week. On behalf of the staff who went along for the week, Miss Chatfield, Mrs Gaynor, Mrs Ryan and myself, I would like to say thank you to all of the children as their behaviour was impeccable, a credit to our school and to their parents. The Hindleap Warren staff all commented on how well they listened, engaged and took on challenges, supporting each other and pushing their own limits. Despite the hours and hours, days and days of rain, the children's spirits were never dampened and it did not stop them taking on every activity. They were amazing, as were my staff who I would also like to thank for giving their time to ensure the children enjoyed every minute, from the moment they woke in the morning until the moment they went to sleep (eventually) at night. A very successful trip!



Back in school this week and our Year 5s had the opportunity to undertake their first Bikeability lessons. All of the children enjoyed a session on their bikes on the playground as they took on the Level 1 expectations. And well done to all of them as they passed the course and completed their Level 1.



Everyone took part in Safer Internet Day on Tuesday – a day when we focus on aspects of online safety and develop an understanding of safe and sensible online behaviour. This year the focus was Artificial Intelligence (AI). We spent time thinking about what it is, types of AI we may access and how we use it. We established that we can use it to do amazing things, but we also need to remember to use it safely and responsibly, in a way that makes them and other people feel good.

<p>What is an AI chatbot? An AI chatbot is an AI which you can talk to and have conversations with.</p>	<p>What is an AI chatbot? An AI chatbot is an AI that lets you chat like a conversation with. For example, Alan and Simon use AI chatbots.</p>						
<p>What is safe to use an AI chatbot for? Songs, conversations, facts, ideas and help notes.</p>	<p>What is safe to use an AI chatbot for? It is safe to use for if the person using or helping them to do some sort of maths, spelling, e.g. my homework.</p>						
<p>Why is it better to get support and advice from a person over an AI chatbot?</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Reason 1 Humans understand feelings but AI chatbots do not.</p> </td> <td> <p>Reason 2 AI chatbots can't help you with physical things.</p> </td> <td> <p>Reason 3 People enjoy talking to you.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Reason 1 Humans understand feelings but AI chatbots do not.</p>	<p>Reason 2 AI chatbots can't help you with physical things.</p>	<p>Reason 3 People enjoy talking to you.</p>	<p>Why is it better to get support and advice from a person over an AI chatbot?</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Reason 1 They can't have actually had things like school, e.g. what?</p> </td> <td> <p>Reason 2 It's not always good feelings.</p> </td> <td> <p>Reason 3 It can't help when you have questions.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Reason 1 They can't have actually had things like school, e.g. what?</p>	<p>Reason 2 It's not always good feelings.</p>	<p>Reason 3 It can't help when you have questions.</p>
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<p>Who can you talk to if you need help or support? Adults, teachers, grown-ups or friends.</p>	<p>Who can you talk to if you need help or support? A very, innately, adult.</p>						



As we reach the end of another half term it is time to celebrate some more great writing successes this half term as the following children, and their teachers, have been particularly proud of aspects of their writing which will be on display on my Writers' Wall for the coming weeks. Well done to Iris (YR), Mary (Y1), Bella (Y2), Connie (Y3), Frazer (Y4), Alice K (Y5) and Jack (Y6).



Board Games and Rubik's Cube Club

Finally, from me, our Young Governors have taken on board requests made by their friends and have agreed to run a club for children in KS2 after half term. **Our Young Governors' Board Games and Rubik's Cube Club** will take place on **Wednesday lunchtimes** in The Community Room from 12:15-12:45. Children in KS2 will be allowed to bring in a favourite board game or Rubik's Cube (which seems to be a current craze among Year 6 children) and play them with friends. They will be expected to leave their games with me when they come in on Wednesday mornings and can collect them from me again at the end of the day. Children will not need to sign up to this club, they can just come along. Thank you to our Young Governors for helping to make this club available.

Birthdays



Celebrating their birthday this week and in half term: William C, Naomi, Sophia M, Austin, Charlotte C, Ethan and Amber.

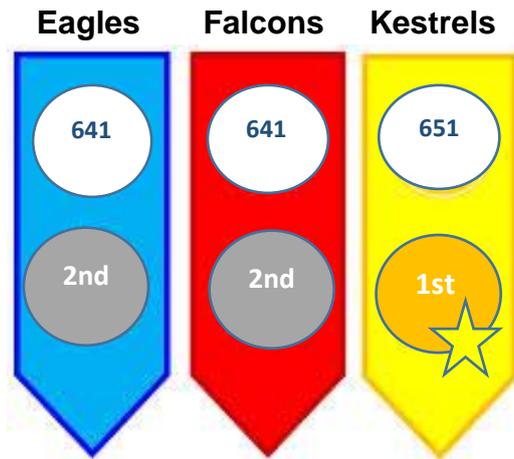
We hope you all have a wonderful day!

Awards



This term's core value is **BELIEVE** and the wider value for the half term is **INDEPENDENCE/COLLABORATION**.

House Points



Attendance

This week's attendance award goes to North America Class with 98.5% attendance.

Number Bonds

5s	10s	20s	100s
	Ned – Year 4		Bertie – Year 6 Reuben – Year 6

Times Tables

Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Ettie – Year 4			William – Year 4

Book Awards

KS1	KS2
Bella – Year 2	Madison – Year 6

Stars of the Week

Africa (Year R)	George	For using the scientific word 'observation' when looking at a bean.
	Iris	For confident word writing, using red and green words independently.
Asia (Year 1)	Finn	For making an amazing effort with his writing and working hard on his handwriting.
	Laila	For excellent effort in all areas of her learning.
Europe (Year 2)	Monty	For having good focus in his handwriting and spelling activities this week.
	Elena	For always listening and learning to the best of her ability, as well as offering to help!

Australasia (Year 3)	Eva P	For always being a caring and supportive friend and classmate. She always tries her absolute best and I hope her self-belief continues to grow.
	Harvey	For being a fantastic listener and hard worker across the entire week. He brings a great sense of determination and joy to Year 3.
Antarctica (Year 4)	Amelia	Showing excellent focus and effort in her maths learning and written pieces this term.
	Mitzie	Showing greatly improved confidence when calculating and comparing fractions in her maths work.
North America (Year 5)	Ben	For his super surfing sculpture!
	Martha	For being a super learner and always doing her best.
South America (Year 6)	Benny	For pushing yourself out of your comfort zone and taking advantage of all the opportunities at Hindleap!
	Archie	For supporting others, behaving responsibly and being enthusiastic on our residential.

We have been learning

Africa (Year R)	This week in Africa class we have been listening to the fairy tale, Jack & the Beanstalk. We have each taken a turn to make observations of a real bean. We have given the bean some water and light to see if this causes the bean to change. We are recording our observations in a 'bean diary'. This week, as part of Safer Internet Day, we have been thinking about the difference between a human and a voice assistant, such as an Alexa. It has also been Children's Mental Health Week and we have discussed what the word 'belonging' means to us. In French, we have been learning the words for family members. On Thursday, we discovered what Chinese New Year and that this year is the year of the horse. We made lanterns, with red paper, which is a lucky colour. Mrs Worth wishes us all a lovely half-term break.
Asia (Year 1)	This week in Year 1 we have been working hard to finish our bakery adverts and we have to say they look fantastic. We even created price lists and eye catching illustrations to catch the eye of our customers. In Maths we have been concentrating on accurate counting to and back from 50 as well as exploring missing numbers in part whole models. In RE we have continued to learn about Judaism, thinking about why the Shabbat is important to people of Jewish faith and how they celebrate – the class were very excited to discover that no work, including homework, can be done during Shabbat! As part of Safer Internet Day we discussed how we can stay safe whilst using electronic devices, what to do if we see something that we don't like and how to use voice assist devices appropriately. We hope you all have a lovely and restful half term.

<p>Europe (Year 2)</p>	<p>We have had such a busy 4 days; we are definitely ready for half term! In English we continued our journey with The Jolly Postman, by writing birthday cards, using rhymes, to Goldilocks and letters to some of our favourite characters in the story. In our maths learning we looked at how we can compare money and amounts using greater/less than and equals sign, as well as how we can use bar models to calculate amounts of money. In PE we worked our way through point and patch balances and are looking forward to our time with Coach Ben after the holiday. We celebrated both Safer Internet Day & Children's mental health week by taking part in drama activities, understanding AI and how it can help us and drawing ourselves surrounded by things we enjoy and places/spaces where we feel we belong. Have a lovely holiday!</p>
<p>Australasia (Year 3)</p>	<p>We've covered a lot in such a short week! In Maths, we've been finding change in a variety of ways. In English, we have written a scenery description of Mount Vesuvius erupting through the eyes of our main characters. We discussed the feeling of belonging and the importance of our mental health in RSHE as well as all the amazing things the Romans brought to Britain in History. In Computing, we made a digital piano on Scratch and talked about what is okay and no okay when using AI. The class continue to show great progress in both their swimming and ukulele playing. Everyone took part in the shuttle run challenge to complete our multiskills PE unit. For our final day of fun, the class thoroughly enjoyed exploring different electric toys and designing their own. Enjoy your half term Year 3!</p>
<p>Antarctica (Year 4)</p>	<p>As always, it is such a busy time in Year 4 with lots of learning going on to share with you! In English we have enjoyed reading the book 'Varjak Paw' and writing and presenting a persuasive letter home from Vajak. We also enjoyed presenting a descriptive and informative paragraph about the Big Cats of the world. In maths, we have continued learning about fractions by looking at converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions and finding fractions of numbers. In science, we have explored the most effective material for sound proofing. Our final geography task gave the children the opportunity to compare the tropics and polar regions. We celebrated both Safer Internet day and children's mental health week with lots of good discussion and understanding. We continue to enjoy playing the clarinets in our music lessons with Mrs Eames and had our final session of the term in Woodland Learning enjoying hot chocolate and smoores.</p>
<p>North America (Year 5)</p>	<p>This week has we have been working hard to finish our human figure sculptures in art, inspired by the artist Alberto Giacometti. The children covered their wire figures in Modrok with very successful results. I love how the children all had the same inspiration and starting point and yet have made their final pieces very individual to themselves - they are true artists! We also had our Bike ability training session where the children learned to prepare for a safe journey, how to set off and slow down safely and avoid hazards (mainly me when I was trying to take photos of them). We also had 'Safer Internet Day' on Tuesday. The focus on this was using on AI. We talked through many scenarios in which AI is/ will be useful in our lives and the pros and cons of this. The main message was for the children to engage their critical thinking skills and to think of possible dangers (the age rating of the information, the truth and reliability of what they are being told and whether it could be harmful to the feelings of others). In history we have looked at the Viking longship and looked at the features of this which helped to make the Viking raids so successful.</p>

<p>South America (Year 6)</p>	<p>First of all, I want to say a big well done to all of Year 6 for being so amazing on our residential! Hindleap staff complimented our class on their manners and enthusiasm for the activities during our stay with them. You all behaved so responsibly and got involved in everything!</p> <p>This week, we have been looking at algebra in maths and solving algebraic equations. We have been reading more of <i>Darwin's Dragons</i> and working on our comprehension skills. We finished our Gymnastics topic with Coach Ben. We have been planning an art piece based on Bhajan Hunjan, which we will complete after half term. We spoke about the uses of AI and when we think it is okay to use AI and when it's not okay to use AI as part of Safer Internet Day. We also created our class mosaic for Mental Health Week, to remind ourselves we all belong in our class.</p>
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Wraparound Childcare Survey

West Sussex County Council's Early Years and Childcare team has launched a new survey to understand families' experiences of wraparound childcare. Wraparound childcare provides families with care for school aged children before and after the school day. The survey is open to all families with primary school-aged children, whether they currently use wraparound childcare in West Sussex or not. It asks about what is working well, what could be improved, and how childcare outside of the school day can better meet the needs of local families.

Your help in completing this survey will ensure the team gather a full picture of what families need and where they may require more support. The survey is anonymous, and your feedback will contribute to countywide planning and development. Please access [this survey](#) here. The deadline to complete the survey is **23:59 on Sunday 22 February**.

Term Dates

Mon 23rd Feb– Return to school

Thurs 5th March – **World book day – Children are invited to wear costumes**

Mon 9th March - Parents Evening

Weds 11th March – Parents Evening

Fri 20th March– Red Nose Day

Fri 20th March – Shrek the Musical trip – club invite only

Tues 24th March – Yr3 last swimming session

Tues 24th March – Cross Country selected students

Weds 25th March – West Sussex music concerts

Fri 27th March – Rudgwick Performing arts showcase

Fri 27th March– Last day of spring term

Please use the new school website for all diary dates. There is a link to the school calendar with to all pupil events. <https://www.rudgwick.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

More photos of events are available on our website <https://www.rudgwick.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

We are a NUT AWARE school due to the allergies that some of our pupils have, with every effort being made to ensure that no nuts, or products containing nuts, are brought in to the school.

Please note that attachments to the Newsletter about local clubs and events are not endorsed by the school. Parents are responsible for carrying out their own safety checks.



We're working towards Artsmark Awarded by Arts Council England



PROUD TO BE A MUSIC MARK SCHOOL 2022 - 2023

