

News from the Deputy Head Teacher

What a week of weather we've had! We've experienced glorious sun, torrential rain, thunder and lightning and hail, you wouldn't be blamed for thinking we're not in the middle of June! Despite all the miserable weather, it certainly hasn't slowed anything down at Heathcote. This week we welcomed more of our Heathcote family back and started a new key worker group lead by Mrs Ribbands and Mrs Fletcher. We've had exciting progress with our school build this week, the new classrooms are starting to take shape and the walls are now up! We had quite the surprise on Tuesday however when rain suddenly came through the ceiling in the staff room! The children did a fantastic job following our evacuation procedure and should be proud of how sensibly they reacted.



This week the Reception children have enjoyed reading the Hungry Caterpillar and did a super job retelling the story in their caterpillar booklets, he was very greedy! Otters enjoyed their Brazilian carnival at the end of last week and have been exploring the Amazon rainforest this week. We've had some peculiar cross-breed animals created by the Kiwis this week who have enjoyed bringing these to life in some stunning artwork. On Thursday, Mrs Shirley invited Foxes to see the release of the Year 2 butterflies. It was a soggy start to their new adventure but they all flew off happily. Owls and Squirrels are continuing to work hard with their home learning activities, remember to still send to your teachers what you have been doing, we love to see your hard work and other activities you have been up to.



It is great to see so many of you are excited to come back to school for our 'Keeping in Touch days'. We are working hard to plan how we can welcome you all back and will release details once we have finalised these.

Fingers crossed the sun will come out this weekend and you have a great weekend celebrating Father's day on Sunday. Let us know how you will spoil and say thank you to your father, grandfather and other important people in your life who care, help and support you.

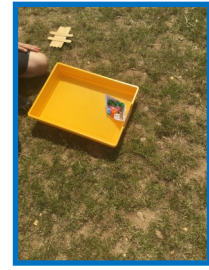
"Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the gardeners who make our souls blossom" Marcel Proust

All the best,

Mrs Abernethy

News from Kiwis

The two Kiwi groups have had fun this week experimenting with water, seeing how things float and sink. Inspired by the book, The Journey Home, they made a raft from lolly sticks and made a paper boat. After testing them, they tried adding weight to the boats to see how much weight they could carry. They had some wonderful discussions about the importance of distributing weight.



Today's quiz questions are:

- * Does an orange float or sink?
- * Will tin foil float or sink?

You could guess the answers, then try them out at home. With the tin foil, try shaping it in different ways to see if that makes a difference. Also try an orange with its peel on and with its peel off.

The answers to last week's quiz are:

1. The Kiwi is native to New Zealand.
2. New Zealand is in the continent of Oceania.

The kiwi is a bird but it can't fly!



Online Safety—Home learning activities

Thinkuknow is a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. Every fortnight they will be releasing new home activity packs with simple 15 minutes activities you can do with your child to support their online safety at home. Go to:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>

and click on the age group needed.

Safeguarding

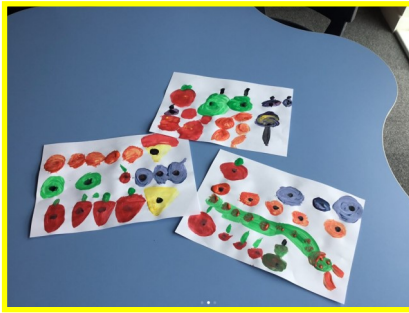
If your child is struggling to cope with any aspects of the current pandemic, Ant and Dec have hosted an online assembly for the NSPCC alongside other celebrities and experts including the Children and Families Minister—Vicky Ford. You can watch the 'Stay Safe, Speak Out' assembly here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/working-with-schools/>

Spot Light on our Children

News from Reception

This week the Butterflies and Hedgehogs have enjoyed sharing the story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* as our book of the week. We have been very busy and made our own caterpillar books, measured and compared the lengths of paper caterpillars and even created our own caterpillars using paper plates, paints and craft materials. We have also started to look at telling the time for o'clock times and made our own watches. Well done to the children who are still working so hard at home. We are enjoying seeing all of the brilliant learning you are doing, keep it up!



News from Owls

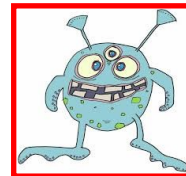
This week Owls have been looking at information text on the mysterious, endangered Snowl animal. They then had to create their own mysterious endangered animal and make an information page to report about it. They have also been working hard on their fractions work, this week focusing on finding equivalent fractions.

Make sure to send through what you have been up to, we would love to see your great work.



News From Squirrels

Squirrels have been busy this week with their online learning. They enjoyed looking at a new text, "Amazing Aliens" and have used descriptive phrases, leading up to them thinking about newspaper headlines and having a go at writing a newspaper report. They have also re-capped on their knowledge about volcanoes and digestion. I wonder how much they all remembered!



News from Otters



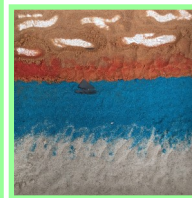
This week we have been investigating animals that live in the Amazon Rainforest, as part of our topic studying Brazil. We looked closely at the detailed patterns of snakes to create our own spiral snake designs. We also made parrots and learnt that they are brightly coloured.

News from Foxes

Over the last few weeks Foxes have been researching sand art. They started by finding about how sand can be used for art and then explored some famous sand artists. One of which was Britain's Got Talent contestant Kseniya Simonova, who has produced some truly amazing art using sand. Have a look at her Golden Buzzer performance here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ffZ2q0icTY>
[Kseniya Simonova's astonishing sand art gets first Golden Buzzer | BGT: The Champions](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ffZ2q0icTY)

Incredible Kseniya's sand art crosses countries. Her BGT: The Champions sand story is dedicated to children around the world battling cancer, and those who have sadly lost their fight. A truly beautiful talent, worthy of Amanda Holden's Golden Buzzer and the BGT: The Champions FINAL. See more from Britain's Got Talent at <http://itv.com/talent> ...



Foxes then created their own sand art. I was super impressed to see some of their fabulous creations.



On Thursday we also released our butterflies into the wild- It was lovely to see them fly freely across the school grounds. We shall certainly miss taking care of them but

happy to have seen the whole life cycle

