



Lapal

Primary School

Newsletter

January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everyone who responded to our Trust parent survey. We have started analysing responses and will write to you shortly about how we will be responding to any points you have raised. Next week, we will be sending out information regarding parents evening. Please look out for this letter as it will detail times and explain how to book your appointment online.

From the 6th-10th February we will be marking Children's Mental Health week in school. The theme for 2023 is 'Let's Connect'.

Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections for all, during Children's Mental Health Week - and beyond. People thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections – to family, friends and others – this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. Throughout the week the children will engage in an assembly and activities where we will be encouraging them to connect with others in healthy, rewarding, and meaningful ways.

We would like to invite parents and carers in for tea/coffee on the afternoon of **Thursday 9th February** providing you with the opportunity to 'connect' with other families. Our coffee afternoon will run from **2.15-3.10pm**, please feel free to drop in and see us.

Kind regards
Mrs J Turner
(Executive Headteacher)

Safeguarding

If you are concerned about a child then please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead who is Mrs Atkinson, or our Deputy Safeguarding Leads Mrs Turner, Mr Maynes, Miss Gillon or Mr Rizzo.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. If we are concerned about a child we have a duty to contact Children's Service, if you are concerned about a child, outside school, then you can call 0300 555 0050 with your concerns and seek advice. Our safeguarding policy can be found on our school website.

Diary Dates

Spring 2023 Term starts

3rd January

Half term

20th February - 24th February

Term ends

31st March

Summer 2023 Term starts

17th April

Half term

30th May – 2nd June

Term ends

25th July

Inset Days

Monday 27th February 2023

Friday 31st March 2023

Friday 26th May 2023

Parents Evenings

28th February 2023

2nd March 2023

Curriculum Enrichment

School Disco -

16th February 2023

Year 1 Trip to the Botanical Gardens—10th March 2023

Please see our online calendar on our website for all our event information.

Reception

Reception have been busy celebrating Chinese New Year. We discussed how and why some people in our local community celebrate the Spring New Year and took part in some of these traditions and experiences.



We cleaned our home corner, and put up some decorations



We gave out red envelopes



Acted out the Chinese zodiac story



Made our own dragons, made some cards, did a dragon dance around school and tried some Chinese food!

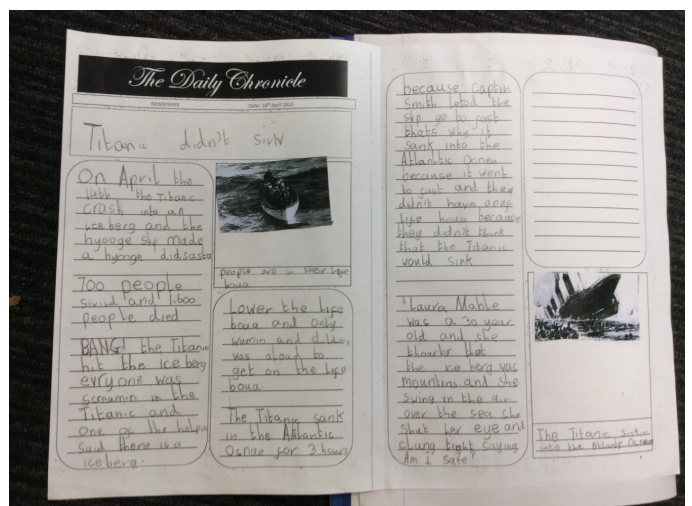
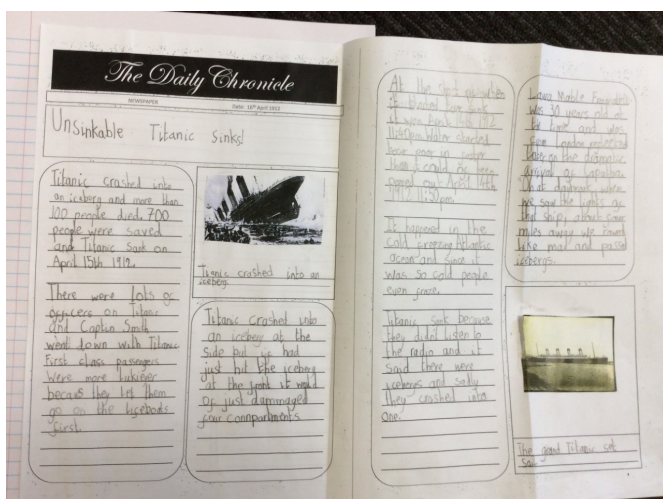
Year 1

The children in Year 1 launched into a new unit of English work based around 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' with an experience day where they made and tasted some pancakes which was very enjoyable! The children will be learning how to write instructions within their upcoming lessons.



Year 2

Year 2 have been learning all about the Titanic and how it sank. We read some eyewitness statements about what happened and learnt all about how and why it hit the iceberg, what happened with the lifeboats and how many people sadly died. We then wrote newspaper reports about the disaster.



Year 3 and 4

Year 4 Fire Safety Workshop

Pupils from Year 4 participated in an informative and extremely useful Fire Safety Workshop delivered by officers based at Haden Cross Fire Station.

The pupils were taught about fire and its dangers:

- Actions to take in the event of a fire;
- Thinking about a route out of the house in the event of a fire;
- Importance of smoke alarms;
- Calling 999 for help and hoax calls;
- Potential fire hazards in the home;
- The 'Stop, Drop and Roll' method;

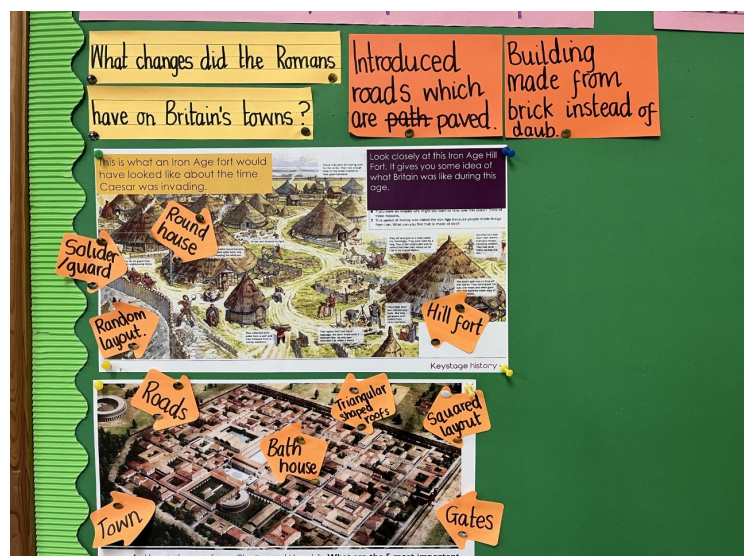
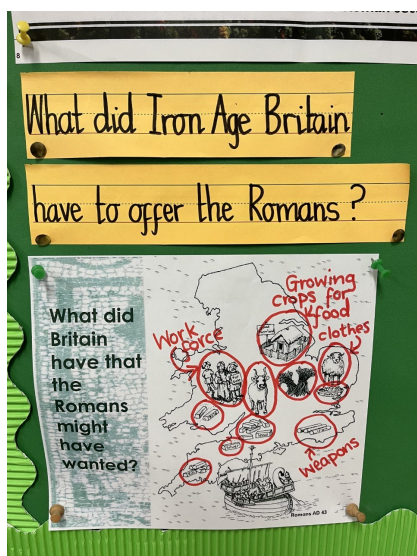
A big shout out to all of Year 4 for their great questions, excellent behaviour and participation. Thank you to all our pupils who were involved and the Fire Safety Officers from Haden Cross Fire Station.

Spellings

This month, Year 3 and 4 have been busy bees practicing this new spelling rules. They have enjoyed watch Sir Linkalot videos to learn tricky words and collecting points on EdShed when completing their spelling assignments. They have absolutely smashed their spellings and should be buzzing with excitement.

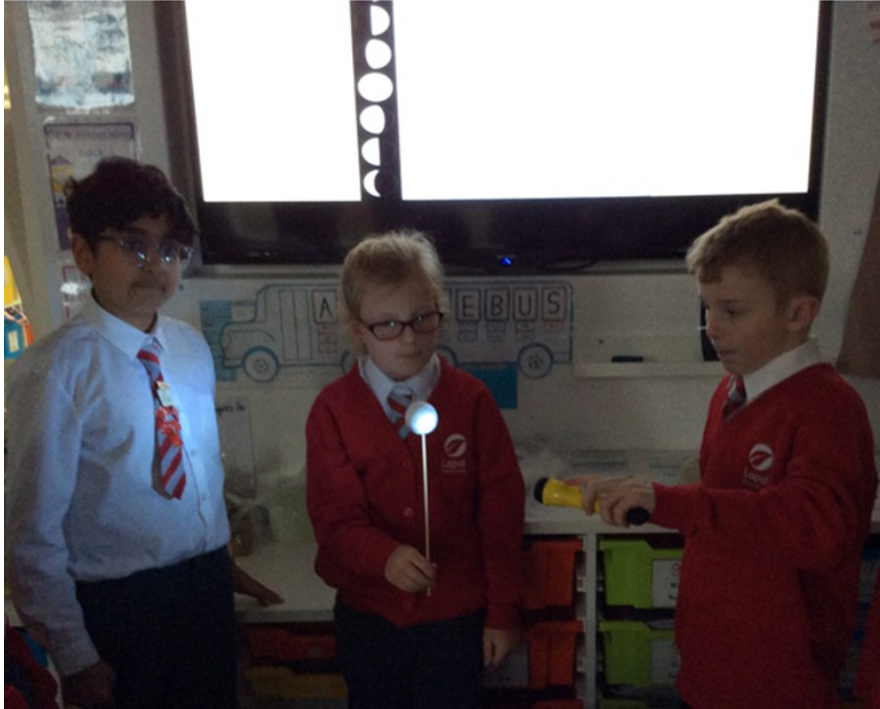
History

The three classes have travelled back in time to explore the Roman Empire's invasion on Britain. The children have been fantastic history detectives when using sources to answer key questions such as 'what impact did the Romans have on Britain's settlements?' and 'What resources did Britain have to offer the Romans?'.



Year 5

In Year 5 we have been exploring the phases of the Moon. The children were able to recreate the Moon's orbit around Earth, where the angle between the Earth, Moon and Sun changes, giving us the phases of the Moon. They could use scientific vocabulary to describe each phase and explain what causes the changes. Great work from our super scientists!



This week in Art, 5M have been creating a colour-palette from a painting. They used Claude Monet's series of paintings, 'Haystacks' as inspiration and using watercolour, were able to mix colours to create their own colour pallet representing the colours depicted in their chosen painting. As you can see, they thoroughly enjoyed developing the skills of colour mixing and learnt how to load and hold their paintbrush correctly.





At Lapal, we are continually investing in technology to support our children's learning.

Our Digital Leaders held the grand unveiling of our new mobile device trolley, full to the brim of brand-new Chromebooks. As we now have so many trolleys in school, our Digital Leaders were tasked with the job of naming them after important role models from the world of computing, past and present.

After much research, the Digital Leaders used Google Classroom to cast their votes, deciding on naming the trolley's after:

- **Alan Turing** – A British mathematician, who influenced computer science, artificial intelligence, and the outcome of World War II
- **Grace Hopper** – A Rear Admiral in the US Navy and pioneering computer scientist, who invented the first computer language
- **Elon Musk** – A South African businessman and owner of Tesla, Twitter and Space X
- **Katherine Johnson** – The American mathematician often called 'The Human Computer', who helped send astronauts to the moon.

At Lapal, we celebrate diversity, so as a result, the Digital Leaders carefully selected these inspirational role models to show all children that people from different backgrounds, cultures and genders can be successful in the world of technology in the future. Also, so that we can learn more about the history of computing. Each trolley carries a QR code that can be scanned to take the user to useful website containing interesting facts, images and videos, so that we can all learn more about their achievements. For example, did you know that Grace Hopper coined the term 'bug' after she found a moth inside a computer that was no longer working?

Our Digital Leader's next project is to open their very own 'Genius Bar' where they will be the experts, passing on their knowledge to others of how to scan QR codes amongst many other things.



INFORMATION

Before & After School Club

Breakfast Club 8am-8:40am
After School Club 3:20pm- 6pm
Tel: 01384 812642

When collecting from After School Club please be aware of pedestrians when exiting the car park.

NSPCC Helpline number

The new helpline will support children and young people, and offer guidance to adults and staff working with pupils,

The helpline can be contacted on **0800 136 663**, or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk

Pupil Absence

If your child is ill or unable to attend school, could we please remind parents to either leave a message on the school absence line or call the main office before 9:30am on each day of absence.

If a call is not received by this time then the school office, will call key contacts for an update.

Parking and One Way



Could we please remind parents / carers to please not park or mount the grass verges, especially in the wet weather when they can be easily churned up and become muddy, and also not park completely on the pavement or on the yellow lines outside the school entrance **which is illegal**.

We have also received complaints from residents regarding cars idling whilst waiting outside of the school at drop off and collection times, this creates a lot of pollution outside of the school gates. Please help to keep our children safe and residents happy - thank you.

THE KING OF NOTHING

A PUPPET
MUSICAL
INSPIRED BY
HANS CHRISTIAN
ANDERSEN'S
THE EMPEROR'S
NEW CLOTHES



Join us at Halesowen Library on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 14:30
BOOKING ESSENTIAL!
Tel: (01384) 812983