



Sheldwich Primary School

Little Hedgehogs Pre-School



No. 12

www.sheldwich.kent.sch.uk

E-Mail office@sheldwich.kent.sch.uk

6th March 2026

Important Messages

We kindly remind all parents and carers to **leave the playground promptly after collecting their children at the end of the school day.** Our playground is used immediately after school by After School Club and a range of extra-curricular clubs. Please note that **the playground gates are locked at 3:45pm sharp.** If you find yourself locked inside the playground, **please telephone the school office for assistance.** Under no circumstances should adults or children attempt to climb over the gates or fencing. As well as being a serious safety risk, the gates have previously been damaged and we must insist that all families follow this guidance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking

Sadly, once again we have received complaints from local residents about parking. One resident whose driveway was blocked was rudely told "I'll be back in 2 minutes" and then they walked off leaving the car parked across their driveway. This is not acceptable. Anyone collecting children from our school, must park considerately and respect villagers and other drivers.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to all the children who entered Faversham Literary Festival competition. This year, it was won by the thought provoking poem *Darkened Hallway* written by Amy in Badgers Class. Mrs Garrett and Mr Burns were at the awards ceremony at St Mary's Church to congratulate her. She also met the Mayor of Faversham. We are all super proud of you.

Darkened Hallway

I walk this school with steady feet,
Not made to bow,
Not built to cheat.
You point and giggle.
You whisper my name
But I am more than your silly game.

You say my hair is "wrong" today,
No offence.
I hear you say
"But who made you the fashion queen
The ruler of this playground scene?"

To all the people who are in the dark
Who feel alone
Who need a spark
Know this
You're strong, brave and bright.
You've got the power
You've got the right
The right to be you in every way
To laugh out loud
To dance to play.
To raise your head
You're not what any bully has said
So here's to the people like me
Who don't accept bullies quietly,
We speak, we shout, we sing, we say
"Bullying stops with us today!"



BOOK WEEK

This week we celebrated the incredible power of imagination, inspired by a clip from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and the words of *Roald Dahl*, who showed us how ideas can turn ordinary things into something extraordinary. Pupils explored how imagination helps us play, solve problems, and include others, and learned that every invention begins as an idea. Through School Council and Pupil Voice, children shared their thoughts on improving playtimes, and we were proud to launch the new toys and equipment they requested (and you so kindly donated) — democracy and imagination in action! We were also delighted that Mr Greathead joined Mrs Garrett for the whole-school assembly to share in this celebration. Our challenge to everyone this week was to invent new games, use equipment creatively, and include someone new, remembering that imagination is most powerful when it is shared and no one is left out.



Special Visitors



The children have been treated to visits from two local writers; Mrs Mathur and Mrs Wills. Mrs Mathur is Mollie's mum from Class 2. She said "Little Hedgehogs, Reception, Classes 1 and 2 were amazing at being little Hares hopping, jumping, skipping and thumping and the children did a fabulous job at designing their own characters! Class 2 were fantastic at acting out the story and bringing it to life! All the

children brought so much energy to the room and it was wonderful to see all the fabulous costumes! I was completely blown away by the creativity of Classes 3 and 4 who all used their amazing "sparks" to create wonderful poems!"

"The Secret" is available to purchase from my Etsy shop or feel free to e-mail Kate at info@wordsbykate.co.uk if you would like a copy and Kate will drop into the office for you. She can also personalise the poem to include your child's name.

Mrs Wills held a writing workshop in the hall with Class 5 and 6. They discussed the structure of stories and books such as characters, setting, plot and conflict. Mrs Wills thought the children were very knowledgeable about books and stories. The children also enjoyed a famous book quiz where they had to name the book from the first line. Amanda also commented on how lovely it was to see the children all dressed up in their costumes. Children had the opportunity to buy her books at her pop up shop and have them signed by the author herself. If you missed this but would like to buy any of her books or find out more about her and her books, you can do so via her website <https://www.amandawills.co.uk>.



We were treated to some amazing costumes on World Book Day by children and staff alike and Three Gangsta Grannies! Well done to School World Book Day winners: Brodie and Mia (R), Polly and Rae (1), Cecilie and Jaxon (2), Neive and Buster (3), Harper and Toby H (4), Miles and Aurelia (5) finally, William and Zina (6). Please see our Class pages for more photographs.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Term 4

Tues 10 th Mar	Class 4 - Trip to Leeds Castle
Fri 13 th Mar	Chess tournament – Round 1
	2pm – Class R Mothers' Day tea
Mon 16 th Mar	SCARF wellbeing workshop Classes 1-4
	2pm – LH Crafternoon
	Class 5 – Trip to Chatham Dockyard
Tues 17 th Mar	Class 3 – Trip to Kent Life
Fri 20 th Mar	9.10am – Class 3 assembly for parents
	Class 2 – Trip to Dover Castle
w/c Mon 23 rd Mar	Last week of clubs
Thurs 26 th Mar	Class 1 – Trip to the Gulbenkian Theatre
Fri 27 th Mar	9.10am – Class 5 assembly for parents
w/c 30 th Mar	Spring Walk Week
Tues 31 st Mar	Parents' evening
Weds 1 st Apr	Parents' evening
Thurs 2 nd Apr	Last day of Term 4
	9.30am - Easter service in church





AWARDS



Friday 27th February

<u>Class</u>	<u>Headteacher Awards</u>	<u>Mathematician of the Week</u>
Little		
Hedgehogs	Taisley	
Ladybirds	Sylvester and Grayson	Gabriel
Class 1	Ingrid and Ada	Reuben
Class 2	Manu and Elyot	Blake
Class 3	Marnie and Buster	Finlay
Class 4	Ava and Evan	Darcy
Class 5	Primrose and Matilda	Emily
Class 6	Emily and Felix	Lotty

Weekly Awards

Class of the week: Foxes	Pupil: Miles (5)
Extended Schools: Dottie (3)	Lunchtime: Benjamin (1)
Presentation: Katrina (5)	Citizen: Dea (2)
LSA: James (6)	Attendance Award: Butterflies 99%

Friday 6th March

<u>Class</u>	<u>Headteacher Awards</u>	<u>Mathematician of the Week</u>
Little		
Hedgehogs	Fred	
Ladybirds	Isaac and Brodie	Chester
Class 1	Jasper and Rae	Pippa
Class 2	James and Ollie	Mollie
Class 3	Megan and Llywelyn	Nala
Class 4	Nellie and Posy	Sophia
Class 5	Joey and Miles	Clara
Class 6	André and Amy	Cagan

Weekly Awards

Class of the week: Foxes	Pupil: Henrietta (2)
Extended Schools: Matilda (6)	Lunchtime: Olivia B (3)
Presentation: Jacob (4)	LSA award: Noah (R)
Citizen: Isaac (5)	Attendance Award: Foxes 100%

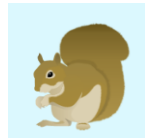
Dragonflies



Dragonflies' topic this term is 'Castles' and we have enjoyed learning about the beginning of Norman rule in England, following the Battle of Hastings in 1066, as well as the features of 'motte and bailey' and 'stone keep' castles. We are finalising the details for our class trip and will communicate these to you as soon as possible. This week, we have enjoyed our 'Power of Imagination' themed Book Week. Our learning has been focussed on 'A Wild Walk to School' and 'The Something' by Rebecca Cobb, a wonderful author illustrator whose books celebrate children's imaginations. We have participated in our own wild walks around school, drawn maps of the route the characters took on their wild walk, created self-portraits inspired by Rebecca Cobb's illustrations and our imaginative, busy brains, and we have painted what we think might be living in 'The Hole'! We were very grateful to Mrs Mathur for reading us the delightful story she has written, and we thoroughly enjoyed Year 6's performance at the end of our busy week. We truly love books in Dragonflies Class and it has been wonderful to celebrate a whole week dedicated to them.

Mrs Waller

Squirrels



Squirrels have had a fantastic start to the term. They have thoroughly enjoyed Book week reading 'The Magic Faraway Tree'. We learnt about Enid Blyton and the books she has written then we created a map of the enchanted wood where the Faraway tree is based. We created our own magical land and attached this to our own Faraway Tree. We looked FANTASTIC in our book day characters and enjoyed performing the Faraway Tree to Ladybirds class. In addition to Book Week, Squirrels have been doing so well learning their fractions.

Squirrels are now looking forward to telling you all about our learning at our class assembly on Friday 20th March and our trip to Kent Life on 17th March, which we will be dressing up as Egyptians for.

Mrs Hammond

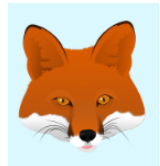
Otters



We have had a marvellous two weeks back with the children creating amazing play scripts in the Firework Maker's Daughter in English and beginning to tackle Decimals in Maths. In Topic, they have started to learn about Tudor Kings and Queens, specifically Henry VIII. This week we have spent the week celebrating books, with our particular focus being on 'Wonder' and 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick'. The children have taken part in live lessons, performed plays and poems, created their own books and used illustrations to inspire their own artwork. Their costumes on Thursday were a particular highlight. I know they are all looking forward to the trip to Leeds Castle next week.

Mrs Morrison and Mrs Tyler

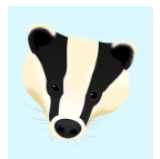
Foxes



Book Week has been a fabulous chance to show our creative love of reading and books in general. Our week has been focused on the book, 'Impossible Creatures' by Katherine Rundell which was a thrilling read. Using the book, we did some creative writing, acted out scenes from it, held a class debate, created our own mythical islands and placed them together to create our own archipelago. We performed our dramas to Year 1, designed our own impossible creatures and enjoyed a workshop with the author Amanda Wills. Alongside that, we have begun learning about rivers, investigating the world around us in Science and now learning about newspaper reports about the Titanic in English.

Mrs Fairs

Badgers



We have enjoyed reading The Daydreamer by Ian McEwan during Book Week. The children created some lovely artwork inspired by it, planned their own addition chapters to the story, and put on a wonderful performance of the story for the Year 2 children. Next week, we are moving on to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages in Maths, and we will be making some clay pots to further our learning about ancient civilisations.

Mr Burns

CLASS NEWS

Little Hedgehogs



This term we have been focusing on traditional tales. **Last week** we focused on 'Goldilocks and the three bears'. We made porridge and voted our favourite topping as golden syrup although marmalade came a close second! We also went on bear hunts, as this remains a favourite thing to do. **This week** we focused on 'The Three Little Pigs'.

We worked together to design our own builders yard, made cheese straws and created the three pigs homes. We loved seeing all your costumes as you shared your favourite book characters with us. It was lots of fun.

Ways to support your child's learning at home:

1. Learn the rhyme of the week – good rhymers make great readers.
2. Share a story every night.

Shiny had a lovely time with Rory during the holidays, what a lucky bear he is.

Happy Birthday to Archie and Sacha. We hope your birthdays are as lovely as you are.

Picture of the week: Mia and Elsie; Wow! You have been so creative.

Headteacher's Certificates: Taisley for spontaneous tidying up and Fred for perseverance with challenging jigsaw puzzles.



Hedgehugs Mrs Scott and team

Ladybirds

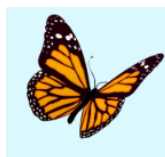


What a wonderful start to the term we have had in Ladybirds Class! The children have been so excited to learn about Traditional Tales and have enjoyed exploring the new Role Play Area, Small World Area, Construction Zones and Reading Books that we have set up around this Topic. We also enjoyed looking at 'The Wonder' and 'The Magic

Crayon' for our Book Week inspiration, focussing on the Power of the Imagination. We really let our imaginations run free this week, with the help of our Imagination Hats of course! Invitations for our Mother's Day Celebrations have gone out but if you are unable to attend, please feel free to pass the invitation onto another significant adult in your child's life e.g. a grandmother, auntie, family friend or even a daddy!

Mrs Minty

Butterflies



Butterflies have had a great start to Term 4! We have enjoyed learning about Vincent Van Gogh and painting our own sunflowers in the same style using big brushstrokes.

Book week has been wonderful and we have enjoyed getting creative in the style of Beatrix Potter. We made the most of the beautiful weather and took our sketchbooks outside to draw the landscape.

We have also used our imaginations to create our own animal characters and write a story about them. We loved seeing everyone's fabulous costumes yesterday!

Mrs Charman

SPORTS NEWS

Sheldwich Shine at Cross Country



On a warm sunny day, a full coach of runners from Years 3 to 6 travelled to Chartham Primary School to take part in the above event. There were four races: Girls Years 3 & 4, Boys 3 & 4, Girls 5 & 6 and Boys 5 & 6, a total of 270 children from eight schools took part overall. The races for the younger children were just over a kilometre, while for the older ones it was about twice the distance with the first three finishers from each school awarded points towards the team competition.

Our girls performed brilliantly with each year group being placed in the first three: first place for Year 5, second place for Year 4 and Years 3 and 6 were both third. An 'unofficial' overall team competition placed us third overall based on these results behind Blean and the host school Chartham. In addition, there were several individual medals for our children: Alexa and Flora were 1st and 3rd place respectively in Year 4, Roisin and Taylor 2nd and 3rd in Year 5 while Edward was 3rd in Year 3 plus, we had several other top ten finishers. Well done to everyone! A special mention should go to Isaac in Year 5 who helped a runner in distress from another school and in the process sacrificed his position. Thanks go to parent helpers: Mrs Wiltshire, Mrs Woods and Mrs Lyall.



Mr Lee