



Hammond Academy

Tel: 01442 404020 www.hammondacademy.org.uk

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Newsletter

Forthcoming Dates:

- 22nd Mar** Individual Photographs for children in Reception and Y6 only
- 22nd Mar** Parent Consultations (Y5 Jasper only) 4pm-6.30pm
- 23rd Mar** Parent Consultations 5pm -7.30pm (Whole School, except Nursery)
- 25th Mar** Parent Consultations (Whole school, except Y5 Jasper) 4pm-6.30pm
- 25th Mar** Resilience & Wellbeing lite bite workshop
- 26th Mar** Big Easter Brunch
- 29th Mar-9th Apr** Easter Holiday
- 12th Apr** INSET DAY
- 16th Apr** Reception Places Offered
- 21st Apr** Raising Confident Children workshop, (please book a place with the office)
- 3rd May** Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- 31st May-4th June** Half Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another very positive week in school this week. It has been lovely to see the children continue to engage so well with their learning. Miss Graham wrote in last week's newsletter that the children had got straight back into the school routine when they returned to school last week, and I am very pleased to say that for the vast majority of children that has continued this week. The children are thriving and it is a joy to see. My favourite quote of this week comes from a child in Y5, "being at home for so long has made me realise learning in school is much better - I'm going to work hard from now on".

Our first Parent Forum meeting took place on Wednesday. It was great to meet with a group of parents who want to play an active part in Hammond's improvement journey. As I said to the parents during the meeting, Hammond is a school with a lot of potential and it is one of my aims to improve relationships between the school and parents so you can all help improve the school's reputation both within our school community and within the wider local community. The minutes of the meeting will be made available to you all very soon and I am hoping some of you will step forward to volunteer to be Parent Forum Reps for the classes that don't currently have a Rep. You will also receive some communication from me next week asking you to join a Parent Forum WhatsApp group that each of the reps will set up for their class and which will be the main method of communication between the Reps and the parents in the class. It was a very positive meeting and I look forward to seeing how our Parent Forum develops in the coming months and years.

We have our parent teacher consultations next week. Teachers will be doing these via video calls and since it is our first time using this system we are keeping everything crossed that it works well. We've had very good feedback from other schools who have used this system. I have asked teachers to provide you with a very brief written summary of the main points discussed at the consultations, and you will receive these by the end of next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Eileen Anderson
Principal

THANK YOU

Dave Honey, has telephoned us to say that he is very sad to have left his post of crossing patrol outside the school.

He has asked that we pass on his thanks to all the parents/carers and children at Hammond for making his job so enjoyable.

We would like to wish Dave well for the future and thank him for his dedication.

Aspire News

'Thrive' a programme that supports the social and emotional development of children, is a focus in all the Aspire schools this year. This week the Thrive practitioners from all schools, (that's Mrs Phillips and Miss Watson from Hammond), met with the Central Services School Improvement Team to discuss plans moving forwards.

Mrs Fennelly, Aspire's Chief Operations Officer, has been exploring new School Management Information Systems to see if there are better options available compared to that which the Aspire schools currently use. One of the systems was demonstrated to the principals and was very well received.

Miss Anderson attended the weekly the weekly catch-up meeting for principals.



Sleep Awareness Week: March 14th - March 20th

See below a toolkit to help you and our family establish a restful routine.

NATIONAL SLEEP FOUNDATION

Here are some helpful tips that can help you sleep better.



Structure

Establish a regular routine and structure. Set times for sleep and wake. Keep or return to structured activities in your days, especially if your schedules changed over the summer.



Light

Spend time in natural light. Whether outdoors or inside, bright daylight helps you feel alert. Avoid napping except for young children.



Electronics

Limit use of electronics before bed. Turn off electronics an hour before bed and keep the room dark, cool, comfortable, and ready for sleep.



Exercise

Exercise regularly. Physical activity increases your drive to sleep at night as well as reduces stress and improves mood.



Prioritize

Prioritize your sleep by reinforcing the benefits of sleep for your family. Model good sleep habits to help children understand the importance of sleep.

Making sleep a priority can have a positive impact on your family's overall health and well-being.

thensf.org

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Reception & Year 6 School Photographer

We would like to advise you that the photographer will be in school on **Monday 22nd March**, to take pictures of children in Reception and Year 6 only.

Please ensure your child is dressed in full uniform (Reception classes will not need their PE kit) and looking smart on the day.

Due to current circumstances we will not be photographing any other year groups on this occasion.

Dance Workshop

This week we had Caitlin from CASPA Schools in to run Dance Workshops for Year 3 and Year 5! The children had a fantastic time whilst learning about 'Dance Battles'. Caitlin will be back next week running more workshops for other year groups!!

Remember CASPA Schools provide our Dance After-school Clubs and they will be resuming after Easter, keep an eye out for letters going home!!

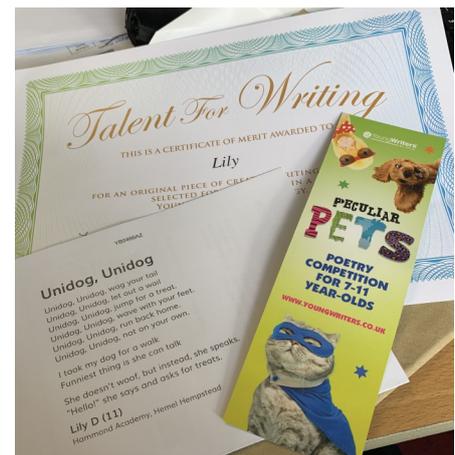
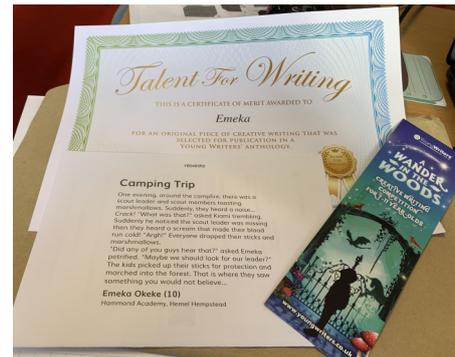
Mr Rickman



Young Writers

Year 3 and Year 6 took part in a 100 word story writing competition and a poetry competition, organised by a company called Young Writers. We are very proud to announce that many of our children's work has been selected for publication. Here are some examples.

Nailah Hile





Resilience and Wellbeing

Lite Bite

Date: **25th March 2021**

Time: **10-11:30 AM**

Venue: **Virtual via Zoom**



**Spaces limited
Text interest no
later than 22nd
March to Shelley at
07557-683941**

Dacorum Family Services presentation - facilitated by
Lisa MacGovern and Shelley Bright

Covering areas including:

- Ways to improve your wellbeing
 - Tools for resilience
 - What you can do when things get tough
 - Resilience building in children

Staff update

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Laver returns from maternity leave next Thursday. Parents of children in Y5 Quartz have already been informed of this news as Mrs Laver will be teaching Quartz after the Easter holiday. We will be sad to say goodbye to Ms Marlow who has done a fabulous job with Quartz and has been a lovely addition to the Hammond team.

Butlin's

Year 6 Residential Trip

We are pleased to confirm that this year's residential trip to Butlins will still be going ahead. We are therefore asking parents to log onto Schoolgateway and ensure all payments are up to date. Final payment is due on 30th March.

Please be assured if guidelines change and the trip is cancelled you will receive a full refund including your deposit. Final numbers and payments need to be sent to Butlins no later than 30th March to allow their staff to arrange activities and accommodation arrangements.

If you would like your child to attend and have not yet requested a place please contact the school office immediately.



Year 5: Mini Police Programme

Our year 5's are very lucky to have secured a place on the Hertfordshire Mini Police Programme, which will commence on 16th April and take place every Friday morning until 18th June. A letter was emailed home on 17th March with full details.

The Mini Police Programme helps to address policing priorities, increase confidence and reduce perceived barriers. It is a volunteering opportunity for children aged 9 to 11 years to learn about community safety, in a fun way, giving young people a voice.

The eight week programme is conducted in primary schools, mainly with year 5 pupils. It is delivered by Safer Neighbourhood Team officers and PCSOs, cadet leaders, Children and Young Persons officers and volunteers.

As photographs may be taken and used for promotional purposes by the organisers, consent is required. All year 5 parent/carers are asked to access Gateway to express whether or not they consent to their child featuring in these photographs. For more information, please visit

www.herts.police.uk/Information-and-services/Get-involved/Mini-Police/Mini-Police.



The Big Easter Brunch

Friday 26th March 2021

Because breakfast isn't just for breakfast time...

It is a great hearty and healthy meal that combines so many basic ingredients to make a super feast that children really enjoy.

MENU

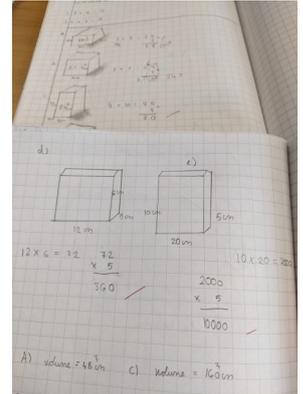
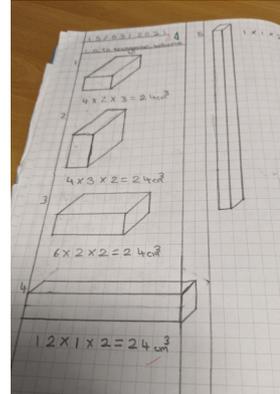
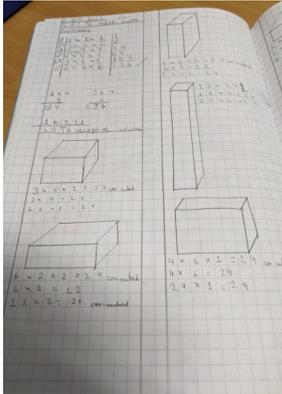
Scrambled Egg, Bacon, Hash Browns, Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Baked Beans with Fresh Fruits, Yoghurt and Granola

Vegetarian and allergy options will be substituted to support dietary requirements, so no child misses out on this experience.



Year 6

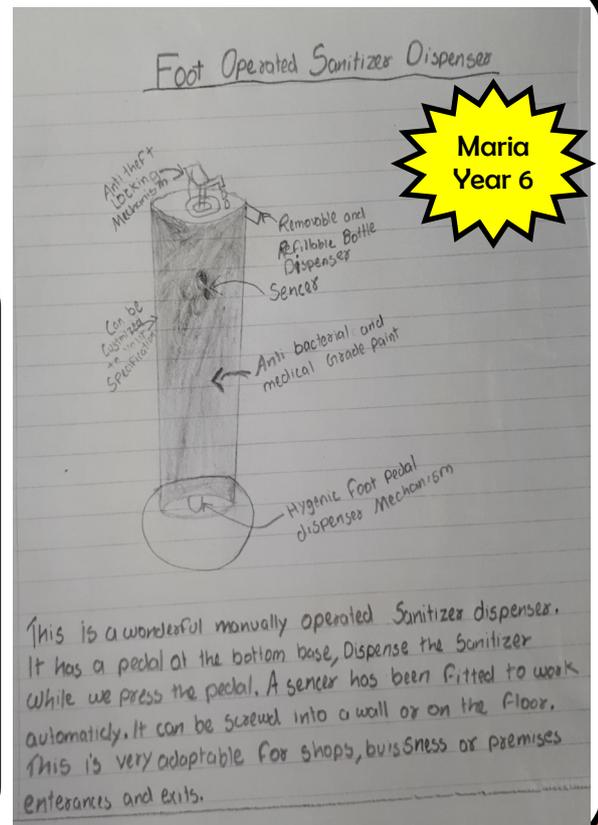
Year Six have been learning how to find the volume of 3d shapes this week. We did this using physical cubes before moving on to use the formula, length x width x height.



Congratulations to the first of our Science Challenge Winners!

Rainbot:-

It is a robot that can water your plants and is useful to make your garden beautiful. It has long hands that can reach the top of a tree to cut its old branches. It has 2 watering tanks above its head. It has no legs because Rainbot is designed to fly freely with no batteries. You can charge the Rainbot with the sunlight. It can also sense your mood and if you feel sad, it starts to play classical music and makes a massage to your shoulders.



Year 1

This week Year One Coral Class have been working to improve two of Hammond Academies values: Perseverance and Teamwork. The children had to design their own individual castle but then work in a team to develop their prototype. The children faced the challenge with success and created a team built castle, with walls, towers, baileys and guard houses. Fantastic work!



RED NOSE DAY



Thank you to all the staff and children who took part today. Many charities have suffered in recent months due to the COVID pandemic. So it is great to be able to get involved and contribute in some way to help others.