## Hawkinge Primary School

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Dear Parents,

As always at the start of term it has been a busy week at Hawkinge Primary School!

On Monday we had our first fire evacuation practice of the school year. The children acted quickly and assembled on their fire assembly points rapidly. For the children in the juniors is was tricky because they were not in the classrooms with their teachers but they were in their 'set' lessons – so they had to think extra hard! The Fire Assembly Points have changed today (from frogs to shapes – please 'test' your little one this weekend to find out where they should assemble!) therefore we will have another practice next week too, to ensure everyone is safe in school.

Our Year 3 and 4 children have 'launched' their curriculum this term by going to spend a day at Samphire Hoe. They attended a range of workshops to develop an understanding of how people lived in the Stone Age. They learnt about what they would typically eat and the children had a go at hunting. They loved watching the warden light a fire and find out more about how they took shelter and kept warm. As the area is so beautiful the children took advantage of this and spent some time completing some art challenges too.

Our Year 5 and 6 children launched their theme by going to Chatham Dockyard. They had a super day – the weather being lovely too helped! The children took part in a range of activities including: a tour of the HMS Ocelot submarine, they practised rope making, took part in ship building, racing the boats in a special tank and visited various exhibits. It was a very full day that possibly tired them all out!

Year 1 and 2 had a 'workshop' type of Launch Pad – making rain shakers, participating in 'weather art' activities and made a rain-stick and a windsock too!

In addition to that our Year 2 children have had a visit from the Hawkinge Mayor – they asked him a range of questions which were quite challenging – for example - why are there not more bike storage areas in Hawkinge? (These will form part of the new village car park seemingly, and requested more bins to cut down on litter). The children also asked the Mayor to consider installing bat boxes and bug hotels! They told me all about it in assembly and were really honoured to have been visited by the Mayor and his Deputy!

Finally, the newest members of our school community (the two reception classes) have had a very busy week – they have attended school for 5 full days, working really hard and getting to know the school routines and systems (including a fire practice and walking in to their classrooms by themselves!) They have done a great job settling in and I am quite sure their parents must be very proud of them!

Don't forget it is Hawkinge Fest this weekend!

This terms menu is on the reverse of the newsletter for your information, don't forget you can always find it on our website too!

Have a great weekend