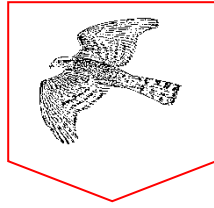


# Hawkinge Primary School

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19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents,

As usual we have had a busy first week of term launching all of our new themes for Term 5. We invest heavily in the launch of a new theme to ensure the children have a good understanding of the 'bigger picture' of their theme and are able to hook their learning on to it.

The Year 5 and 6 classes have been to visit the Hawkinge Battle of Britain Museum this week to launch their theme of **Why do we remember World War 2?** If you have never been it is certainly worth a visit! The children viewed the different exhibits and artefacts that were situated around the site giving them a greater understanding of what life was like in World War 2.

Our Year 3 and 4 classes had a 'carousel event' to launch their theme of **'Who is a Tudor?'** They completed a range of activities including Tudor art and learning more about Tudor medicines!

The Reception classes this week have been the most visited classrooms in the school as they have had hatching chicks! 16 eggs arrived on Monday (8 in each class) and at the time of writing this 11 of the eggs have hatched – some whilst the children have been in the classroom so they have watched them hatch in live time. It is an amazing thing to see! A real awe and wonder moment! Their theme for this term is **'What grows on a farm?'**

Years 1 and 2 visited Brockhill Park to launch their theme **When do we need to make a change?** They had a great day attending environmental workshops at Brockhill making art from nature gathered in the environment, completed a recycling challenge and a 'leaf bashing' activity! Next week the Year 1 classes will be taking a local walk around Hawkinge to support their science lessons looking for and identifying plants that grow around Hawkinge.

In addition to this we have had a visit from our School Improvement Partner from the Local Authority (and her boss!) These visits take place twice a year. At this visit we talked a lot about Maths and with Mr O'Brien and I we visited each classroom in the school to see part of a Maths lesson. I was once more very proud of what we saw – children really engaged in their learning, using appropriate resources to support them during independent work. Their behaviour was excellent as was their enthusiasm for their lessons. Our visitors felt that relationships in the school were also a strength as was the consistent approach to teaching and learning. A lovely way to end the week!

This week has been a very exciting week for children who are due to start school in September, they have found out which school has been allocated to them! We do have a couple of spaces this year that have not been taken due to the falling birth rate locally, so if you know of friends who considered Hawkinge Primary School but do not live locally please let them know and tell them to give us a call if they would like to have a look around our lovely school.

A couple of diary dates for you this term:

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday Monday
- Week Commencing 13<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs week

Have a lovely weekend