

# TUDOR TIMES



## Message From The Class Teachers...

### Miss Harris - 'Seedlings Class' - Nursery

What a half term we have had in Seedlings Class. We have all settled beautifully into our Nursery class and have made lots of new friends. We are enjoying being busy making our classroom an inviting and stimulating place to learn with all the children's artwork and photos of exciting events.



A highlight of this term has been our Gruffalo crumble experience where the children made their own crumbles to take home and share with their families.

We have loved learning about the woodland and autumn. We have learned about animals, seasons, weather and our own surroundings.

We have been very busy and have learned so much already in only seven short weeks.

The children in EYFS have really enjoyed being outside so much and getting closer to nature. The children found a family of frogs in the playground last week and they were all very caring making sure that the frogs were put back in a safe spot in our school grounds. This prompted a conversation about where frogs live, what they need to survive and how we can make sure that we look after them. They have been very interested in all creatures they have found in the garden and have a particular interest in the spiders at the moment!

The EYFS outdoor area is a fantastic place for gross motor skill development. The children are using our chalkboard area to practise writing in a large space with big arm movements. They are also enjoying writing with water, mark making in sand and mud and practicing their large movements with flags.

All of these are activities you can also do at home with your child to improve early writing skills. For more information or ideas about this please contact Miss Harris in Nursery.



### Dates For Your Diary

#### Autumn Term 2

Term Ends: Friday 16th December 2022

Christmas Holiday: Monday 19th December 2022 to Monday 2nd January 2023

#### Spring

INSET (Teacher Training Day): Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Term Starts: Wednesday 4th January 2023

INSET (Teacher Training Day): Monday 23rd January 2023

Half Term: Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 24th February 2023

Term Ends: Friday 31st March 2023

Spring (Easter) holiday: Monday 3rd April 2023 to Friday 14th April 2023

#### Summer

Term Starts: Monday 17th April 2023

Half Term: Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023

INSET (Teacher Training Day): Friday 30th June 2023

Term Ends: Tuesday 25th July 2023

Warwickshire County Council  
2022/2023 Term Dates are  
available  
here: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/  
education-learning/school-term-  
dates-induction-days-training-days-](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/school-term-dates-induction-days-training-days-)



### Miss Wood and Mr Crockett - 'Hazel Class' - Reception

Hazel Class have had an amazing start to school this year. It's hard to believe that we've already come to the end of our first term already! It's been a very busy time in Reception and we are very proud of all of the children. It's been wonderful to see the children making new friends, exploring the classroom and discovering lots of new things.

We have been talking all about our families and what makes each one of us special and unique. We even made a family portrait to hang up in our windows.

We have enjoyed learning about superheroes and all of the special powers that they have. Then something peculiar happened... someone (or something) stole all of our veggies!



Luckily, we had Supertato to help us, along with some real-life superheroes. We made wanted posters, followed maps and clues until we finally found the stolen goods hiding in the playground.

Following our topic 'Superhero Me', we looked at the life of the nurse Mary Seacole. We jumped into our time machine to travel back in time to learn more about her life and we made a timeline together. We were fascinated that at the age of 12 years old instead of being at school, she helped her mum who also worked as a nurse in a hospital.

We had lots of activities set up in our classroom to look at the important job nurses do and to celebrate Mary Seacole.

We have been thinking about what makes each of us unique. We have also looked at important figures for Black History Month and discussed what was unique about them too.





## Miss J Middleton - 'Willow Class' - Year One

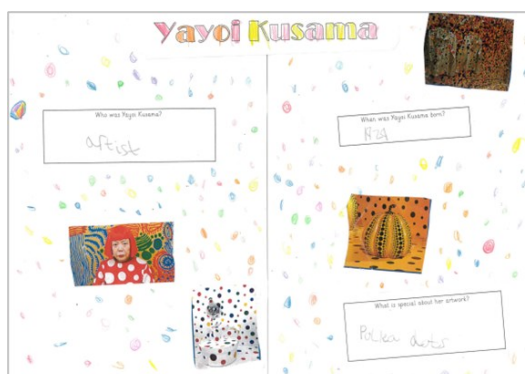
Willow's first half term in their new classroom has been full of adventures, experiments, creations and lots of hard work! In English our focus text has been 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', and what better way to start this text than by making porridge ourselves, just as the Three Bears do in the story. We followed Miss Middleton's instructions to make sure our porridge was just right!

Over the last few weeks, Willow Class have developed skills needed to write their own set of instructions for 'how to make porridge'. We now have lots of porridge making experts! In addition to this, the children have carried out an interview with Goldilocks using questions they composed themselves. Finally, they wrote their own alternative ending to the story, allowing their imaginations to spark.



We have had great fun in Science being 'sense explorers'. Every week we have focussed on a different sense, carrying out experiments to support our understanding of how our five senses work and which parts of our bodies link to our senses. We have completed a sound map, a guess the taste experiment, a guess the smell experiment, a sight experiment using cups and coins and finally a 'what's in the bag' touch experiment. The children have loved getting stuck into science and are always excited when they see it on our daily class timetable.

In Art we have focused on drawing and painting. Two artists that have supported our learning are Claude Monet and Yayoi Kusama.



Monet inspired us to draw our own landscapes using texture and pattern.

We took our sketch books outside onto the playground and drew landscapes of the woodland. It was a lovely sunny day and the children loved having time to complete their artwork outside. Kusama used polka dots and bright colours in her creations. Inspired by her we created our own colour wheels, identifying primary and secondary colours. It is wonderful to see much creation and imagination growing within our classroom!



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## Miss L Hodges - 'Birch Class' - Year Two

The children in Birch Class have had a fantastic start to the academic year and have been working really hard.

Year 2 have loved reading 'The Last Wolf' by Mini Grey in our English lessons. They have written setting descriptions, character descriptions and non-chronological reports about wolves. The children made links with our local area of Meon Vale when reading this book as lots of houses had been built in the Last Wolf's local area and this unfortunately meant trees were being cut down and his tree cave home was being destroyed. They were very passionate about the need to plant more trees in our local area as homes for our wildlife and also considered other reasons why trees are important. This week the children wrote letters to our local councillors asking for them to plant more trees in Meon Vale.

Our Maths learning has been based around the topic of place value and the children have been learning about the value of tens and ones within 2-digit numbers to help them order and compare numbers. They have been using part-whole models to partition 2-digit numbers in different ways and were able to write equations to match their base ten and part-whole models. We have some brilliant mathematicians in Birch Class!

Birch Class have also learnt lots of interesting facts about the life of William Shakespeare in our History lessons and enjoyed creating timelines to show the main events of his life. They also created a Coat of Arms to represent the Shakespeare family and added pictures to show key facts about William Shakespeare's family life. They loved using Purple Mash to create speech bubbles in role as Shakespeare and recalled lots of facts about him and why he is significant in our local area.



I am William Shakespeare my wife is Anne Hathaway and I have 3 children and they are called Hamnet, Susanna and Judith and my mother is Mary Arden and she is a farmer's daughter and my father is a glove maker and I love making plays.



In Art, Birch Class have been learning about the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky. They created some wonderful double page spreads full of information about Kandinsky and his style of artwork. Kandinsky believed that 'colour is a power which directly influences the soul' so the children also considered how different colours make them feel as they were exploring primary and secondary colours.



## Miss D Begg - 'Pine Class' - Year Three

The children in Pine class have had a fantastic start to their academic year in Year 3!

It was lovely inviting parents/carers to our Harvest Celebration Assembly this half term. The children enjoyed learning the wonderful songs and poems about Harvest.

This half-term, we have been learning lots about rocks and undertaking various investigations, including comparing rocks for their density, permeability and strength. To investigate the strength of our rocks, we conducted a 'scratch test' by using a penny to see if we could scratch some of the rock off the surface. We were fascinated when we found that some of the rocks were so hard that they actually scratched metal off the penny instead!

We also created 'starburst rocks' by modelling the formation of sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks, by squishing together, melting, cooling, and breaking apart the sweets to mimic rocks in the rock cycle. The children loved creating these formations and had so much fun learning about each process within the rock cycle.



This half term we have also been learning about an artist called L.S. Lowry and we were able to recreate some of his artwork. The children enjoyed painting Lowry's infamous 'matchstick figures' and recreating his smoky industrial landscapes. They tested out different implements to create their best 'matchstick figures' including paintbrushes, glue spreaders and matchstick sized pieces of wood.

In Computing, the children have been learning about computer networks and how they connect computers together. The children modelled how computers are all connected to a network switch which is then connected to a server. We had fun pretending to be computers, sending files, and connecting wireless devices via a wireless access point.



## Message from the Principal

I think we are all amazed with the speed this half-term has passed. I hope this edition of Tudor Times has helped you to take in the wonderful learning experiences enjoyed by our pupils.

We are very proud of the way our pupils have started their new school year. This year we have many school routines and systems the children are now familiar with. Each week we monitor class attendance and celebrate the class with the best attendance in assembly on a Friday. The weekly winning class are awarded the Attendance Cup (kindly donated by our PTA) and the class with the best half termly attendance are awarded a treat!

Our pupils are very proud of their Houses and feedback from our pupils shows they like being in their Houses and they motivate them to do their best. Well done to **Shakespeare House** who are the winners of this half-term! We look forward to monitoring the progress of our Houses over the school year.

	5 <sup>th</sup> September	12 <sup>th</sup> September	19 <sup>th</sup> September	26 <sup>th</sup> September	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> October	17 <sup>th</sup> October
<b>Arden</b>	32	233	268	410	489	522	590
<b>Hall</b>	29	232	252	484	422	557	626
<b>Shakespeare</b>	31	286	313	515	578	655	727
<b>Hathaway</b>	19	115	148	335	389	402	474

We strongly believe in offering our pupils experiences that not only support their academic development but also their personal development. The smiles and pride on the faces of our Eco Champions show how much giving our pupils opportunities to explore their interest means to them! We look forward to the Eco Champions working closely with Miss Begg on their initiatives.

A big thank you to parent(s)/carer(s) and our School Ambassadors who helped to raise a phenomenal **£150** during our Macmillan Coffee Afternoon!



## Meon Vale Childcare/Nursery Provision Survey

Please find below a link to a survey that is being managed by Warwickshire County Council to identify the need for Childcare and Nursery Provision in our locality. The closing date for this survey is **Friday 18th November**:

<https://forms.office.com/r/teQYEadSHJ>

## Breakfast Club

Miss Watkins will be leading in the Breakfast Club after the half-term break. I would like to thank Miss Strachan for her dedication in supporting our pupils in the Breakfast Club during the time she has led it.

**I would like to end by wishing you all a safe and relaxing half term break. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 31st October.**