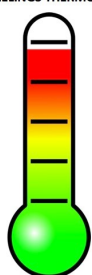


Hello everyone

Further to a very impressive letter written by one of our Year 6 children last year, Zimal, we were delighted to welcome **Liam Byrne MP for Hodge Hill** to school this morning. He enjoyed meeting our Thornton Family on a tour of the school, as well as having a very positive discussion with representatives from every class which make up our fantastic School Council. The School Councillors had prepared well for their meeting and were extremely keen to ask a wide range of questions, such as what funding is available to us to help further develop our school allotment project! They also asked about ways the local government were tackling littering, and helping with regular bulky item collections, as well as asking about wider national and global issues such as COP26 (The 26th United National Climate Change Conference of the Parties) and HS2 (High Speed 2). Well done, Councillors, we are incredibly proud of you!



FEELINGS THERMOMETER



Thank you to everyone who managed to attend our **second outdoor parents' coffee morning**. We talked about the support the school provides to the children to promote positive mental health and the signposting to additional resources that can be found on the school website. We also talked about the advantages and disadvantages of virtual parents' evening during the current global pandemic. An email was sent home on Tuesday to all parents and carers which provided links to support with the topic of mental health, we hope you found this helpful. We agreed to talk about **e-safety** at the **next coffee morning on**

**Tuesday 7th December 9-9.50am.**

I also wanted to share with you how extremely worried we are about **illegal and inconsiderate parking** at home time on Thornton Road and St. Agatha's Road. It is illegal to park across a dropped kerb that provides access to driveways. Sadly, we have had to deal with incidents involving elderly members of our local community being blocked from leaving their own driveway to attend important hospital appointments. What is even more concerning is the verbal abuse these residents have received when politely asking drivers to park legally! Please work with us to support our local community by ensuring everyone is respectful of our local residents. Thank you.



**No  
parking**

And finally, please make sure you stay safe this weekend, especially if you are going to enjoy a firework event—[www.rospea.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety](http://www.rospea.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety)

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason  
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar,  
Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach  
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



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### YEAR 3

In Year 3, our new topic for Science is **Animals, including Humans**. We started off the half term seeing what the children already knew about our own bodies. We talked about internal and external body parts and the children had to label each other with all the parts of the body they knew! They had great fun doing it and had so many body parts for both internal and external! Well done Year 3!



### YEAR 4

Year 4, started their new topic '**Burps, Bottoms and Bile**' with a gruesome experiment to learn how the human digest system works! We worked collaboratively to replicate what happens when we eat food. We began by crushing crackers and bananas with some water which acted as the saliva. When the food entered our stomach, we added some orange juice, which acted as the stomach acid. After, the food carried on its journey into the large intestine, which we used a pair of tights to replicate this. Finally, we learnt what happens when our body needs to get rid of waste.

Please make sure you read the 'Knowledge Organisers' with your family and learn the new vocabulary linked to our topic so you can become an expert human biologist!

Please watch the link below to understand the digestive system experiment.

<https://watchkin.com/0e6b970bfa>





## YEAR 5



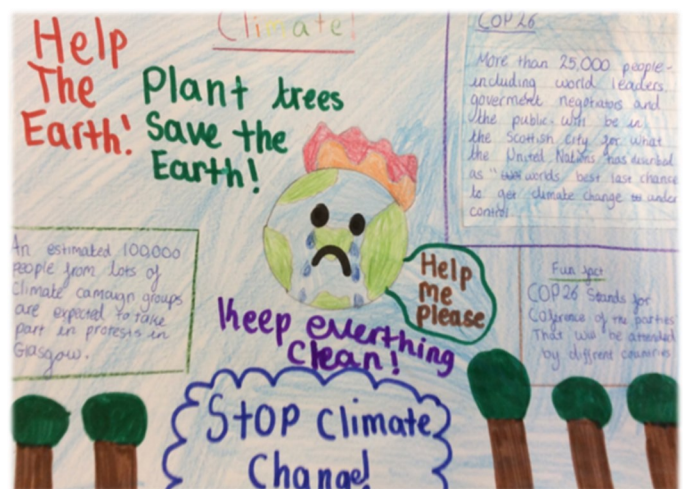
To kick start Year 5's new theme - **Stargazers**, they created some amazing artwork of some of the celestial bodies in our Solar System. They used black paper and chalk to make this. They learnt that the best way to draw realistic looking stars twinkling in the night sky, they only needed to draw + and X signs with white chalk and then carefully smudge them. It was then completed by using a paint brush to flick white paint onto the background of the picture to create stars in the distance. To prevent the completed work from getting smeared, it was then carefully sealed with a spray sealant by an adult. Here are some examples of work from across the year group.

We think they are...OUT OF THIS WORLD! Why not have a go yourself?



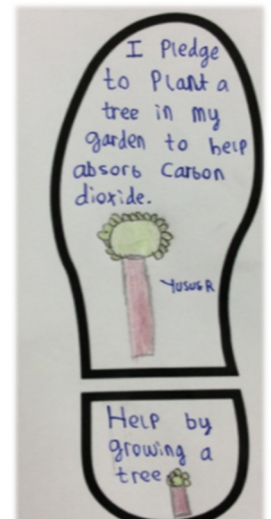
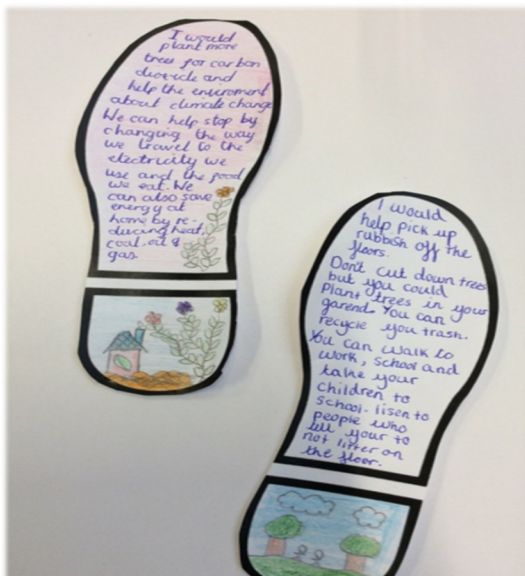
## Year 6

As part of UK Parliament Week, pupils had the opportunity to focus on current Issues. Pupils in year 6 learned all about the COP26 climate conference which is taking place in Glasgow. Pupils researched about the conference, including why it is taking place. They also created posters to raise awareness of global environmental issues and created pledges about how they plan to support and get involved in the climate change campaign.



### Did you know?

Planting trees is one of the biggest and cheapest ways of taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.



# School Attendance

## Best Class Attendance Reward



**Congratulations to 5TR for achieving the best class attendance during Autumn Term 1.**

**Wow 5TR class attendance was 97.7! Well done 5TR you have beaten the school attendance target of 97% and above attendance.**



**There have been rewarded with a £50 gift voucher to spend on either a VIP experience or new classroom resources**

Well done to the following classes who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above during the last week of Autumn Term:

### Year 3

**3EB**

**3SQ**

### Year 5

**5TR**

**Our whole school attendance for the whole of the Autumn term 1 was 95.2% - Mrs Grace thinks this is AMAZING! Well done everyone, now let's see if we can do even better next term!**



## Golden Ticket Initiative



Look out for more information, which is coming soon, about who has achieved a Bronze golden ticket...

Mrs Grace is currently organising an exciting Golden Ticket attendance celebration and prizes,

**Wow! We currently have 366 children who have 97% and above attendance!**

## The Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Punctuality Project

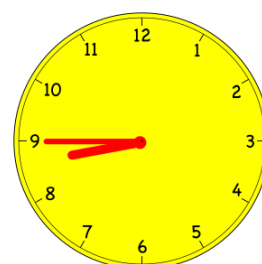


In order to work in partnership with parents, we will be introducing '**The Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Punctuality Project**' in the Autumn Term 2. This project is targeted at children with attendance below 90% and the main aim is to reward them for the achievement of attending school every day. It is a fact that children are much happier and settled if they attend school every day consistently without taking any days off.

Our reward system helps raise attendance and encourages children to achieve the school target of 97% by attending every day. This is how The Magic 20 Raising Attendance project works: -

- Your child will need to attend school for 20 consecutive school days without any absences during the Autumn 2 Term.
- Your child will need to have good punctuality, arriving between 8:30am and 8:45am, and no late marks for 20 days.

To celebrate your child's improved attendance they will be awarded a certificate and a small prize.



## Reporting Absences to school

If your child is absent from school please call before 9am to let us know the reason. Please provide school with as much detail as possible about your child's absence. If you need to discuss your child's symptoms with the school nurse please request a call back. Thank you very much for your support. We are proud to work with you to fully support your child's attendance. Remember...everyday counts!

**Please ring the school office on 0121 327 0824 our lines open from 8am .**



## School Meals

### School Meals

Changing from dinners to sandwiches? or vice-versa? We are sorry but you can only change at the start of each term and not mid term. Please call the office at the beginning of the term if you wish to change your child's dinner preference so that we can make the necessary changes to our records and inform the school kitchen.

### Payments

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week. If you are having any issues with payment please contact the school office for support. As we are approaching the end of term, please clear all your dinner debts before the holidays start.

**Dinner money must be paid in advance and is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week.**

**Breakfast Club must be paid in advance and is £1 per day and 50p for any siblings.**



## Recycle your old Batteries!



**Do you your bit for the planet.... please recycle your old batteries. Did you know we have a battery recycling bin in the school reception to recycle your batteries— you are welcome to bring them in to recycle.**



## Healthy Snacks

Children can bring a nut free healthy snack to have at break time. For example, a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar. Strictly! **NO** nuts are allowed in school as we have children with severe nut allergies. Please do not send your child to school crisps and chocolates.

**Break time snacks really help to give the children a boost of energy until lunchtime! Make sure your child does bring a piece of fruit in for mid morning break.**





## PE TIMETABLE

**Monday 8th November**

**Year 3**

**Tuesday 9th November**

**Year 5**

**Wednesday 10th November**

**Year 4**

**Thursday 11th November**

**Year 6**

### Vacancy – School Cleaner

We currently have a vacancy for a school cleaner to work alongside a team of cleaners. The working hours will be from 3.30pm until 5.45pm, during the school term, (you will be expected to work two weeks during the school holidays, one week in February and one week in December).

If you have experience in cleaning schools and are interested in applying please visit the school website under the vacancies tab alternatively there are some application packs available at the main reception. You will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check and provide 2 references from your previous employer.

Closing date for this vacancy is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 3.30pm.**

## ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

### Autumn Term 2 Dates 2021

Term Starts: **Monday 1st November 2021**

Term Ends: **Friday 17th December 2021**

**Christmas holiday: Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January**

### Spring Term 1 Dates 2022

**Teaching Training Day: Tuesday 4th January 2022**

Term Starts: **Wednesday 5th January 2022**

Term Ends: **Friday 18th February 2022**

**Half Term: Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February**

### Spring Term 2 Dates 2022

Term Starts: **Monday 28th February 2022**

Term Ends: **Friday 8th April 2022**

**Easter holiday: Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April**

### Summer Term 1 Dates 2022

**Teaching Training Day: Monday 25th April 2022**

Term Starts: **Tuesday 26th April 2022**

**Teaching Training Day: Thursday 5th May 2022**

Term Ends: **Friday 27th May 2022**

**Half Term: Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June**

### Summer Term 2 Dates 2022

Term Starts: **Monday 6th June 2022**

Term Ends: **Thursday 21st July 2022**

**CLEANER  
WANTED**



Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason  
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar,  
Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach  
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



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