



William Harding School

Harding Herald Newsletter



House Points

Here are the House Points results for the 1st half of the Summer term. Once again, it was very close but a huge well done to **Nightingale!**

Hampden: 3845 points

Rothschild: 3758 points

Nightingale: 3982 points

Guttman: 3876 points

House Captains

Our House Captains have been championing their teams this term. They have been making sure the house point totals are collected and shared each week. They are also looking forward to the results of our next inter-house competition.

Premises Update

We are very happy to currently be having a complete new boiler system installed in the KS2 building - well ahead of the winter months later this year. The works are due to finish by the middle of June. We are working with the local authority on the final plans to install additional toilets to the year 5/6 area in KS2, which will hopefully be installed over the summer holidays. The Pre-school and Reception outdoor areas are having a facelift too with new fencing throughout, fun new playground markings and some new static climbing equipment. We will be working with the Eco Warriors to plant over 40 packets of wild flower seeds we received to mark the King's Coronation in patches throughout the grounds. Hopefully introducing some varying colour and pollenating flowers for the bees.

Miss Judge – Business Support Manager

Governors

On behalf of the William Harding School Governing Body I'd like to congratulate the pupils and teachers on a successful half term and the completion of the recent KS1 (Year 2) and KS2 (Year 6) SATs. One of our Parent Governors was able to witness the SAT testing taking place and noted that the atmosphere among teachers and pupils was relaxed and calm. Overall it was determined that testing was undertaken to a very high standard and supported all pupils to be successful. Following the most recent Full Governors meeting on 18th May we now have a full complement of both Parent and Staff Governors which will allow us to fully assist the school in a strategic and leadership capacity. Myself and the other Governors look forward to helping the Headteacher and the wider school achieve their goals in line with the school values of Inclusion, Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance, Honesty and Collaboration. There remain some open vacancies for Co-opted School Governors. Ideally we are looking for volunteers with educational experience to provide additional expertise and support to the Governing body. Joining the Governing body is a rewarding experience and a chance for those with knowledge to assist and develop the school. Whilst parents are not eligible for this position, it would be appreciated if you could mention the opportunity to any friends or colleagues who may be interested. We look forward to the conclusion of the summer term which includes several exciting events such as Sports Day and the "Move Up Stay Up" period. In the meantime we wish all the pupils a happy half term break in the warmer weather.

Matt Robinson – Parent Governor

Animal Advocates

This academic year has been difficult for our pets in school, we have had a few deaths but after allowing time for our students to grieve and adjust to their absence we have decided to purchase some new pets. Mrs Bazeley picked up a pair of female Gerbils, they are currently staying with her until they settle and then they will join us in school. Mrs Bazeley says they are quite cheeky and run around a lot and their favourite thing to do is chew! We will soon be having a vote in school to choose names for them. The animal advocates are excited to meet them when they come in to school. The animal advocates have been settling in well to their role and are enjoying looking after the animals, it's wonderful to see them be independent.



Mrs Bazeley – Family Liaison Officer

William Harding Attendance Cup

On Friday 28th April, Year 6 Cardiff and Year 2 Lime had their Mufti Day in celebration of having the highest attendance for the last half of the Spring Term. Congratulations to both classes who both achieved 96.9%. Well done!

Mrs Bicknell – Family Liaison Officer

PE News

PE

In PE this term both KS1 and KS2 have made the most of the nice weather! The children have enjoyed a variety of activities such as athletics, tennis, rounders and cricket.

Clubs

Children have also had the opportunity to take part in a variety of afterschool clubs such as football, netball, tennis and athletics.

Team News

The KS2 football teams have had an amazing end to the season with both the Boys A and B teams being undefeated in a total of 6 games! The girls A Team finished the league in joint 1st! Congratulations!

There are lots of exciting sports events and fixtures planned for next term and we cannot wait to share these with you.

Mr Rayner – PE Team



Pre-School News

During this half term Pre-school have been exploring wizards, knights and dragons as our topic. The children have had lots of fun making potions, creating a junk model dragon, making wizard hats and Knight shields. The children have enjoyed exploring all the different activities and we are currently revamping our play house into a potion shop. This will give the children a chance to use their imagination and build their communication skills.

We also got creative with our sensory activities. We have loved playing with slime, cloud dough, corn flour and rice. The children were excited about planting flowers and feeling the texture of soil. We all worked together to paint a new bug hotel to put in our outdoor area. We have been feeding the birds with bread and making them cereal snacks on pipe cleaners and attaching them to our fences.



“I liked painting the ant house” - Sybil

Reception News

In Reception this half term, the children have been learning about ‘Dinosaurs’. The children have learnt about herbivores, carnivores and all of the different kinds of dinosaurs! In English, we have been reading lots of dinosaur themed books and have been writing sentences about them. We have been challenging the children to include adjectives and conjunctions. In maths, we have been thinking about doubling, sharing, addition, subtraction and number bonds to 10. This half term we have been learning about fossil and dinosaur bones and learning lots of dinosaur facts! We are looking forward to putting this into action next half term when we visit Gulliver’s Dinosaur Park!



We have also been encouraging the children to embrace more of our school values - their favourite is ‘collaboration’ as they love working in a team!

“We are collaborating together, I am helping him and he is helping me” - Harrison

Year 1 News

It has been a short but productive half term in Year 1. In Maths we have been identifying 2D and 3D shapes, learning about British money and practising telling the time to the hour and half hour. Our English work has focussed on writing stories, using adjectives, openers and similes, in addition to practising our inference and retrieval skills. In Geography this half term we have learning about the continents of the world, considering their climates, physical features and human features. In Science we have learnt about different materials, considering their properties and experimenting with magnets. In Art we have been investigating architecture, decorating pillars and creating gargoyles from clay. We've also prioritised practising phonics, ensuring we know all of the set 1, 2 and 3 sounds and are able to use them to read both real and alien words.

"Another word for money is equity" -
Finley



Year 2 News

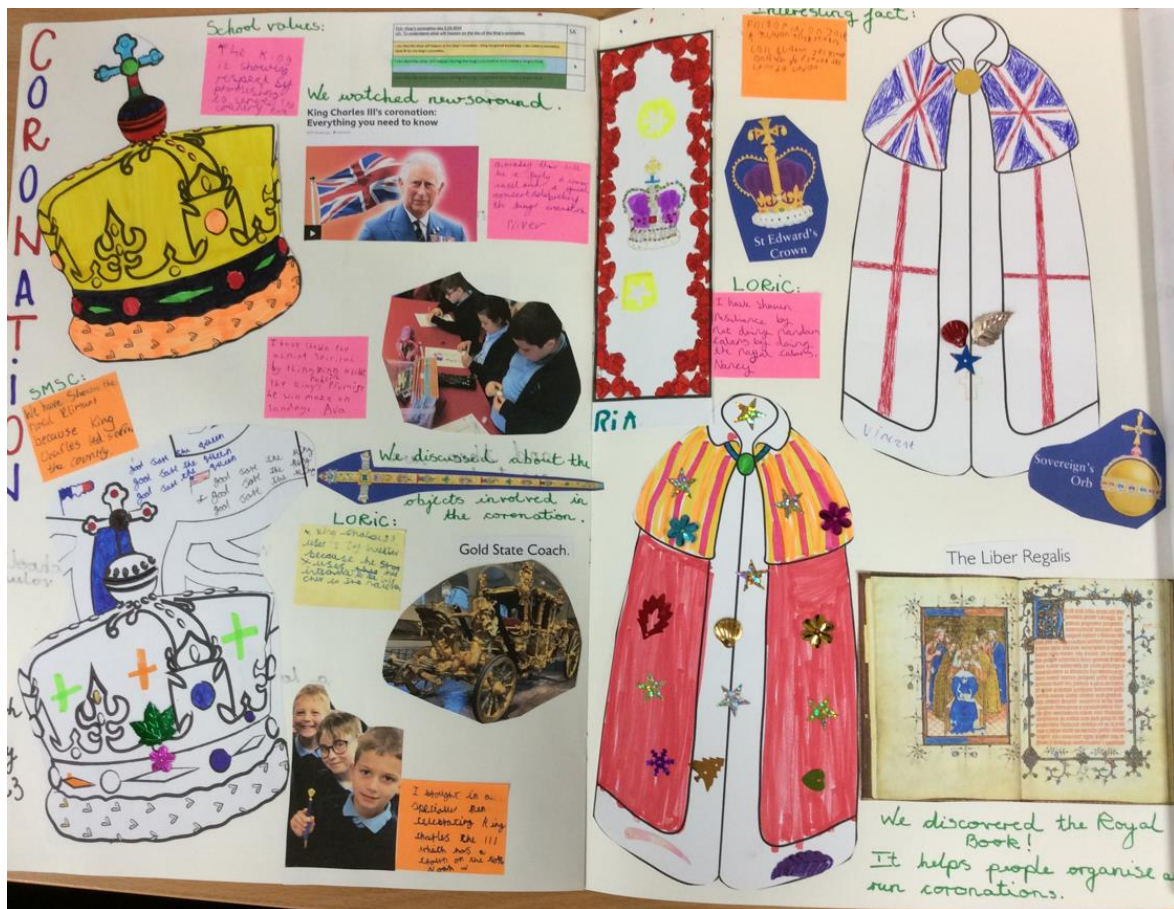
What an eventful half term! The children all worked incredibly hard this half term and the team are proud of all the children have achieved. In English, we have read *Amazing Grace*, *Tuesday* and *My First Baking Book* to underpin all the learning we have done. We have been working on conjunctions, descriptive language, apostrophes for possession and contraction and sustaining tenses. The children have written some excellent instructions, diary entries, reviews, letters and newspaper reports. In Maths, we have been learning to measure in different units, solved fractions, learned to tell the time and consolidated out learning on multiplication and division. Our Science unit focused on the properties of materials and the children thoroughly enjoyed conducting experiments. We have been learning about Mediterranean Europe in Geography. This has included learning about what Mediterranean means in Latin and the countries that make up Mediterranean Europe. Well done, Year 2!



"Paper is quite absorbent" -
Emmanuel

Year 3 News

It has been an amazing half term, the children have continued to improve and shine. We have all thoroughly enjoyed reading 'The Beast Quest' by Adam Blade in English, we loved learning about Tom's adventures and how he defeated Ferno the fire dragon, we now want to read more of the series. We have enjoyed looking at rocks, soil and fossils in our science topic. In Art, we have focused on drawing characters and scenes from Theseus and the Minotaur based on either Picasso or Sarah Young. We used charcoal to create some scary minotaur's! It has been fantastic to see the children's drawing skills grow. We have also really enjoyed our activities based around the Kings coronation and had a fantastic time performing our assembly to our parents.

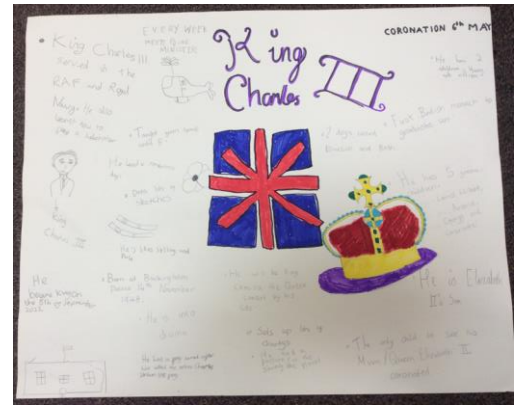


“I want to be an astronaut and fly high up into space.

You would all be tiny ants” - Kajus

Year 4 News

In English we have been reading Kensuke's Kingdom, the children have written wonderful stories based around Michael's journey. During Maths, we have been learning how to interpret data from different charts and drawing our own, as well as looking at units of time and money. In Science we have learnt about The Water Cycle, which has involved lots of experiments showing changes to states of matter change. The children enjoyed learning the scientific names of clouds. Whilst exploring the UK in Geography, we have been learning about Northern Ireland. The scientific and mythical ideas behind The Giants Causeway really captured the children's imagination. The children have been recreating 'The Scream' by Munch and using Matisse as inspiration in their Art lesson's whilst learning about Elements of Art. We also had fun during the run up to King Charles III's Coronation; we made our own crowns, discovered facts about him and learnt about all the traditions of a coronation.



“In Geography, we have been learning about Northern Ireland. I liked learning about the Giant's Causeway and Finn McCool”- Kamile

Year 5 News

Year 5 have had a busy half term and have learnt lots! During Maths lessons, they have learnt how to use a protractor to measure and draw angles; it was fantastic to see them showing great resilience when getting to grips with this new skill. Within English, we have focused on developing our inference with the use of appropriate evidence and the children have had the opportunity to develop their narrative writing, focusing on different techniques to add detail. In Geography, the children have learnt about Europe and have enjoyed learning more about our home continent. Science has seemed to be a favourite subject this half term and the children have really enjoyed learning about Space and our solar system; they have shown great curiosity and asked interesting questions. During their art lessons, the children have enjoyed learning about Chinese art and used their creativity to draw bamboo and flowers in this style.



“I really enjoyed calculating angles because I learnt something new and it was really fun to use the protractor” - Esme

Year 6 News

Year 6 have worked exceptionally hard this half term and have really impressed not only the teachers but also senior leadership as well. In the run up to the SATs week, they spent some extra time concentrating on English and Maths skills to make sure that they were as ready as possible to show off everything they have learnt at primary school. During the assessments themselves, the children worked very well and we were pleased with their behaviour and maturity throughout. Due to this, we were able to celebrate all of their hard work with a pizza party which was enjoyed by the children and the staff alike. Rehearsals are underway for the end of year production, Buggy Malone. The cast, IT and props crew have all made a fantastic start and we are all very excited to perform this at the end of June.



“I’ve really enjoyed starting the production this week including singing my solo and getting a massive round of applause from the year group” - Grace

Head Teacher News

Dear Parents and Families

We've arrived at half term and finally the sunshine has arrived! We've had an exciting few weeks this half term involving lots of fun activities and learning opportunities along the way.

In the lead up to the historic event of the King's Coronation the children had a wonderful time in class learning all about his life, his charity work and the history of the Royal Family. We hope you were able to enjoy the celebrations over the long weekend to mark this historical occasion.

Pupils in Year 2 and Year 6 sat their SATs tests this half term and we are very proud of all of their hard work, the effort and perseverance they have shown during this time. Thank you for your help in preparing the pupils at home and for helping to give them the best opportunity to succeed in the tests they have all worked so hard for.

After the success of inter-house bench ball, pupils across all year groups have begun competing in inter-house rounders. They are displaying great skills in teamwork whilst having lots of fun cheering each other on and we will announce the eagerly anticipated winners once all the scores have been tallied.

We wish you a wonderful half-term break and hope that we can all enjoy some continued good weather and get outside to enjoy the longer days.

We very much look forward to welcoming everyone back in school on Monday 5th June ready for a great end to the school year. We have many events planned and we hope you can join us for them.

<https://www.williamhardingschool.co.uk/new-datesevents?view=calendar&month=05-2023>

As always, thank you for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Miss Cotchin
Head Teacher