

Hampton Vale Primary Academy Weekly News

Newsletter No: Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

We have had another fantastic week of learning at Hampton Vale.

This week has been Science Week, where the theme for this year is 'Change and Adapt'. We have been witnessing this first hand as we have had 11 eggs arrive at school. There has been a buzz around Hampton Vale Primary Academy as the children have been visiting and witnessing the chicks hatching from the eggs. The chicks are already thriving and enjoying regular visits from very excited children across school! Children across the school have also been taking part in live lessons to support Science Week and completing investigations in their class.

Reception:

Reception students have had a fantastic week filled with engaging and educational activities. They continued exploring their topic on dinosaurs, learning about different species and their diets. As part of Science Week, they participated in hands-on experiments, including planting sunflower seeds and observing the fascinating "dancing raisins" experiment. In addition, the children have been making daily visits to the chicks, eagerly observing their growth and changes while discussing the life cycle of a chick. A highlight of the week was our trip to Hamerton Zoo, an exciting and memorable experience—especially for those on their very first school trip! It has been a wonderful week of discovery, curiosity, and learning!



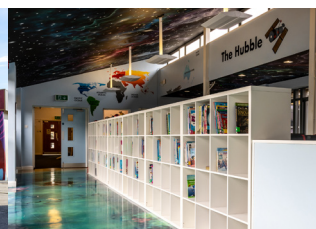
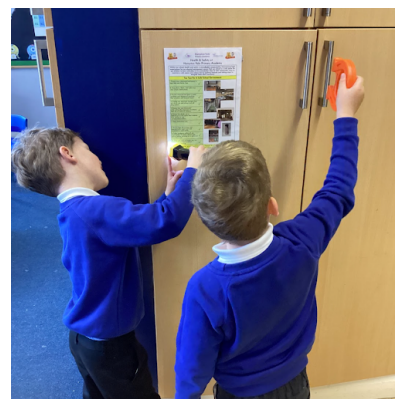
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Year 1:

In year 1, we completed a range of investigations linked to Science week. The children used magnets to find magnetic objects in the classroom. They completed a floating and sinking challenge, making predictions on which items will float and sink. Year 1 used torches to experiment with light and shadows. They enjoyed making shadow puppets on the walls!

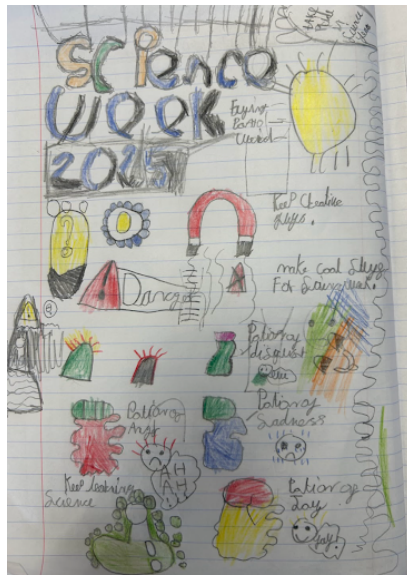
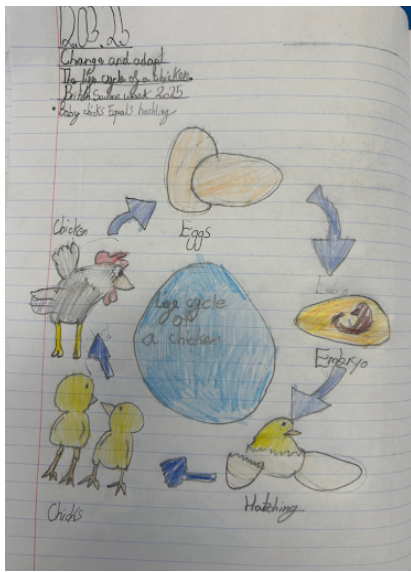


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Year 2:

For science week the children in Year Two have visited the chicks and were lucky enough to see a chick after it had just hatched. In addition to this, the children have conducted two more exciting investigations. First, we made raisins dance by placing them in a fizzy drink. The carbon dioxide bubbles attach to the raisins and make them float/dance around the cup. The second investigation that we conducted was looking at the spread of 'glitter' germs to see how important it is to wash our hands.



Year 3:

Year 3 have enjoyed exploring forces, learning that they can push and pull. We have learnt about gravity, air resistance and friction. To test friction we explored different surfaces, measuring distance using a toy car. We also tested air resistance with paper aeroplanes. We have also observed the chicks, completed a live lesson based on sustainable adaptations in farming and experimented with dancing raisins!



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Year 4:

Year 4 have been conducting an experiment to investigate the effects of different liquids on tooth enamel using eggs. The children set up the experiment by placing eggs in various liquids, including cola, orange juice, and milk. They will observe the impact of these liquids on the eggshell and compare it to the effects on tooth enamel.



Year 5:

In Science week, Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed observing the eggs hatching into chicks, and applying this learning to the life cycle of a chick, and we pushed this further and learnt all about how the chicks survive inside the egg, BEFORE they have hatched! We have also continued our forces work from this half term in Science, and have planned parachute experiments! We have designed 3 different canopies, with the aim of understanding of what would make the perfect parachute. We will be dropping our parachutes and testing these out over the next few days!

Year 6:

As part of science week, Year 6 have been learning about the lifecycle of an egg hatching and how it eventually turns into a chick. As part of our study, we've been conducting an observation to track the different stages of development. We've also been exploring various research questions to better understand the process, asking things like what conditions help the egg hatch and how long it takes for a chick to fully develop. It's been a fascinating project so far!



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Nursery:

This week we have been learning and celebrating different cultures and celebrations. Some of the children have come into the nursery dressed in their traditional clothing. We have parents that have been in to speak to the children and brought in some items to show us which has been amazing. We have been dancing and singing in their different languages.



Specialists:

Miss O'Neill has discovered frogspawn in our pond in forest school. She will keep us updated on the life cycle and the children will be able to observe the changes in their forest school lessons. This is another fantastic way for our children to observe a life cycle in living things.



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Hampton Vale Sport Update.



Hampton Vale's netball team had a match against Fourfields School on Thursday.

All of the team played really well together, great passing, brilliant marking and some superb interceptions. Although it was not a win, the game was very evenly matched between the two schools. Ms Doherty is very proud of the team and how they are progressing as a group of players. Well done to our netball team!

Year 1 took part in a Multi Skills event at Hampton College on Monday. The children participated in a carousel of activities, including running, throwing, jumping, balancing and hurdles. The children worked extremely hard and showed fantastic behaviour. Well done Year 1!



Good luck to some students from year 2 and 3, who are taking part in a dance showcase this weekend for their dance school, Hebden School of Dancing. We wish you the best of luck and look forward to the updates next week!

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

Mrs Murdoch

