



Dear Parents and Guardians,

This half term got off to an enthusiastic start, as our existing house captains were challenged to a Pancake 'Flip-off' in our whole school assembly. I'm pleased to say that Georgie and Joseph were the winners with 78 flips between them in 1 minute, which resulted in 50 house points awarded to their house – Earth!

Of course, we now have our new House Captains and Deputy House Captains whose pictures can be seen on our school website. We are also delighted to announce our newly elected **Head Boy**: Louis Moores and **Head Girl**: Lottie Maxwell. These two new positions were introduced following an idea shared at the autumn term Super School Council meeting. We are especially proud of our Year 6 representatives, who did a fantastic job of shortlisting and interviewing for these important positions. Well done to the School Council for setting up these new roles at Shottermill.



Solar Eclipse



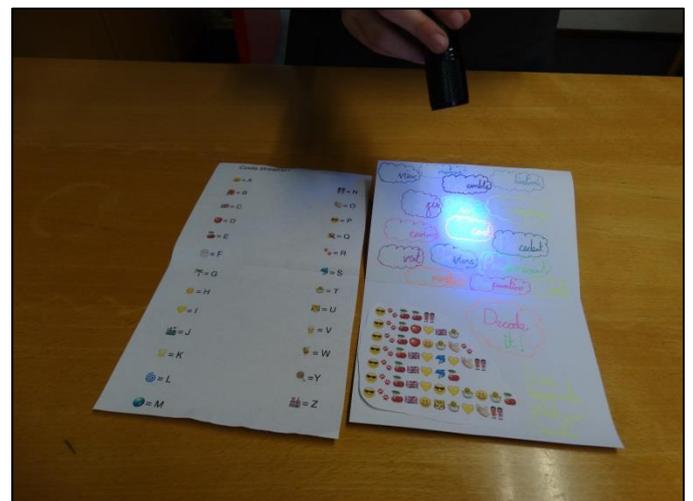
Although it turned out to be a very overcast day, the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Solar Eclipse last week - via the online coverage on the BBC website.

Despite some internet buffering, due to the large quantity of people accessing the website that morning, the children were fascinated by the footage as events unfolded. We were also able to take children outside to feel the change in temperature, the reduced light and we noticed that fewer birds were flying at this time. It was a great experience all round.

Ellie and Ellie!

For those of you who did not attend our spectacular Year 6 assembly this week, we were highly impressed with the talents of our oldest children who put their very own 'West End style' performance of Oliver! This was also a special moment to announce our first ever **Diamond Award**, which went to Ellie Linares for being awarded a scholarship at the London Royal College of Music. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating her on this outstanding achievement.

In my last newsletter, I unfortunately mixed up our Ellie surnames and it was in fact Ellie Leatherby who achieved all three awards for her outstanding spelling homework earlier this term. Here is a photo of her impressive secret spy homework!



Super School Council

This term, we headed off to St Mary's in Chiddingfold for the Super School Council meeting, taking with us Maddie and Charlie from Year 5.

They contributed extremely well to the discussion, talking about the two key topics of homework and our achievements at Shottermill so far this year. We will be continuing to look at how homework and home learning can be better improved and will be asking the School Council to help us further with this next term.



Headteacher Awards



At the end of each term, the teachers and I choose children who have shown that they are deserved of a Headteacher's Award. These awards are the most special awards and are only given to children for outstanding achievements, making extra effort or for particular examples of where our core values have been demonstrated effectively.

Many congratulations to the following children who have been given a Headteacher's Award for this term:

Emily Pearce 6S
Talha Ahmad 6S
Bonnie May Taylor 6C
Oliver Daynes 6C
James Strachan 5R
Amelia Wilson 5R
Harry Richardson 5K
Lucy Humphrey 5K
Sophia Gray 4H
Robbie Downes-Kelly 4H
Ben Butler 4C
Alice Mintoft 4C
Delphi Linares 3T
Joseph Clarke 3T
Rex Barrett-Berry 3G
Bay Green 3G
Hannah Austin 3B
Rory Gledhill 3B
Dylan Evans Mrs Mackey's Group

Tennis Champions

Congratulations to Sophie Boberg, Fraser Henton, Ellie Symington and Alex Waller for their excellent sporting attitude at the recent Year 6 Tennis Workshop at Woolmer Hill. The coaches commented on how helpful and enthusiastic they had been and consequently, they earned themselves a medal for their efforts! Well done!

DT Day

We were delighted with the performance of our selected children who attended St Edmund's School in Hindhead for a Design & Technology challenge day. There was much fun to be had out of creating structures using tubes of paper and the children did extremely well, achieving 2nd place overall. Well done to all children involved and thank you to the adults who accompanied the children on the day.



Surrey Schools have Talent Competition

As we have so many talented performers at our school, we will be encouraging children to enter the Surrey Schools Have Talent competition during next term. More details to follow.



Maths Challenge Medal Winners



We would like to congratulate our best Mathematicians on their achievements at the Maths Challenge at Woolmer Hill.

Our team all performed very well but Emma Austin and Greg Truman achieved the highest scores overall and were each awarded a special medal.

Well done to you both!

NSPCC Maths Challenge

A huge thank you to all those families who sponsored the children to complete a Maths test in aid of the FULL STOP campaign for the NSPCC.

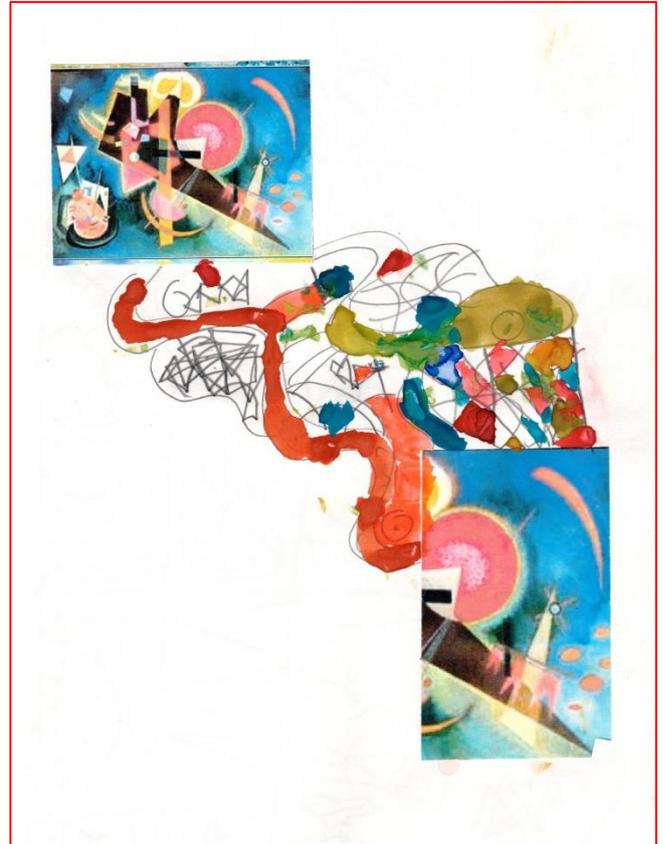
I know you will all agree that the work of the NSPCC is invaluable to support children who are at risk of harm in the UK.

Thank you to Mandy, who came in to deliver a great assembly on the work of the NSPCC, explaining how children can keep themselves safe and where to seek help if they need to.



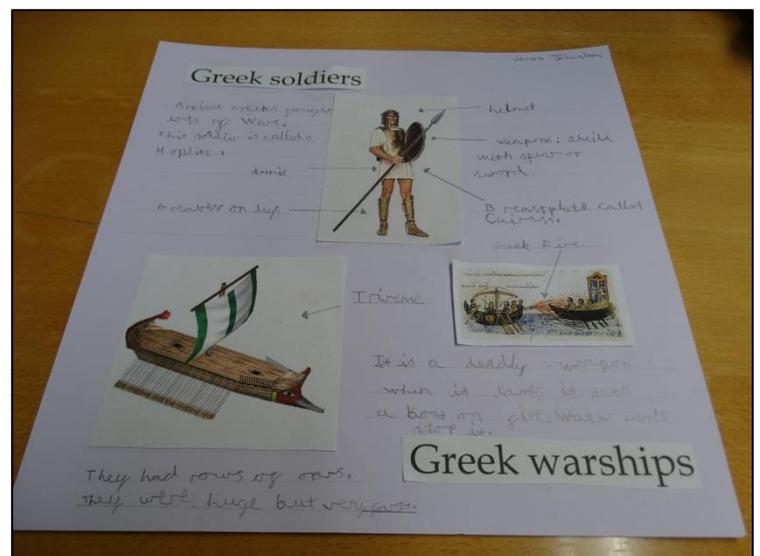
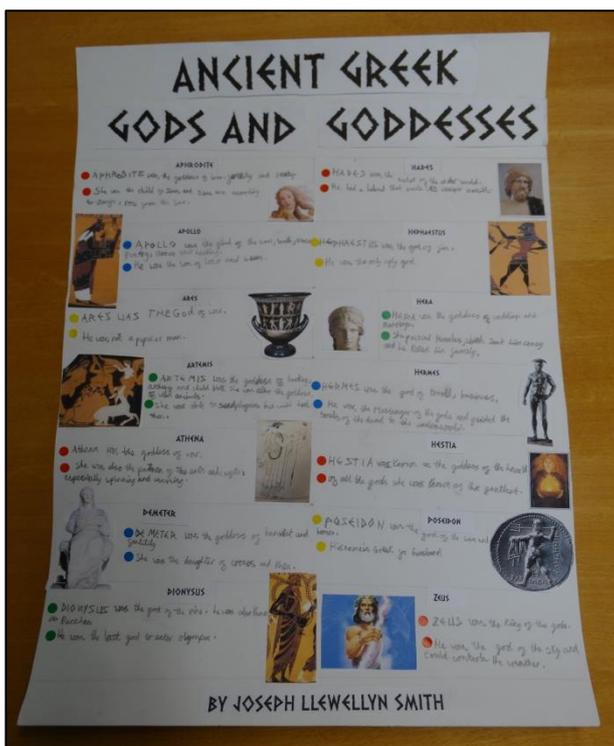
Kandinsky pictures by Year 6

Children across the school have continued to produce some fantastic and creative work, which you will now see displayed in our gallery, in the corridor next to the Dance Studio. Here are some of the Year 6 Kandinsky pictures:



All things Greek...

This term, both Year 3 and Year 4 have been learning about the Ancient Greeks, in order to fulfil the changes to the new National Curriculum. As well as our special dressing up days, children have been finding out about how the Greeks lived and have created some excellent pieces of homework along the way. Well done to Charlotte and Madeline, who produced such fantastic Greek temples, as well as Joseph, who created a very informative poster about Gods and Goddesses and finally James who wrote about Greek Soldiers.



Quiz Night

Our first PTFA Quiz Night which was held last week, proved to be a huge success! A staggering £780 was raised through this event, which will provide much needed funds to help with some important projects for the coming year. I would like to extend my thanks to the PTFA, including many new members, who put an enormous amount of effort into making sure this event ran smoothly. Parents have already been asking when the next Quiz Night will be... hopefully the teachers will be able to put in a better performance next time!

Comic Relief

As you know, the children were encouraged to bring in their small change for Comic Relief, in a class against class competition to see who could make the longest line. We had not anticipated how long the lines would be and many curved their way up and down the playground several times! The total amount raised was **£279.79** and you may like to know that there were 17,258 coins in total, of which there were 11,713 penny coins and 4,564 two penny coins! Thank you to Clare Glasspool for helping to count the very large quantity of change.

Well done to 5R who managed a line measuring a staggering 89 metres and who earned themselves an extra playtime as a reward. We would also like to say a special thank you to our parent volunteer, Ms O'Brian, who helped measure the length of the lines on the day.

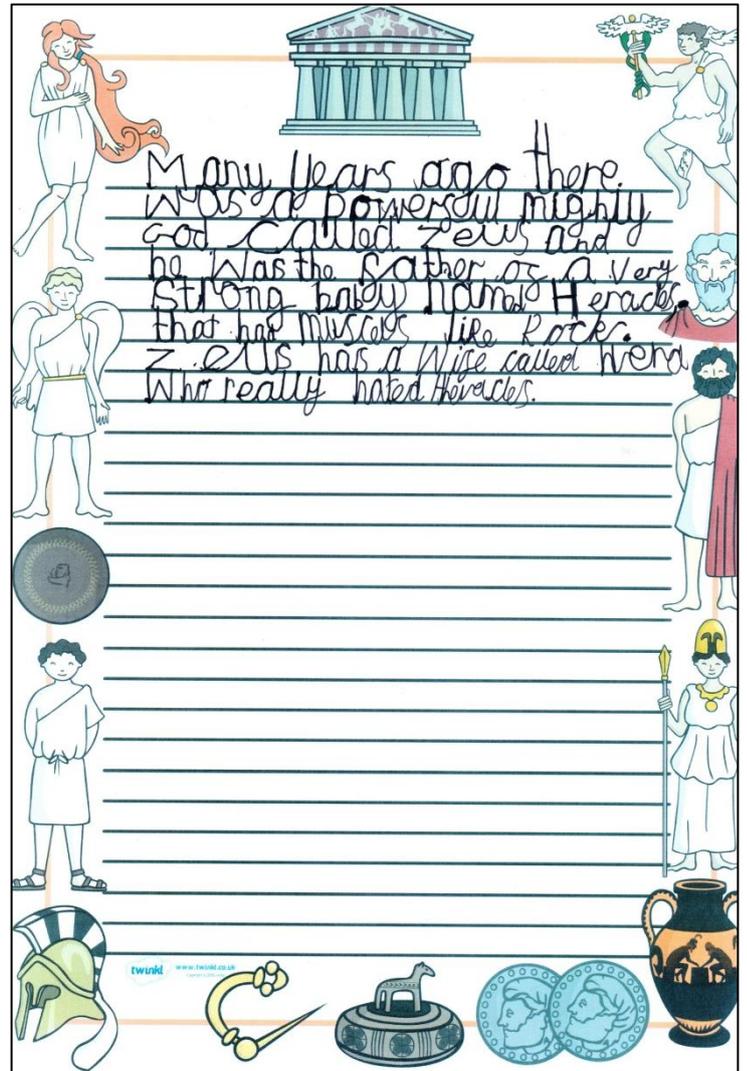


Improved handwriting and presentation of work

Children are continuing to work hard on their presentation of work, using the new Shottermill Handwriting Code. More children are using pen to write up their best work and there were many parents who commented on the improved standards at our recent parents' consultation evening.

Well done to Charlie Gosbee who has made a great deal of progress with his handwriting so far this term, as can be seen in the picture:

Please remember that all of our Writing Toolkit resources are available for download from our website on our class and curriculum information page. They are designed to help support children with letter formation, spelling and a range of English skills.



David Shepherd Wildlife Art and Poetry Competition

Together with Miss Holdsworth, I took 7 children from Year 6 to represent our school at the award ceremony at the Natural History Museum in London last week. Unfortunately, we did not win a prize, but we did enjoy spending time meeting the world renowned artist, David Shepherd and Wildlife Presenter, Michaela Strachan. We also enjoyed spending time looking at all the other school's exhibitions, exploring the museum and we even found time to do some sketching of animals in the mammal zone. As always, the children behaved impeccably and we were very proud of our exhibition and all those involved.





Charterhouse and Woolmer Hill Music Day

Our musically talented children had a chance to shine at two recent events this term. Firstly, many of our children involved in the Haslemere Community Orchestra, or who receive music tuition in school, were given the opportunity to perform in front of a large audience at Woolmer Hill School. Their performances were excellent, even after a significantly long wait before it was their turn to play their instruments! Well done to all those involved.

Secondly, earlier this week, I attended my first Music Festival for our local group of schools and was astounded by the quality of singing that the children had achieved. A huge thank you to Mrs Goodyear, who helped to teach the children the songs and as always, it is so wonderful to see our parents supporting our children at these kinds of events – so thank you for coming along to these special musical evenings.



Staffing news

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Cooper is expecting her first baby this summer and will be going on maternity leave after the end of the summer term. We are so thrilled for her and wish her all the very best for this special new chapter of her life.

Sadly, we will soon be saying goodbye to Mrs Sue Green, who has been the School Secretary for over 17 years. Sue is a much loved member of staff, who will be missed enormously. We would like to wish her all the best for the future and we would invite any families who wish to do so, to send contributions to her leaving gift to Mrs Verina Gibson in the School Office.



I hope you have enjoyed hearing about our achievements this term. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who have continued to support the many activities we have undertaken this term. Please remember that Monday 13th April is our INSET day. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 14th April for the start of the summer term.

Wishing you all a lovely spring break,

Mrs K. Barnes
Headteacher