### Newingate ISSUE 1 | 20/10/2023 School NEWSLETTER



### ....AND LIFT OFF!!!

After over a year of waiting we finally welcomed our first students into school in September and what a fantastic start they have all made. We recognise that its not easy to start a new school, for adults and students (and parents) and we have been blown away by everyone's positivity and support in making the school a special and safe place for young people to come and learn, grow and develop.

### CLASSES

We have finally decided to give our classes names and we have chosen the Ancient Cinque Ports as our theme. Each class is named after a town designated as being a member of the Cinque Ports. So far we have Deal, Sandwich and Hastings classes. A new identity will be formed with the opportunity for some local community based learning as well as the chance to visit each town to explore them in more detail.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

We have established 3 core expectations for the students to follow whilst at school;

- Acceptance
- Safety, and
- Kindness
- (ASK for short)

These 3 core expectations form our rules and inform how we will support students with their behaviour and interactions with their peers and with adults. If you have questions regarding our basic rules please do get in touch or discuss them with your child's class teacher.

#### **KEY DATES - TERM 2**

- Monday 6th November Term starts
- 6th-9th Nov Remembrance Week
- 10th Nov World Science Day
- 13th Nov World Kindness Day
- 13th to 17th November Anti Bullying Week
- 17th Nov Children in Need
- 1st Dec Advent begins
- 7th Dec Christmas Jumper Day
- 7th -15th Dec Hanukkah
- 13th Dec National Hot Chocolate Day
- 15th December Last Day of Term
- In addition to these dates we will also be offering a Christmas Lunch for everyone as well as a Christmas treat for the whole school

### **Message from the Headteacher**

Welcome to our school and our first newsletter. I am so proud and delighted with how well the students are settling into their new classes and how hard the adults are working to make each day so positive and productive. We have managed to get to know all the students well and now have some exciting learning planned for the coming weeks, months and years. It is so nice as well to have the building filled with the sound of voices and laughter, believe me it was quiet around here before September finally arrived. We hope you enjoy reading about our first term and we look forward to welcoming you all into school before Christmas to celebrate all the students' successes so far. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy a restful half-term break and we look forward to seeing you all again in November.

David Carden - Headteacher

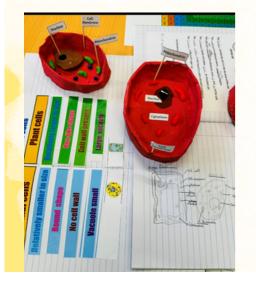


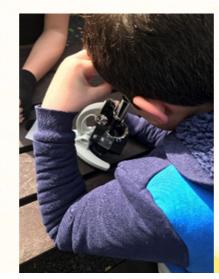
We have had a successful start to the year and student attendance has been excellent. Students have engaged in exciting activities both in and out of school. Weekly forest school sessions have proven to be very popular with the students.

In Science, students have explored animal and plant cells, a particular highlight was the use of light microscopes to observe their chosen specimens. Maths has been focused on students acquiring new math skills and they have been ordering data to find the mean, median, mode and range. Charlotte's Web has been our class reading book this term and we have explored key messages within the story. Students have acquired new vocabulary and have responded to key questions which encouraged fantastic class discussion. Students have engaged in numerous team building activities, STEM challenges were very successful, with activities consisting of building the tallest tower with limited resources and designing a paper plane. We have explored The Day of the Dead celebration in Art and worked hard to create their very own altar, whilst in DT lessons students designed and made clocks for their chosen target market.

We look forward to another successful term!

Gabby Dengate - Class Teacher







# HASTINGS CLASS

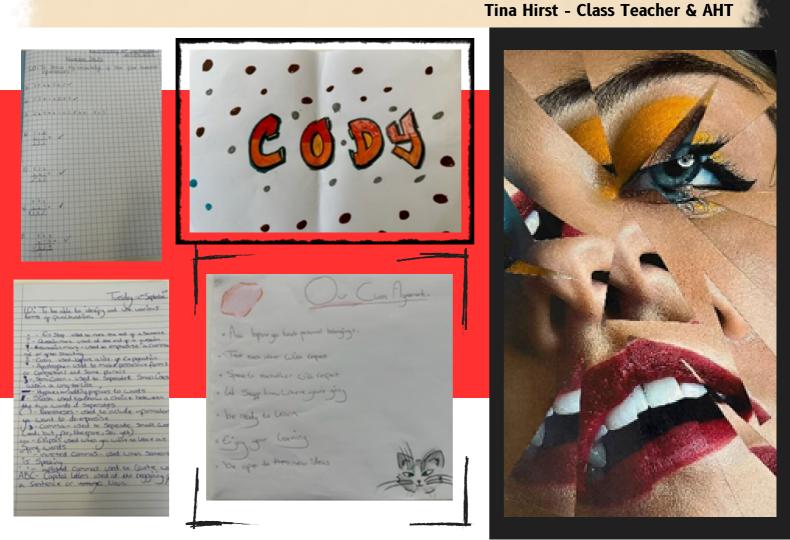
Hastings Class have been making their transitions into Newingate School. They have worked together to write their class agreement, thinking about how they would like to treat each other, what they need from the staff at Newingate School and how they would like their classroom environment to look and feel.

They have been focusing on their baseline assessments and have worked hard to show us the knowledge and skills that they already have – we have been impressed by their results.

In Maths we have refreshed our skills when working with the four number operations and focused on the areas that were most challenging for individuals. During English, Hastings class have learned the names of different forms of punctuation and how they are used.

Art has been very successful, with one of the students exploring the work of Rosanna Jones and creating her own collage for her arts award. Another pupil focused on graffiti art, using his chosen style to create his name.

We look forward to welcoming the class back for term 2.



This term we have been focusing on new beginnings and working hard to build and develop positive relationships. We have been completing lots of Team building activities including gardening, table tennis and UNO. The results of these have been a success and we now have a well-established Class UNO champion.

All students have engaged in English and Maths lessons and shown amazing effort and attitude towards their work. For Maths we focused on Multiplication, developing different ways to work out 3-digit by 3digit sums, by building on prior knowledge. In English we read a variety of short stories and focused on how language is used to create effect, before writing our own short story.

Students look forward to our science lessons where we have been learning about Plant and Animal cells and we all created our own 3D Plant cell model. Last week we completed the onion cell experiment where the students prepared their own onions for the microscope slide. All students worked sensibly and persevered until they could see a clear image on the microscope. Great work!

On a Tuesday the students have a busy day, with outdoor learning in the morning and P.E in the afternoon but it has proven to be one of their favourite days. All students have participated in the activities or sports that have been offered, even joining in with other students who attend the school. Students have particularly enjoyed their Art sessions with Gabby this term where they have explored 'The day of the dead' celebration. During this lesson they created their own Sugar skull, made paper Marigolds, and even created a 3D collage shadow box.

We look forward to another positive and busy term!

Plant Cell

Zara Ines - Class Teacher

We are thrilled to share the incredible adventures and accomplishments of our Year 7 students during their first term at Forest School. The students have been fully immersed in nature, engaging in a variety of activities that have fostered their creativity, teamwork, and love for the great outdoors.

One of the highlights of their term was mallet making. Our young learners delved into the art of crafting their own mallets, learning the importance of resourcefulness and problem-solving along the way. This hands-on activity allowed them to not only tap into their creativity but also develop practical skills that will serve them well in the future. The students also had the opportunity to experience the exhilarating thrill of rope swinging. With the wind in their hair and smiles on their faces, they soared from tree to tree, embracing the freedom and excitement that nature ores. This activity not only provided them with a rush of adrenaline but also instilled a sense of adventure and a deep connection to their natural surroundings. Completing the Big Wild Walk was no small feat, and we couldn't be prouder of our Year 7 students for their determination and perseverance. Walking through the wilderness, they had the chance to observe the flora and fauna that make our environment so unique. Another significant accomplishment was the students' ability to build shelters and path building. By working together and utilising their problem-solving skills, they created safe and cosy spaces within the forest. This activity instilled a sense of independence, teamwork, and resilience, as the students learned to adapt to their surroundings and embrace the challenges that came their way.

We look forward to the upcoming terms, where we will continue to provide our students with opportunities to explore, learn, and grow in the wonderful world of forest school.



TraceyLyn Treeby - Forest School Leader

# Reading Doctor

This term, we have been joined by Steph Quinn, who is the Reading Doctor for the Canterbury area. The Reading Doctor is a specific reading intervention program, that incorporates strategies and approaches to support students with dyslexia, ADHD and autism spectrum conditions, by identifying their individual strengths, challenges and learning styles.

Steph has spent time with the students at Newingate School, assessing their reading abilities and planning interventions to further develop their skills when reading and understanding text. All the students have been very welcoming and have embraced the Reading Doctor becoming part of the school library. Steph will be in school every Monday from term 2 and we look forward to her supporting the students and staff to improve reading and reading support across the school.

## OUTDOOR

LEARNING

This term we introduced the John Muir Award to the students. This involves: •Discovering a wild place •Exploring its wildness •Conserving it, and •Sharing your experiences.



The students have been learning what the countryside code is and what it means. We have been taking part in walks in the countryside and thinking about the code and making sure we abide by it.

We have been looking at OS maps and how important it is to understand how they work and what the symbols mean so we can make our way from A to B. Also, the students have been taking part in lessons in how to use a compass. The students have gained in confidence over the weeks with the new skills they have learnt, and I look forward to next term. Our term dates have changed slightly to be in line with the rest of Kent & Medway....

Please see below

# **TERM DATES 2023 - 2024**

Term 1 (34 days)	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023		Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
		Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Staff Training Days
Term 2 (30 days)		Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Term 3 (28 Days)		Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
		Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	Staff Training Day
Term 4 (29 Days)		Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
		Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Staff Training Day
Term 5 (28 Days)		Monday 15th April 2024	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024		School Closed - Bank Holiday
Term 6 (35 Days)		Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024		Staff Training Day
INSET DAYS Staff Training & Development	1	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	School Closed to Pupils
	2	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	School Closed to Pupils
	3	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	School Closed to Pupils
	4	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	School Closed to Pupils
	5	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024	School Closed to Pupils

#### PLEASE NOTE:

In addition to the above, Newingate School may be closed on certain days to undertake essential Staff Development and Training. We will notify you in advance of these days to minimise disruption.