

The last two weeks have been very busy with so much going on in and around the school. Our year 6 children had a wonderful time away at Bowles on their 3-day residential.



The children enjoyed their activities, both on the water and on dry land, working together as a team and challenging themselves.



This would not have been possible without the support of Mr Howse, Miss Johnson and Mrs Pearce. Thank you so much for accompanying the children and enabling them to make such wonderful memories.

To find out more about the children's adventures, visit our school website

https://idehill.eschools.co.uk/web/year_6_residential_updates/656220

A great gardening party!

On Saturday 1st July we invited parents into school to help spruce up our gardens and the school looks transformed. We would therefore like to thank our brilliant "ground force" team for all your support with weeding, cutting hedging, painting, helping to lay bark chippings and even a spot of building! We are so grateful to Andy, Mike, Rita, Hannah, Sian, Sophie, Jordan, Lee, Adam and of course Freddie and Amelia!



Over two days this week, we have been filming our new school video. We will share this with you as soon as it is ready but have already seen some photos and the children have been captured really flourishing in their learning.

Filming a video in a school takes a lot of preparation and thankfully with Mrs Harland as director, we have had a very well organised two days! Thank you Mrs Harland, you have been a very busy bee!

Sports Day

Thank you all so much for attending sports day and sharing in such a special day with us. We had planned the morning to be a real celebration of sport and a further opportunity to welcome our new Saplings children and their families. On the day, there was an overwhelming air of positivity, engagement, teamwork, and it was so lovely to see such enthusiasm and passion for sport.



I have received so much positive feedback from staff, children, parents, governors and neighbours so I know that this was felt by the whole community, and I am thrilled that it was a roaring success! A huge thank you to Mr Taylor and his team of staff for the organisation and running of the day and to all school staff and families for your participation.



It was so lovely to see so many ex-pupils and to have them want to help with the events. What a terrific day - this is a sports day that will change all sports days!

Year 4 trip to Horton Kirby

On 28th June Year 4 went on a River Study Day to Horton Kirby. We walked from the centre down to the River Darent and after gauging the flow of the river with a quick game of pooh sticks, the children discussed the immediate environment in order to ascertain how the physical and human features have changed over time.



After that, we walked along the river to two sites to measure the flow and depth of the river. First, the children had a little time to step into the river to experience it; they all commented on how strong the current was. The children were also using their observations to explain why these measurements change throughout the seasons.

After lunch, the children used microscopes to investigate the permeability of rocks, in order to help explain how this property of the rocks in Horton Kirby affects the flow and depth of the river.

The last activity of the day involved the children creating their own land on which they developed a river including adding a tributary. In addition, they had to alter this river by adding residential buildings and figure out how to protect nearby land and homes by building flood barriers.

We had a very enjoyable day although some of us went home with completely soaked feet! We were all very proud of the children as they were highly engaged and showed excellent behaviour for learning throughout the day.

- Miss Melin

SIAMS inspection

The school has been notified that next Wednesday we will have a visit from Allyson Taylor on behalf of the Church of England Inspectorate team. Allyson will be coming into school to talk to the children, staff, governors and parents about the impact of our school vision "Do everything in Love" both within the curriculum and outside of it. There will be lots for us to celebrate with her and we will showcase how your children are flourishing. She will be spending part of her day on the playground at either drop off or the end of the day - I know that you will make her feel very welcome and please do speak with her if you have the time.

Celebrating Success

On Sunday 25th June Halle in Year 3, took part in her gymnastics squad rainbow ribbon competition where

she was awarded first place for her age group achieving a level 4 green ribbon. Well done Halle!



Saplings	<p>Sebastian - For your enthusiasm and confidence at Nature School, giving instructions to your friends on how to climb safely.</p> <p>Ruan - For your imaginative landscape - we loved your ideas! Well done - it looks amazing!</p>
Elms	<p>Ewan - For writing a fabulous story about an explorers mission.</p> <p>Aria - For your detailed recount of our trip to London</p>
Beech	<p>Ella - Well done Ella for fantastic writing yesterday! You were creative and imaginative and used super adjectives!! Your handwriting was also super neat. WOW!! Keep it it!!</p>
Willows	<p>Halle - For her great talent of sewing in our art project using paint, cloth and thread. She has been our resident expert, helping others with their pieces.</p> <p>Nathan - For his good understanding of 3D shape and their names.</p>
Hazel	<p>Edie - For designing such an innovative monster and writing such detailed instructions on how to make it.</p> <p>Winston - For always being kind and considerate and trying his best with all his learning!</p> <p>All of Hazel - For showing excellent sportsmanship during Sports Day. Well done!</p>
Ash	<p>Elliot - For working very hard in maths this week, converting different units of length.</p> <p>Emma - For always putting 100% effort into her work, and her meaningful contributions to classroom discussions.</p>
Oaks	<p>Alex, Ivie, Ethan and Brea - all for helping Mr Taylor deliver PE lessons this week!</p>

Happy Birthday!

- Emma
- Lilly
- Cora-Rose
- Halle
- Bow
- Robyn
- Hannah
- Summer



News from Nature School



This week we enjoyed being super scientists, using our observation skills. We went on a walk in the woods and celebrated the diversity of our local Flora.



The children were asked to find and pick a little sample of plant life that could fit in their hand. Not just any plant life, but one that really stood out for them and that they thought that no one else might choose.

When we arrived in the woods we stood in a circle and shared why we chose our sample. It was really special to see each child's offering and to hear their connection with it.

We celebrated the many different flora samples that are around us and remembered that noticing and caring for the small things is so vital ~ they are the foundations for everything else.

At a time of year when there is lots of change, taking a walk and observing nature in this way can be very steady. Why not try it this weekend?



An update from last week:
Mighty bugs of the imagination!

Take care world - there are a whole new breed of superbugs out there.

After learning some mind-blowing facts about the characteristics of super, tiny species on our planet, the children were inspired to make their own special bug, using loose parts.

We then had a bug viewing tour, where the children shared their bugs' special features - such stunning creativity and brilliantly developed ideas.

Ask your child about the bug they made and give it a go at home too using leaves and bits from your garden or the park.