

LOCKS HEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026

WE RESPECT • WE THRIVE • WE BELONG

HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Celebrating a Wonderful Year at Locks Heath Junior School

As another successful school year draws to a close, we would like to take a moment to celebrate the many achievements, milestones and memorable moments that have made this year so special.

Our pupils have continued to demonstrate our school values of **Respect, Belonging and Thriving** in everything they do. From academic successes and sporting achievements to performances, residential visits, art exhibitions and community events, we are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, resilience and kindness shown by our children throughout the year.

One area of particular pride this year has been the continued development of our **wider curriculum**. We have worked hard to ensure that learning is ambitious, engaging and memorable, giving children opportunities to deepen their knowledge and skills across a broad range of subjects. Our **Art curriculum** has flourished, with pupils exploring a diverse range of artists, techniques and media to create work of an exceptionally high standard. Meanwhile, our **Geography units** have inspired children to develop a greater understanding of the world around them, from local studies and fieldwork to global issues and cultures. The quality of work, enthusiasm for learning and knowledge demonstrated by pupils in these subjects has been outstanding and reflects the commitment of both our children and staff to achieving excellence beyond the core curriculum.

We have also been delighted to see so many pupils challenge themselves through new opportunities, persevere when tasks have been difficult and grow in confidence as learners and young people. Their achievements are a testament not only to their hard work but also to the invaluable support provided by families and staff.

Friends of Locks Heath

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Mrs Astbury** for her many years of dedicated service as Treasurer of the **Friends of Locks Heath**. Her commitment, hard work and careful stewardship of the charity's finances have helped to support countless projects, resources and enrichment opportunities for our children over the years. Through her tireless efforts, alongside those of the wider Friends team, she has played a significant role in enhancing school life for generations of pupils. As Mrs Astbury steps down from this role, we offer our sincere gratitude for everything she has contributed and wish her all the very best for the future. Her support of the school has been greatly appreciated and leaves a lasting legacy within our community.

Staff Successes

This year has also seen significant achievements amongst our staff team. We would like to offer our warmest congratulations to **Mrs Edwards** on successfully completing her first year as an Early Career Teacher (ECT). This is a significant professional milestone and reflects her dedication, commitment and passion for teaching. Throughout the year, Mrs Edwards has made a wonderful contribution to school life and has built strong relationships with pupils, colleagues and families.

We are also delighted to congratulate Mrs Edwards on securing a new teaching position at **Sholing Junior School**. Whilst we will be sorry to see her leave the Locks Heath family, we know she will be a tremendous asset to her new school community. We thank her for all she has contributed during her time with us and wish her every success and happiness in the next stage of her career.

Looking Ahead

As we look back on a year filled with learning, growth and achievement, we would like to thank every member of our school community for their support, encouragement and partnership. Together, we have created a school where children feel valued, challenged and inspired to achieve their very best.

We wish all our families a safe, happy and restful summer break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Edwards', is written diagonally across the page.

DIARY DATES

INSET DAYS

September 1st Tuesday 2026

October 5th Monday 2026

November 20th Friday 2026

February 12th Friday 2027

May 28th Friday 2027

RESIDENTIALS

September 16th - 18th Year 5 Avon Tyrell

January 26th - 29th Year 6 Calshot

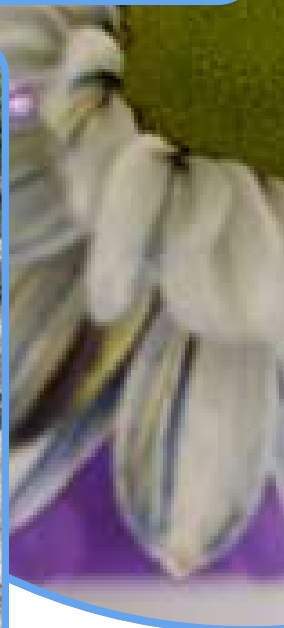
September 1 st Tuesday	- INSET DAY
September 2 nd Wednesday	- First day of term
September 4 th Friday	- School photo, individual & siblings
September 7 th Monday	- Year 3 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm-4:00pm
September 8 th Tuesday	- Year 4 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm-4:00pm
September 10 th Thursday	- Year 5 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm-4:00pm
September 10 th Thursday	- Reading & Spelling Workshop Year 3 5:00pm
September 11 th Friday	- Year 6 Meet the Teacher 3:30pm-4:00pm
September 14 th Monday	- Flu Immunisation
September 18 th Friday	- Year 3 Iron Age Experience
September ?????	- Year 5 Egyptian Day
October 3 rd Saturday	- Locks Heath Schools Open Morning
October 5 th Monday	- INSET DAY
October 8 th Thursday	- School Disco
October 13 th Tuesday	- SEND Parent Evening
October 16 th Friday	- Year 4 Times Table Workshop
October 20 th & 22 nd	- Parent Evening
October 26 th - 30 th	- Half Term
November 19 th Thursday	- Year 3 Showcase
November 20 th Friday	- INSET DAY
December 8 th & 9 th	- Year 4 Nativity
December 14 th Monday	- Year 6 Showcase
December 15 th Tuesday	- Year 3 visit to St John's Church
December 17 th Thursday	- Year 5 Showcase
December 18 th Friday	- Last day of term. Christmas dinner & jumper day

YEAR 3

SCIENCE



In Science, we became mini scientists! We went on an exciting bug hunt to discover different insects and then created our own branching databases to help identify and classify them. We learned all about endangered animals and explored the reasons why some species are at risk of disappearing. We also built our own bug hotel to create a safe home for insects.

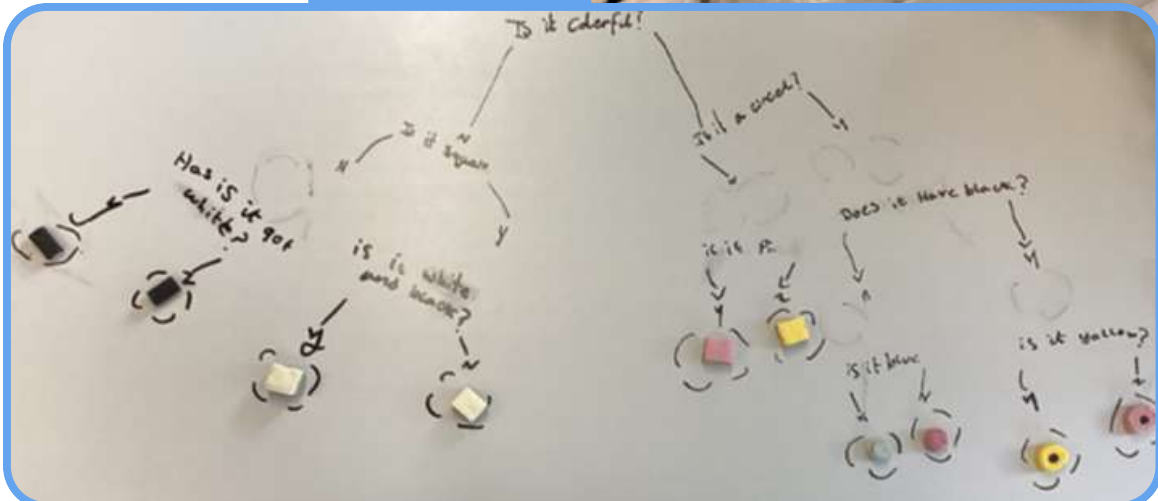


YEAR 3

SCIENCE



We investigated how flowers grow and carried out a colourful experiment using ink to see how water travels through a flower. We even dissected plants to explore their different parts and learn how each one helps the plant grow and survive. It has been a fun year full of exciting investigations, discoveries, and hands-on experiments!



YEAR 3

DT

In DT, we became young chefs and made our own delicious layered salads. We learned about healthy ingredients, practised our food preparation skills, and carefully layered our creations. The children thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on experience and were proud to taste the colourful salads they had made.

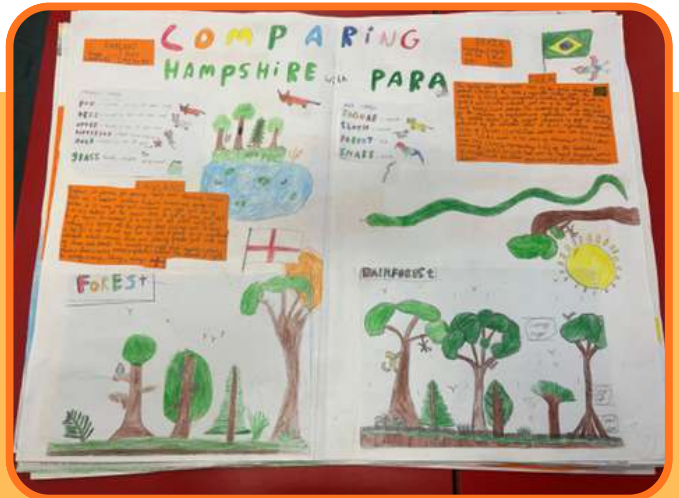


GEOGRAPHY

In geography, we compared our local area with Brescia in Italy. We went on a local area walk to explore how the land is used and identified different features in our community. It was exciting to compare the similarities and differences between the two places.

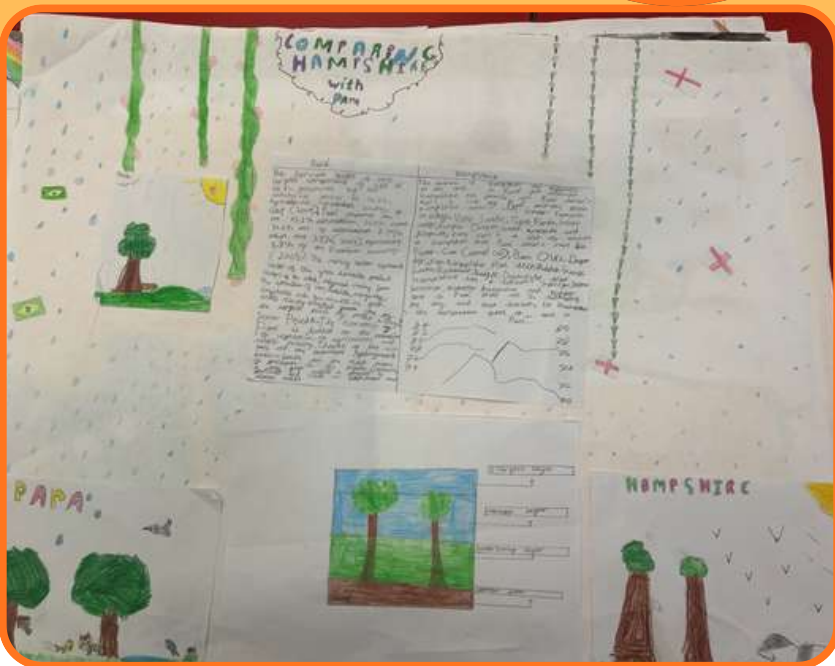


YEAR 4



GEOGRAPHY

In Geography this term, we have compared the state of Para in Brazil with Locks Heath. This included doing some exciting fieldwork in the nature reserve.



YEAR 4



ART



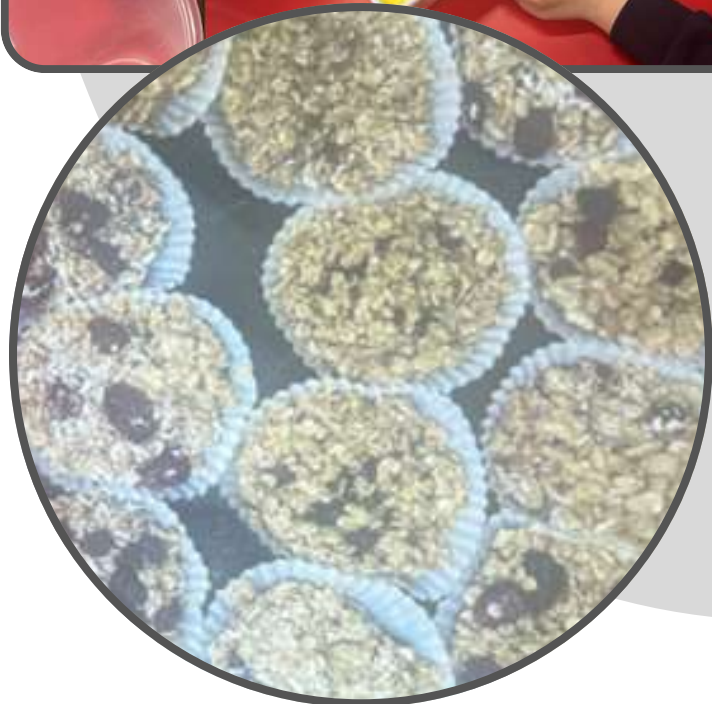
In Art, we have been inspired by Dale Chihuly and his glass sculptures. We have used recycled materials to create fashion and art.



YEAR 4

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

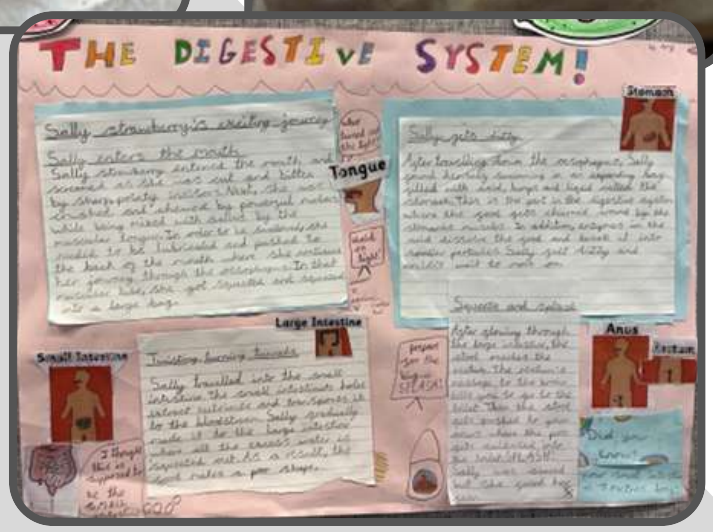
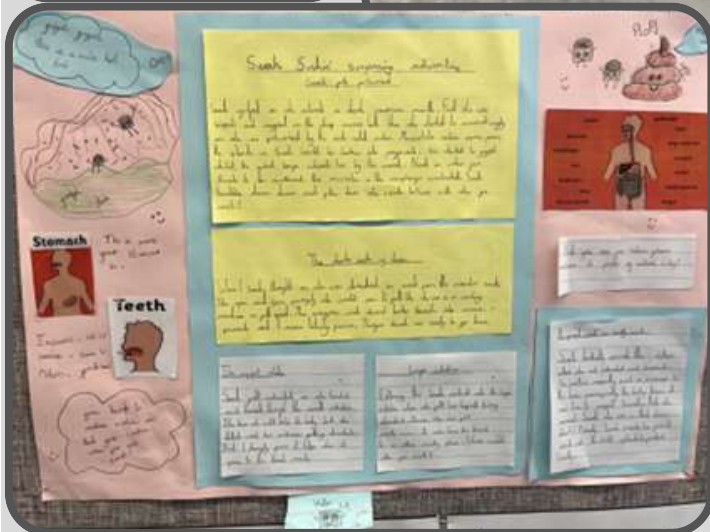
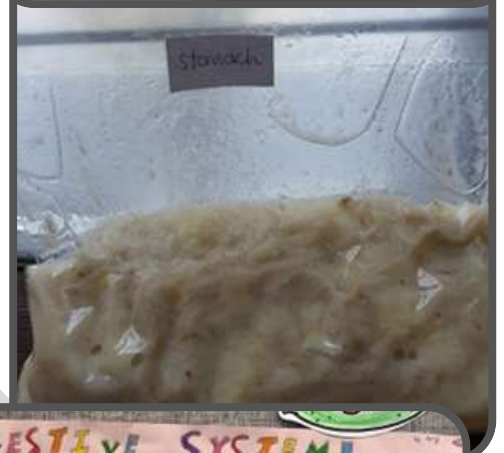
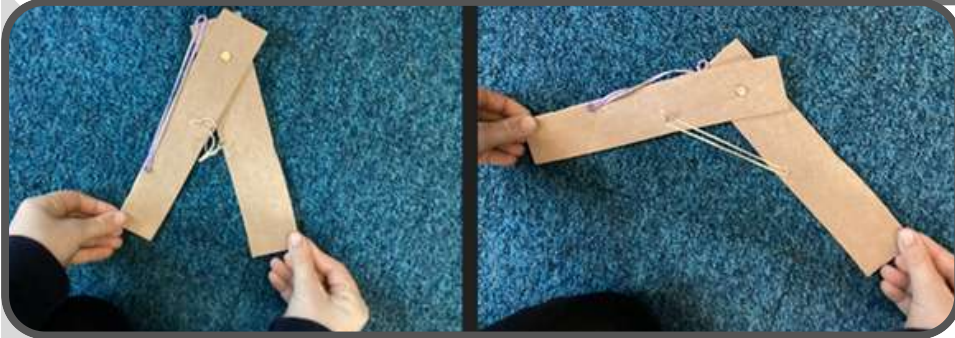
For DT this term, we have made healthy snack bars. We taste tested a range of different snack bars and thought about what their ingredients were. We then designed, made and taste tested our own, evaluating how well we had met the design brief.



YEAR 4

SCIENCE

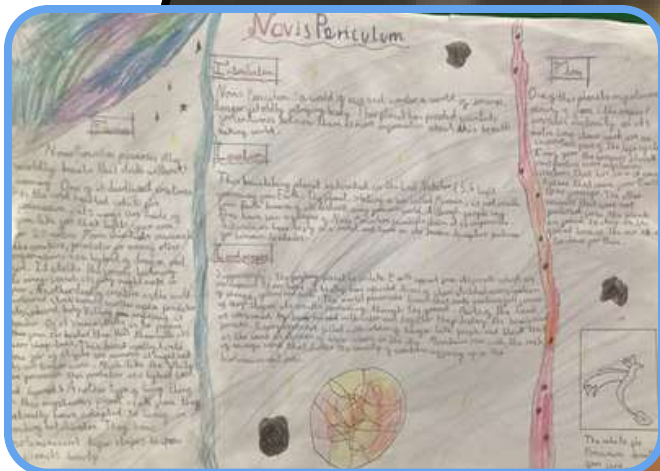
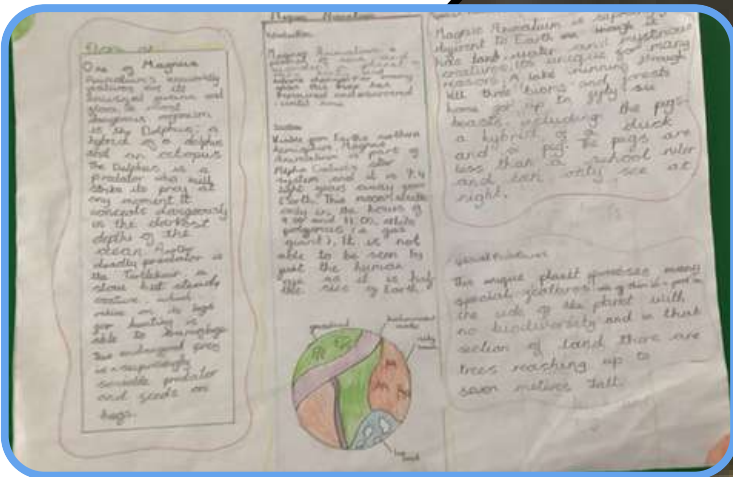
In Science this term, we have had great fun learning all about the human body, including the different types of teeth that we have, how our digestion system works and how our muscles work. We have conducted lots of experiments, including the effect of different drinks on our teeth and the foods journey through our body.



YEAR 5

ENGLISH

Inspired by the planet Pandora from the Avatar film series, we created our own planets and then wrote about them using a formal writing voice in the style of a non-chronological report.



ART

After studying and comparing the artwork of Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and Julie Perrot, we used a variety of media (including sketching pencils, acrylic paint and pastels) to create artwork about planets.

YEAR 5

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

We designed a small fabric bag to hold swimming accessories and sewed it together using a combination of stitches. We then attached fastenings and added decoration so that each bag represented our personalities.



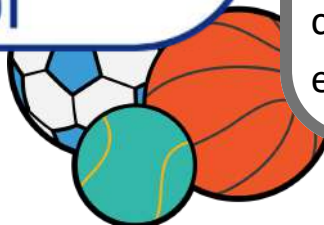
YEAR 5



BROOKFIELD SPORTS FESTIVAL



In July, we attended the Brookfield Sports Festival. We participated in several activities including football, netball, cricket, rounders and tug-of-war. The children behaved beautifully and enjoyed seeing what Brookfield looks like.



YEAR 6

SCIENCE

In Science, we have enjoyed carrying out all of our experiments about the properties of materials. We burnt materials, separated them, created carbon dioxide and learnt all about if what soluble and insoluble meant.



YEAR 6



YEAR 6



YEAR 6



We have loved putting on our school show ... 'Wonderland'.



YEAR 6 ART CLUB

Climate Unity – Circular Art

As part of this year's Hampshire County Council Climate Unity programme, Locks Heath Junior School proudly took part in an inspiring creative project that explored sustainability through imagination, creativity and environmental awareness.

Members of our Year 6 Art Club transformed old and damaged violins into a vibrant collection of unique sculptural artworks. By giving these discarded instruments a new lease of life, the children discovered how creativity can reduce waste while celebrating the importance of sustainability.

Inspired by the music of renowned Polish composer, Grażyna Bacewicz, the children listened to her orchestral piece Overture as they developed their designs. They also explored abstract art in the style of Wassily Kandinsky, using bold colours, striking shapes and expressive patterns to decorate their violins.

Some pupils also incorporated Morse code into their artwork, inspired by Bacewicz, concealing meaningful messages within their creative designs.



The finished sculptures were exhibited at the West Downs Art Gallery in Winchester as part of a stunning installation. Many members of the Year 6 Art Club even visited the installation to see their artwork displayed in a professional gallery setting. For many, it was a truly memorable and rewarding experience that they will not forget.

The artworks will be returning to Locks Heath Junior School this summer, where they will form part of a permanent installation in our Imagination Station. This special display will allow the whole school community to celebrate the children's outstanding creativity while showcasing the powerful message that imagination and sustainability can go hand in hand.

YEAR 6 ART CLUB



SCHOOL HERITAGE DAY



SCHOOL HERITAGE DAY



SWIMMING

Water Safety Focus This Term

This term we placed a strong emphasis on Water Safety, an essential life skill, especially considering where we live.

Throughout the term, the children have:

- Identified different open water locations and the hazards they may present.
- Learnt about the Water Safety Code and the meaning of beach flags.
- Practised the vital Float to Survive technique.
- Developed confidence in treading water.
- Experienced swimming in clothing, helping them understand how being clothed affects movement in the water.

To finish the term, the children took part in a variety of realistic emergency scenarios, giving them the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have learnt to respond safely to different dangerous situations.

We hope these skills will help keep them safe in, on or around water this Summer and beyond.



SWIMMING



WATER SAFETY AWARENESS

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE **WATER SAFETY CODE**

**STOP
AND THINK**



**STAY
TOGETHER**



CALL 999



FLOAT



FLAGS AT THE BEACH



**Red & Yellow Flags –
Safe Swimming Area**

Swim between the flags
where lifeguards are present.



**Black & White Flags –
Surf / Craft Area**

For surfboards and watercraft
only – not safe for swimmers.



Red Flag – Danger

Do not enter the water.



**Orange Windsock –
Offshore Winds**

Inflatables can be blown out to
sea – do not use.

Open Water Examples

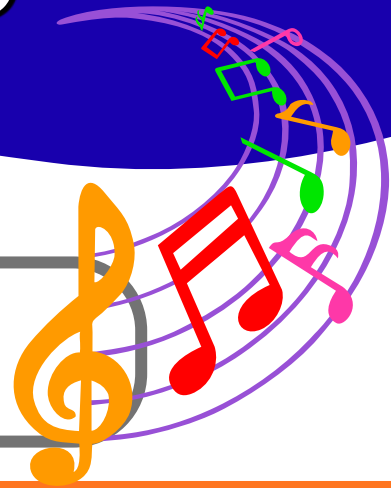
- Sea
- Lake
- River
- Reservoir
- Canal
- Pond
- Outdoor Pool
- Stream

Open Water Hazards

- Rocks
- Mud
- Weeds
- Cold Water
- Changing Depths
- Weather
- Currents
- Tides
- Wildlife
- Caves
- WaterCraft
- Waves

MUSIC

Our lower school children enjoyed showing their progress with the recorder to their parents.



We were treated to a superb performance by some of our instrumentalists this half term. They have been working hard practising all year and it was wonderful to hear their final pieces.

A small group of children also attended this year's Primary Prom at Fareham Live, where they were treated to incredible live performances by local area ensembles.



LIBRARY

We welcomed our friends from Lockwood Library to introduce the children to this year's Summer Reading Challenge. The theme this year is Read to the Beat and is based around all things music.

For a fun summer activity read six books over the holiday, collect a sticker for each one you read and receive a medal and certificate at the end.

Anyone completing the challenge will also appear on Mrs de Leeuw's 'Wall of WOW' in September!



We were very lucky to receive funding from FOLH for a Lunchtime Library. Children have enjoyed a selection of new books, comfy cushions and picnic blankets. It has made a lovely, calm lunchtime activity in a shady spot on those warm summer lunchtimes.

Well done to all the children that completed the Monster Must Read Challenge this year. The new beach themed party was great fun and enjoyed by all!



SPORT

The Summer term has been busy for sporting news. We celebrated our sports week in June with a range of activities including the Sportacular week, Wake & Shake, Year 5 & 6 Biathlons and Sports Day.



SPORTACULAR



SPORT



**SPORTS DAY
2026**

THE FRIENDS OF LOCKS HEATH NEWS

I cannot believe we are at the end of another academic year!

I wanted to first of all say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Friends this year. Without your continued support; either volunteering at the events or attending the events, we just could not do it without you.

Some of our committee will be leaving us this year as their children will be starting their secondary school journey. I wanted to thank them for all they have done for the past 4 years. Thank you to Mrs Rogers, for all of your support this year. She is our school link and attends all of our meetings as well as volunteering her time at our fundraising events.

My final thank you is to Mrs Astbury. For the last 12 years she has dedicated her time to volunteer for the friends and work a lot behind the scene for us. For the last 5 years she has been the treasure, as job that requires time to make sure the books are balanced and all of the banking. As well as completing our books each year she has also counted money that has come in for the events and helped with orders. Thank you Mrs Astbury!

Our fundraising this year has constated of discos, Christmas wrapping room, leavers' hoodies and of course, our Sportacular Summer Fair.

This year we combined our summer fair with our Sportacular event and it was fantastic! Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and for all of you who attended the day. Some of our vendors mentioned to me that they could not believe how busy it was.

We raised £1659.59!

Please do look out for the date of our next meeting and our AGM around October time. We really will need support as we need more committee members and treasurer if we are to continue.

If you would like information about joining the Friends, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you

Mrs Cheesman

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

This academic year has been full of wonderful after school clubs. This year a new club was introduced, **Harry Potter Club**. During the club the children made their own wands using sticks, foraged from the woods, and air dry clay. Once they were made, they decorated the wands with paints. It was lovely to watch the children use their imagination while pretending to be at Hogwarts and role playing spells and duels with each other. They also made their own Marauder's Map adding different areas and bringing it to life with colour.

This half term we have had **Cooking Club**, **Movie Club** and **Comic Club**.

The children particularly enjoy Cooking club as they are given the list of ingredients to bring in and I explain what they are making and demonstrate how their food should look, but we do get a lot of variations as the children love to add their own twist!

It is also lovely that the children take time to find me around school the next day to say how much they enjoyed eating their cooked food.

Please do keep an eye out for our new club booklet in September.

Mrs Cheesman

