Friday 2025

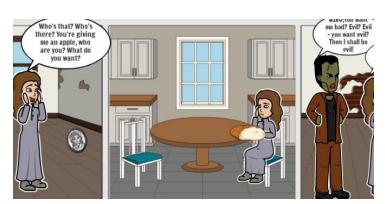
### Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe we're just one week away from half term! The weeks have flown by, and it's been wonderful to see how much learning and enthusiasm has filled our classrooms. Across the school, children have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum — developing their maths skills, building confidence in writing, and showing fantastic progress in their reading. Lessons have been full of curiosity, creativity and plenty of smiles! This month, we have also been celebrating **Black History Month**, learning about inspirational individuals who have made a difference both in the UK and around the world. The children have engaged thoughtfully in discussions, art projects and writing activities that help them understand and appreciate the importance of diversity, equality and inclusion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Parent Coffee Morning at 9:15am
Monday 27 <sup>th –</sup> Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent consultations on Teams (after school)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Part 1 Hep B vaccine
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographs

## **Hamilton Class**

As we near the end of our first half term as a class, even though the weather is turning and we are tiring, the effort of all pupils remains at the same high level as it has been since September. No task is ever too much effort for them to complete and all of Hamilton class staff are amazed at how well the class respond to the work given to them. There have been so many highlights this week: we have progressed with our English text, delving further into the Frankenstein story and linking some of our PSHE themes to the experiences of the characters in the play. Prejudice and social injustice were clearly understood by all pupils and the accuracy with which they responded to the characters when feeling sympathy towards them or making links between their situations has been astounding! During PE lessons, pupils started with a theory session about muscles and movement and then enjoyed a team game of







football tennis which focused on how well they could support each other to pass and control the ball to successfully get it over the net. It was great to see their level of focus and collaboration skills being maintained throughout. Have a well-deserved rest and we look forward to making more progress with you all next week! Miss Rixson

# **Cayuga Class**

As we come to the end of the penultimate week before our first half-term break, we've taken some time to reflect on the wonderful progress we've seen from our young people since September. It's been fantastic to watch friendships naturally grow and confidence blossom across the class. Cayuga Class have shown great enthusiasm in engaging with class discussions this week. Our learning has taken us on quite a journey - from exploring networks in computing to examining what democracy looked like in Ancient Greece. The curiosity and thoughtful contributions from pupils have made for some great conversations! Next week, we'll be putting our learning into action with the Cayuga class debate held on the 'pond,' inspired by how the Ancient Greeks would have gathered to share ideas at the top of Pnyx Hill. What do you think the debate will be on? We can't wait to see our young debaters in action, sharing their voices and perspectives with confidence and respect. Wishing everyone a restful weekend as we head into our final week of this first half-term. Mr Noone.











## **Butterfly Class**

This week we have gone to the ball – the 'Prince's Ball' with Cinderella. Our dramatic performance was, for the first time, held in front of one of our parallel year group classes - Cayuga class. Mr Noone's class sat very respectfully and watched the drama unfold as Mrs Purcell played a perfect Cinderella and her handsome prince even asked for a dance with her. As the fairy Godmother, I turned a pumpkin into a coach and made a beautiful dress appear. Cinderella lost her shoe (a leopard print Adidas trainer) and the Prince began his search. The trainer did not fit anyone except Cinders...and guess what? They all lived happily ever after! Also, this week, the young people have put themselves in the position of the Prince and have written wanted posters; they then put themselves in Cinderella's position and thought about what they would wish for. You will be happy to know that the wishes were thoughtful, generous and selfless, showing the caring nature of the class. As the fairy Godmother, I cannot disclose the wishes, but as James M Barrie (author of Peter Pan) famously quoted "Dreams do come true, if we only wish hard enough." Have a wonderful weekend. Mrs Angell













We have had a really busy week in Darwin class. In English, we carried on studying 'The Witches', using some amazing adjectives to describe and then draw a witch. In maths, we have been using multiplication

on different numbers, and the class really enjoyed the challenge of the large numbers. In cookery, we made bagels; they looked, smelt and tasted delicious! In PE, we decided to try something different and played Volleyball, the class tried so hard and had lots of fun! Definitely one to play again. In history, we are still studying gods and goddesses; we watched the Hercules film and then played bingo, finding the names of the Gods and Goddesses in the film. In RE, we looked at 'The Day of the Dead' and its





traditions. The students then decorated some sugar skulls which were so vibrant. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Miss Anderson.

## **Mandela Class**

This week, Mandela Class have started a Zine Project – we're making 3D characters to include in our stories of 'Adventures at Selwyn'. There's lots of craft & creativity, as well as English, computing, maths, PHSE, and social stories involved in this project to help students settle into the school. We've also started the Daily Mile, whilst spotting leaves, spiders and squirrels around the school grounds. Students are coping really well as their hours expand. We hope everyone has a good weekend! Miss Goldup

#### **Frenchie Class**

We've had another brilliant week of learning, full of creativity and discussion. In English, we read The Pied Piper and thought about how it could inspire us to write our own fairy tales. The children worked hard on building their descriptive language and expanding their use of adjectives to make their writing more imaginative. In maths, we've been growing our mathematical vocabulary by

exploring prime and composite numbers, as well as practising short division using the "bus stop" method—lots of perseverance and progress all round! In history, we celebrated Black History Month by learning about the creation of jazz and the influential musicians who shaped the genre. In PE, we developed teamwork and coordination skills through volleyball, and in RE, we explored and expressed our own ideas about what we believe the afterlife might be like—showing thoughtful reflection and respectful discussion throughout. The children have shown curiosity, creativity, and great teamwork this week—I'm

so proud of how much effort they're putting into every lesson. Have a good weekend. Miss Borgeson and Mr Prince.

## **Kelly Class**

This week has been filled with exciting learning in our class! In English, we've been exploring Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, diving into the story's fascinating themes of creation, curiosity, and consequence. In science, our young scientists have been busy carrying out experiments on solutions, mixing and separating materials to see what happens when different substances combine. Meanwhile, in maths, we've been working hard on function machines — discovering how numbers change as they pass through different operations. Alongside all this fantastic learning, we've also been reflecting on our school rules — Respect, Protect, and Reflect — and thinking about what these mean in our classroom and around the school. It's been wonderful to see thoughtful discussions and the children showing real maturity in how they care for one another and their learning. Wishing you a wonderful weekend, Mr Stone.













































#### **Darwin Class**

This week, Darwin Class have been busy exploring real-world skills and unleashing their creativity across a range of subjects. The week began with a class trip to Tesco where the students took part in a hands-on budgeting activity, learning how to make smart shopping choices while sticking to a set budget. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to apply their maths skills in a practical setting – and to see just how far a pound can stretch! Staff were hugely impressed at the strategic approach the young people had to choosing what to spend their money on.

Back in the classroom, students learned about specialised animal cells, deepening their understanding



of biology and how different cells function in the body. In English, they started to create a monologue based on a character from their text 'Frankenstein', developing their voice and storytelling skills in powerful and personal ways. Meanwhile in the kitchen, they tackled puff pastry for the first time while preparing delicious homemade sausage rolls – a tasty challenge they thoroughly enjoyed! To round off the week, the class got creative with real-life art by designing expressive collages, combining different textures and materials to produce meaningful works inspired by the world around them. Although there is only one week left of this half term, we continue to be impressed with the students' enthusiasm to their learning and the relationships that are evolving within and beyond the classroom. Enjoy your weekend! Miss Joy

### **Otzi Class**

We had some fun with music this week in science, using a website that allowed us to visualize and make music in lots of different ways. We learnt a lot about how people represent sound – both scientifically and in the music industry – and also found out that we may have some budding DJs in the class. Our English lessons this week also took a theatrical turn as re-wrote sections of Doctor Faustus and acted them out. It was wonderful to see how the version that our pupils wrote together brought





out all the nuances of the original speeches between the characters despite mentioning cheeseburgers and lavabeds! Other highlights this week include us all taking turns making ink and writing Japanese characters in art and learning about muscles in PE. Just one more week left to half-term! Have a great weekend. Mr Nightingale

## **Final Thought**

As we come to the end of another busy week, it feels important to reflect on the values that guide everything we do at school — **Respect, Protect and Reflect**. These simple but powerful rules shape how we treat one another, how we keep our community safe, and how we learn from every experience. Every child in our school is unique, with their own strengths, challenges and ways of learning. We are proud to know our children as individuals and to support them in the way that is right for them — even when that looks different from what another child might need. Our commitment to *respecting* each child, *protecting* their wellbeing, and *reflecting* on how we can all grow together remains at the heart of everything we do. Together, we continue to build a school where every child can thrive, be understood, and feel that they belong.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Pine Headteacher