

Welcome back after the half term break and we hope you and the children had an enjoyable week.

A big well done to the children who were interviewed and filmed talking about 'The Voice Box' project. The film has been added to the school website so please have a look - go to the curriculum PSHE tab and scroll down <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M77Zo682IMc>



This is our 'Hempshill' voice box which is located in the school hall. Children can post their suggestions or raise worries by placing a note in the box. The box is checked regularly and the children's ideas/wishes and feelings are taken seriously. The aim of the project is to ensure every child has a voice and can be heard. Children can choose to be anonymous or share their name. Ideas are taken back to our Primary Parliament for discussion.



Mental Health Week

Children were involved in a number of activities promoting wellbeing and positive mental attitude. Megan (our Mental Health Support Worker) and the 'Wellbeing Ambassadors' delivered an interesting assembly which was full of top tips and ideas about how to look after yourself.



The school has 15 'Wellbeing Ambassadors'. These children had to apply for the role and they were carefully selected by Megan and Mrs Bond. They have all received training to help them understand how to support each other, children across school and also to know when they need to involve an adult.



Mini Police

Year 5 have enjoyed taking part in the 'Mini Police' project and they have been learning about how to keep themselves safe and how to be upstanding and contributing citizens. Libby and her team have ensured the information and sessions are fun and informative.

PE

Nick Rob and his team have been delivering their 'Sporting Superstars' programme with Year 4 pupils. The children are challenged to beat their own scores and improve health and fitness levels. The PE ambassadors helped ensure the event ran smoothly and they encouraged all the children to take part.



Festival of Science

Hempshill Hall was selected by Ignite Science to take part in the 'Science and Curiosity Festival'. This event was part of a partnership between Nottingham University and Ignite Science and its aim was to enthuse children about science, and in particular chemistry. All the children in Year 3 and 4 were lucky enough to attend a fantastic 'hands on' workshop led by staff and students from the university. In addition, twenty Y5 and Y6 students were selected due to their love and aptitude in science. They took part in a more advanced session which involved identifying mystery substances by their pH value.

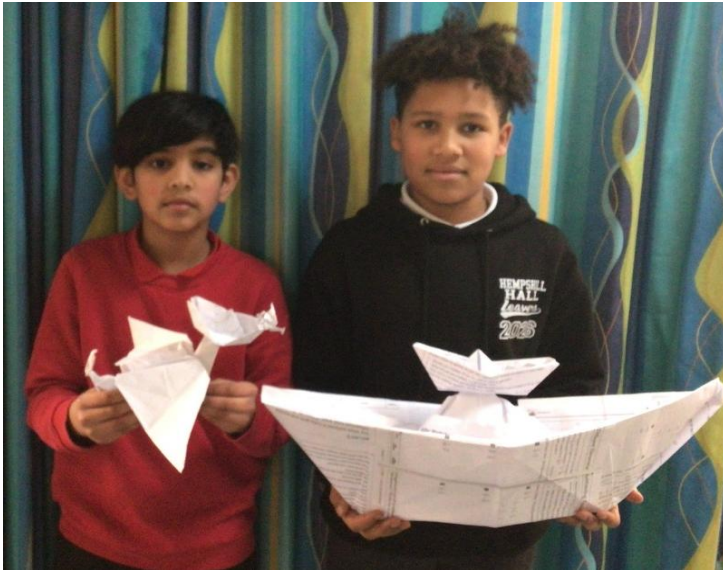


Class Assemblies

It has been lovely to see so many parents attend their child's class assemblies. The children have enjoyed sharing some of their learning and explaining a wide range of interesting and often gruesome facts (particularly the Y4 children who have been learning about the Romans)! Y5 pupils gave an amazing performance of 'Heave Ho'.



Wet playtimes



During the winter months there are always lots of rainy days! Year 6 children have been enjoying learning how to make origami boats and dragons. Some of the children are becoming very skilled at this and they have enjoyed sharing their expertise with others.

Learning at school

Our curriculum is broad and rich, and as part of this we aim to educate the children about the wider world. This includes learning about different faiths and beliefs. We try to ensure the children have opportunities to visit different places of worship so they can gain understanding that people may have different religious buildings and practices but the overarching principles of kindness, charity and honesty run through them all. This half term, Y5 children have had a talk from a humanist speaker and they have also visited Nuthall Methodist Church and the Mandir in Sherwood. If you know of any other religious buildings which welcome school parties please let us know.



F1 have continued to enjoy their time in our outdoor 'forest' area and they have been collecting sticks and developing their fine motor skills in an enjoyable and practical way. Children take part in a wide range of practical and fun activities throughout the week in nursery.



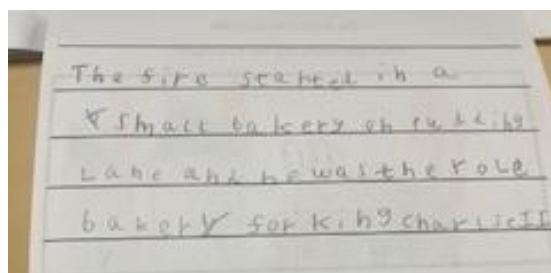
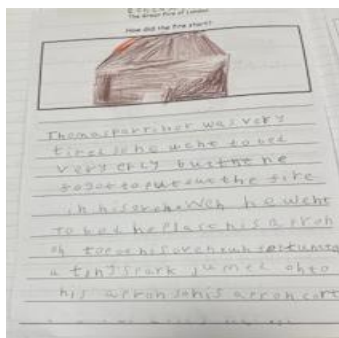
F2 children have been finding out about space and learning about planets and astronauts. They have particularly enjoyed playing in the 'Space Centre' and making and then decorating play dough rockets.



Y1 and Y2 have been creative in music and exploring how different instruments can be played to create the different sounds you might hear at the seaside.



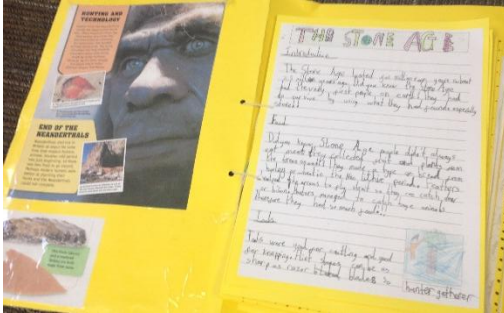
Y1 and Y2 children have also been learning how to sing in a round and they performed 'London's Burning' beautifully in their class assembly. Children also wrote some excellent accounts of how the fire started and spread.



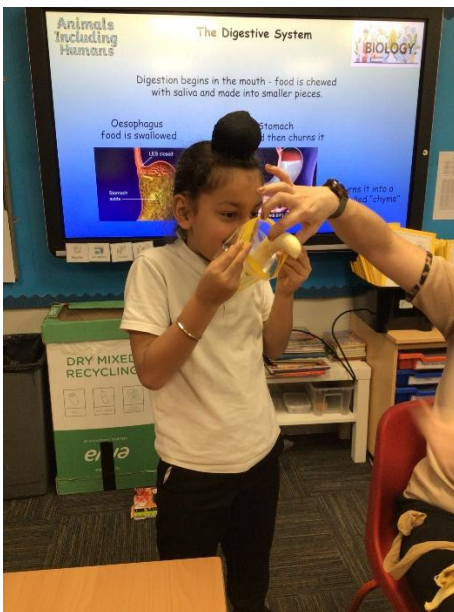
Y3



Y3 stepped back into the Stone Age this term and they have enjoyed finding out about how early man survived. They have made two beautiful books full of interesting facts. These have been given to Year 2 to read.

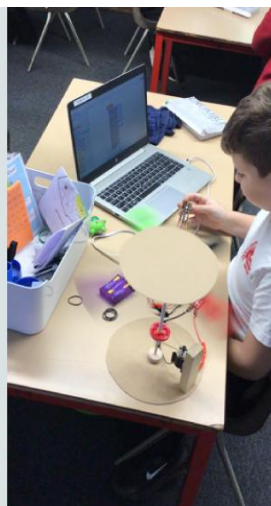


Y4

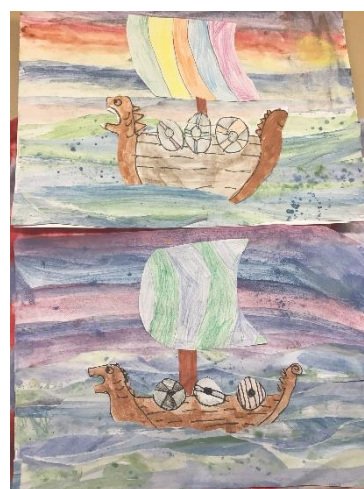


Year 4 children loved learning about the digestive system in this very visual lesson following the journey of a banana in the human body!

Y5



In DT, the Y5 children made a fairground ride and then they had to use the microbits in Computing to programme the merry go round and make it turn around. This was a challenging piece of work but persistence paid off and the children were successful. In art, the children had to mix effective colours to create a sky/sea scape before adding Viking longships.



Y6



Y6 children have been finding out about the Mayan civilisation and how they dyed wool and then made cloth by weaving. The children have tried different weaving techniques to create a piece of material which will be used later in the term to make a traditional 'worry doll'.

The children enjoyed learning about the game 'pok a tok' and they have tried to recreate their own versions on the playground.

Over the last half term, Y6 children have been taking part in the DAaRT programme which is designed to educate them about the risks of substance abuse, e.g. vaping and smoking, and the consequences associated with anti-social behaviour and criminal activity. The children are now preparing for the graduation ceremony where they will share what they have learnt with family members.

The Hub

The children in 'The Hub' have been learning about 'Traditional Fairy Tales'. They particularly enjoyed making a model of the sweet house in the story Hansel and Gretel. They had to cut out the sweets, make the model house and make sweets from dough. Children made finger puppets to help tell the



story of the Elves and the Shoe Maker. As part of their weekly 'community visits' the children went shopping and bought the ingredients to make healthy fruit smoothies in cooking.

Hempshill Hall Book Week 2026

Monday 2nd March 2026 sees the start of our annual book week in school. We always plan a week focusing on books and reading for pleasure to coincide with World Book Day. During this week, we plan to have lots of fun reading and the following activities will be taking place:

Family Homework Project Competition

Have some fun creating a character or scene from a book using anything you can. For example: inside a shoe box, on a piece of cardboard, out of playdough or Lego, or using a paper plate or wooden spoon. Here are some examples:



Please bring your entry into school on Friday 27th February or Monday 2nd March. There will be a winner from each class and they will be able to choose a book from the Book Fair for free.

Book Fair

The book fair will be in school and open after school on Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th and Friday 6th March in the conservatory. We will be able to take card and cash payments. The children will also have the opportunity to browse the book fair in the afternoons, but they will not be able to buy anything then as we do not want them to bring cash to school as it may get lost.

Stay and Read Sessions

You will be invited to stay and enjoy reading books with your child during next half term. Each year group will have different drop-in times and these will be communicated with you as soon as possible.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March. For this, the children are invited to dress up as anything linked to books and reading. Some ideas could be:

- A character
- A word
- PJs ready for a bedtime story
- The title of a book

There is no donation required for this non-uniform day.

Mother's Day Event - Friday 13th March

This event will take place on Friday 13th March. A letter will be sent closer to the time, but we normally ask for children to donate a small unused gift which you may have been given as a present and no longer require, along with a £1.00 donation. This allows them to pick and then wrap a gift to bring home for a special person.

Comic Relief Red Nose Day - Friday 13th March

The children can come to school in non-uniform and bring a voluntary contribution if you wish. We will not be selling any merchandise.

Attendance

Thank you to everyone for ensuring all children attend school as often as they can. We really appreciate the effort that families are making, and we are happy to support in any way we can if children are experiencing difficulties attending school; please talk to us so we can work together. Please continue to ensure children arrive on time as being regularly late affects your child's overall attendance figure as they miss valuable learning.



Attendance Matters!

Newsletter Feb 2026

Welcome to our attendance newsletter. Each half term we will be updating you on school attendance and which year groups and classes are working hard to help school achieve their target. We will also share tips and information with you around illness and punctuality.



In Spring 1, 153 children were late on one or more occasion.

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time as learning starts straight away.

The gate will be closed at 9.05am and children will need to be signed in at the office after this time.
If your child arrives after 9.30am, this will be recorded as unauthorized.

Well done to our stars for attendance for Spring 1 - Year 1 were the year group with the highest attendance and Class Beeby was the stand out class.

In total, three classes had attendance over 95%! Well done!



Our aim is for all children to achieve 95%+ attendance. Keep trying to come to school on time every day!

Spring 1 Attendance

F1	92.89%
F2	93.25%
Y1	94.52%
Y2	94.43%
Y3	94%
Y4	93.85%
Y5	93.66%
Y6	93.56%



Class	Hobster	Belton	Post/Hal	Uppal	Beeby	Rushton	Cunliffe	Slan/Yaz	Gow/Bond	Gibbs	Kendall	Chenby/Braz	Romeo	Brown/Wrt	Class
%	92.89%	90.68%	95.89%	93.38%	96%	94.02%	93.77%	94.25%	94.25%	93.44%	91.87%	95.27%	93.27%	93.9%	%



Attendance Officer: Mrs Tideswell

Shakespeare Week 13 -17th April

As many of you will be aware, Hempshill Hall is a Lead School for the Royal Shakespeare Company. Through this, staff receive high quality training opportunities and children have access to live theatre and chances to study Shakespeare in an age appropriate, fun and meaningful way. As they move through school, they have opportunities to perform at the local theatres and be RSC ambassadors. In Key Stage 2, each year group study one of Shakespeare's plays and every year the whole school are involved in a 'Shakespeare Week'. This year we are studying 'Macbeth' and during this week, children will be looking at key themes within the text and engaging with different activities. Children in Y1-Y6 will work alongside professional artists and represent aspects of this play through art, music/dance and drama.



Here are this year's proud ambassadors.

After school clubs for this half term



Clubs running
this half term – Spring 2 (Feb – March 2026)

Club	Year Group	Teachers	Night
Multi sports	YR 1	Mr Strong	Tuesday
Lego club	YR 2	Mrs Trout	Thursday
Art Club	YR 3	Miss Cunliffe	Tuesday
Pom Pom animal making club	YR 4	Mrs Dakin	Monday
Theatrical singing club	YR 5	Mrs Beeby	Tuesday
Y6 Grease Production club	YR 6	Mrs Chamberlain	Monday
Football alternative weeks girl/boy	YR 3,4,5 and 6	Mr Strong	Tuesday/Wed lunchtime
Area Band	YR 5 and 6	Mrs Francis	Wednesday invite only



We continue to try and offer a broad range of free clubs for the children to enjoy. There are a few spaces left for Y1 multi sports and Y3 art clubs. Please let the office know if your child is interested.

If your child accepts a place on a club and is not able to attend for any reason, please could you or they let the staff member know in advance.

Diary Dates

Monday 23rd February – Y5 Wollaton Hall Egyptians Day

Tuesday 24th February – Y6 DAaRT Graduation 2.30pm

Wednesday 25th February – F2 and Y6 weight and height check

Wednesday 4th– Friday 6th March – Book Fair

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day – dress up

Friday 13rd March – Red Nose Day Non uniform – voluntary donation

Mother's Day Event – please see separate letter

Monday 16th- Thursday 19th March - Y5 Bikeability

Thursday 19th March – Parents' Evening 3.30-6pm

Tuesday 24th March – F1 Easter Bonnet Parade 9.10am **(Please note the date change)**

Parent's Evening 3.30-6pm

Tuesday 24th March – Y4 The Great Orchestra Experiment at the Albert Hall

Wednesday 25th March- Y3 Chatsworth House

Thursday 26th – Rock Steady Concert

Friday 27th March – Easter Break last day of school

Monday 13th April - School Reopens

13th -17th April Shakespeare Week

Tuesday 5th May – F2 Class assembly 9.10am

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May – **YEAR 6 SATS ALL CHILDREN TO ATTEND**

Friday 15th May – Y6 Basil Russel Park

Y1 & Y2 Spring Lakes

Monday 25th – Friday 31st May – Half term

Monday 1st June – School Reopens

Class and Year 6 leaver photos

Monday 1st - Friday 12th June – Y4 Multiplication check

Monday 8th - Friday 12th June - KS1 Phonics screening

Tuesday 9th June – F2/KS1 Sport's Day 2 -3.30pm

Wednesday 10th June – KS2 Sport's Day: Y3/4 -1.30-2.30pm and Y5/6 - 2.30-3.30pm

Thursday 11th June Hub Sport's Day 2.30pm

Friday 19th June – Father's Day event

Monday 22nd – Wednesday 24th June - Yr 6 residential at Walesby

Keep in touch

foundation1@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

foundation2@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

year1@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk

and so on up to year 6.

The school office is open 8.00 – 4pm. You can leave messages on the answerphone or email

admin@hempshillhall.nottingham.sch.uk