

Newsletter

October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a real privilege in my 10th year at Helen Allison School to step into the role as Principal. I am so proud to see how well all of our pupils have settled back into school. It is always wonderful to walk around the school and see each pupil working so hard in lessons. This term we have had some great activities which have captivated the learning of our pupils, including recycling week at the Hub and Fantastic Fred at the School.

Next term I am looking forward to seeing you at our Parents Evening and having the opportunity to show you how amazing your children are doing. Also this year, we are introducing stations within our hall including; information to improve sleep, help around the My Child at School app and a stand with nearly new uniform, plus more.

As a school, we understand that the holidays can be difficult so please do get in touch with the school if you need any advice or guidance during the break. There will always be someone available during this period.

Well Done to all our pupils on a great start to the academic year!

Adam

Principal



British Values

The various activities highlighted in this newsletter are an example of just some of the diverse learning opportunities that are undertaken by our students. Many of these activities take place within the local community as well as at school for real opportunities to explore these values in order to support students to understand the needs of others in a wider context. Helen Allison School teaches students by planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. British values embedded within this curriculum and these values are defined as: Democracy, Rule of law, Individual liberty, Mutual respect, Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

If you have any comments on the Newsletter we would like to hear from you. If you would like to contribute to the next Newsletter, please let Francesca Shaxted have your article.



Make a Difference Awards

At the beginning of the term, Lisa at the Hub was contacted by Andy Garland from BBC Radio Kent to inform her she had been nominated for an award in the Make a Difference Awards 2022 - key worker category.

The awards are a chance to say "thank you" and to show recognition and appreciation for people who love to make life better for others in Kent.

There are eight categories and each category receive thousands of nominations in which they then have to choose 4 nominations per category for the final, so this was an amazing honour for Lisa.

The award ceremony was held in Mercure Maidstone, Great Danes Hotel and was a black-tie event.

They had a lovely meal and mixed with other nominees Radio DJ's and Cheryl Baker.

After the meal they watched videos of each nominee and saw some amazing selfless people and all the hard work they all do for others. A massive well done to Lisa Waters!



Three Little Pigs



This term, Hever 1 have been reading three little pigs in their English lessons. Whilst out on an offsite visit, they did some role play to re-enact the story. The children made a house of sticks and pretended to be one of the three little pigs, while one of the other boys came along as the 'big bad wolf' to 'blow their house down'.



Helen Allison FC



On 5th October our U14's football team began the defence of the trophy they won last year. Having lost a few players and gained some new additions the team is still evolving but it was great to see the team back on the pitch. The matches were all tight games and the team managed to win one and draw another, but having gone up a division the teams they came up against were strong. Well done to everyone who played and we look forward to the next event in November.

Rufus Class



Rufus class have had a fantastic first term and have been very busy. They have been using Numicon in maths to develop their understanding of numbers. In English, there has been lots of working around The Naughty Bus book. The class picked their favourite picture and recreated it. They have all been doing lots of great phonics and improving their letter formation. In PSHE, the class decided on their class rules. These include being kind and sitting nicely to eat. Gymnastic lessons have been very popular and they have enjoyed using all the equipment. In Online Safety, the class have been practicing logging onto their accounts. They have also enjoyed some trips out into the community. As well as going to the local area, the class have also been in a minibus to a local park. Lots of fantastic work Rufus class!!

STEM Maths

This term, students at the hub have been using their Maths skills to measure and weigh the correct ingredients to make yummy cookies during STEM Maths lessons.



They have also been using tape measures to measure different objects in the garden and compare sizes.

Curly's Farm

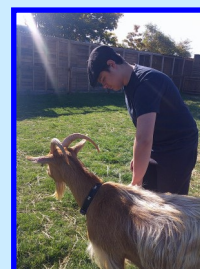
This term the students have helped to move the chicken sheds from one part of the farm to another.

Carmen has a heavy load on her wheelbarrow in the photo below! She's moving the flooring of the sheds.

Micah, Nathan and Daniel have been brushing the goats.

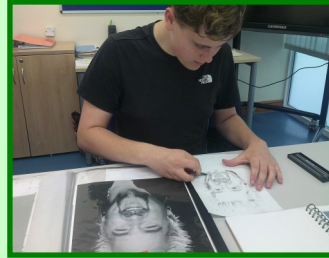
Dylan has been delivering new sawdust for the chicken sheds.

All students have worked really hard at the Farm this term, it's hard work but they have enjoyed it!



Group 4

Group 4 at the Hub have had a jam-packed term!
They have looked at Cubism and some of the students produced a Cubist Portrait.



In Recycling Week they looked at a company called Ocean Sole who make products from discarded flipflops and the students decided to make their own designs. They also took some shopping bags and repurposed them - individualising them based on their interests. Daniel did some Dinosaurs and Harry used Classic Car magazines to decorate his bag.



They have also been looking at different types of communities and during Recycle week they made an Urban Landscape using cereal boxes, toilet rolls, polystyrene, cardboard, scraps of materials and bits of ribbon.



A fantastic term Group 4!!



THANK YOU!

In October, the school were lucky enough to receive a donation of some keyboards from a local family. Ruth and Paul Voce had 2 fantastic keyboards that were Ruth's fathers that she wanted to donate in his memory. Barry Spice, Ruth's father, enjoyed playing music and Ruth wanted to ensure his keyboards could still be used even after his passing. Our students have already been using these within their music lessons and enjoying the new equipment. Thank you Ruth, Paul and Barry.



Curly's Farm

The Hub Curly's Farm group plus Callum, one of our students who also works on the Farm at the weekends, are now part of the Curly's Young Farmers Club.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students. Not only are they hands on learning with the animals on a weekly basis but they will now be able to learn more about animal husbandry and gain deeper in-depth knowledge of all the farm animals.

They will also be able to take part in 'showing' the animals at shows such as the Kent County Show.





Dates for the diary



24th October 2022
Half Term

22nd November 2022
Parents Evening School

7th November 2022
Term 2 Begins

24th November 2022
Parents Evening Hub

9th November 2022
School Photo Day

5th—9th December 2022
World Cup Week

11th November 2022
Armistice Day

9th December 2022
Christmas Jumper Day

14th-19th November
Anti Bullying Week

19th December 2022
Inset Day

my **child** at **school.com** ✓

The school have now moved to a new home/school communication portal called MCAS (My Child At School). This portal should be used for all communication to staff. You can also view your child's attendance, update their records and pay pocket or dinner money via this portal.

Please contact Francesca or Lynn if you have any problems with this system and some step by step guides can be provided.

If you have any concerns around your child's computer or internet use please don't hesitate to ask us for help, guidance or support. Contact the school on 01474 814878 and ask to speak to a safeguarding officer.

The Helen Allison School website has all of our safeguarding information as well as Internet Safeguarding links you might find useful.



Safeguarding Team

The following staff are our school safeguarding team. If you have a concern or wish to speak to one of them, please call the school and we will put you in touch.



Magdalena



Adam



Lisa



Francesca



Chelsea