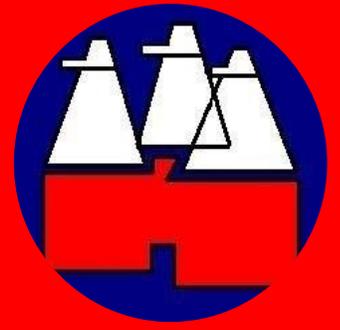


# Paddock Wood Primary School



Friday 3  
May 2019

## Term 5

### A short but busy term!

The Easter holidays have flown by and it has been lovely to see the children safe, rested and ready-to-learn as they returned to school last week. Teachers and pupils have settled straight back in to routines and there has been a calm, productive atmosphere throughout the school.

Year 2 and Year 6 are particularly focused, as they build up to the SATs this term, however they are so thoroughly prepared, there is no sense of worry or panic. All the children have been working hard, to achieve the best they can and all their teachers are extremely proud of the progress they have made this year. We would like to again thank parents for their support in homework and revision for the older children; it really makes a difference. Lots of sleep, a good breakfast and a positive start to the day helps immensely too!

Year 1 have been out and about already this term, making the most of the warmer days; Miss Lambert describes below...

'As part of our 'Into the Woods' topic, Year 1 recently went on an exciting spring nature walk to Foadhurst Woods. Here they were able to look at the beautiful flowers including bluebells, primroses and lesser celandines. Children enjoyed the walk where they could explore the woodland surroundings using their senses.'

One of the focuses in our Science lessons has been learning about the changing seasons including signs of spring and looking at the flowers that emerge at this time of year. Children collected items from the woods, which we will be using to create some lovely spring artwork. This trip also linked to our new topic focus on Barn Owls, where the children look forward to learning lots of interesting facts and creating paper plate owls.'



### The sunshine is back!

After a beautiful warm Easter break (and the hope of more hot weather to come) we would like to ask that parents prepare their children for this in school. They should bring a hat, which will shade their face and neck, and apply sun cream before the start of the school day. They can then bring some in their bags to reapply at lunchtime. A water bottle for the classroom is also important to keep them hydrated throughout the day.



## Music...

This term, Mrs Knight has been working hard, in practical lessons with Year Groups, on a range of skills, including instruments.

Year 6 have, in particular, made a stunning start on keyboards this term. Basic skills such as: using the correct hand shape, placing fingers precisely and the importance of posture have been taught. Alongside this, the children are improving and applying their knowledge of reading music, to play simple pieces.

We look forward to hearing how they progress over the coming weeks and maybe even listening to some pupils play at a later date. Year 6 are certainly enjoying this opportunity to explore a new creative skill, alongside their hard-work and determination in the rest of the curriculum.



# Learning in school so far...

## This week's highlights:

Year 4 have visited Lullingstone Roman Villa this week, to enhance and support their learning, as they study their topic on the Romans. We are lucky to have such a fantastic resource so close by, in Kent.

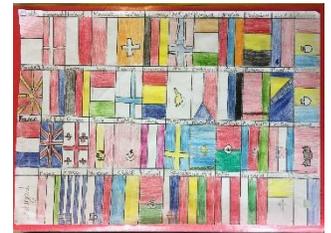
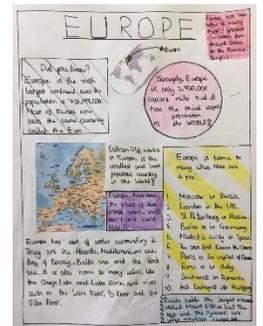
Each class enjoyed an exploration of the villa in the morning, during which they completed an activity guide; this allowed them to learn how the villa changed over time. This was then followed by an afternoon of activities in the country park. Activities included: roman games, wearing costumes of Britannia capes, to keep out the weather and sampling some different foods, which would have been eaten during that era.

The food was a mixed bag and certainly some were more popular than others! They included: breads, goat and sheep cheeses, figs and dates. Archery and a giant chess game were certainly popular activities with the children.

A new study on different countries in Europe has hooked Year 5 this term. As each class begins to look at the geography of Europe, they are using a range of skills including: map work, using an index and grid references, as well as basic facts about each country.

English will involve instructions, balanced arguments and travel brochures, all tied to different aspects of their topic. In this way, the children will build connections across subjects and have the opportunity to write for a purpose.

This will all lead to a more independent focus on a country that each class selects, where they can research using a range of sources and explore the cultures within that location in a greater depth.



## Dates for the diary:

- 1 May to 31 May – Year 2 SATS
- Monday 6 May – BANK HOLIDAY
- Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May – Year 6 SATS
- Monday 20 to Friday 24 May – Year 6 trips/Residential week
- Friday 12 July – Year 6 Leavers Disco