

Hartlip News



Trust - Forgiveness - Thankfulness - Peace - Friendship

Hartlip Endowed C of E Primary School

Term 3 2021

Written by the pupils for their local community to enjoy.

A Snow Lot of Bother

Snow fall turns Hartlip into picturesque winter wonderland.

The falling white stuff looks beautiful in Hartlip and surrounding areas but causes more chaos for our learners.

Hartlip School, like all others in the surrounding areas, had to move to full virtual learning for all pupils on Monday 8th February. This lasted until the end of the week and leads us into term break.



Hartlip School in the snow Feb'2021

But Snow Much Fun.

Children enjoyed fun in the snow with their families which brought much needed smiles and joy.

Children and their families managed to fit in some quality snow fun between their home learning to go sledging, have snow ball fights and build fantastic structures to make the most of the cold spell.



All pictures supplied by parents

See page 3 for more of our snow pictures.

'Learning to live, living to learn'

An End of Term Message



Source: <https://hartlip.kent.sch.uk/>

Well goodness me! That wasn't the term that we all had planned and were expecting!

There we were, all ready to come back to school on Monday 4th January, to be told that we would have to wait at least a further two weeks due to the high levels of Covid in Swale. Then on Tuesday 5th January, we were told that we would need to wait until at least after February half term. Then came the news that we need to wait until Monday 8th March! What a rollercoaster!

It's hard. We miss you. We know that you miss school. It's so hard for your parents. Who, are not only your parents, but have had to become your teachers overnight. I had to train for four years to become a teacher! The pressure that puts on your poor parents is unimaginable. Together with having to do their own jobs and make your dinner and do the washing. It's just unimaginable.

It's hard for our teachers who just want you all back in their classrooms and instead are having to teach not only you, but have a full class load of additional parents! Teachers are used to Mrs Ranson McCabe, myself and Governors popping in to lessons, but having parents with them every day as well...the stress! Likewise, you have your teachers in your home with you! Your private space, where you like to chill and be yourself. That's hard isn't it! Likewise for teachers! We may joke about taking you home with us, but you really are home with us every time we meet with you. In our homes where we too chill with our families and be ourselves.

Hard times indeed. But then I look through this newspaper and I cannot help be proud of all that has been achieved. How learning has continued as usual, how you have been taught twice a day in live lessons, as well as meeting together as a whole school each morning, lunchtime and story time. You still have music lessons and active lessons. We still celebrated National Storytelling Week. Teachers joined you for bedtime stories. We've had music parties! So much has been achieved.

So I guess for me, rather than reflect on all that is hard and difficult, it is perhaps about looking at how much we have managed to achieved, in spite of these challenging times. How much we have still functioned together as a school. How learning has continued. How you have still made progress. Credit to you all!

As we leave each other for a well-deserved February break, I find myself thinking of two things. What can I read? (I am not a good reader!) What is my Lenten challenge? I am going to combine the two! I am going to spend some time reading more and I have just ordered Sir Captain Tom's Autobiography. So I am going to leave you with some of his words that I shall soon be reading I am sure:

'Let's try not to get downhearted, we will get through this, whatever is thrown at us and together we can ensure that tomorrow will be a good day.'

Indeed, let us not be downhearted. Look in this newspaper to see all that has been achieved and how strong you have all been.

I find myself thinking too....what did Captain Tom do? He walked! At his age, he walked to raise funds for the NHS. As old as I am, I have younger legs! Why shouldn't I walk? Walk for water as inspired by Mrs Barrett this week! Yes, that is what I am going to do! I am going to read, I am going to walk and through both, I am going to look outward and give to others. Who's with me?

As I finish, the snow is falling heavily from the sky. Enjoy it! Enjoy the beauty and the fun that it brings. Stay safe and well and warm!

I look forward to seeing you in the new term**together we can ensure that tomorrow will be a good day!**

Mrs Jerome

We've been having SNOW much fun.



What Have They All Been Up To?

Robins

This term in the Robins have been learning how to tell 'Traditional Tales'.

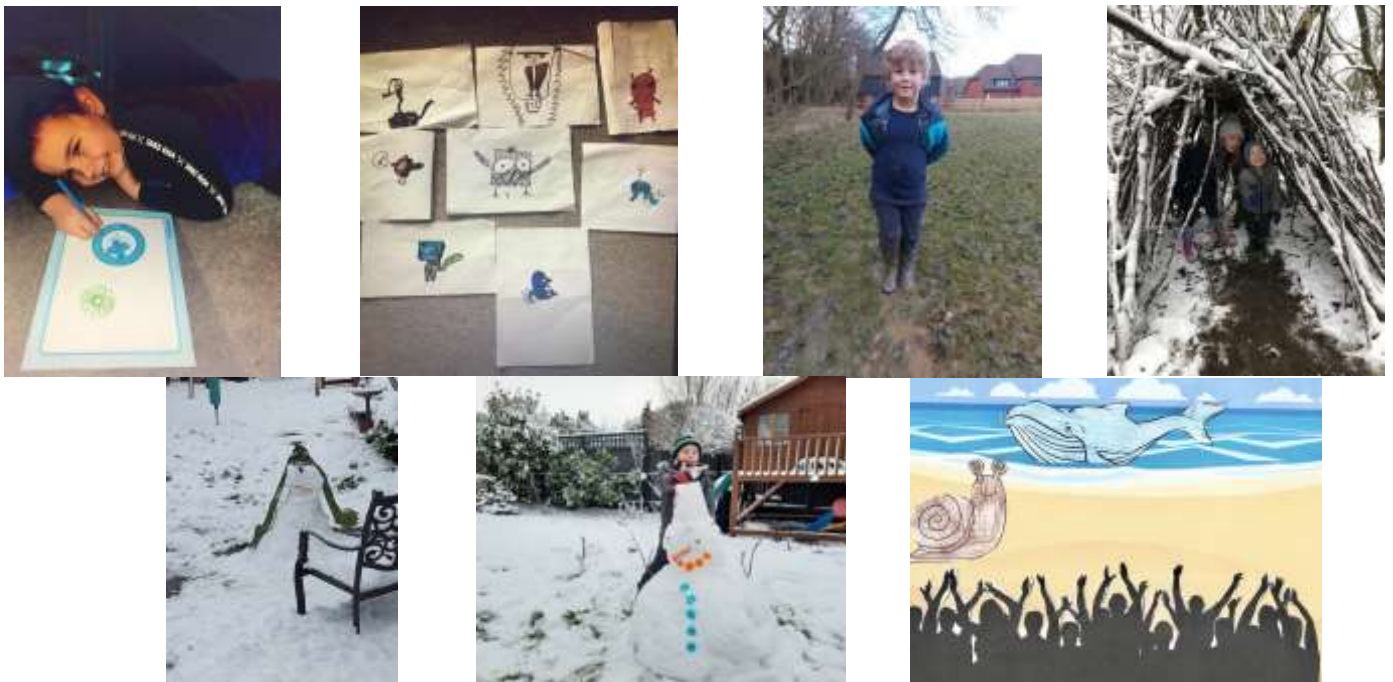
They have been telling the story of The Three Little Pigs and using story maps to sequence the story. Their topic has been 'The Polar Regions' and we have been exploring the Arctic and Antarctica. The children have enjoyed learning about the landscape of these regions and animals which live there. They have been creating art work to illustrate the Northern Lights and marking globes so we can locate the Polar Regions.



Blackbirds

Blackbirds have been busy engaging in lovely outdoor activities

They have enjoyed country walks, traditional games with Vinnie enjoying Spirograph and April learning about how to draw cartoon characters. Blackbird's class have been enjoying a wealth of fun with snow angels, snow dragons snow dogs, winter dens and sledging, it is full-on winter fun in Blackbirds. Snail and the whale creative fun was a favourite with all of the children.



Peacocks

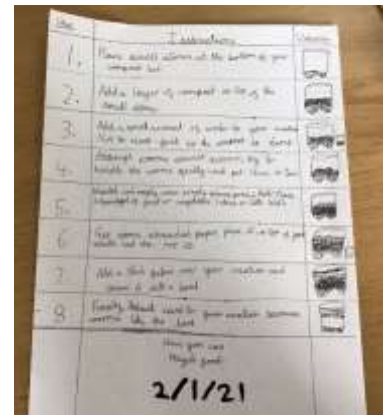
Making a woolly Mammoth

The children followed a set of instructions during their English unit to create a woolly mammoth model. Some children used materials around their home such as plastic milk bottles and other children used clay to create their woolly mammoths. We even had children drawing their own woolly mammoths.



Making our own compost

In science we have been looking at compost. The children made their own mini compost bins using materials that they had in their homes such as plastic bottles and food waste. The children also created their own instructions for creating the mini compost bins.



Eagles

From Boris to mouldy food and Fantastic VIP visitors.

Eagles have been writing reference text this term and using modal verbs and adverbs of certainty effectively in their speaking and writing. To see how these were used they wrote and read speeches as Boris Johnson or became Prime Minister themselves as they demonstrated their power to the class. Science has seen them testing out how long food can be stored in different ways to preserve, observing changes and which is most effective. Eagles welcomed Ronnie Felicia (Ella's Great Grandparents) who shared their experiences, religion and special items with Eagles about their own Jewish faith. Eagles really enjoyed it and found out so much. Big thank you for making their RE topic for the term so engaging.



The Music Never Stops

Why do children at Hartlip enjoy music so much? It's because they get to have so much fun and their music lessons are tailored to suit their termly curriculum.

Our wonderful and talented music teacher, Mrs White teaches the students at Hartlip Primary School for 2 afternoon sessions a week., and having to zoom a tune hasn't lessened the fun, turned down the volume or put off listeners!

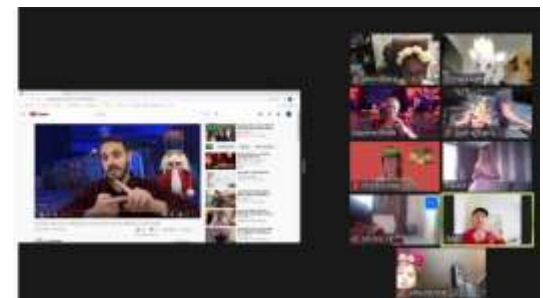
Lets see what magical ideas were conducted this term for our classes.

Nutcracker Party

Blackbirds enjoyed retelling the Nutcracker story through music this term.

They were joined by a giant mouse king and found out how they could retell the story through music. All were dressed in wonderful costumes and had a great time.

All had fun joining in actions and music which they put to telling this well known story.



Ice Ice Robins

This term Robins have had fun moving to a variety of music (from Vivaldi and Strauss to pop music) with tubes and scarves. On the theme of winter and snow they have learnt about rhythm patterns and how we can make them from words. They enjoyed playing along to the 'Snow Day Song' playing the rhythms of 'ice', 'snowman' and 'winter wonder' on drums and other sound makers from home. During Storytelling Week we listened to 'Peter and the Wolf' by Prokofiev and learnt how the composer uses different instruments in an orchestra and different melodies to tell a story.



Rock It Peacocks!

Peacocks started the term learning 'We will rock you' a song about the Stone Age, to the music of Queen. We played different ostinato patterns using body percussion and things around the house and found ways of writing our patterns down. They also explored different pitches from things at home as well. They had a go at chair drumming to the music of Queen which was fun! During Storytelling Week, they explored how the composer Mussorgsky used different instruments and effects to tell the scary story of 'A Night on the Bare Mountain'.

Beatles Party

A fun time was had by all when Eagle's class hosted a Beatles party with the wider community via Zoom.

This was the chance for the children to showcase their amazing Beatles and 60's themed art work whilst incorporating music at the same time.

At Hartlip Primary School we are all aware that it has been a challenging time for children and their families due to the closure of schools and the lack of face to face interaction with extended family and friends so we wanted to give something back to the community, whilst supporting the children's mental health and wellbeing at the same time. Who could think of a better idea then a Beatles themed party? Parents and grandparents joined us as we moved and grooved along to numerous Beatles hits. Not only did we have some grandparents join us from sunny Spain we were also very lucky to have a family member play the guitar and sing some of our favourite Beatles tunes.

Children and teaching staff went all out and dressed up in 60's attire and some even looked as if they should have been in the band itself. This was an amazing event and really lifted everyone's spirit.

We would like to thank all of the children for taking part and we would like to send an even bigger thank you to all of the parents and family members for joining us and making the afternoon memorable.



Move 'n' Groove

Music and fitness in one place.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

Mrs White has also recently begun the Move and Groove sessions that take place on a Tuesday and Thursday morning prior to worship. It is fantastic to see so many children participating and engaged in the fun activities that she incorporates into her sessions each week. All of our children are more than welcome to join in the fun at 9am on the days listed above on the worship zoom code.

Thank you Mrs White, for making our learning so enjoyable.

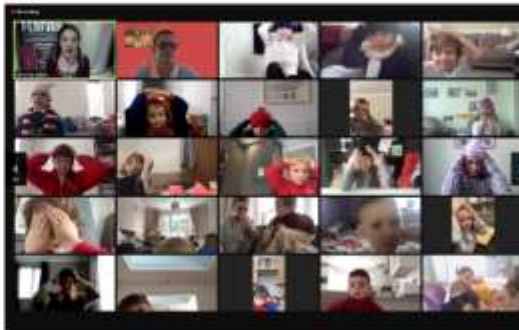
What a 'Perform'ance!

On Thursday 11th February all the classes attended a special zoom to round off their learning or introduce their new topic for next term.

All pupils were lucky to enjoy a session from Perform for Schools who deliver workshops on many different areas throughout the curriculum. These learning sessions are definitely fun, interactive and engaging for all ages.

Have a look at what each class took part in.

Robins met 'The Ice Queen'



Blackbirds found out 'What's in the Garden'



Peacocks investigated 'Magic Materials'



Eagles explored 'Life in Tudors Times'



National Story Telling Week

In this special week the children at Hartlip School got to embrace the love of telling and listening to stories. It's not just about reading!

Listening to and telling stories is an important part of children's development. It promotes and encourages speech, communicating ideas and understanding as well as improving memory. All staff and children took part in activities and joined in in sharing their favourite stories. Children even had to guess all staff members favourite childhood books, which was really tricky.

Mrs Jerome had a very hungry caterpillar at her house and lots of other fluffy visitors too.

Every day at 3:30pm Mrs Jerome loaded a story on Dojo for the children and families to enjoy. Many well known stories were re-told with the aid of cuddly toys, puppets and lots of snacks, for props of course for the Very Hungry Caterpillar to eat. He even ate Mrs Jerome's favourite snack, her water biscuits!



The Story Never Ends

The Robins love telling and listening to stories and enjoyed none stop telling and acting out traditional tales and nursery rhymes during this special week.

Some of them were in school and got to make the props for their very own re-enactment of the Incy Wincy spider. They got a little messy but had so much fun being able to put what they visualised about the rhyme in to real life construction.



On Friday the whole school got to dress as their favourite book characters



Hartlip Story Telling

Finalists 2021

Hartlip contestants of National Story week re-tell their tales to classes and whole school in big vote.

Children throughout the whole school could send in their very out video of them re-telling a story. These were put to vote in their classes on Thursday afternoon, where each class member picked their favourite. The finals took place on the Friday where the four finalist's videos (one from each class) were played to the whole school during worship. All the pupils who entered a video did so well and it just goes to show that they all have a love of reading to be able to remember the stories so well and re-tell them with so much enthusiasm. Big well done to our finalists and Robins winner Skye, Blackbirds winner Iffan, Peacocks winner Elisha and Eagles winner is Isabella.



Story Telling Winner



Skye in Robins, story week winning story teller.

Not only did Skye re-tell the story of the hungry caterpillar, she had made props and characters and used these to engage the whole school in her beautiful story. Thank you , it was beautifully told and we all enjoyed it very much.

Trophy Winners for Term 2

Congratulations !

Brave Blues



Stock image taken from Vector images

Brave Blues win the trophy for house points this term.

Brave Blues are the overall winners this term in the house point system with an astonishing 1,476 points!

House points (counters) are given out to show pupils have shown a positive attitude to their learning, others or the school values. This includes wowing their teachers and being kind to others which shows a good example to others as well. As a team they showed great effort during home learning too and were awarded points that made them top of the chart this term.

Year 4 are Huff Puff Winners for Term 2

Year 4 have been the best Huff Puffers of the term.

With an astonishing 11,212 minutes of Huff Puffs during this term , the year 4s have definitely earned this trophy.

This was a fantastic idea developed by Mrs Barratt to encourage children to keep active. Not only doing fitness sessions but to take walks, run, and play actively to get their hearts pumping.

This is so beneficial, especially whilst so many children, adults and families are having to stay home and work from home. Points (minutes) are totalled up each week and are shared at celebration worship.



Year 4

Congratulations !

Zak's Hedgehog Diary (Term 3 update)

Hedgehog Update - 10th February 2021

We now have 10 hedgehogs that we are overwintering and live in our garage. We've had them for several months now but it's still too cold for them to go outside. We've got 2 large hutches with 6 in one and 4 in the other – they are all named and we tell them apart by putting coloured nail varnish on their spines. We've tried to keep the hogs together in the groups we found them in, but have mixed together a set of 4 and a pair that were found in our neighbours garden last November. We've called them Bev & Glen after our neighbours! We also had another 4 but we passed these to our friends to look after as my friend Mia also wanted to help look after them – until then she'd kept garden snails as a pet!

By about 8pm every day, there's always one hog who's out in the hutch looking for its dinner. We feed them every night with cat food and biscuits and by morning all the food has been gobbled up. They are all gradually putting on weight and the heaviest is now about 1 kilo. It's really funny, if they're out in the hutch when you go in the garage, instinct takes over and they freeze like a game of musical statues – they can be in all sorts of positions with faces out through the bars or half climbing up the sides, but they remain frozen in position until you leave – or if they do move – they scurry back into their undercover bed area.

We clean the hutches out several times every week (they are very messy and smelly and poo everywhere!) this gives us a chance to weigh the hogs and check them over to ensure they are fit and healthy. We keep a log of their weights on a spreadsheet and keep an eye on any who's weight goes down as they may have a medical problem or be suffering from internal parasites.

At Christmas, our dog Buddy found a hedgehog in our garden – we brought him in and looked after him, but soon realised he was blind and was poorly with what is called "Lung worm" It is an internal parasite that can cause lots of health problems for Hogs. We gave him medication every day and a weekly lung worm injection and did our best to care for him, keep him warm and comfortable, but unfortunately, he took a turn for the worse and passed away, the lung worm was too far gone for us to treat. It was very sad, but we realise that we are doing our best and had the hog remained in the garden, he was too small to have survived the winter on his own, at least he got some cuddles and love from us and was pain-free. All hogs have parasites (they get them from eating slugs) and can survive in harmony, however, if the worms become too great in number or if the hog suffers an illness or shock, the effect of the worms can become too much for the hog to cope with and it starts to suffer from the effects. The worms lay eggs and these can be seen in their poo. You can check for eggs using a microscope – if there are lots – you know that the hog will need treatment. Mummy and daddy prepare the slides and its always my job to use the microscope to find any worms, it's very fascinating!



The last photo of Lucky having some cuddles before he passed away



Some of our biggest hogs before they get weighed and health checked

Some of the hogs are quite tame now and don't mind us picking them up, some still curl up tight in a ball to protect themselves squashing our hands, but Sonic Sparkle always enjoys a fuss – he's Dad's favourite and he loves a cuddle and stroke!

As soon as the temperature rises and is consistently between 6-10 degrees for 10 days the hogs will be able to be released back into the wild. (Mrs Jerome does not know this yet, but we are hoping to release some hogs in our school wildlife area, but I will leave Daddy to talk to her nearer the time as our school pond will need to be checked to ensure they could escape if they fell in and we would need to build a hog house!. Hogs are really good swimmers and climbers, but ponds with high sides can stop them from getting out.)

Until then we'll enjoy the snuffles and experience that these prickly creatures offer

In my next update, I will share with you how to prepare your gardens for when hogs come out of hibernation and what to do when you find one!

Zak Jennings



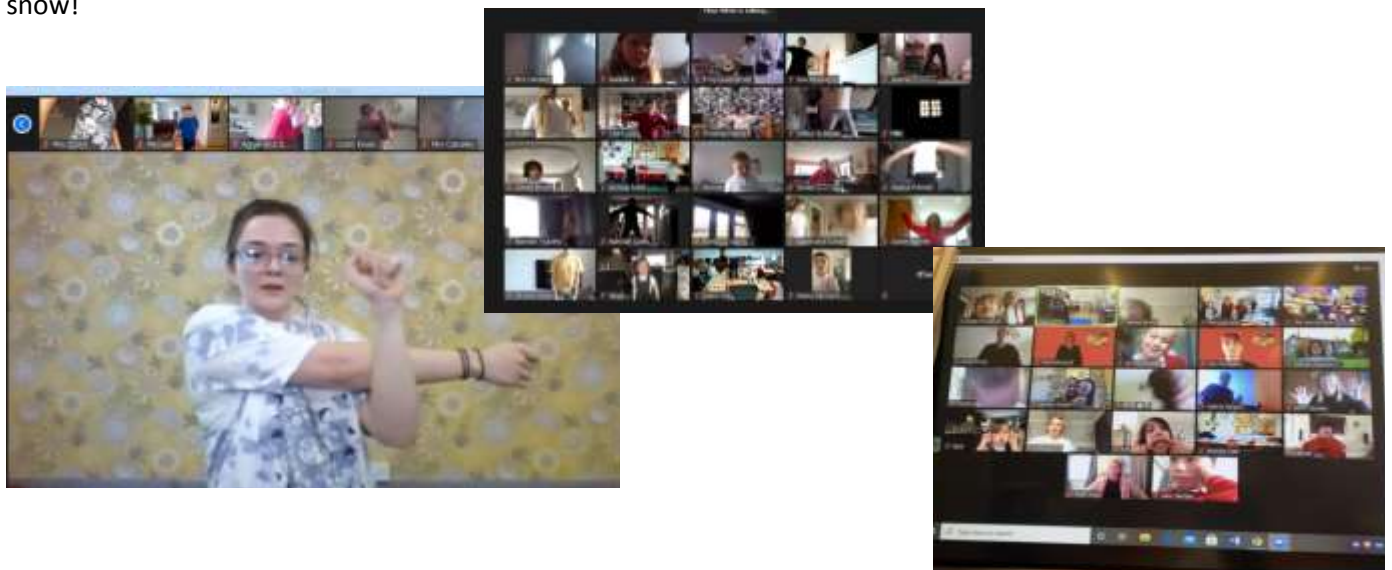
Sonic Sparkle having a tummy rub!

Active Sessions with Miss White

Everyone gets involved in the fitness, wellbeing and learning at Hartlip. Even our very own multi-talented Miss White.

Children and staff join in at 12 Midday for Fleur's Fitness. This is a great time to have a workout before lunch and keeps not only your body, but your mind active too. Staff have been enjoying this as much as the children have to have chance to move away from their desks and revive themselves up again.

Miss White has added so many unique and fun exercises and even taken requests from children on new versions. It's always a guess for everyone to think where Miss White is going to be next. She's even been exercising in the snow!



A message from St Michael and All Angels Church and Our Governor.

Dear Mrs Jerome, members of staff and children,

As I write the snow still lies on the ground, having made a rare appearance, blown in from the East. There is something quite magical about snow isn't there, as it brings out the inner child in all of us no matter what age we may be. Enjoy it while it is there as it will soon be gone!

I hope some of you have had the chance to enjoy making some snowmen at least, which may have given you that opportunity to express yourselves, to be creative and to just enjoy being in the moment. For in these still challenging times, for you in school, it is good to just pause and capture moments in time so that a memory may live on. Of course your newspaper enables you to do just that; to capture moments in time in the midst of this pandemic that in the future may give future generations that follow you through the school to catch a glimpse of what it was like to be a pupil of Hartlip School. I hope through your endeavours you may find inspiration in telling your stories, in passing on a record of memories so that you and others may together say, *"do you remember when?....."*

Who could ever have imagined that this disruption to normal school life could go on for so long as well? Yet let us hope we will all be able to emerge bit-by-bit from this difficulty Autumn and Winter to have opportunities to gather again more easily than at present. We certainly look forward to the time when we can welcome you as a school in the church building again on a Friday morning! Spring is on its way, and of course speaks of new life and new hope.

An English mystic from the Middle Ages, Julian of Norwich (a woman not a man!), once wrote how God spoke to her about difficult times: *"I did not say that you would not be storm-tossed; I said that you would not be overcome"*. So persevere, press on, be hopeful and trust in God's promise to be with us in all things come what may.

Well done everybody! Thank you everyone for continuing to make Hartlip School a very special community and place indeed.

Every blessing,

Rev Julian



Rev Julian Staniforth



'Learning to live, living to learn'