

July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearing the end of another academic year and it is time to celebrate and review the superb learning experiences that have been taking place in our schools. As CEO I am in the privileged position to go into the schools regularly and see at first hand the excellent opportunities your children have and the commitment from the teams. The engagement, curiosity, enthusiasm and love of learning in our schools is so evident, with children who are eager to take part in all aspects of their learning, from phonics, to music, to physical education, to maths and to learning about rivers in Geography. The buzz and thirst for learning is clear in all schools, with every child being eager and able to talk about their learning.

There are many young people who are about to leave our schools for the last time, as they move onto ventures new. As a trust we would like to wish our year 6 pupils all the good luck in the world for their move to secondary school. We know that they are all ready to move onto the next phase of their education. We want them to know that they can achieve anything they set their sights on- they need to dream big and know they can achieve it. A huge well done to them all for showing us what wonderful young people they are. It has been a joy in our individual schools to see them grow from nursery children, into foundation, into key stage 1 and 2 and now they most definitely are secondary ready! Good-bye and Good Luck.

At the end of the summer term, it is a time when some staff have decided to move on in their careers to other positions, within the city or further afield. We would like to wish them luck with their new roles, we have really enjoyed working with you at Horizon and thank you for all you have brought to our teams and children.

We would like to express a very special Good-bye to the following people who are now retiring. We would like to wish:

Hooe - Joan Webster and Rachel Ellacott

Hyde Park Junior School - Michele Lockett, Liz Chipperfield and Karen Rockey

a very happy retirement, we hope that you do all those special things that you have not found the time for before. We would like to thank you for the difference you have made to our schools and children. You will be missed.

In addition to staff we have leaving, there are some highly committed school governors who have left the trust this year after a considerable amount of time working with the local governors. They have all made an enormous difference to our schools, and this has all been within the volunteering sector. They are:

Widewell – David Worrall, Matt McClean and Liz Hill

Victoria Road – Mike Bate

Pomphlett – Steve Donald and Helen Connett

Hyde Park Schools – Tony Greenfield and Phil Hart

Elburton – John Dobson and Ros Light.

We all know that there is a great deal dedicated to being effective governors- thank you, your time, support and challenge has been valued over the years, what service you have given to young children in Plymouth.

We are always looking to recruit new local governors for our schools, if you are interested, or you know of someone who has a good skill set to bring to this role, we would love to hear from you. It is such a rewarding role in our schools and makes a huge difference to the children. If you would like more details about this do contact Kim Hall, on the following email trustboard@horizonmat.com.

Over the last few weeks all of our schools have been supporting children of all ages with transition, whether this is year 6 to 7, or from foundation to year 1. Each transition point is important in school and we are committed to supporting your children with this. The staff teams have worked very closely together to ensure that all the children are familiar with the team and systems for the new school year. We want your children to have a wonderful summer holiday and to be eager to return to school on Monday 5th September.

In previous communication with you we have outlined the future direction of the growth and the exploration of going into partnership with another trust. There will be more information on this in the new term

Personally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the school teams at Horizon, they have all worked tirelessly this year. In every school they have worked together to develop the provision and ensure that your children receive a quality education. Their passion and commitment is outstanding, and I know you would want to join with me in thanking them and hoping that they too have a good summer break.

On the next few pages, you will find an overview of what has been happening in our schools over the year.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity for supporting and working with our schools during the year. I hope that you all have a wonderful summer holiday with your children- it is time to make some special memories. We will see you again in September.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Maria Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Maria Anderson (CEO)

Elburton



Cross Country Running Champions!

We could not be more proud of our cross country runners. Throughout this term, the children have been competing every week against local schools. Each week, according to their position, children accumulated points for the school. Last Friday the points were calculated and Elburton won by 40 points! The trophy has engraving dating back 12 years and this is the first time that Elburton will feature.



Year 5 and 6 Residential

Our amazing year 5 and 6 children had the best week ever on their residential. They challenged themselves, grew in independence, supported each other and became closer friends than before. We are incredibly proud of their resilience, kindness and 'can do' attitude. They have been an absolute credit to both the school and their families.

Circus



The school choir and dance club performed in the circus Big Top this term. As well as raising lots of smiles, the children and circus event raised over £4000 for the school PT

Military Kids Club

Elburton School Troopers had a visit from a World War II Jeep field ambulance and a Land Rover long wheel base. The Land Rover was fitted with a radio which was used as a mobile command and communications vehicle. The children had a chance to try on military kit and look at items used in World War II. The children were had the chance to try military rations.



Half Marathon Challenge



Many congratulations to all of our runners who completed their Half Marathon Challenge on the Hoe; what a wonderful achievement and a brilliant event to be involved in.

Life and Success at Ford!

Choir Success!

What a fantastic time we have had this term! In May, after week's of hard work and rehearsing, we were able to join the staff and young people of PMAC in their 40th Anniversary concert. We sang songs ranging from Johnny B Goode and Love Can Build a Bridge to Super Trooper and Livin' on a Prayer! We had so many great comments and we know that all of our families and friends enjoyed it. PMAC might also have some new members now!

"I am so proud to see Ford Primary on stage, especially after a tricky year. Well

done to
them,
their
staff

and their parents - amazing!" Lord Mayor of Plymouth



Super Jubilee Celebrations

What an incredible day we had before half term! A big thank you to all of the parents, friends and family who turned up to help us celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. We had cake, crafts, music and dancing! I

was really
impressed with
the number of

crowns that left the playground - mainly on the heads of adults!

Residential Madness!

In June, our Year 6's went to Rocks and Rapids in North Devon for an adventure filled few days. They loved climbing, abseiling, bush craft and especially the chocolate filled bananas!





There has been so much to celebrate at Hooe over the last twelve months. We have had some very good academic results but we have also thoroughly enjoyed being able to invite our wonderful families back into our school for jubilee celebrations, sports day, assemblies and 'open house' afternoons – the children have loved having a live audience again!

Probably our biggest achievement this year has been the development of our learning environment – inside and out and this has very much been as a result of the whole school community working together.

Our PTA led a monumental fund-raising campaign, organising a wide range of events to replace our old play equipment. The result of this is the incredible new equipment which is enjoyed by the children every day.



We have had volunteers in school during the holiday to paint, plaster and repair various areas including the corridors and staff room making it a much more pleasant place to be. Volunteers have created an allotment area within the school grounds. Every class now has their own area to grow their own vegetables.



Parents have worked incredibly hard to create an outdoor area for our Foundation children to access and others have painted new games and tracks on different playgrounds to encourage more imaginative and collaborative play activities.



Our new library was decorated and organised by a collection of volunteers. The area now reflects the importance we place on reading within our school.



And, we have celebrated some excellent sporting achievements at various events throughout the year.



At Hyde Park Schools, our pupils are at the heart of our curriculum. Our curriculum creates curiosity amongst our pupils and encourages them to ask challenging questions and debate issues faced in society. Our pupils enjoy coming to school and look forward to the enriched experiences built into our curriculum to deepen their understanding of topics taught. **We are inclusive with pupils who are confident, and enterprising learners who are brave, curious, optimistic, and kind. We are ready to embrace the future!**





Plaistow Hill Infant and Nursery School

We have really enjoyed getting back to normality over the last few months, being able to invite our parents and carers into school to celebrate events with us. Children have been able to visit other schools for activities such as the 'Big Sing' and sporting events and we have welcomed visitors into school.

In February, we embarked on a fundraising challenge, which was a massive success. Children had to complete 22 things to represent the year 2022. We had lots of weird and wonderful ways to raise money. This money went towards buying classroom resources to ensure the children have access to high quality resources and enrichment activities.

During the last term, we had a positive Ofsted report. Ofsted identified that 'pupils are happy at Plaistow Hill Infant and Nursery School. From Nursery to Year 2, leaders ensure that pupils enjoy an interesting curriculum. Staff expect pupils to behave well and work hard, and they do. Children in early years, including two-year-olds, settle quickly and follow teachers' instructions carefully. Staff are kind, calm and encouraging. Children build positive relationships with one another and with the adults around them.

Parents and carers praise the work of the school. Staff are trained well to help pupils manage their feelings. They take great pride in their work to support pupils' social and emotional well-being. One parent expressed the views of many with the comment,



Pomphlett's Latest Achievements and Successes

Sporting

Superstars

On Tuesday 5th June we held both our KS1 and KS2 sports days. The weather was glorious and the children showed exceptional sportsmanship both on and off the track. Our year 6 house captains played a fantastic role in supporting the younger pupils and everyone had a great day. Congratulations to Yellow Team who won the KS2 house cup competition.



M.A.D Skills!

M.A.D Education (Military Activity Days) joined us during Health Week to work on the children's teamwork, communication and resilience. Everyone took part in a military fitness exercise session, followed by an obstacle circuit. The children then used their teamwork to move equipment across a river of lava, then used guttering and canes to build their own water transport system. The children loved the sessions and learnt lots of valuable life skills in the process.



Outdoor Adventures

To finish off Health Week, Year 6 spent the day at Mount Edgcumbe taking part in the PSSP OAA day. They worked in teams, taking part in team building, beach art, orienteering and commonwealth games activities throughout the day. A great way to build those memories before leaving life at Pomphlett.

Viking

Adventures

On Wednesday 13th July, Year 5 had a lovely sunny day out attending Plymstock School to watch the fabulous Plymouth Massachusetts choir perform. After enjoying a packed lunch and some hill rolling at Radford Park they tested out their model Viking boats on the lake before doing some sketching and returning to school.



Victoria Road Primary School and Nursery 2021-22



We love sharing stories and books- **Book Week, March 2022**



Practical outdoor learning experiences in our school grounds help us to build memories- **Outdoor Learning, April 2022**



We like to share our learning and be the experts for a while- **Parent/Carer Workshop- June 2022**



We enjoy singing and performing for others -**The Big Sing, July 2022**



Learning is a big adventure; we build resilience and collaboration- **Spirit of Discovery Year 6 Residential**



We learn who we are through play and experiences- **SEND Child and Parent Park Play, June 2022**



Exploring our locality and enrichment provides purposeful learning- **Kent Cavern, Oct 2022, Tamar Bridge, May 2022**



We experience a whole curriculum with a variety of knowledge and skills- **Ukulele Year 4**



Mental Health is important to us, we learn about our emotions- **Mental Health Parental workshop June 2022**



	<p>Sporting achievements</p> <p>We have taken part in many events in and out of school this year. These have included Y5 and 6 swimming at the life centre, hockey tournament at Marjon, multi skills event, archery events, Plymouth Schools half marathon challenge, Field gun tournament on Armed Forces day.</p>		<p>EYFS outdoor learning area</p> <p>We have invested to develop the outside learning environment in EYFS. This has had an impact on the learning provision on offer to our Nursery and Reception children as they are now able to access all areas of the EYFS curriculum inside and outside.</p>
	<p>Residentials</p> <p>Y6 enjoyed a residential to Great Potheridge House in Okehampton and Y4 went to Forest and Beach, Beeson nr Kingsbridge for the first time this year.</p>		<p>WPFA</p> <p>Our WPFA have reformed with new members and have worked incredibly hard to raise over £10 000 this year. Some of this has been raised through events such as discos and the Jubilee trail which involved the whole community and some has been raised through access community grants.</p>
	<p>Jubilee Celebrations</p> <p>We had a wonderful celebration with each class showcasing a decade of the Queen's reign to families. We also all enjoyed a picnic on the fields. Each class produced some great artwork which is on display in our gallery.</p>		<p>Remembrance service</p> <p>Having 35% of our children from military families, this is an important event for us. We held a special service in the playground and invited our military families into school to share this with us. Each class made and laid a wreath and two of our Y6 children played the last post on cornet.</p>
	<p>Y1 outside canopy</p> <p>We have invested in ensuring that our Year 1 children have the opportunity to continue learning through play and</p>		<p>Summer Fayre</p> <p>Our Y6 children worked with staff and our WPFA to organise a fayre for the whole community which included visit from a police car and fire engine, lots of wonderful stalls and even axe throwing!</p>
	<p>Trips</p> <p>We have taken the children on many local area trips this year to enhance the curriculum. These have included visits to Dartmoor Zoo, Wembury beach, Tinside for a STEM event, a Medifest, Adrenalin Quarry and numerous visits to Dartmoor.</p>		<p>Visitors</p> <p>We have had many virtual and in person visitors this year to bring the curriculum to life. This has included people of different faiths, historians, and drama and music workshops. Not all of our visitors have been people, as we have also had some animal visitors!</p>