27th November 2025

Hobletts Manor News

Headteacher Message



It was lovely to see so many parents and carers at our curriculum snapshot on writing yesterday. Across the school there was a clear progression of writing skills that support children to become fantastic, fluent writers as they move through education. In nursery children take part in daily 'Busy Finger' sessions which includes taking part in practical activities that develop the muscles in their shoulders, wrists and finders to support writing with a pen or pencil. In Reception we saw this move into dough disco-what a fantastic opportunity to further improve on fine motor control to a funky beat! Year 1 took part in short burst writing where they showcased the 5 sentence story and year 2 worked on descriptive writing using the three part sentence Writing is a complex, progressive and essential learning for the children in our care. A big thanks to all the staff for the thought they put into the sessions.

Staying Safe, Staying Healthy!

Being well dressed for the weather!

There is no such thing as bad
weather; just inappropriate clothing!
A Scandinavian saying

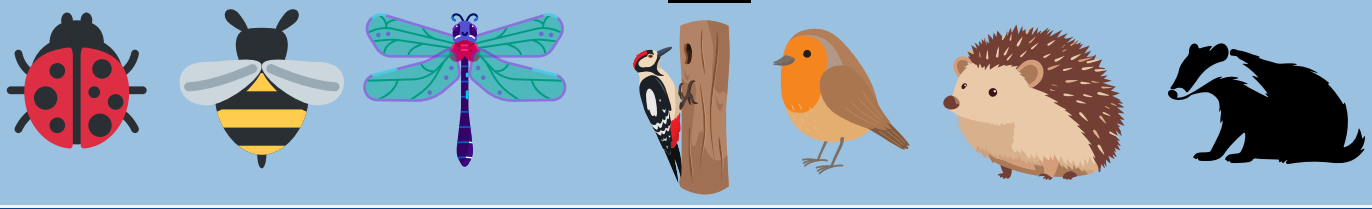


At Hobletts we are passionate about children being outdoors and getting fresh air, physical exercise and experiencing a range of weather. However, to enjoy this they need to be warm and in appropriate clothing. We have been talking to all children about getting their coat on and zipped up as independently as possible. They have also started to put on hats, scarves and gloves. Please support your child with practicing being as independent as possible and having a go themselves. There will always be adults in school to help but we would love to see children get outdoors as quickly as possible.

CLASS BLOGS!

Read your class blog to find out what your child has been learning this week!

*Click **here***



Dates coming up soon:

- ***Friday 28th November - Occasional Day - School closed***
- ***For the rest of the Autumn term dates, including the Christmas Dates, see the email sent out previously or click on the diary on the right to view on the website***

Spotlight on the curriculum - Busy Fingers!

What we do at school:

We have daily busy fingers sessions for the children in Nursery and Reception to build on their fine motor control so that they will be able to hold a pen or pencil with control and begin the journey into writing.



However, busy finger activities aren't just for younger children; top tennis players do not stop going to the gym because they can serve at over 100 miles an hour. They go to the gym, alongside playing tennis, because it improves their game. The same can be said for busy fingers - any exercise for the fingers is going to benefit children with both writing and self-help skills.



At school we have a range of resources that children can access to develop and improve fine motor control. In Early Years this could be threading, using a pipette, putting keys in locks, stretching bands etc..



- As children get older we can challenge them with more complex resources and tasks. For example in Nursery we have duplo whereas in Year 1 and 2 we offer lego which requires greater strength and control and dexterity.
- In Early Years we might offer a hole punch that children can push down whereas in the older years we would offer a one-handed hole punch which requires greater strength.





How to help at home:

- Look at the fine motor activities suggested on the third page - they are all designed to use objects from around the house!

Christmas Hamper Raffle



We are delighted to inform you that we have four Christmas Hampers to be raffled! Tickets for the hampers will be £1 each. They are on sale now and during the Christmas performances and Stay and Play sessions. Please send money in a named envelope with your child. The raffle will be drawn during school on Thursday 18th December - we will call the lucky winners!



COMPETITION!

Today your child should bring home a leaflet for 'The Christmas Tree Place.' If you are visiting to purchase your tree please take the leaflet with you - the school that take the most leaflets upon purchase win a £200 donation to the school! Please ask the office if the leaflet does not make it home with your child...





Christmas Show Tickets for Year 1 & 2

Tickets for the year 1 and year 2 Christmas shows should be sent home by today. Please keep a look out in bookbags!

Busy Finger Activities with Household Items!

- Peel a satsuma – You may have to start to peel the skin, but let your child finish!
- Twist open small containers for snacks. The twisting action to open the lids is a whole hand strengthening task!
- Use Reusable zipper snack bags – The small zipper head is a great opportunity to use a pincer grasp when your thumb and pointer finger pinch together!
- Use felt tip pens to colour and draw. Pulling marker lids off and pushing them back on until you hear them pop is a great fine motor strengthening activity!
- Tear paper into small pieces! It's such a great activity!
- Use clothes pegs! Clothes pegs are great for strengthening fingers! Peg socks onto a line!
- Use tongs to pick up small items and place them in a container.
- Pull apart cotton balls – Try and pull cotton balls apart so that they become like clouds. The trick is to pinch just a little bit.
- Cut a tennis ball to make a mouth and pick up small items with it. Holding the ball with one hand, try and squeeze the ball to open the mouth and pick up objects!
- Put rubber bands around a container – The smaller and thicker the rubber band the trickier it is.
- Screw nuts onto a bolt!
- Clean rocks using a toothbrush – look for rocks and then clean the dirt off them using a toothbrush!