

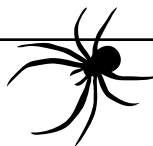


The Blossom Tree

high halstow primary school

Growing Together

Issue 3 Term 1, October 2011



As Halloween is approaching, we thought it would be fun to have a spooky theme to this terms magazine. Inside you will find eerie facts, ghastly puzzles, witty jokes and a gruesome recipe. They start below so read on to find out more...



Competition Winner.....



Thank you for all the entries to last terms competition to win a Family Day Pass to The Historic Dockyard Chatham. The lucky winner is Ellie Collins from Year 6! Well done Ellie, we hope you have a fabulous day out!

You will find this issue's competition on page 8 - good luck!



When does a skeleton laugh? *When a joke tickles his funny bone!*



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Taryn Hawkes

Childminder



Local, friendly, fun childminder has vacancies for High Halstow Primary School and Pre-School drop off's and pick up's.

I am registered with OFSTED and have over 8 years experience in childcare, if you would like your child to join my family and I for fun mornings and afternoons in a safe environment, or for more information please contact Taryn Hawkes on 01634 254149 or 07734206426.



This magazine is brought to you by High Halstow Primary School PTA.

PTA Newsletter

It's been a quiet start to the new school year for the PTA. We have recovered from the flurry of events which were held towards the end of the summer term and in the school summer holidays. A big thank you to all who attended our "Fun in the Sun" days in July and August. We enjoyed 3 very sunny days and 1 rainy day. It was very well attended and everyone seemed to be having fun. I would especially like to thank everyone who helped out over the four days and to the school for letting us use the grounds and art studio. We can now confirm that the Summer Fair made £1815.02 so thank you again for all who helped with the organising and who gave up their time on the day.

PTA Update:

I am now entering my second year as the Chair of the PTA, following my re-election at the PTA's AGM. Congratulations to my fellow officers who were also all re-elected. My first year has been a very enjoyable, interesting and, I like to think, successful. I have learnt a lot this year from the more experienced committee members and would like to take this chance to say thank you not only to them but to everyone who has helped me and the other officers settle in over the last year.

The PTA have held many successful events in the past year including the various school shops, the Summer Fair, a Spring Raffle and the Fun In The Sun days. The fundraising events have enabled us to fund a variety of school purchases. We have funded CD players for each class room, new furniture for the ICT suite and the library. The latest purchase the PTA has been able to fund are 2 sun-shades for the school field which you should see later this year. As well as the fundraising events, we have been able to subsidize some fun events for the pupils such as the Tea and Treats(KS1), Fizz and Quiz(KS2) and the forthcoming Pantomime. We also now have this magazine as a new way of communicating to you all. A big thank you to our editor Sam and all her helpers who put a lot of their own time into this every term.

The PTA are always looking for new fundraising ideas and all parents/carers are welcome to attend meetings. If you have any comments, queries or suggestions please contact us either via the school office, by email or come and see us at a meeting.

Our next PTA meeting is **Wednesday 16th November at 7pm**. We would love to see some new faces, so please feel free to come along.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who gives up their time to the PTA and to all the parents/carers, pupils and teachers for their continued support.

Find the forthcoming events and details of the Committee on page 3.

HHPS PTA Lottery

Did you know that for only £1 a month you will be issued with a number that is then entered into a monthly draw which takes place at the School Council meetings each month (the August draw is drawn in July). The prize monies are £20 - 1st place, £15 - 2nd place and £10 - 3rd place although in December this is an amazing £100 - 1st place, £50 - 2nd place and £25 - 3rd place!

The Lottery is open to anyone and you may have as many numbers as you like! All subscriptions are used to pay out the prize monies and to make a profit for the PTA Funds which is then used to buy items for the children/school which the school budget would not normally be able to support, therefore your support is very important!!

Draw winners:-

July 2011

1st 29 Sharon Reynolds

2nd 3 Kellie Crozer

3rd 102 Ami Lawes

August 2011

1st 4 Charlotte Matthews

2nd 27 Glenys Holt

3rd 43 Marie Calvert

September 2011

1st 80 Deborah Smith

2nd 43 Marie Calvert

3rd 85 Faye Hunt

To become a member, simply contact the school office either in writing or telephone 01634 251098

Forthcoming Events

Provisional dates for the diary (all events and details will be confirmed nearer the time):

Pupils Christmas Shop - Wed 7th, Thurs 8th & Fri 9th December 2011

Christmas Fair - Thurs 8th December 2011

School Pantomime - Fri 9th December 2011

Adults Quiz Night - Fri 3rd February 2012

Fizz and Quiz (KS2) - Fri 23rd March 2012

Tea and Treats (KS1) - Fri 18th May 2012

Summer Fair - Sat 30th June 2012

Next PTA meeting is Wednesday 16th November @ 7pm

The PTA Committee - email pta@highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk



Cath Harvey
Chair



Dawn Matthews
Vice Chair



Marie Calvert
Secretary



Natalie Alexander
Treasurer

You can contact the PTA magazine by email, our address is ptamag@highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk

What's Cool After School

This term, the first ever *sewing club* was started at our school. Mrs Jones and Miss Marsh are really enjoying meeting the pupils after school and the pupils are planning some exciting ways to use their new found skills. Here's what they said...

Lily, Year 2... "I really like going to sewing club because I really want to learn how to sew, so when I get a hole in my jumper, I can sew it together again. I can help my sister Gracie to sew as well."

Thomas, Year 2... "I like it when we learn to sew, I can do running stitch and I can use a needle."

Sam, Year 2... "I wanted to learn how to sew that's why I go to sewing club. I can help my mum when she does her sewing. I am making a cushion and can do diagonal stitch now."




If you have a great after school club or activity that you go to and would like to share with us then send us an email to ptamag@highhalstowprimarieschool.org.uk with 'Whats Cool After School' in the subject line, telling us all about it and be sure to include some contact details. You can also include a photo if you like.

Community Activities & Clubs

Do you have a local group or club that you would like mentioned in the magazine? If so, then get in touch telling us about when and where you meet and what you do.

Or, have you organised or taken part in an activity in the local community recently? If so, we'd love to hear about it.

The leg bones of a bat are so thin that no bat can walk  Bats always turn left when exiting a cave

Brownies

What do Brownies do?

Brownies do it all! They have **Cool Things** they can do where they get badges, like the Artist badge and the Computer badge, they have **sleepovers** and they make **heaps of friends** and have **lots of fun**.

Brownies are aged from **seven to ten** and are part of the largest organisation for girls and young women in the UK, which has around 600,000 members.

To see more of what Brownies get up to, visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/brownies or call 0800 1 69 59 01 to find out how you can join. Or you can call the 1st Allhallows Brownies on 01634 271123 or email firstallhallows_c@btinternet.com



Your Advert Here!

Would you like to advertise in the PTA Magazine? Prices start from as little as £8 for an 1/8 page, per issue. The magazine is produced every term and is distributed to all the children in school and also dotted around the local vicinity and will be published on the www.highhalstow.org.uk too! Discounts are available now as well. Contact Sam at ptamag@highhalstowprimarieschool.org.uk for more details.

School Council

On Thursday 15th September 2011 it was the first school council meeting for this term and the elections for officers took place. The results were as follows:-

Chair - Kes Lawrence

Secretary - Ilse Laphthorne

Vice Chair - Ellie Collins

Treasurer - Samantha Ford

During the second meeting, which took place on Friday 30th September 2011, the council voted on the three charities which they would like to support during this school year. The results of which were Evelina Hospital for Children, British Heart Foundation and Demelza House. The events to raise the money for these charities were discussed and voted on and those agreed were; Wear a Colour Day, Talent Show and Bring a Bear - Show You Care Day. It was also decided to go ahead with a suggestion made by the previous council that all the money raised over these three charity days would be collected together and divided equally between the charities later in the year.

Mrs Sanford also discussed the school budget, how it is allocated and how it included a small amount for the school council to spend. It was explained that this year each class would be allocated £20 for the year to use as an Enterprise Fund. Each class must decide how they can make their money grow in order to increase the amount they have to spend on making improvements to the school. The class representatives were asked to return to the next meeting, which is on Friday 18th November, with any ideas their class may have for an Enterprise Event.



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Pupils - your input needed!

We would like you to contribute towards the PTA Magazine. What school work or activities have you taken part in and enjoyed? Perhaps you would like to tell us about something that you have done or somewhere you have been? Please send your articles in to the Editors Box in School or you can email your article to:

ptamag@highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk
with 'Pupils Articles' in the subject line.

For any drawings, please use bold pens so that they can easily be reproduced and can easily be seen in the magazine.
Thank you.

Body Control Pilates Classes

Tuesday, Cliffe Memorial Hall – 9.30am

Tuesday, BAE Club, Hoo - 6.30 & 7.45pm

Wednesday, St John's Hall, Meopham, 11.30am

Friday, High Halstow War Memorial Hall, 2.15pm

Classes are limited to a maximum of 12 clients
and therefore need to be booked in advance

Please contact Joy Weavers on
07967 493351 or 01634 222275

Or e-mail: joy@pilateswithjoy.co.uk
for further details

I am also interested in establishing new classes in
other areas, if you have a group of minimum 6
people and would like to enjoy the benefits of
Pilates, please ask for further details

FREEDOM

Six weeks of freedom before school starts again

Lots of places to go and things to do

"Oh no" says mum "school holidays are a pain

But I hope it'll quickly go by"

Oh no I hope it's not I sigh

I want lots of fun

And lots of sun

My friends and I made a stall

We sold books, jewellery and clothes

"Come and buy" we shout and made £4 that's all

Lots of fun

Not much sun

The time went by so fast

"Back to school" mum says "at last!"

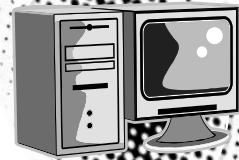
Now my days are quite full

Learning skills I need at school

I know it will be fun

But I expect lots of cloud, rain and not much sun.

By Alana Year 4 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Have you used the school Amazon link yet? With Christmas not so far away, you could earn the school up to 10% commission on your purchases at no cost to you. Why not save the link as a favourite or bookmark ready for next time you are shopping with Amazon. You can find the link at the bottom of the school emails or send us an email to: ptamag@highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk with 'Amazon Link' in the subject line and we will forward the link onto you.



Buckland Lake Reserve

Buckland Lake Reserve, Fishery and Dive Centre

Buckland Road, Cliffe, nr' Rochester, Kent ME3 7RT

www.bucklandlake.eu

Tamsin@bucklandlake.co.uk - 07816437946

Friday 7th October, last entrée received on 25th November

Photography competition, adult and junior class. 4 categories, great prizes, please phone or email for more details.

Sunday 20th November 10.00 -14.00 Winter Wildlife Treasure Hunt

Suitable for families. In conjunction with the Kent Wildlife Trust. Refreshments available. Dogs welcome on leads. Goody bags for all! £5.00 per car if booked in advance, £8.00 per car on the day.

- 60 acre SSSI nature reserve with 1.5 mile circular walk, bird hides, picnic benches and events through the year. Guided walks and volunteering opportunities.
- Two mixed coarse lakes & one 2.5 acre trout lake, tuition for individuals & groups, rod hire, tackle/bait sales, disabled fishing access, gift vouchers. Toilets & refreshments. Open 7 days a week from 8.00 Fishery manager – 01634 220005 / 07827337424
- 5 star PADI registered diver centre, equipment hire and sales, hot food available at weekends. Call Linda and Steve – 07961077241
- Large modern meeting room available for hire, extensive views across the lakes. Ideal for groups, schools and family gatherings. Call Tamsin – 07816437946.
- Gift vouchers available, which make great Christmas/birthday/thank you presents. Vouchers available for trout/fly fishing tuition/day ticket, Coarse fishing tuition/day ticket and dive equipment or lessons/sessions. Vouchers for sale all year.

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Cliffe Memorial Hall - Wednesdays 9.30am
Cliffe Scouts Hut - Mondays & Thursdays 8.30pm
(please text names to book)
Cliffe Woods Community Centre - Wednesdays
8.30pm
Cuxton Social Club - Wednesdays 7.00pm
Viewpoint Club Gravesend - Tuesdays 6.10pm
Gravesend Grammar GirlsSch - Tuesdays 7.30pm
& Mondays 7pm

ZumbaClasses £5

Zumba is a Latin inspired calorie burning dance
fitness party for any age/size/shape & ability

Beginners welcome!

Contact 07746082182 for further details
or to book



Competition



Simply answer the questions below for your chance to win tickets for a Family Pass to Kent Life, Sandling, Maidstone. Send your answers to ptamag@highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk with 'Kent Life Competition' in the subject line. A winner with all correct entries will be chosen at random and will be announced by 2nd December 2011.

Q1. One of the latest attractions at Kent Life is a maze. What is it made from?

- A. Lavender bushes
- B. Pine trees
- C. Maize

Q2. MB is what?

- A. The zoo
- B. The kids play centre
- C. The business park

Q3. Which of these animals will you NOT find at Kent Life?

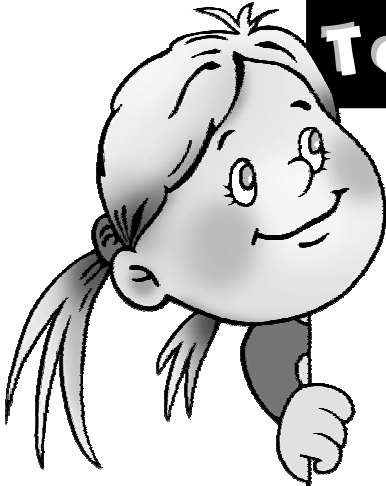
- A. Donkeys
- B. Ducks
- C. Dolphins

Closing date for entries is **Friday 25th November 2011.**



Why didn't the skeleton go to the party? *Because he had no body to go with!*
What do you call a skeleton who won't work? *Lazy bones!*





Toddler Group

Come and join us for a cake & a coffee while the toddlers play!

A great way for Mums & Kids to make new friends.

Babies to 4 year olds,

just £1 for two hours of play.

Every Thursday, 9am to 11am at the Memorial Hall, High Halstow.

For more details,
call Natacha
on 254178

Your first session is FREE!

St. James'

A Sure Start Children's Centre

St. James' Children's Centre

High Street, Isle of Grain

ME3 0BS

Mon - 9.00 - 10am Walking Group (all ages)

10.30 - 11.30am Messy Play (0-5 years)

2 - 3pm Children's Centre Parents Forum (4th Monday of every month).

Tues - 9 - 10am Walking Group

10:15 - 11.15am Bounce and Rhyme at Grain Library (0 - 3 yrs)

9.15 - 11.45am Mother Love - Breastfeeding drop in

Wed - 9.30 - 10.30am How 2, A free crèche will be provided - booking essential to ensure availability

(Term time only) Chapel, Chapel Road, Isle of Grain

Thurs - 10 - 11am Music and Movement (18 months - 5 years)

10 - 12pm Child Health Clinic, 4th Thursday every month

12.30 - 2.30pm Jelly Tots Toddler group Village Hall, Chapel Road. Cost £1 per family, contact Jane Simmonds 270626

Mobile 07905304557

Fri - 1.30 - 3pm Bumps - 2

3 - 3.30pm Lending Library (0-5 years)

Allhallows

Thurs - 9 - 11am Playing Together (0 - 5 years) Allhallows

Primary School, Avery Way, Allhallows

1 - 2.30pm Child Health Clinic 1st Thursday of the month at

Allhallows Village Hall

Stoke

Mon - 1 - 3pm Playing Together (0-5 years) Stoke Village Hall, Mallard Way, Stoke

Tues - 1 - 3pm Bumps - 2 Stoke Pre-School, Allhallows Road, Lower Stoke

Thurs - 1.30 - 3pm Parent Toddler group cost £1 at Stoke Primary School

Hoo St. Werburgh

Tues - 9 - 12pm Pottery Road, Parent Toddler group. Cost £1.50 per family. Contact Dee 01634 253368

2.15 - 2.45pm Hoo Library

Story time and craft for babies 18 months onwards

Wed - 12.45—2.45pm Child Health Clinic at Hoo Leisure Centre (1st and 3rd Wednesday every month)

Thurs - 9.30 - 11.30am Hoo St. Werburgh Church Parent Toddler group, Cost 50p per family. Contact Lucy Day 07906 453969

Fri - 10.30 - 11.30am Bounce and Rhyme at Hoo Library for babies from birth to 18 months.

Chattenden Community Centre, Swinton Avenue, ME3 8PH

Mon - 9.30 - 10.30am Music and Movement (18mths -5 yrs)

11 - 12.30pm Bumps - 2

12.30 - 2.30pm Child Health Clinic, 2nd & 4th Monday of every month

Wed - 9.30 - 11.30am Mother Love - Breastfeeding drop in

1 - 3pm Young Parents Group - For parents under 20 with children aged 0 - 5 years

Fri - 9.30 - 10.30am Walking Group (all ages)

11 - 12pm Messy Play (0 - 5 years)



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Dymchurch by Naomi, Year 4

I went on a ghost train with two other friends
We went around corners and came out bends
We went on the log splash
We came down in a flash!!
We screamed.....
And got an ice cream
We went up high
And waved goodbye
We saw the sea
And sang happi-l-y

My Summer Holidays by Bailey, Year 5

Me, my Mum and some of my friends went to a concert.
When we were lining up we had a long wait,
But the singing concert did end late.
This summer holidays I also moved house and school.
I also did a tournament in football,
I hope I'll meet some nice new friends,
when the summer holidays ends.



Postcard by Tyler, Year 4

Dear High Halstow Primary School.
Lanzarote is brilliant because of the camels, sweetie bingo, bike rides and restuarants. I spend my days at kids club and the pool and in the evenings at 5ive live.
My favourite day out was to the beach because we built sand castles and I was buried in the sand.

See you soon, from Tyler

Summer Holiday by Jamie, Year 4

Sun is shining holidays all day long.
Playing with brothers and sisters, it's so much fun.
Going to run, on your marks, get set, go.
Going to farms and caravans to have a lovely time in the summer holidays



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Fun for Kids

Spot the difference

There are 10 spooky differences to find, can you spot them all?



Why do witches fly on brooms?
Vacuum cleaners are too heavy!
What do you call two witches living together?
Broom-mates!



What do they teach in witches school?
Spelling!
How do you make a witch itch?
Take away her w!

Witches Fingers - always get an adult to help you in the kitchen

225g butter (softened), 100g icing sugar, 225g sugar, 1 egg, 1 tsp almond extract, 1 tsp vanilla extract, 400g plain flour, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp salt, 75g whole blanched almonds, 1 tube red decorator gel.

In bowl beat together butter, sugar, egg, almond extract and vanilla; beat in flour; baking powder and salt. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Working with one-quarter of the dough at a time and keeping remaining dough refrigerated, roll heaping teaspoons full of dough into finger shape for each cookie. Press almond firmly into one end for nail. Squeeze in center to create knuckle shape. Using a paring knife make slashes in several places to form knuckle. Place on lightly greased cookie sheet in 325 degree oven for 20-25 minutes or until pale or golden. Let cool for three minutes. Lift up almond; squeeze red decorator gel onto nail bed and press almond back in place so gel oozes out from underneath. Remove from cookie sheet and let cool. Repeat with remaining dough. Makes about 5 dozen fingers!

Fun for Kids

Sudoku for Kids

Complete the Sudoku puzzle so that each and every row, column, and box contains the numbers one to six only once.

3				1	
	5			6	4
6		5			
4			6		
				2	
		1	5		3

Simpler Sudoku

Complete the Sudoku puzzle so that each and every row, column, and box contains the numbers one to four only once.

	4	1	
		3	
2			

Quick Quiz

$$6 ? 3 ? 3 = 6$$

$$12 ? 7 ? 2 = 10$$

Word Search

Can you find 14 halloween themed words in the grid? Words are placed horizontally, both forwards & back-to-front vertically & diagonally. Circle the words listed below.

h	a	u	n	t	e	d	g	a	t
c	a	n	h	k	o	o	m	g	u
r	o	l	l	s	c	p	j	h	a
t	s	k	l	p	w	i	t	o	n
m	e	b	r	o	u	e	r	s	k
o	n	l	i	o	w	m	k	t	s
n	l	a	t	k	s	e	w	o	p
s	a	c	k	y	k	o	e	p	o
t	s	k	e	l	e	t	o	n	t
e	m	o	o	n	l	m	i	s	r
r	s	b	o	o	e	k	o	s	e
h	w	i	z	a	p	o	b	t	a
c	a	t	t	m	w	i	a	p	t
m	o	n	u	s	t	e	t	a	p
p	o	p	n	i	w	i	t	c	h

skeleton haunted ghost monster
boo pumpkin black treat bat trick
halloween witch cat spooky

See your name in print! Next terms issue will be a Christmas theme. Would you like to share any of your family traditions or preparations in the magazine? Or perhaps something that you have made. If so, email us by 28 November 2011 and we may include your work.

Find the answers on page 23



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Great activities at Strood Library this Autumn



During the Autumn break join us at Strood Librarie for these free activities.

- Spooky Tales and Craft on Tuesday 25th October, 2-3 pm for 3-8 year olds
- Fun-packed Storytelling and African music with George Faiwoo on Friday 28th October, 3-4pm for 3-11 year olds.

Both these events are free but advance booking is Essential. To book please call 01634 335890

Visit us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/medwaylibraries

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Email: medwaypcf@googlemail.com

Phone: 07813 123984

Coffee Morning at Medway Carers Centre, Canterbury Street, Gillingham on Tuesday 1st November at 10am. Ruth Pattison and Taj Ghedia are coming to talk about mental health issues.

Wednesday 3rd November at All Saints Childrens Centre, Magpie Hall Road, Chatham at 10am Jane Marriott will be attending to talk about the SEN Pathfinder Project in connection with the SEN Green Paper as Medway has been chosen for one of the pilot projects. She will be looking to recruit some parents for the group.

Information Coffee Morning at Bradfields School, Churchill Avenue, Chatham on Tuesday 6th December from 10am. Come along for information on support groups, activities for our young people, Direct Payments, etc.

Christmas Coffee Morning on Thursday 8th December at Medway Carers Centre. Come along for a chat and have a mince pie and a tea or coffee.

Medway Parents and Carers Forum are an independent group formed and run by parents, families and carers of children and young people from all communities and backgrounds who have a variety of disabilities and additional support needs.



Summer Holiday Poem by Millie, Year 4

Swimming in the swimming pool
underwater fun
making lots of cakes to eat
mmm yummy in my tum
eating out at TGI's
ribs and chips and birthday
surprise

Holidays are so much fun
outside playing in the sun
laying in bed no early rise
I've read lots of books which hurt
my eyes
Day trips out with me and my little
sister
Adventure Island has a scary
roller coaster
Yes I've had a great holiday
See you soon, school is just days
away.




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Do you enjoy Scrapbooking or Card Making?

Why not come along to a crop evening
on Monday 7th November
at St Johns Church Hall, Hermitage Road, Higham
from 7.30pm

First evening free, come with your project and
meet some new friends.

For more information please contact Julie on
01474 822008

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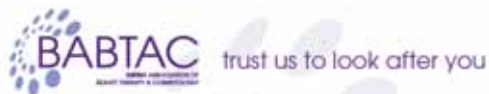
Strood

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Gift vouchers & Loyalty cards also available.



Gardening tips for the Autumn



Cut down all spent shoots of perennials to the ground, clear leaves around base and give a general feed. If the plants need to be divided, now is the time to do it by lifting the entire plant and separating into smaller clumps to replant or pass on to fellow gardeners.

Rake up dead leaves around rose bushes. If the bushes have suffered with black spot, ensure that these leaves are burnt to prevent further spreading of the disease.

After the first heavy frosts have blackened dahlias, cut down and cover with a deep layer of soil or lift the tubers, clean free of earth and making sure the tubers are dry, pack in boxes surrounded with crunched newspaper and cover the top. Store on a shelf in the greenhouse or shed.

Look out for new stocks of narcissi and daffodils. If the site is exposed, why not buy the shorter varieties which tend not to flatten in high winds. Crocus and anemones can also be purchased and planted in late October. Tulips should be planted in November.

Idea for kids

Why not encourage the children to plant prepared hyacinth bulbs in pots as presents for the family at Christmas. Plant in compost with the top of the bulb just showing, lightly water and place in a cool dark place until shoot is a few cm's high and then bring out into the light (not sun), keep slightly moist.

These should be planted in mid October and hopefully they will be ready for Christmas. Wrap in some pretty paper and place a ribbon around the pot. What could be better than this quick and easy present? Note: ensure that the hyacinths are the 'prepared' variety. These can be purchased at well known household supermarkets or at local garden centres.



Did you see the competition on page 8? Go check it out for a chance to win a Family Day Pass to Kent Life

the BookPeople

Bringing Books to you



Read at Home
Biff, Chip and
Kipper
Collection

only £25
RRP £243.51

These essential first reading books from Oxford Reading Tree have been completely redesigned and reissued to ensure they accurately reflect the current curriculum's emphasis on phonic learning. In this brand new collection you'll find phonics books to help practise decoding sounds in words and first stories to help your child familiarise themselves with meeting words as they are used in everyday language. The books are graded to help your child progress from Level 1, when they are just getting ready to read, through to Level 6, when they will be reading with confidence. As well as 48 brilliantly crafted books, there's a handbook designed to give you all the help you need as you embark on this important journey with your child.

The Book People' and the PTA have joined forces to bring you an amazing opportunity to help your child's development and raise fund for the School. 10% from each set sold will be donated to the school PTA. Please Pay Online at WWW.tbp.co.uk and hand your voucher to a PTA Member or Wendy from The Book People. All orders will be delivered to School on 1 November.

Competition Winners

We were so happy when we found out that we won a competition in the school magazine and the lucky prize was a £5 Book People voucher. We chose to spend it on 5 Diary of a Wimpy Kid books and we really enjoy them. We like them because they have lots of funny parts in and the drawings are good. Some other books that we have seen from the Book People magazine are Beast Quest, Dinosaur Cove, Ben 10, Top Gear, Lego books, Horrible Histories. Some of them we will put on our Christmas list. When we were little we used to read the Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and other books she wrote like Room on the Broom, Stick Man and Monkey Puzzle. Our mum likes rhyming stories. We have also enjoyed Thomas the Tank Engine and Mr Men when we were little and we have lots of books in our rooms. Sometimes we donate some to the school when we get too old for them.

By William Year 4 and Thomas Year 2

Fun for Adults

Crossword - by Flowery

Across

- 1 Superhero's wear them over their tights (5)
- 5 Son of Abraham, biblical (5)
- 8 1970's children's cartoon with Aunt Flo and Farmer Barley Mo (3)
- 9 A female thespian (7)
- 10 A proverb expressing a general truth (5)
- 11 Type of tree with hard pale timber (3)
- 12 The ebb and flow of the sea (5)
- 15 Large musical instrument usually found in churches (5)
- 16 A mysterious person or thing (6)
- 18 Hard outer coating of the tooth (6)
- 22 Daniel _____, author of Robinson Crusoe (5)
- 24 Employees (5)
- 27 A quick sleep (3)
- 28 Stereotypical French hat (5)
- 29 French clown with a sad white-painted face (7)
- 30 Fish eggs (3)
- 31 Sarcasm (5)
- 32 Metal disc awarded in competitions (5)

		2				8		
	4				7			5
5				9				6
	7	5	3	4				
6								2
					5	9	3	
	3			7				9
1			2				4	
		4				5		

Down

- 1 Heavy machinery, e.g. bulldozer (5)
- 2 Well known, famous (5)
- 3 Looks for (5)
- 4 To descend a rock face by rope (6)
- 5 North-western US State (5)
- 6 Alloy used in dental fillings (7)
- 7 Unpolluted (5)
- 13 Pub, hotel (3)
- 14 Versatile cooking ingredient (3)
- 17 1970's disaster movie, The Towering _____ (7)
- 19 Creative activity (3)
- 20 Mythical fairy-like creature with pointy ears (3)
- 21 Soldier in the Royal Engineers Corp (6)
- 22 City in the United Arab Emirates (5)
- 23 An item inserted into a written record (5)
- 24 Vaporised water (5)
- 25 Pungent (5)
- 26 Terminal (5)

Answers on page 23

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
						8						
9								10				
								11				
12	13		14					15				
16		17					18		19		20	
							21					
22		23						24		25		26
						27						
28							29					
31						30						
										32		

Fish and Mushroom Bake

Ingredients:

225g mushrooms, 50g butter or margarine, 2 tomatoes chopped
4 frozen fish steaks,
1 tin (10oz) condensed mushroom soup, 8 tbsp milk

Scone mixture

175g SR flour, pinch salt, 50g marg (cubed), 3-4 tbsp milk

Method:

Heat the butter in a pan and fry the mushrooms until soft. Place them in a 2 pint oven proof dish. Put the chopped tomatoes on top of the mushrooms. Place the fish on top. Warm the soup with the milk and pour over fish. Make the scones by rubbing in the marg with the flour and salt until like breadcrumbs and add milk to make a soft dough. Roll out to about 1/2" thick and cut into 8 rounds. Place on top of the fish, at each end. Cook for 30-35 mins in oven at 190c/gas mark 5. Sprinkle with a little parsley to decorate.

Local Places of Historic Interest

In each issue we hope to have an article on a local place of historic interest.
As it's Halloween, this issue's local history piece has spooky theme.....

Somewhere in Cobham woods, on the side of a hill not far from the recently restored Darnley mausoleum are the remains of a crumbling brick plinth, surrounded by yew trees. It doesn't look much now, but when it was built in 1835 it was clad in decorated stone with wrought iron railings. This ruin is the remains of the Darnley Toe monument, built to commemorate an accident which had fatal consequences.....

On the 4th February 1835, Lord Darnley, a wealthy landowner was walking in the park with his cousin when they came across some woodcutters. After watching them work, Lord Darnley, thinking he could do better, borrowed an axe and said "now I'll show you how to cut a root in halves". He struck a mighty blow that glanced off the root and hit his boot, slicing through it and nearly chopping off his little toe. He staggered to a nearby cottage and had the wound dressed, dismissing the injury as unimportant. However this was in the days before tetanus injections, and shortly afterwards he contracted lock jaw as a result of the injury and died, aged just 39.

The monument, erected by his widow was easy to find off the path between Cuxton and Cobham until the hurricane of 1987, when fallen trees blocked many of the established paths. I am told it is still there, but more difficult to find.

Also worth a visit is the recently restored Darnley mausoleum. This was built in 1786 in an ornate style and was the intended burial place for members of the Darnley family. However, it is alleged that the Bishop of Rochester considered its design to be 'unchristian' and refused to consecrate it, so it was never used. Over the years the building was abandoned and suffered terrible vandalism before being featured as a restoration candidate on the 2002 BBC program Restoration.

I recall visiting it close to midnight as part of a Venture Scouts night hike in the late 1980s, at this time it was difficult to imagine a more spooky place than this, as this derelict building emerged from the darkness before you on the top of a remote wooded hillside. You could walk inside its blackened remains (a deliberate fire in the crypt in 1980 had brought the chapel floor and staircase down) and climbing over the rubble you could explore the lower level with its 32 coffin shelves.

Thankfully before the building was lost, work to secure and restore it started in 2006 and it is now complete and much work has been done to the surrounding woodland and paths, which is now all a part of Cobham Park, easy walking from the war memorial in Cobham. More details are on www.cobhampark.org.uk

by Philip Dynes

Kings Kitchen

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One quarter of the bones in your
body are in your feet.



A cockroach can live for several
weeks without its head!

The average human eats 8 spiders
in their lifetime at night.



Feb 1865 is the only month in
recorded history not to have a
full moon.

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for you & your
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of Veterinary Surgeries

Providing quality care for pets in and around the Medway Towns.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 16 November, 7:00pm
PTA Meeting - School meeting room

Wednesday 23 November, 9:00am
Bags2School - Village Hall Car Park

Friday 25 November
Magazine Competition Closing Date

Monday 21 November
Closing Date for Adverts

Monday 28 November
Closing Date for Submissions

It's been a busy time again putting together this edition of The Blossom Tree. Thanks to those who have helped, it can be quite a task and extra assistance is always welcomed no matter how small or large. If you can spare any time for the next edition, particularly with sourcing or chasing adverts, it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again to those who helped with this issue, I hope you enjoy it.

Sam Dynes - Editor

Spooky books!

The Halloween Kid by Rhode Montijo

Winnie The Witch Three Story Treasury
by Valerie Thomas and Korky Paul

Ghost Eats It All! by Janee Trasler

A Bad Spell for the Worst Witch by Jill Murphy

Witch-in-Training (1) - Flying Lessons by Maeve Friel and Nathan Reed

Valley of the Giant Skeletons (Geronimo Stilton (Quality)) by Geronimo Stilton

The Crossbones: Ryan's Journal (Skeleton Creek) by Patrick Carman
You can find these books on Amazon, be sure to use the school link, find out more on page 7



* Witch means wise one. It comes from the Saxon word wica.

* A pumpkin is really a squash, and comes from the same family as the cucumber

* This year we will experience 4 unusual dates:

1/1/11; 1/11/11; 11/1/11; 11/11/11

NOW figure this out: Take the last 2 digits of the year your mum or dad were born, plus, the age they will be this year and it will equal 111!!!
e.g. $1969 + 42 = 111$

Quiz and Puzzle Answers

Adult Sudoku

3	9	2	4	5	6	8	7	1
8	4	6	1	2	7	3	9	5
5	1	7	8	9	3	2	6	4
9	7	5	3	4	2	1	8	6
6	8	3	7	1	9	4	5	2
4	2	1	6	8	5	9	3	7
2	3	8	5	7	4	6	1	9
1	5	9	2	6	8	7	4	3
7	6	4	9	3	1	5	2	8

Kids

3	2	6	4	1	5
1	5	3	2	6	4
6	4	5	1	3	2
4	3	2	6	5	1
5	1	4	3	2	6
2	6	1	5	4	3

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across: 1 Pants, 2 Isaac, 8 Bod, 9 Actress, 10 Adage, 11 Ash, 12 Tides, 15 Organ, 16 Enigma, 18 Enamel, 22 Defoe, 24 Staff, 27 Nap, 28 Beret, 29 Pierrot, 30 Roe, 31 Irony, 32 Medal. Down: 1 Plant, 2 Noted, 3 Seeks, 4 Absell, 5 Idaho, 6 Amalgam, 7 Clean, 13 Inn, 14 Egg, 17 Inferno, 19 Art, 20 Elf, 21 Sapper, 22 Dubai, 23 Entry, 24 Steam, 25 Acrid, 26 Fatal.

Simpler Kids

3	4	1	2
1	2	3	4
2	3	4	1
4	1	2	3

Quick Quiz Answers:

- 6 + 3 - 3 = 6
- 12 - 7 x 2 = 10

Wordsearch Answers

h	a	u	n	t	e	d	g	a	t
c	a	n	h	k	o	o	m	g	u
r	o	l	l	s	c	p	j	h	a
t	s	k	l	p	w	i	t	o	n
m	e	b	r	o	u	e	r	s	k
o	n	l	i	o	w	m	k	t	s
n	l	a	t	k	s	e	w	o	p
s	a	c	k	y	k	o	e	p	o
t	e	k	e	t	o	n	i	t	
e	m	o	n	l	m	i	s	r	
r	s	b	o	o	e	k	o	s	e
h	w	i	z	a	p	o	b	t	a
c	a	t	m	w	i	a	p	t	
m	o	n	u	s	t	e	t	a	p
p	o	e	n	i	w	i	t	c	h

*Christmas
Party Meals
& Entertainment
2011*



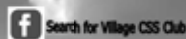
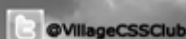
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