

Parliament Assembly with special guest, Mr Sajid Javid MP

This week children have been learning about 'Parliament'. To help further enrich children's learning and understanding about our Government, we invited our local MP, Mr Sajid Javid, to join us for a special question and answer session.

Back in March 2019, Mr Javid, who at the time was Home Secretary, made a special visit to Millfields to join a special assembly. Unfortunately, this year we were unable to invite him back into our school in person, so instead we decided to link up via Teams!

Today, Friday 6th November, we were delighted to have Mr Sajid Javid join our whole school assembly. Children from across the school were able to ask Mr Javid some fantastic questions to which he gave some really interesting answers to.



Sajid Javid MP, visiting Millfields back in 2019

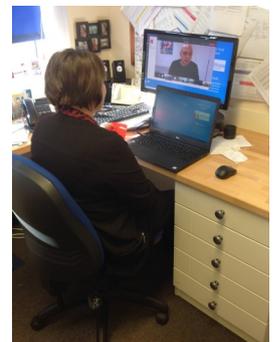


Did you know, the Queen is actually really chatty! When he was younger, Mr Javid wanted to be a bus driver - like his Dad. When he was Chancellor of the Exchequer and lived at Number 11 Downing Street, he and the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, used to walk their dogs together in the gardens.

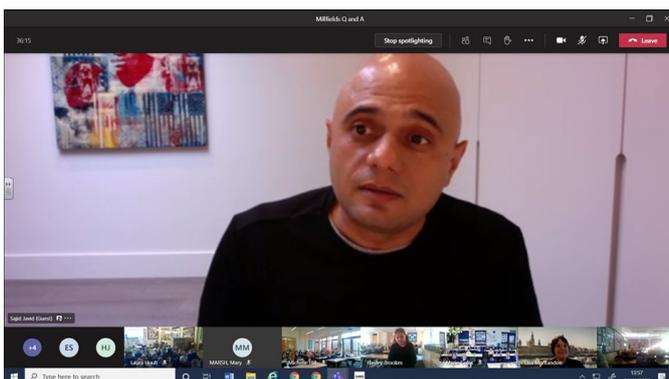
Mr Javid enjoys reading and spending time with his family. When he first became an MP, his son then aged 7, called him a 'Mop' for Member of Parliament!

When asked if he had met the Queen, Sajid Javid said that he has met her on many occasions. Mr Javid added that he sends her a Christmas card every year that has been designed by a pupil from a school in Bromsgrove. (Don't forget to get your child's entry to Mr Javid by 12th November - see the letter sent home on the App on 23rd October).

Feedback from the children is that they have really enjoyed meeting with Sajid Javid in school. We're very grateful that Mr Javid could join us today.



Mrs Montandon hosting today's assembly



Mr Sajid Javid, MP Joining Millfields Assembly



Cherry Class listening in to our special assembly

Harvest Festival

We would like to thank all of our families for the very generous amount of food contributed towards our Millfields First School Harvest Festival which took place on Tuesday 20th October.

Packets, tins, grains and pasta filled our stage and have been gratefully received at NewStarts and the Basement Project, both fantastic charities based in Bromsgrove helping to make a difference to local families who may be struggling during these testing times.

Our Harvest Festival took a very different format to the usual gathering of parents and carers in the school hall, hosted by our Year 4 children as in previous years.

Mrs Montandon led a special Harvest assembly via Teams and all our children were able to come together to share poems and prayers, giving thanks for this year's harvest.

Thank you once again for your kind donations. They are very much appreciated and show that even in the most difficult of times, we still come together as a school community to support others.

Our virtual Harvest Festival can be viewed on our website under the 'News & Calendar' heading, look for the 'Harvest Festival—2020' tab. Or click here for a direct link to YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/YxX56BfHN7k>



Children from Rowan Class with our Harvest donations

2021 School Applications: Pre-School / Reception / Middle School

Applications remain open for anyone with a child looking to start Reception in September 2021. We are very pleased to let you know that our new whole school virtual tour is now live on our website. Look under the 'Information' heading and then select the 'New Entrants' tab, or click the following link to YouTube: <https://youtu.be/XTmzXvUumR8>. Do feel free to have a little nose if you like and let parents / carers of children starting school in September know!

Our Pre-School now has limited spaces remaining for the rest of this year. Spaces are already starting to fill up for September 2021 too! if you, or anyone you know, are interested in sending a child to our Pre-School, please contact the school office for more information.

If your child is currently in Year 4, please make sure you have started to think about applying for a Middle school place. Applications close on 15th January 2021.

Timetable for Admissions and Transfers Intakes for September 2021

A table showing key dates in the School admission timetable

School Phase	First/Primary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
Applications Open on	1 September 2020	1 September 2020	1 September 2020
Closing Dates	15 January 2021	15 January 2021	31 October 2020
School Offer Notification Dates	16 April 2021	16 April 2021	1 March 2021

Home Learning

We wanted to share some of the fantastic home learning that had taken place over the last couple of weeks of last half term.

Children have worked really hard whilst isolating to produce some brilliant pieces of work. Below are some of the creative pieces children from Holly Class had enjoyed making as part of their remote learning during isolation. Parents / carers, thank you for your continued help and support with your child's education whilst they are unable to be in school.



Don't forget to complete the 'Remote Learning' questionnaire (the link can be found on page 4 of this newsletter) this will help us to help you should your child need to isolate for any reason in the future. Thank you.

Forest School News

We have really enjoyed a variety of sessions at our Forest School this Autumn including bug hunts, fires and cooking, building projects, arts and craft, experiments, problem solving and physical challenges.

The site is constantly being improved for the children, and this term we have concentrated on improving the children's balance by helping them set up obstacle courses to try out, to use the slack-lines building core strength and determination, to play on the tyre swing and also most recently the tyre wall. The children learn to encourage each other, have a go, and wait for their turn. We are looking to improve this area of the site further during the winter to get the children moving more in the colder weather.



A very new addition to the site is the parachute that we have positioned above the fire-circle for more protection against the weather. The children have been fascinated with where the parachute has come from, who used it before us, and also mesmerised by its movement in the breeze.

This term we are hoping to include more fires and cooking to the sessions (weather permitting) and we would be grateful for any donations of marshmallows that we can make into s'mores.

Please make sure you have completed your child's consent form for Forest School food to enable us to include the whole class in these sessions.





Important Questionnaires

Thank you to everyone who has so far completed the questionnaires we have sent out lately. In case you may have missed any we have popped the links below for you.

It is really important that these are completed. If you come across any problems with any of these please let us know:

Forest School Food Consent: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q4e3yHzAsEKfcSsFIQIPZAF9oYUMcdAg2fsM8VzGmJUNEUxUUM2OU4wWE81TzIGUKFEUTJZVzM0OC4u>

Remote Learning: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q4e3yHzAsEKfcSsFIQIPZN00LTF2r61EmCIHPfafSB1UQjRNN1U3Nk9MTjJTTkkwRDExWjVCN0dZUI4u>

Parent Questionnaire: <https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q4e3yHzAsEKfcSsFIQIPZNCz5wpwaVHhoK9N42QtdJUNjRIUk5DMjlxM0dJMjMyWEIBTFRZNUM2Ni4u>

Or scan the QR code:



Thank you, we appreciate the time you take to complete these.



Flu Vaccinations

Nasal Flu Vaccinations are **still scheduled** to take place in school on 27th November for all children from Reception to Year 4. **Consent forms have been sent out** to all children on Thursday 5th November. Please return these to your child's class teacher by no later than **Friday 13th** at the latest - this will allow the immunisation team to order enough vaccines.



Pupil Photographs

Tempest have confirmed that they will **still be attending** school on **Friday November 20th 2020** to take children's individual photographs.

The photographs will take place across the morning. Each class will come down separately to have their individual photograph taken. Staff from Tempest will be wearing face masks and will be practising strict social distancing at all times.

If your child has P.E. or Forest School on Friday 20th November, please could you send your child to school in their white polo shirt and school jumper / cardigan. As children will only have their top half photographed, they will be ok to wear their joggers on their bottom half.

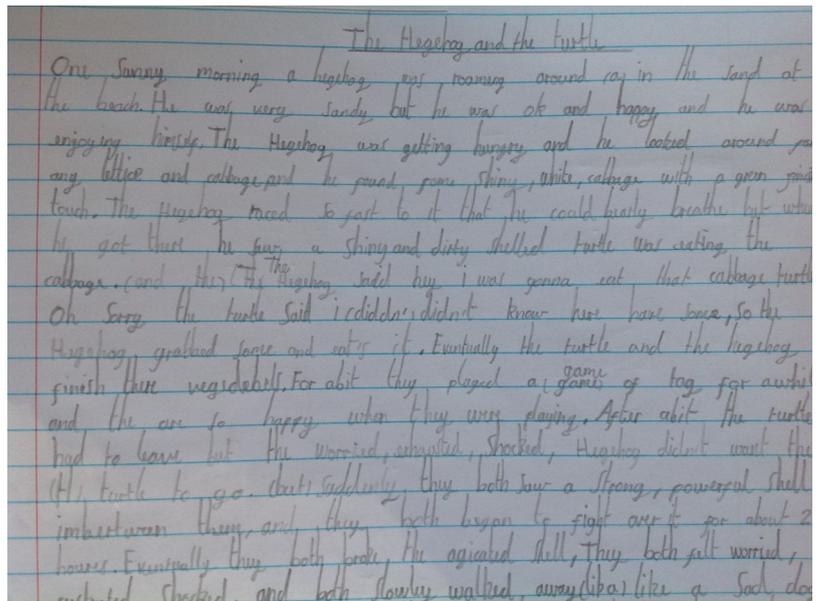
After their photo they will take their jumper / cardigan off and replace it with their outdoor P.E. jumper / hoodie - please send this into school ready to change in to. Please make sure all items of clothing are named. As we are not permitting children to get changed in school at the moment, children will then wear their white polo shirt for P.E. / Forest School. (It might be worth sending them in in an old polo shirt that you won't mind potentially getting dirty on this day).

Please note, unfortunately we are unable to offer sibling photos this year.

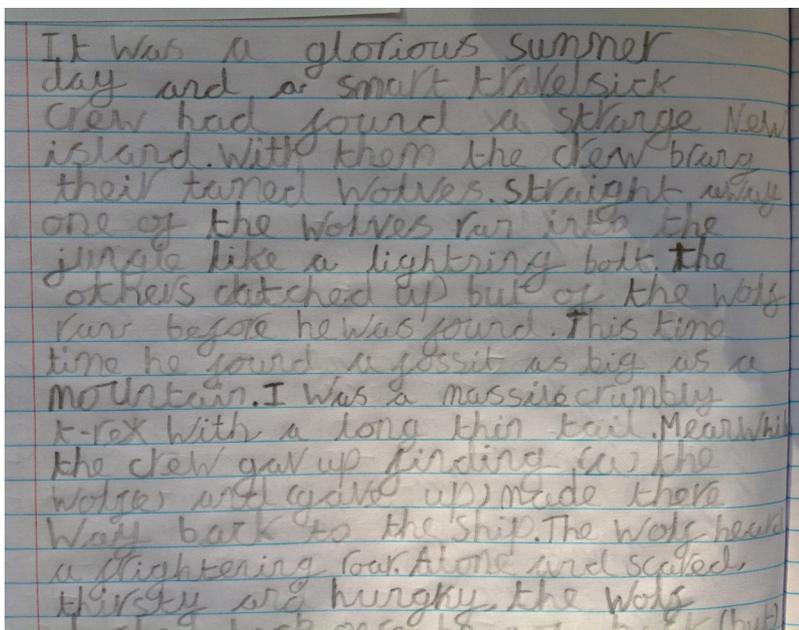
News From ... Hazel Class

Last half term Hazel Class have been learning all about Fables. Fables are stories with a moral and most were written by Aesop.

The children enjoyed reading them and learning from the different morals.



by Georgia

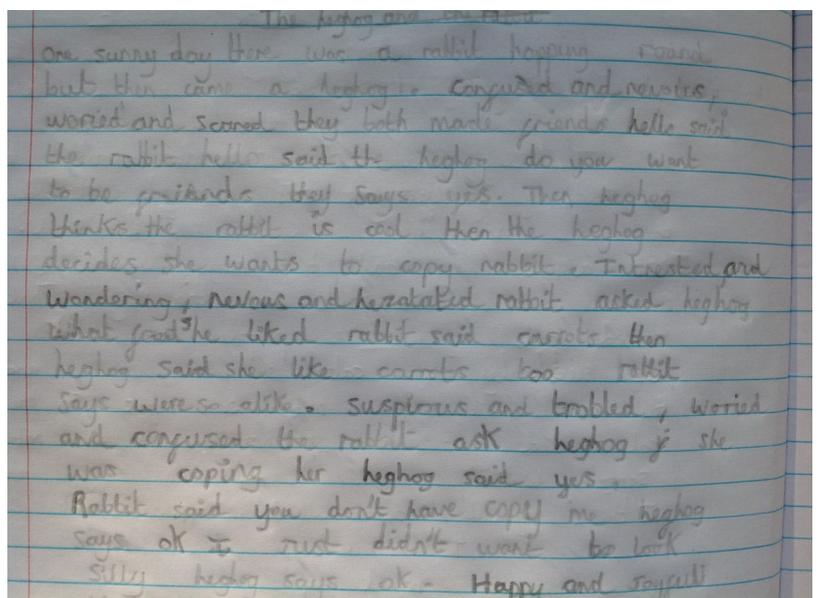


by Casper

The children were able to use interesting vocabulary and different sentence types in order to excite the reader.

Here are a few extracts taken from some Hazel Class children's work books. We hope you enjoy the start of these fables!

Miss Sayle,
 Hazel Class Teacher



by Mila



Gold Book Award

Each week we celebrate a child from every class who has demonstrated admirable attitude and / or behaviours that promote our school values.

Our school values and attitudes are: Friendship, Kindness, Teamwork, Caring to the Community, Respect, Honesty, Independence, Charity and Helpfulness.

Congratulations to all children in the Gold Book over the last couple of weeks...





Stars of the Week! Week Ending Friday 23rd October



Each week we celebrate children that have produced exceptional pieces of work, or have given of their best in class. Well done to all our stars that have worked hard, keep up the great work!





Stars of the Week! Week Ending Friday 6th November



Each week we celebrate children that have produced exceptional pieces of work, or have given of their best in class. Well done to all our stars that have worked hard, keep up the great work!





Recent Communications

We know parents / carers have a lot going on at the moment. From having to manage working from home, knowing what days to send your child to school in their outdoor P.E. kit to having to suddenly know what a 'tri-graph' and a 'phoneme' is to help with your child's home learning!

To help make things a little easier we have listed some important letters / communications that we have sent home recently, via our app, in case you may have missed them.

If relevant to you and your child, you should be able to find them on the app.

If you have any problems please contact the school office.

Date communication sent out	Letter / Message	Title	For who...
19th October 2020	Message	Autumn (2) Booking Forms	Juniper Club users
22nd October 2020	Message	Friends Association: Children's Christmas Card Orders	All
22nd October 2020	Letter	Forest School Food Consent Form	All
23rd October 2020	Letter	Remote Education Questionnaire	All
23rd October 2020	Letter	Free Reading Resources from Oxford Owl	All
23rd October 2020	Letter	Sajid Javid's Christmas Card Competition 2020	All
23rd October 2020	Letter	End of Half Term Letter: October 2020	All
2nd November 2020	Letter	Welcome Back After Autumn Half Term	All
4th November 2020	Message	Acorns Reading Books	Reception
5th November 2020	Message	Year 4 Christmas 'Hark!' Performance	Year 4
5th November 2020	Message	School Reading Books	Reception—Year 4



'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Term Dates 2020 / 2021

Millfields First School Term Dates for the Academic Year 2020 / 2021

Term	School Opens on:	School closes at the end of the school day on:
Autumn Half Term 1	Wednesday 2nd September 2020	Friday 23rd October 2020
School Closed: Autumn Half Term	Monday 26th October 2020 to Friday 30th October 2020	
Autumn Half Term 2	Tuesday 3rd November 2020	Friday 18th December 2020
School Closed: Christmas Holidays	Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021	
Spring Half Term 1	Monday 4th January 2021	Friday 12th February 2021
School Closed: Spring Half Term	Monday 15th February 2021 to Friday 19th February 2021	
Spring Half Term 2	Tuesday 23rd February 2021	Thursday 1st April 2021
School Closed: Easter Holidays	Monday 5th April 2021 to Friday 16th April 2021	
Summer Half Term 1	Monday 19th April 2021	Friday 28th May 2021
School Closed: Summer Half Term	Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021	
Summer Half Term 2	Tuesday 8th June 2021	Wednesday 21st July 2021

School will be closed on the following days:

Teacher Training Days
Tuesday 1st September 2020
Friday 25th September 2020
Monday 2nd November 2020
Monday 22nd February
Monday 7th June 2021

Bank Holidays
Good Friday: Friday 2nd April 2021
May Day: Monday 3rd May 2021