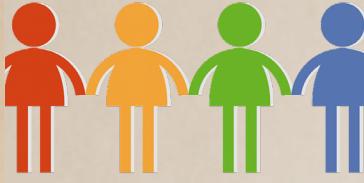


RSE - Page 2



Focus on Marking
Page 3



Parent Questionnaire
Pages 4 & 5



Arts Focus
Pages 6 & 7



Bugs For Dinner Anyone?

To celebrate the end of their last test at Primary School, Year 6 pupils were treated to a jungle food tasting session run by The Jungle Warfare Division.



SSgt Lee Barrows, Laurence Phillips and Jean Merbai from JWD provided a wide range of jungle foods to try. These included: snake fruit, rose apples, rambutan and sago worms (which were quite tasty).



The children also learnt how to light fires from a range of different materials including wire-wool and batteries as well as learning how to cook rice in a bamboo tube over fire.



Hornbill School would like to give a huge thank you to JWD for providing this wonderful experience for our Year 6 pupils.

Get the facts on Relationships and Sex Education

The Department for Education is introducing compulsory Relationships Education for primary pupils (RSE) from September 2020. At Hornbill School we have always offered these sessions as we believe that it forms an important part of a well thought out curriculum. Particularly with service children who have a higher than average mobility and who are at risk of missing this aspect of their education.

Through the teaching of RSE, we want to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe – we want to equip them for adult life and to make a positive contribution to society.

RSE lessons will be held during the week of: **17th June**

Individual Year group letters have been sent home inviting parents into school to watch some of the material which will be shared with children in Years 4, 5 & 6.

Lessons this year will be based on our existing policy. However, from September 2020 all schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for RSE. As next year is an Arms Plot Rotation year, we would like to collect your views early. The Hornbill School RSE Policy is available on the website for consultation from the 1st June. Alternatively you can contact the school office where you can collect a copy, or we can send a copy home (in a sealed envelope) via your child. Consultation will end on the 10th July.

Our new policy has been designed following advice, research and best practice from the UK. We welcome your comments but please understand we can not put into action 360+ different views! We will listen to your views and then make a reasonable decisions as to how we proceed.



Hornbill School held its first **outside cinema screening** on Thursday 16th May.

110 children were in attendance for the screening of **Sing**

The event organised by Year 6 received a good turnout of children who enjoyed watching the big screen outside - even if it did rain towards the end.

Thank you Year 6 for organising this fantastic event for our community.

Sadly, Friday 17th May was the **last Nepali lesson** taught by the Nepali Specialist Teachers (NSTs) at Hornbill School following restructuring by DCYP.

The future of Nepali Lessons is currently unknown. As a school we are looking into different ways of supporting the first language of the majority of our students. However, nothing is concrete yet.

Can you help? We are looking for members of the community to help us develop Nepali Lessons in the next academic year. If you think that you would be able to help us for 2 hours a week please contact the school office. We are looking for between 10 and 14 volunteers to support Nepali language lessons - no formal teaching knowledge is needed as we will help train you on how to deliver language lessons. We are looking for people with good speaking, listening and writing skills in Nepali who also have a love of helping children to learn.

There will be a special NST Leaving Ceremony on **Thursday 11st July at 0845hrs** in the Reflection Garden. All parents are welcome to attend. Should you wish to give any NST a Khada at this ceremony, please bring them with you - they can be purchased on-line or from Ram Dhani.





Learning to Learn Building Learning Powers

Focus on: **Marking & Feedback**

The way that teachers and learning coaches 'mark' your child's work has changed dramatically this year.

Based on research from John Hattie, Shirley Clarke and studying marking policies from leading schools in the UK, we have successfully implemented a new Feedback Policy across the whole school.

In this article we look at how teachers 'mark' a child's work and provide positive feedback to help move learning on.



What is Marking? This is the term used when a teacher makes marks (ticks, comments etc.) in a child's workbook. Research shows that this is an ineffective way of helping children learn. In most cases the marking is not for the child but for the teacher to prove they have looked at the child's work - this is not effective use of teacher time!

Think: How does 'well done' actually help a child move their learning forward?

What is Feedback? This is the term used when a child has been given constructive criticism, support, advice, suggestions etc. on how to move their learning to the next level. Feedback is personal to that child and done in a timely manner i.e. at the moment of learning.

All feedback is Timely, Useful & Precise not Global & Vague



Our Policy statement for feedback is as follows: Pupils learn from achievements & their mistakes through **reflective feedback**.

Our teachers support pupils learning by providing **positive, critical, relevant** and **timely** reflection on their learning to support pupils next steps.



We give specific feedback which is individualised as we know that this has one of the highest effects on student achievement.

Reflection is not only provided by adults, pupils have opportunities to provide critical reflection to themselves and each other when appropriate.



All feedback should move a child's learning on - if it does not then it is not effective!

But what does that mean to your child?

Timely feedback means your child can make changes to their learning straight away rather than wait a whole week to see what the teacher thought of their learning.

I can't see lots of ticks or crosses in my child's work - I just see VF. Good! This means your child is receiving regular feedback from an adult. The VF means Verbal Feedback.

My child 'marked' another child's learning.

Why? Children work as Learning Partners to support the learning of others. A child has to be secure in their own learning to support another child. Often when a child looks at another child's work they are also noticing things about their own work! **See previous articles about Blooms Taxonomy.**

I like to see the teachers 'marks' in my child's book as it tells me they have looked at their work. Remember that any comments in your child's book is for them not you! If a comment is not needed but your child is making better and better learning choices then you know their teacher is providing very precise verbal feedback.

For more information about feedback at Hornbill School please see our Learning Policy on the school website.

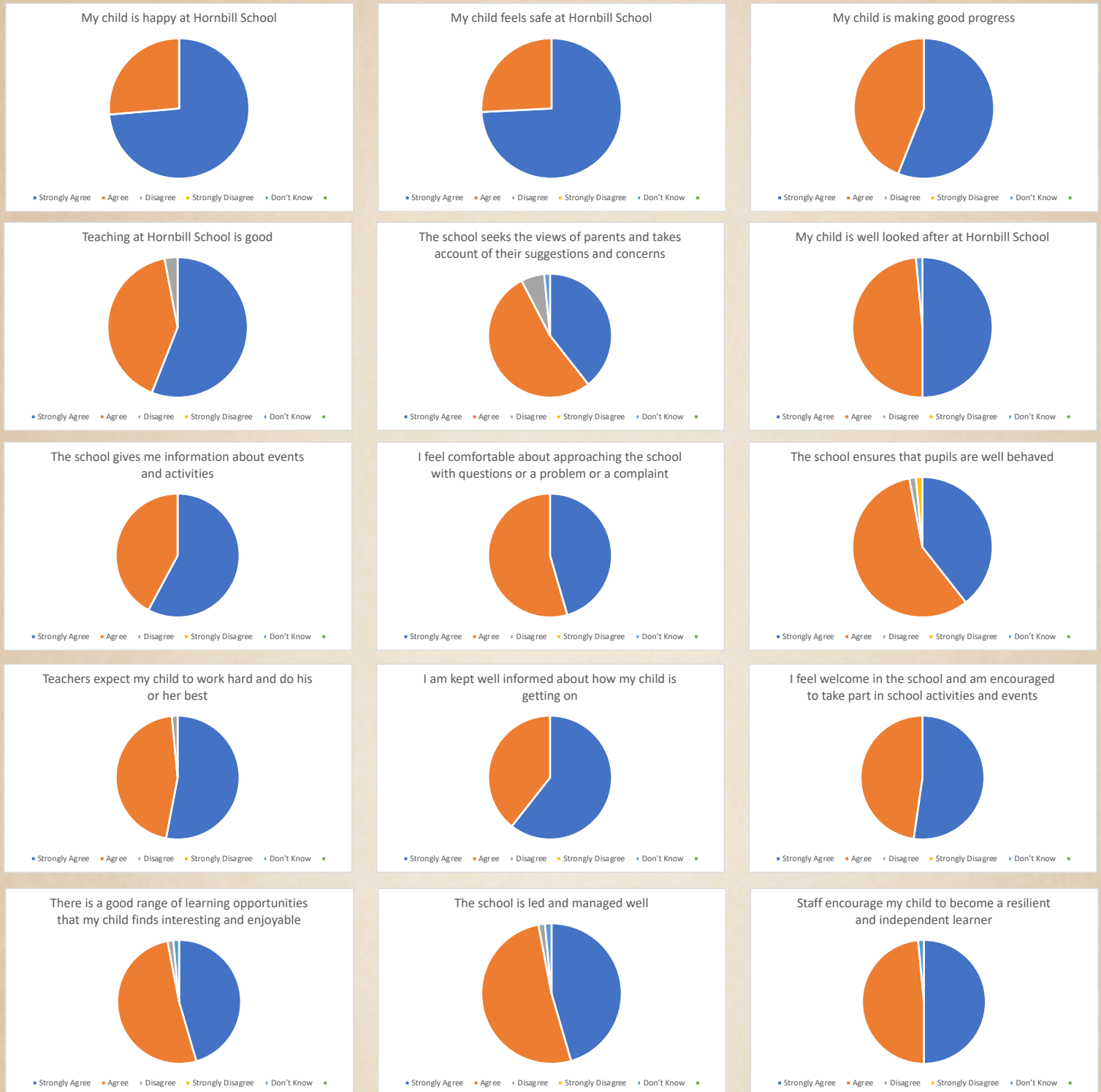


Parent Questions

Last month we carried out our annual parent survey.

Quick Key
Orange = Strongly Agree
Blue = Agree

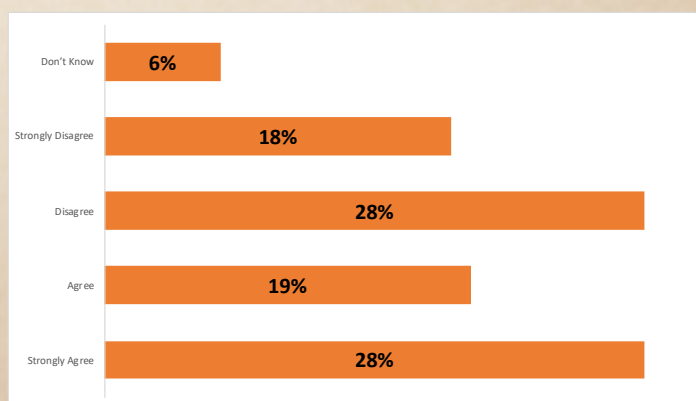
The results from the main part of the survey are shown below:



We also asked the following question:

If we had the opportunity to change the school day to begin at 0845hrs (finish time of approximately 1445hrs) would you prefer this?

As you can see, the results for this question vary greatly. Therefore we will hold a second survey with more specific questions relating to the school day during our open session later in the Month.





Parent Questions Continued

Each month we dedicate a page to answering questions parents have asked us. This month we will use some of the questions from the recent survey.

Communication with parents.

Question: A small number of parents mentioned communication. Some felt there are too many school notices, some felt there are not enough and some felt there are too many different types of communication.

Answer: Our school community consists of 360+ children with 700+ parents - we are never going to be able to create the most ideal form of communication as too many people prefer too many different styles. However, we do try! We use the following forms of communication:

We use **Class Dojo** for quick class updates, whole school updates and short notices. These often have photos or videos to show you what is happening in school on a day to day basis.

More formal notices go home on Monday's and Thursdays. These can be whole school or individual class letters.

The school **website** (currently under development) has a wide range of information including policies, photographs, school forms and copies of the Gazette.

Reading records and **home school contact books** are used for specific comments for one parent.

Combined Routine Orders. Some school information is posted on the daily CROs.

Electronic communication.

Question: We are often asked about using electronic forms of communication such as email or electronic newsletters.

Answer: We have tried this on several occasions and the result is always the same. After a few months the number of emails looked at and newsletters opened falls into the low 20s meaning that approximately 75% of the community do not get to see school messages or information. This generally results in parents complaining that they do not know what is happening in school!

Therefore it is more effective if we send home paper copies as we know that this will make it home to you.

Additionally some visits require signatures from parents (especially if a child has to use transport) and legally electronic signatures are not supported. Therefore we must send home paper letters and receive signed copies back at school.

Electronic Communication.

Question: Can we invite parents into school once a month to observe PE/swimming to enable them to be aware of their child's strengths and weaknesses as well as their performance.

Answer: National Curriculum subjects including PE and Swimming are reported on at the end of the

academic year in your child's Annual Report as per government guidance.

If you would like to discuss your child's ability in more depth please contact the PE Leader (Mrs Hunter) who will be more than happy to discuss this with you. Additionally the PE Leader is always on duty during Child, Teacher and Parent meetings which occur in October and February.

It is not possible to have parents join in with swimming sessions as this takes the teachers focus away from the children. Additionally in swimming sessions there is the added risk that a parent asking a question could distract the teacher or lifeguard putting children's lives at risk.

Volunteering.

Question: Can I become a volunteer in my child's class.

Answer: We welcome all parents as volunteers at Hornbill School. However, you will need to undergo full safeguarding procedures such as obtaining a DBS certificate, a police check and undergo Level 1 Safeguarding.

Once all of the paperwork is in place we would love to have you as part of our learning community. Ideally you will not be placed in the same class as your child as this can distract them from **their** learning - ask yourself if you would have wanted your parent in your classroom while you were learning?

We have a number of parents at school volunteering on a regular basis. If you would like to get involved please contact the school office for more details.

Communication via telephone.

Question: Why does the school not have an outside telephone number? Why do we have to go via the switchboard?

Answer: As a school within BFB we do not have control of the telephone system. We are linked to the Army Exchange just as other MOD Schools are in other Rest of the World locations.

Communication via email.

Question: Why won't /can't teachers respond to my comments on School Dojo or be available by email?

Answer: As a school we work hard to ensure that we look after the wellbeing of our whole school community - this includes the teaching staff. We do not feel that it is right for a teacher to be contacted outside of the school day or to answer electronic communications as these can sometimes be taken differently than their intention. We also feel that face to face communication is the better option.

All teachers are directed to be in class at the start and end of the school day should you wish to discuss your child's learning with them. Additionally appointments can be made via the school office.

If you have a question for the school that you feel could be answered publicly please contact the school office and we will post the answer / response in future editions of the Gazette.



Arts Focus

Hornbillers across the school have been incredibly creative and continue to develop their artistic skills, in their art lessons, using a variety of media.

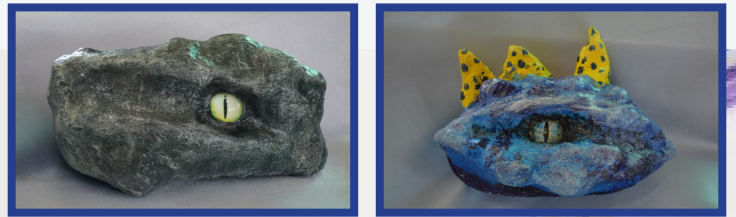
Year 5 sculpted wonderfully crafted dragon eyes. They used newspaper and art straws to create the shape of their dragon eye before wrapping it in a layer of Modroc to make the sculpture solid. Year 5 considered how colour and tone can give character to their eye sculpture.



Year 6 is currently working on using this same technique to create a hornbill sculpture to take with them as an enduring and meaningful memento when they leave Hornbill School. Previous to this, they explored Picasso and created some eye-catchingly colourful portraits using Picasso's approach, as well as 3d relief face sculptures using paper and art straws.

Year 4 created stencils in order to produce a blizzard picture which used paint to make snow then, with the use of soft pastels, the children applied colour, thoughtfully considering tone and detail.

Year 2 have been exploring the Galapagos islands and their unique wildlife. The children developed their cutting skills through their creation of a paper patchwork Galapagos tortoise.



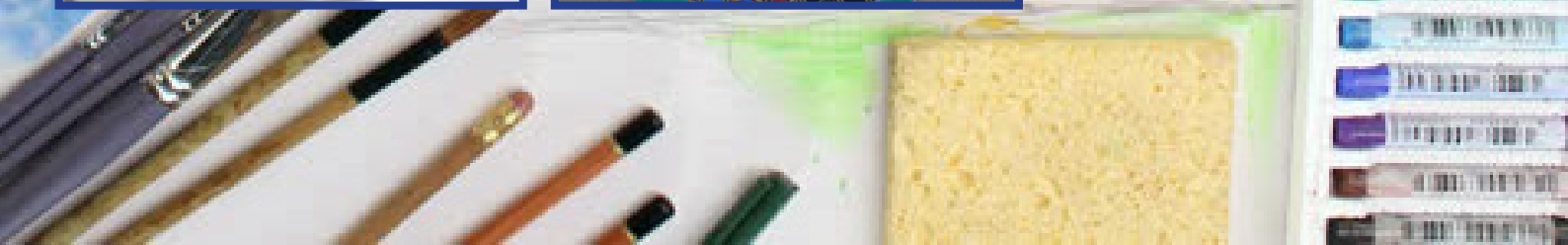
Linking with the theme of travelling around the world, **Year 1** learnt how to weave in order to create their own elephant rug for their Indian elephant.



Year 3's Viking Longships demonstrate the culmination of a range of different skills including the use of colour, cloth, cardboard and art straws. These awe-inspiring ocean vessels are currently ploughing the ocean waves in a display in our library.



Arts Focus





Monday 10th to
Friday 14th June

Year 1 Phonics
Testing

Friday 14th June

Glastonbill Festival

Sunday 16th June

Fathers Day

Thursday 20th
June

Year 6 Sleepover at JIS
(for children
transitioning to JIS in
Year 7)

Thursday 13th
June

BJSJ Swimming Gala
at ISB

Thursday 20th
June

HBS Swimming Gala
(see separate note for
further details)

School Closure

We will be closed on
Monday 15th July.
The last day of term will be
Tuesday 16th July at 1330hrs

For all up-to-date calendar events please check our live calendar on the website:

www.hornbillschool.com

The Drama & Music Workshop proudly present



MULAN

Tickets on sale from the
Box Office
(also known as the school office)

Thursday 27th June at 1400hrs and at 1830hrs



Friday 28th June at 1830hrs

Hornbill School

meet & greet

Everyone is

Welcome

Meet the Leadership Team
in the Dragonfly Parents Centre at Hornbill School

Wednesday 12th June 0930hrs

(The Learning Leaders will be joining us)



Glastonbill

Festival
of
The Arts

Friday 14th June

1800hrs on the FS field - Hornbill School
gates open at 1745hrs

The program will consist of:

Singing

Dancing

Solo performers & group bands

Parents & children joint acts

Entrance price: **\$5** per adult **\$3** per child
(unaccompanied children will not be permitted entry)

Food will be available to purchase from a range of vendors however, we recommend that families attending bring a picnic style meal that they can enjoy while watching the event program. Don't forget your picnic blanket!

As this is an outdoor festival, in the event of rain the festival will be cancelled.

History in the Making - The End of an Era.

As British Forces draw down in Germany this year, we say a sad farewell to a number of MOD Schools who close their doors for good next month.

Under the original name of British Families Education Service later becoming Service Children's School and then Service Children's Education before changing again in 2013 to MOD Schools, there used to be around 80+ schools in our family (with 3 schools here in Brunei). However, at the end of this academic year there will be **14**.

For a number of children and staff who have attended or worked in these schools worldwide, this is a very sad occasion and an end of an era.



The following schools will be closing this summer:

King's School, Gütersloh
John Buchan School, Sennelager
Blankenhagen School, Gütersloh

Bielefeld School, Bielefeld
Bishopspark First School, Paderborn
Haig Primary School, Gütersloh

There will be two MOD Schools remaining open in Germany:

St David's School, Ramstein
Attenborough School, Sennelager

Did you know that here in South East Asia there used to be schools in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Hong Kong? There also used to be a school in Muara.

Did you know that Prince Rupert School in Rinteln (pictured left), Lower Saxony, was the first school to be opened in Germany in 1947. It opened under "**Operation Union**", which allowed Army and RAF personnel based in Allied-occupied West Germany to bring their families with them on tour.

Can you imagine moving to a country ravaged by war and setting up home among the rubble of bomb damaged buildings?

The teachers at Prince Rupert School were considered to be **Expeditionary Teachers** as they set up a school against all the odds far away from the UK with limited resources in an old Naval store!

If you have found this article interesting you might also enjoy three short videos on our website showing the MOD family across the world from the 1960s and a short documentary about Prince Rupert School.

POLIO GLOBAL ERADICATION INITIATIVE

Our Polio Award Scheme is now fully underway. As of the end of May 92 children have received badges. This means that Hornbill School will pay for 92 polio vaccinations - in other words, **saving 92 children's lives.**

How many lives can we save by the end of term?

Due to CAS activities, (and so many children wearing PE uniform) a large number of children are no longer wearing their badge sashes on a Friday.

Please encourage your child to wear their badge sash at any time during the week and on special occasions and especially on Fridays.

If you have not yet purchased a badge sash they are \$11 and available in **Orange** or **Blue**.

As with all uniform items these can be purchased from the school office.



Opening

It was dawn in the Street where George lived. Everything was serene until... CRASH! George woke with a start. Since his parents were still asleep, George decided he'd better investigate.

He slipped into his shoes, unlocked the front door, and stepped into the faint sunlight. The first thing George noticed, was that there was a vast hole on the roof of the chicken coop.

He looked around to see if he could find the holes cause, but found nothing. He sighed, and popped his head through the hole. To his confusion, he saw an immense, shiny egg. Perched on top, gazing up at him, was Bella, his mother's favourite chicken. She seemed to be amused, while the others showed a recent hint of surprise in their eyes.

He attempted to lift the egg, and to his surprise, the bulky item was as light as a feather. If possible, it appeared to be lighter than one. He carried it to his room, determined not to wake his parents. He gazed at it in wonder. It was Sepia, that blended with blush coloured dots. It appeared hard, but was soft to the touch. It even smelt like fluffy chocolate cream.

He began to keep the egg amused. He played games with it, sang to it, read to it and even dressed it up. Eventually, on the third night, the egg started to shake. Huge subtle cracks appeared, and George stumbled backwards. There was a caw, and then a hoot, and before George knew what was happening the creamy eggshell shattered around him. And stood before him, was a mint-blonde dragon.

Each month we are showcasing stories and writing from children across the school.

This month we are sharing writing from Catlin in Year 5 who has written an exceptional piece about a mint-blonde dragon.

Unfortunately, we are unable to share the whole story here in the Gazette. However, it has been scanned in full and is available for reading on our website.



SPORT

UPDATE

Football

Over two consecutive weekends, 16 boys represented Hornbill School in the inaugural **Belait District under 10 boys football festival**.

During the first weekend at the group stage tournament - both of our teams (The Pied Hornbills and Rhinoceros Hornbills) won all of their games to top both their groups.

A week later, in the knockout stages, the youthful Rhinoceros Hornbills unfortunately lost 3-1 in their semi-final but ended the festival in style with a 5-1 victory to ensure they lifted the 3rd place trophy.

The Pied Hornbill team were eventually crowned 'Belait District' champions after a dominant team performance in the Semi-finals where they won 3-1 and in the Final with a composed 2-0 victory.

It was a wonderful experience and all children representing Hornbill School impressed the organisers with "**superb skills** and excellent **sporting attitudes**."

Netball

On Sunday 28th April, 53 girls comprising of 4 netball teams from Years 5 and 6, entered the JIS Netball Funday.

The girls were well prepared having committed to regular break time practices and were able to showcase the game of netball to other schools. Their passion for the game shone through and it was fantastic to finish in **First** and **Third** place for both age groups enabling all players to go home with a medal. Whilst every child gave their all, our shooters played amazingly well!

Staff from both JIS and ISB were very complementary about the standard of our teams and are looking forward to working with some of them as Year 7's next year.



Sports Fixtures remaining this term:

BJSL Swimming Gala
Thursday 13th June

Hornbill School Swimming Gala
Thursday 20th June



Mr Pradhan would like to thank the girls for their enthusiasm and dedication to practices. Many thanks to all the parents who came to JIS to support the teams. We are proud of you all.

T-Ball

52 children represented Hornbill School at the annual BJSL T-Ball tournament held at JIS. For the first time we took A and B teams to maximise the opportunities for children to play and to gain experience at a game which has numerous rules!



Unfortunately, issues with the buses held us up but once we arrived it was full steam ahead to catch up on a few initial matches we had missed.

Despite it being an extremely hot day, all children played with their usual enthusiasm and applied skills learned in lessons and practices to hit the ball as hard as they could and, for some children, in the right direction!

