

# The HORNBILL GAZETTE

September 2021 - Lockdown Edition

Issue 30

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## Wednesday is Mobile Library Day!



Here at Hornbill School we take reading very seriously. Over the last few years we have built a very strong reading focus and a very full lending library of just over 42,000 books.

When we found out that school would be closed and families could not move about like they were able to in the last lockdown, one of our first concerns was how we ensured reading would continue. As we can not have children in school to collect books we decided to take the books to the children.

So we have created an old fashioned Mobile Library where we take just over 2,500 books from first readers to free readers to set locations around the BFB community. To comply with Ministry of Health requirements we spread all books out in a location and have very strict rules on the number of people searching for and taking books home. This includes social distancing and ensuring all pupils wear face masks as per Brunei guidance.







To date this has resulted in 84% of pupils accessing the library weekly. This is not just about reading... The Mobile Library also allows class teachers to

send learning packs to pupils and collect learning from pupils which is returned to school. Pupils are also able to have quick (socially distanced) conversations with other pupils - which is helping child wellbeing.

The Mobile Library is manned each week by members of the Strategic Leadership Team

so that parents are able to discuss home learning concerns or questions which are then followed up back at school.



Our next step is to try a Lend a Pupil session to try and provide opportunities for pupils to sit distanced from another pupil and talk. We aim to use this to help pupil wellbeing of those pupils who are unable to talk to another child during lockdown - watch this space.

# Meet Our Team

Let's get to know some of our teachers and staff during this lockdown period!

Due to the fact that we have not been allowed to open school, some parents and children do not know the faces of our staff. Hopefully these pages will help to put a face to the name!



Mr Gill  
Headteacher



Ms Brown  
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Walters  
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Dewan  
SENDCO



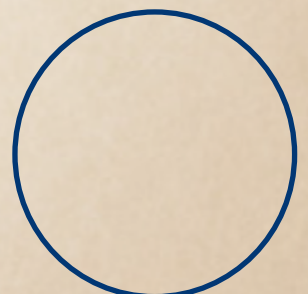
Mr Brown  
Arts Leader



Mr Tomlin  
PE Leader



Mrs Brown  
Learning Leader



Mrs Sherwin  
Writing Support



# FS1



Mr Cunningham  
Caterpillar Class  
Teacher



Mr Kenworthy  
Firefly Class Teacher

# FS2



Mrs Bowles  
Leopard Class  
Teacher



Mrs Veljic  
Crab Class Teacher

# Y1



Mrs Smith  
Turtle Class Teacher



Mrs Cunningham  
Dolphin Class  
Teacher

# Y2



Ms Russell  
Seahorse Class  
Teacher

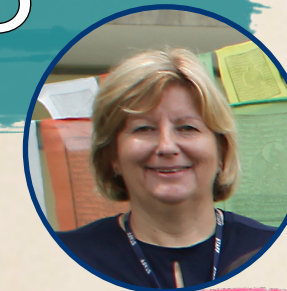


Mr Sherwin  
Octopus Class  
Teacher

# Y3



Mr Bowles  
Sea Urchin Class  
Teacher



Ms Bonner  
Flamingo Class  
Teacher

# Y4



Mrs Donald  
Woodpecker Class  
Teacher



Mr Crichton  
Gibbon Class Teacher

# Y5



Mr Leahy  
Gecko Class Teacher



Mrs Webb  
Otter Class Teacher

# Y6



Mr Deane  
Mantis Class Teacher



Mrs Rai  
Rhino Class Teacher



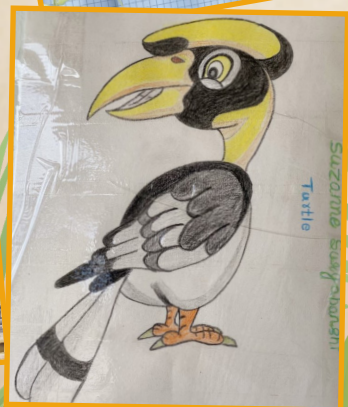
# 'Hang up a Hornbill' Challenge

To welcome our Hornbillers returning for the academic term and any new Hornbillers joining, Mrs Marden, our Children's Wellbeing Officer came up with amazing and fun challenges for the Hornbillers to do at home.

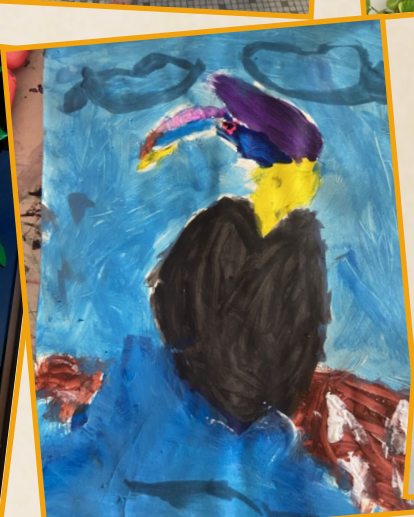
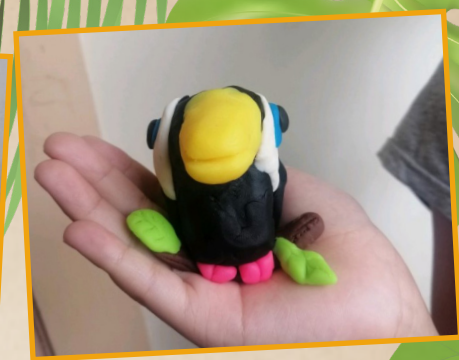
The very first challenge Mrs Marden put out was 'Hang up a Hornbill', where Hornbillers can get creative and make their own Hornbills by painting, drawing, collaging or junk modelling. When they are done, they can proudly hang their Hornbills from their window, patio or balcony. The idea behind this challenge is to create a sense of belonging and convey a message of solidarity within our community.

The Hornbills represents something hopeful and positive, a reminder that while the children can't all be together at school right now, we all still belong to our amazing community of Hornbillers.

So far, we've received plenty of beautiful entries from children all across the year groups. It is impressive how the children are able to come up with so many different creative ways to make and display their Hornbills!







**We can't share all of the Hornbills in this edition so we will celebrate more next month! Watch this space...!**





# Learning to Learn Building Learning Powers

## Focus on: Online Community Learning Time

By: Learning Leader, Joanna Brown

During the academic year 2020-2021, we enjoyed a series of fantastically communicative Community Learning Time sessions in school each Monday. During these times, with Years 1 to 6 gathered together in our school hall, we developed our understanding of what it means to be a great learner through lots of mixed-age, paired communication challenges. We also spent valuable time making decisions together about really important aspects of learning at Hornbill School, including the choice of animals that we wanted to represent our learning powers.



Belle the creative butterfly



Gerald the energetic gecko



Hope the reflective hornbill



Jna the explorative unicorn

When it became evident that we would need to start this new school year with home learning, it felt really important to maintain our Community Learning Time sessions to continue to build up our whole school community understanding of our core drivers: community, citizenship and metacognition. In the first week of home learning, a trailer video was sent out introducing the upcoming CLT video sessions. Each Monday and Friday, a CLT session video is now posted to each class page. These are approximately 5 minutes long, designed to be watched as a family and filled with moments to pause and discuss the

ideas covered. The Friday session develops the ideas from the Monday session further.

Our core driver, 'community' was the first to be explored and encouraged thinking about what a community is and how we can make a community a strong, happy place to belong to. The focus was placed on our family communities, as this is currently the community with whom we are spending the majority of our time during home learning. We also considered the great example of strong family communities that hornbill bird families set, with their strong bonds and co-operative, caring nature.



The second core driver to be considered was 'citizenship'. Understanding that each person in a community is a citizen of that community, leads us to think about the values that we each need to use to do our part to make the community strong. Care, courtesy, challenge, celebration and co-operation are key values at Hornbill School. CLT participants were encouraged to discuss how we can use values to overcome challenges in life such as unkindness, disappointment and anger.

Upcoming CLT sessions will explore the third core driver - metacognition - and the 8 learning powers that are central to all areas of our learning development. Do take time to watch these videos together as a family. They will continue to be posted each Monday and Friday for the duration of the home learning period.



# CLASDOJO

By: Learning Leader, Joanna Brown

ClassDojo is our home learning platform. It enables our whole school community to have its own thread for informative messages sent out to parents. It also enables each individual class community to have its own space for the posting of messages, videos, photos and so on. During 'regular' in-school times, ClassDojo provides a link between school and home – an opportunity to share with parents what's been going on in the classroom and to create a communication link. During home learning times, ClassDojo becomes an incredibly important tool for the sharing of daily learning.

As in the home learning period we experienced in 2020, ClassDojo has once again become a hive of activity across all year groups. Each day learning opportunities are posted onto the ClassDojo page and accessed by learners and their parents. By the end of the second week of Home Learning, an astonishing 4,880 photos and videos had been shared within our school community using ClassDojo. That's amazing and a testament to our wonderful community of learners.



As well as class teachers uploading a wide variety of learning opportunities to ClassDojo, Mr Tomlin – our PE leader - has been posting daily physical challenges. Mr Brown, our arts leader, has enjoyed the wonderfully creative outcomes of his Matisse Art challenge and is eagerly

awaiting the wonderful pieces of artwork which will be stimulated by Frank Stella's artistic style in his 2nd fortnightly challenge. Mrs Brown – our learning leader – has been posting daily chapters of Roald Dahl's 'James and the Giant Peach' and also twice weekly CLT sessions. There really is a wide range of learning opportunities to get involved in covering all aspects of the curriculum and also wellbeing, which Mrs Marden has been championing.



The strength of our parental community shines through via the ClassDojo posts that are uploaded by families. The amazing learning occurring at home is very evident with parents taking part in all aspects of the process very effectively. Thank you – you are all very much high flying Hornbillers!





# Creative Musical Magic at the Rhythmic Arts End of Term Music Recital

By: Arts Leader, Simon Brown

Ending the academic year on a musically creative note, we were delighted to host the Rhythmic Arts music recital at the end of Term 3. Rhythmic Arts is a local music school who provide both paid peripatetic music lessons to Hornbill School learners during the school day and also at their own premises (on X12) during out of school hours.

It was wonderful to see the courage of these Hornbillers to perform their instruments in front of the audience. Some performers are at the very beginning of their musical learning journey whilst others have been learning for a number of years and are exploring more complex skills. We were very proud of each and every performer.



During two back to back recitals, 42 performers took to the stage to perform. Covering the wide range of musical learning options that Rhythmic Arts provides, our community of Hornbill musicians performed instruments including: classical guitar, electric guitar, violin, drums, piano and voice. Some of these performances were solos, some were duets with the Rhythmic Arts teachers and some were duet and group performances with other learners.





# Hornbill School Artists Exhibit at the National Gallery London

By: Arts Leader, Simon Brown



Hornbill School artists have had the honour of exhibiting a large piece of artwork within the National Gallery's 'Take One Picture' exhibition! Take One Picture is an initiative run annually by the National Gallery in London. The National Gallery selects a painting which acts as a stimulus for the week and schools across the UK create

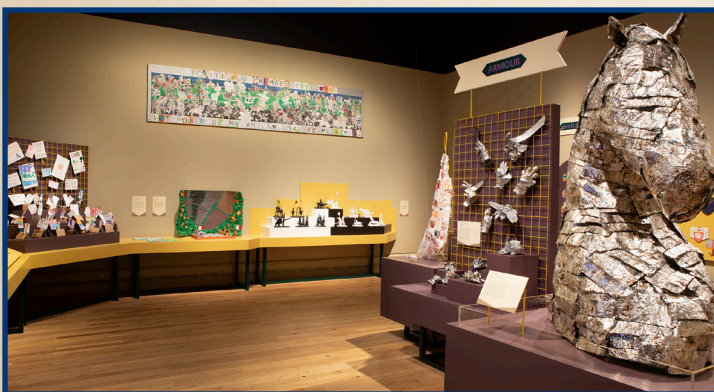


artwork in response to it. Each school that takes part sends a submission to the National Gallery outlining the way that they approached the project and including photos of the artwork created.

In January 2020, we enjoyed a 'Take One Picture' arts week. The painting selected by the gallery for the week was 'The Battle of San Romano' by Paolo Uccello. After analysing all the submissions from across the UK, the National Gallery selected our piece entitled 'Let faith Be My Shield, Joy Be My Steed' to form part of the exhibition.

As the majority of us have personally been unable to visit the exhibition, the National have kindly sent these photos of our artwork in place. Also, excitingly, current Hornbillers - the Cunningham family - and Hornbill Alumni, the Porter family, have been able to visit the exhibition on their return to the UK. They spent time looking at the 'Take One Picture' exhibition, locating our Hornbill artwork and seeing how other schools had approached the same challenge, creating their own responses to the Uccello painting. The families were also able to enjoy the rest of the gallery, noting a range of paintings and works of painters that they recognise from their art learning at Hornbill School.

We are incredibly happy to have been chosen to have our artwork in this year's exhibition. Previously, we were also selected to be a part of the exhibition in 2017. What an honour to have our artwork selected and what a celebration of the creativity of our Hornbill community of artists!



## LET FAITH BE MY SHIELD

HORNBILL SCHOOL, BRITISH FORCES BRUNEI  
7-11 YEAR-OLDS

The children looked at the picture and compared it to other paintings depicting battles. We then invited a Gurkha veteran to talk to us about real-life situations and personal battles in warfare. We had recently learned the song *When a Knight Won his Spurs*, which got us thinking about the values we fight for. This led to the idea of creating our own 'values battle' scene, with each soldier shown fighting for their chosen value. We discussed the values that are needed to overcome challenging times and came up with a list including love, hope and truth.

Simon Brown, Art Teacher and Arts Leader

*'I wrote love on my horse because if you go into battle or challenges with love you will overcome them.'*

Eleanor, aged 8



# A visit to the National Gallery of London

By: Amelie Cunningham, Y5 Otter

On Thursday 15th July we went on an exciting trip to The National Gallery in London. We woke up early and caught the train from Kent to Victoria Station. I was really excited to go on the London underground to our destination, Charing Cross.

The National Gallery was an amazing building right in the middle of London. When we went inside, we were directed to the 'Take One Picture' exhibition. By this time I was feeling really excited as I couldn't wait to see our Hornbill Art in such a beautiful gallery. There were two rooms and I couldn't find our art in the first so I quickly went to the other one. As I entered the room I looked up and spotted our amazing art. I looked at the picture carefully and found my horse on the top left. It had a big belly! I showed my Granny and she was really proud of me. I felt really proud of our school.



There were lots of amazing pieces of artwork in the exhibition from other schools in the UK (but I think ours was the best!) After seeing our display we went to visit other rooms in The National Gallery. My favourite painting was Vincent Van Gogh's Sunflowers as I remembered doing them in Art with Mr Brown and it was fun.





# SPORT UPDATE

have been impressed to see examples of Una the Unicorn and Belle the Butterfly with superb levels of creativity and exploration skills on show. Children are now not only taking part in the challenges, they are now also making up their own challenges to share with our school community.

We have had an extremely energetic start to lockdown learning! Each day we have been posting videos which help develop a particular aspect of our PE curriculum:

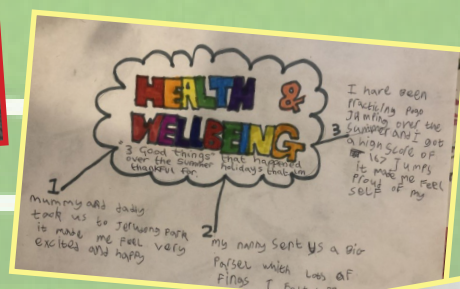
## Movement Mondays

We kick-started Movement Mondays with a home-version of our Indoor Sportshall Athletics scheme which we follow during our normal athletics PE sessions. Children were challenged to take part in a range of activities which explored throwing, jumping and running skills. Many children sent in images and videos of themselves taking part. We were particularly pleased to see a good number of children who used their Hope the Hornbill skills of reflection to further improve their performance levels.



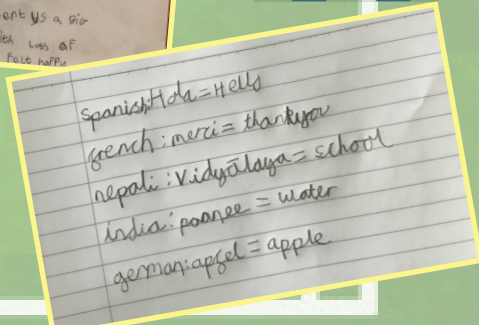
## Well-Being Wednesdays

In connection with Mrs. Marden's wonderful well-being activities, we have been using Wednesdays as an opportunity to do something that makes us feel good. We have remembered the good times pre-lockdown, used Max the monkey's communication skills to learn some words from a new language and created feel-good musical playlists to lift our spirits!



## Tennis Ball Tuesdays

Each week we post a new video; challenging children to work on a wide variety of co-ordination and motor skill activities. So far, we have speared pasta with spaghetti, bounced tennis balls, shuffled on towels and thrown socks - all in the name of sport! We





## Fundamental Fridays

We have ended each week with a focus on particular Fundamental Movement Skills which we all need to allow us to be successful athletes. Children are undertaking focussed movement challenges which allow them to explore and perfect a variety of different moves. We have already worked on seated balances, footwork and static one-legged balances – as we move forward we will work on other key areas such as agility and co-ordination.



It is also great to hear of children like Bevin and Alice who are able to do virtual lessons in sports that they love like Taekwondo and Ballet! There are many opportunities to continue with sports online.

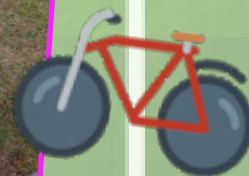


## Riding and Reading: Books and Biking

In the last week, we have also introduced an on-going reading and movement challenge designed to encourage children to read for pleasure and also exercise each day. Look out for the posts each Monday on ClassDojo. Remember to follow Brunei's guidelines to stay socially distanced from one another when out and exercising.



Subsequently, a big congratulations goes out to the Squibb family who were seen all over Seria cycling in pairs. They have amazingly managed to cycle the whole coastline of Brunei in 3 weeks. This is seriously impressive and we would like to celebrate this awesome achievement – sports badges coming your way for undertaking this challenge!



Whilst things are different from normal, it hopefully won't be long until we are dancing around in the sportshall, splashing in the swimming pool and kicking balls on the sports pitches...until then keep healthy and stay active everyone!