



Friday Letter for Parents and Carers

21st September 2023



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we received the devastating news that Emmie Fafera-McCullagh died on Monday. Emmie was a valued member of Trunks class having moved from Twigs class this July. We are all extremely shocked by the news and send our love, thoughts and prayers to her family.

Emmie started school at the age of 2 and has engaged in lots of experiences during her time here. Hydrotherapy, sensory room sessions, outdoor fun on the 'Berry bike' and lots of sensory experiences using her hands were a few of her favourites.



More recently, Emmie showed a preference for the colour blue in her sensory curriculum and would often be found under a blue colour tent in class! Emmie's beautiful brown eyes had the ability to draw everyone into an intensive interaction with an infectious smile and giggle. Emmie was well known across the school for her fabulous and very fashionable wardrobe, often arriving in school with a statement piece. In July at sports day, Emmie arrived in a football kit, matching her Mum and Dad - you don't get much cooler than that! Emmie will be greatly missed by all.

Tomorrow class teachers and leaders will share this sad news with pupils using resources appropriate to our pupil's needs and understanding. We know that this news will impact many families close to Emmie, please contact our Web team if you would like any support. We are supporting our pupils, staff and NHS colleagues with the support from Ebor academy trust and our educational psychology team. If you choose to share this sad news with your child this evening, please let school know so we can offer support from our Web team tomorrow.

It's now time for me to handover this wonderful school into the safe hands of Sarah Taylor. Everyday I feel honoured to lead this school, it is brimming with remarkable people aged between 2-60+. Our community is strong and will build on the strengths celebrated in our Ofsted last October. I look forward to hearing about all the adventures, progress and opportunities the children experience in the months to come. For now, I want to take a moment to thank all the staff for working phenomenally hard like true professionals, to the children who remind us daily not to take ourselves too seriously and to you as parents, thank you for your support and trust. Hob Moor Oaks is a special place!

I will miss you all whilst I'm away but adventures as a family of 4 are to be had, it's a privilege to work alongside you. Take care and please reach out if you need us following the news shared in this letter. Olivia x



Olivia

Oak Leaves

Oak Leaves have had a wonderful start to the new school year.

We discovered lots of ladybirds when we visited the sensory garden so we worked together to create ladybird houses/bug hotels for them to enjoy. We used recycled materials and were very proud of our creations.

We have been learning about the story 'Tidy' which is our class text this half term.

We are working on building friendships and sharing in PSED. We have enjoyed turn taking activities, Lego therapy and a class game of 'The floor is lava'!



Congratulations to Chloe Leatherbarrow (TA from Green Shoots 2022-23) on the birth of her son, Louie. Sending you all lots of love and best wishes!



Hob Moor Oaks Heroes of the Week

Kirsty Douthwaite for passing her apprenticeship programme with great results!

Happy Birthday this week to:
Theo H & Harry C



City Screen- Autism Friendly Screening

The Little Mermaid is to be screened on Sunday 24th September. The screening will start promptly at 11.00am. All tickets for this show cost £3.30. Please could wheelchair users book in advance so they can have enough spaces available. Please contact the cinema, if you should have any special requirements on 01904 612940 or email cath.s@picturehouses.co.uk Thank you.



We wish Lucy Rounding lots of love and best wishes as she begins her maternity leave in preparation for the birth of her twins! Lucy has worked alongside Katie Butler who will be class teacher for Catkins from Monday. Parents have received an invitation to a coffee morning to get to know Katie and the team.

Good luck Lucy, we can't wait to hear your lovely news in the months to come!

Lots of love, your friends and colleagues in HMO x



Golden Leaf Award 22nd September

Seedlings	Orion for trying so hard with his talking. He said "pink", "dog" and "lion" really clearly.
Blossoms	Team Blossoms for sitting well at snack & lunch times.
Green Shoots	Thomas for super communication, using pictures and symbols, to request a drink!
Twigs	Lily for eating all her lunch at lunchtime.
Saplings	Georgie-Mai for engaging in our painting session and creating some wonderful marks on the paper.
Branches	Ava for transitioning beautifully in and out of the school pool.
Buds	Charlie for coming to school on the taxi every day this week!

Roots	Reuben for a fantastic swimming session where he listened to adults in the pool.
Trunks	Katie for independent exploration of the classroom.
Boughs	Theo for travelling across the room to get his communication folder to request a favourite song.
Oak Leaves	Poppy for being brave and confident to perform our assembly song "Stronger" on her own, in front of the whole school. Brilliant effort!
Catkins	Riley for great communication during lego therapy sessions and helping his friends throughout.
Woods	Cem for a fantastic first swimming session at Energise.
Oak Trees	Alfie for successfully trying new foods at dinnertime. We are proud of you!

Olivia's Outstanding Award

Joey for super transition back into school after a fun summer holiday. We are all very proud of you!