



Issue 12 - July 2021

Henlow Heart

Dear parents and carers

I genuinely don't know where to start in summarising this year..... However, I am going to focus here on what our pupils have achieved - in such a complex context. All of our arrangements for September, including the new lateral flow testing arrangements are included in separate documentation in order to encourage our community to enjoy the positives in this publication.

This year we have prepared for our first Year 9 cohort and are very excited to welcome them in their new uniforms in September. The new buildings will be ready - they really will! The reconfiguration of the original classroom block begins very soon as the next step of transformation into a secondary school.

A small Year 5 cohort will also begin in September including pupils from our sister school, Meppershall who will be educated on the Henlow site until their site is transformed into the primary school it will become.

During the last week, Year 8 have enjoyed their awards afternoon (adapted from the evening version we would have preferred), Box End water sports, sports day, activity day, a walk to Biggleswade, exhibition preparation and a 'stormy' valediction. It is heartbreaking that Covid isolation rules meant some pupils were unable to join in with some parts of this. Each step of the way we have found ways to link up virtually but we know it's not the same.

This edition also contains pictures from Year 7's Activity Day, water fun and walk, Year 6's visit to Whipsnade, Year 5's river walk and Harry Potter Day. All of the year groups have also experienced a Sports Day and years 5, 6 and 7 also completed the Fun run which was organised in year groups in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. Some sports fixtures have also taken place in recent weeks and we have captured those moments in this newsletter too.

Year 5 pupils have interviewed Mrs Coster and a small group of staff joined me to see her receive the Order of St Albans in the cathedral.

Year 6 flourished scientifically as they worked alongside (virtually) with local industries to improve their investigative skills, linking them to real-life scenarios, and to enhance their ideas of careers in the STEM subjects.

We say goodbye to some of our staff and I know you will join me in wishing them well in their new endeavours. Many of our Teaching Assistants/Learning Supervisors join our school in order to gain experience before making the decision to train to teach. This year, FIVE have successfully gained places to train next year - Miss Amos, Miss Sutton, Mrs Ryan, Miss Blindell and Miss Gower! They have all made a difference to the learning opportunities we are able to provide at Henlow Academy and go with our very best wishes for future success.

Mr Wakely has taught science and maths throughout this year, covering for Miss Chalkley's adoption leave and we wish him well as he moves to another school.

Miss Corcoran (after 4 years at Henlow) and Mrs Murphy (after 9 years) are moving on to new roles within primary teaching and I know many pupils will want to thank them for ensuring that they have made progress in their studies. Mrs Murphy is joining Derwent as they become a primary school and continue to be a feeder into Henlow as a secondary school.

Mrs Chenery leaves her TA role to a new venture in the artistic world and Mrs Henshall leaves her teaching role after 10 years at Henlow in order to continue her flourishing jewellery making. Her art lessons will live on in the minds of many as they recall the wonderful calm atmosphere she created.

Mrs Wells retires from her Teaching Assistant role after 17 years sterling service to our school community. She has calmly worked alongside teachers throughout this time and always ensured the right balance of support and challenge was in place for pupils.

As we round off this extraordinary year can I thank you all for working in partnership with us as we have all sought new ways to keep our children safe and ensure they enjoy learning and make progress. I hope the summer brings some sunshine and a smooth return to school in September

Yours sincerely



Caren Earp

Roll of Honour



Isla C 7SP

Passing her Grade 4 vocals with merit.

Sophie S 5IL

Winning 1200m at an athletics event by a significant amount and beating the girls and the boys.

Jack J 8LC , Fraser K 8RT, Brinley G8EP, Finley T 8BF

Winning the boys relay race at both athletics event.

Nia O 8BF

Winning 800m at both athletics fixtures this year.

Rhoshlyn S 6EC

Winning the 1200m after stepping in at the last minute.

Logan H 5SG

Winning both the cricket ball throw and the 600m in the Y5 athletics fixture.

Penny A 6JC & Chloe W 6AW

Coming 1st and 2nd in both 600m races at the athletics fixtures by a long, long way.

Ashton I 8NC

Taking part in a concert at the Grove Theatre with the Bath Philharmonia Orchestra.

Ellie H 8NC

Playing for the County Netball team.

Rory C 6JC

Amazing commitment to his on sports day by volunteering to compete in so many events when people were absent.

HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Roll of Honour



Ellie B 6JF

Holding a cake sale to raise funds for Cancer Research

Shannon C 6JF

Giving helpful boxes to homeless people and their animals.

Marco C 6JF

Being awarded a Red belt in Taekwondo.

Ollie R 5RB

For showing incredible perseverance during the 600m at Sports Day.

Sydney R 6JF

Fundraising through the year for Cancer Research and the Guide Dogs
by holding fidget toys and keyring sale.

Parum S 6JF

Charity work during lockdown delivering hand cream to NHS staff and raising funds for Motor Neurone Disease.

Ellie B 6JF

For showing the school value of 'Honesty' when she found a wallet on the Pavilion field and handed it in to a member of staff. The owner was grateful for the return and rewarded Ellie with a box of chocolates!

Isabelle W 5IL

Passing Grade 3 violin with distinction.

Roll of Honour



Lucy M 7SG

Taking part in Inspiring Music Online Wind Band.

Matthew B 5RB

Taking part in Inspiring Music Online Musical Superstars

Oscar H 7JH, Phoebe B 7SP, Joshua S5NS, Ami C 6JF

Excellent commitment to SAG through the whole year.

Charlotte B 6JF

Raising funds for RSPB by holding a cake sale and playing guitar.

Freddie P 7CW, Archie C 6AW, Jakub F 6AW, Miley R 6AW, Isabelle C 5MW, Olivia S 5MW, Danny P 5MW, Kai D 5RB, Oliver E 5RB, Lucas S 5RB

For being part of the Green Team and litter picking, making our school a tidy place to be proud of.

Science CCI Project pupils

Winners of the Science CCI Video competition £500 for Science Department.

Jayden B 6SM, Lola O 6SM, Daniel J 6JF, Penny A 6JC, Shay M 6JF

Year 6 Science Challenging Industry Panel participating in a question and answer session with Local Scientists from Sartorius and Johnson Matthey.

The Whole School!

Breaking the record for a Children's choir on Zoom.

Goodbye



Goodbye and good luck with your new adventures

Mrs Ryan, Mrs Chenery, Miss Sutton, Miss Amos, Mr Wakely, Miss Corcoran, Miss Gower, Miss Blindell, Mrs Wells, Mrs Hensall and Mrs Murphy



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 5

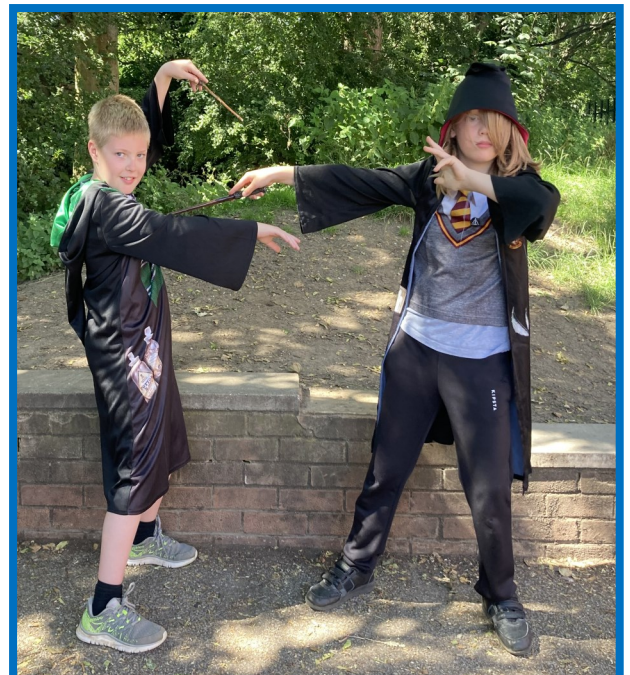
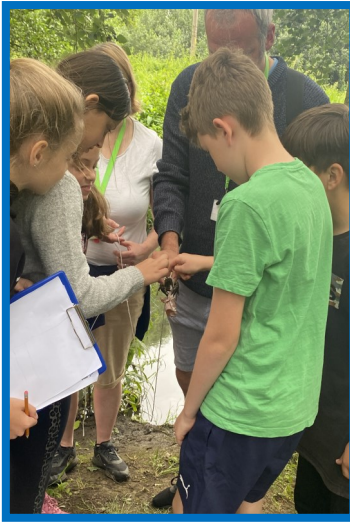


Year 5



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 5



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 6



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 6



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 6



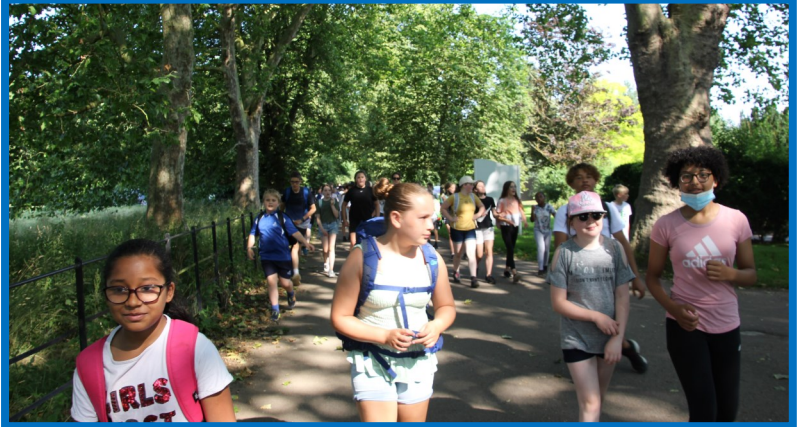
HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 7



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 7



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 7

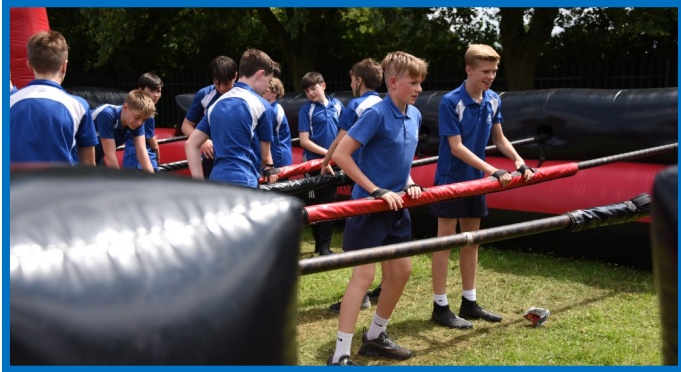


HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 8



Year 8



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 8



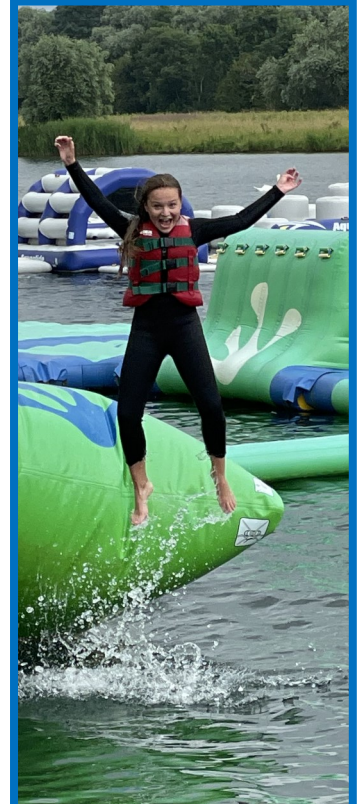
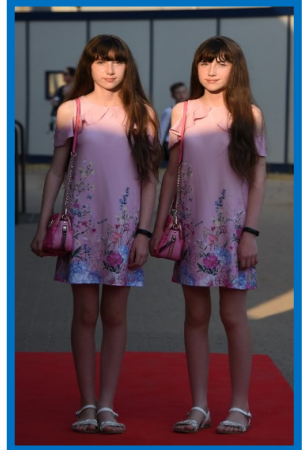
HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 8



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 8



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Year 6 CCI Science Competition



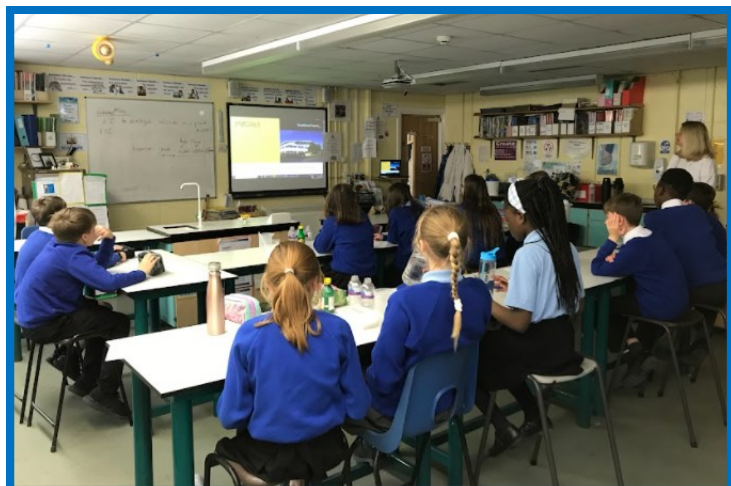
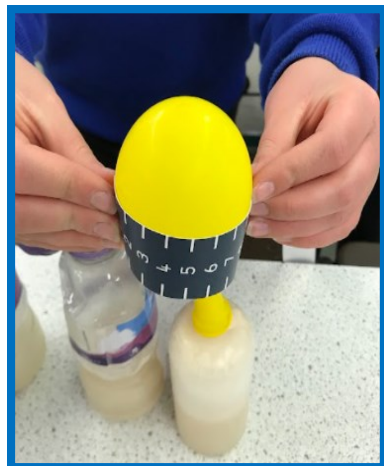
This term a group of Year 6 pupils have participated in a Science Practical Project linked to local industry called Children Challenging Industry.

The CEIC at the University of York has been delivering the Children Challenging Industry programme since 1996. CCI is aimed at teachers and children in primary schools, and science-based manufacturing companies in the UK. CCI projects are part of the school's regular science curriculum.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Children Challenging Industry, partnered with Johnson Matthey, schools were invited to participate in creating 2-3 minutes videos of their experiences. Johnson Matthey kindly donated £500 towards science equipment for first prize.

Henlow Academy have been named winners and so we are able to choose £500 worth of science equipment for the school!

Thank you to all the pupils involved in making the video which was really good fun and informative of their experiences. Well done to the 5 pupils chosen to take part in a question and answer session about their experiences of the whole project and the exciting practical investigations they were involved in.



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School Action Group



School Action Group have continued to be busy this half term despite the current restrictions. Pupils log on every Tuesday after school to get involved in all aspects of school life.



School Action Group have been collecting up different things to go in a time capsule. These include newspaper articles, copies of Henlow Heart, the school prospectus, photos and letters from School Action Group. Harry, Phoebe and Tabitha from School Action got to bury the time capsule in what will be the courtyard outside of the new block. We are hoping future Henlow students will dig up the time capsule and get a feel for the strange time Henlow pupils in 2021 were living in.



School Action Group organised an end of term Lip Sync Competition. We have loved viewing all the entries that have come in, Henlow has some very talented lip syncers!



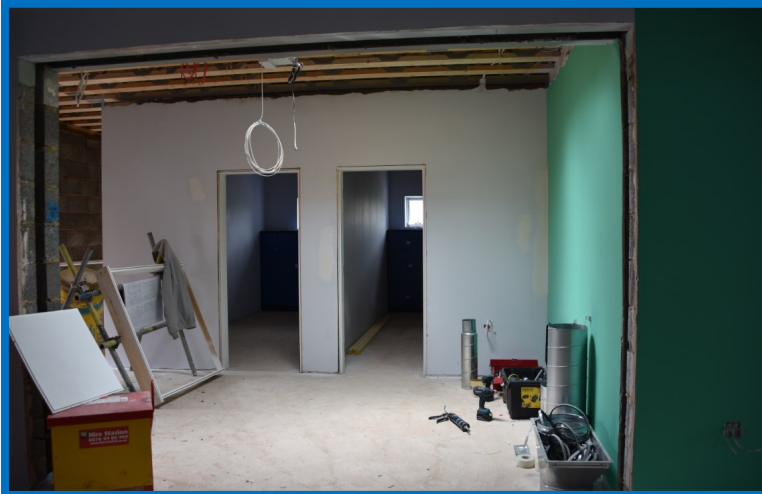
Once again this half term has included lots of different interviews for various positions at Henlow. School Action Group always do us proud with their interviewing skills and professionalism. The feedback we have received from the candidates is that the School Action Group section of the interview process is their favourite part.

We are very excited that in September School Action Group is planning to meet in person again!

Build Update



We are so excited to be able to reveal our completed new build in September. Here is some pictures of the build to give you a sneak peek of how it is all coming together!



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Sport @ Henlow



The PE department have been thrilled to be able to resume sporting fixtures against other schools. Henlow have been competing against Robert Bloomfield, Etonbury and Alameda in athletics and rounders. We had success with winning the Year 5 1200m, Year 8 Boys Relay, Year 8 800m girls, Year 6 1200m, Year 5 600m Boys and Year 5 Cricket Ball Throw. Well done Henlow Sports Teams!



HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Mrs Coster Interview



We held a 500 word writing competition for Henlow pupils to win the opportunity to interview and photograph Mrs Coster when she visited Henlow. The quality of entries was so high that we had to pick two winners in the end! Congratulations to Freya E and Ethan M in 5IL for their winning stories. Our runner ups were Evie M and Rhia V. We've included the winning stories for you to enjoy.

Nurture - By Freya E 5IL.

There once was a little boy called Jack, who finds life hard and struggles with school. A lot of people bullied him and crowded around him shouting his name in his ears. He also never told anyone about how he felt when his parents got divorced. He spent hours in his bedroom crying and cuddling his teddys. He thought that he had the worst life in the world, but he was wrong. Two weeks after his parents got the divorce papers written he went for a walk with his grandma, they went past a horrible, old orphanage. Then the head of the orphanage suddenly started hitting the young children and older children with a rusty, coal black cane, shouting, "WORK HARDER, NOW! Jack was terrified, he told his grandma he was scared. His Grandma said to him, "You could have been just like them, but you are lucky because your Mummy and Daddy love you and they will never give you up." At that point he realised that his life was not as bad as these peoples and felt sorry for them. Not far from the troublesome orphanage was a man in his 60s asking for money, thankfully Jack just happened to have 30 pounds he was going to spend on a special toy go cart he had always wanted. Instead, he stopped at the man who was begging for 50 pence. Jack suddenly got a 20 pound note out of his pocket and the 10-pound note, he gave it to the hungry, scared, cold man and smiled. For the next 2 hours Jack and his grandma helped the poor man get food, drink and some clothes. Jack went home and was buzzing; it was the best thing he had ever felt. He loved everyone in his family! He had just done a bunch of good deeds in one day, but this was not the end, this was just the beginning of Jack helping other people...

As he got older, he became a teacher and helped a lot of kids and adults understand that no one's life is perfect. Jack taught a lot of subjects e.g.: English, History, Maths, Geography, Music, Art and his favourite RE; he loved teaching RE. The children loved him, he had never felt honour by anyone before, he had conquered his dream. He was also a therapist and told people to open up about how they feel. The thing he said to most people was," Love your life, cherish every single moment, they are special.". He also raised some money for many African charities. He even went all the way around the world. A few weeks after his achievement of reaching 1000000 pounds he was known all around the world. He was on the news everywhere he was a millionaire, after all he had been through, he had finally felt special and had won over the darkness inside him. He was finally happy now. He is now in charge of the orphanage from his awful childhood.

Mrs Coster Interview



Honesty - By Ethan M 5IL.

ONE DAY, there was a boy named Chris. At school he had no friends but he was honest; actually he was EXTREMELY honest. If he had done something wrong, he would tell the truth; for example, he would say if he had done something on purpose or by accident, and he would tell the teacher if it was his fault or someone else's. Chris's objective was to pass his honesty onto every student in his school. The problem with this was that some children are bullies and don't listen to any student, especially Chris. Chris knew school was about learning, not messing around and doing the wrong thing. So he wanted to put an end to bullying and he was never going to give up on it.

AT LUNCH TIME, he sat on his own as everyone else moved to eat with their friends. For his lunch he had a salmon sandwich when he asked for tuna; but Chris was a grateful person and would tell his mum about it when he got home but say he didn't mind. When he got onto the playground he told the teacher, 'I forgot to do my homework, I will do it when I get home.' The teacher replied,

'Ok, that is fine, but please make sure you do it.'

Chris said back,

'Ok.'

And walked over to a tree and read his book that was named, Honesty; the book was by Jack Honest. He loved this book and would be lost without it.

DING!

DING!

DING!

It was the end of lunch and it was time for Chris to help everyone become honest.

IN ENGLISH, they had to write a story. Chris wrote a story, a bit like this one, about honesty. He was going to give it to the teacher once he was done. This is what the first part of the story said,

'Honesty.

You can pass honesty onto other people so they show it too.'

Those few words meant alot and Chris knew it did. When there was ten minutes left of the lesson, Chris put his hand up. When the teacher asked Chris why he had his hand up Chris said, 'I have finished and I would like to show you what I have done.' The teacher replied,

'Ok, come up and I will read it.'

It took five whole minutes for the teacher to read it (because it was a long story). When the teacher finished reading the story, she read it to the class. Luckily, everyone in the class listened to the teacher. Once she showed it to the class, she recorded herself reading it and said it was by Chris. Every class in the school had seen the video. Every single pupil took in the information Chris had described in his amazing book. Just like that, he made his whole school (including the teachers) want to be honest and kind.

Chris had lots of friends now.

HONESTY - ENTHUSIASM - NURTURE - LOVE - ORIGINALITY - WISDOM

Mrs Coster Interview



Unfortunately Mrs Coster wasn't able to come into school because of the increase in Covid cases and therefore Freya and Ethan interviewed Mrs Coster virtually. Next year when Mrs Coster comes into school they will have the opportunity to meet her in person. Freya and Ethan did an amazing job coming up with questions to ask and were professional journalists. Here is their write up of the interview. The full video interview is available to watch on our website http://www.henlowacademy.co.uk/web/mrs_coster_interview/567922

Q. What have you been doing since last October?

A. Learning new things such as cycling, swimming, sewing with a sewing machine and hand sewing with hooks.

Q. What has been your biggest challenge? Have you got any exciting plans?

A. Picking things up, " Like the other day I was trying to pick up a USB charge, and in the end I was there for 1 hour." "I'm also really excited to get my new legs and to try them out.

Q. Where were you when you heard that you got an MBE?

A. I was in my living room, and suddenly this email came through and I thought it was spam, so I deleted it and then I thought I might as well read it so I read it and I saw it said I am supposed to be getting an MBE.

Q. Do you know what member of the royal family is going to give you your MBE and are you nervous about meeting them?

A. I don't know who is going to give me the MBE but I am a little nervous about having to curtsy and to pick up the prize.

Q. What are you going to do with your MBE?

A. I will probably put the MBE in a box and then put it on the mantelpiece with my husband fencing prizes, and will wear it when I come to see you.

Q. Do you like penguins? Did you draw the penguin on the whiteboard in 5IL?

A. No, unfortunately, I did not draw the penguin on the whiteboard, I couldn't draw then and I can't draw now.

Q. Where do you get your passion for life from?

A. Well I'm a Christian and when i went into hospital I thought I wouldn't live, and even my family had to say goodbye to me twice. When I came out of hospital I thought God had given me a second life because he wanted me to do something.

Q. Are you still in the same house? If not what changes have happened?

A. Yes I'm in the same house and there have been a lot of changes recently, like the main bathroom and our ensuite has been merged together to make a big bathroom and are going to extend the garage.

Q. What do you do on a daily basis?

A. I get up and do some bits and pieces and go to the hospital for a check up and have my friend come over and help me sort out some denim and sew. Listen to audiobooks too.

Mrs Coster Interview



Q. Do you miss teaching and will you ever go back to it?

A. I really miss the contact with pupils and helping them. I don't miss meetings and writing up records."

Q. What did you teach?

A. Everything except French!

Q. What is your favourite subject?

A. All of them!

Q. Have you got any plans for more charity events?

A. A few in odd places and if there are any at school I will definitely be coming to them.

Q. What was it like being in Africa, was it nice?

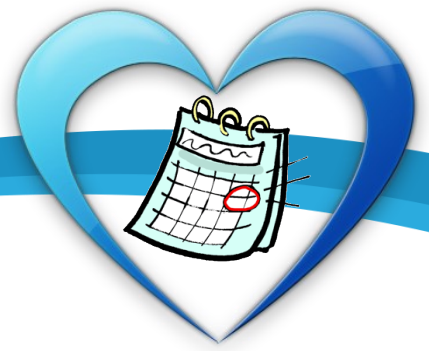
A. Amazing! I loved it there. Everyone was so friendly even though most of them are so poor.

Q. Did you make any friends in Africa?

A. Yes, I've even got some friends who I like to call my African family. I've got a African brothers, sisters , mother , father , grandma, grandpa and a niece, even a friend called Susan who helped the school be built in Kenya."



Coming Up...



**Have a
great
summer...
See you in
September!**