

Alexandra Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed



News: 11th December 2020

Message from the Head Teacher

Hello Parents and Carers,

The majority of children and staff have returned to school following the recent upheaval that COVID19 has caused us. Thank you for being supportive in this difficult time. I hope we will soon see an end to these disruptions however, we are also planning for more challenging times after the Christmas holiday.

Google Classroom is available to children who are self-isolating and this will continue. Children have logged on at school and have been shown how to participate during lessons at school so we expect, technical problems aside, that children will log on at home and continue with their learning. If you are having issues, please email the year group leader or the school office.

A reminder that homework, set every Tuesday, can be accessed through the website using this link: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/curriculum-overview>.

We ask that only **one** parent or carer are on site and as our paths are quite narrow, we would appreciate **no scooters** and bikes at the moment. Pushchairs are ok, but please keep your children with you and leave the site as quickly as you can. Please continue to wear face coverings for your own and others protection and please allow space to social distance.

A reminder, you can communicate with school in a variety of ways. You can email the school – use office@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk or telephone 0208 5706 826 or use the Year Group Leader emails which can be used for general concerns or issues that you might have discussed at drop off or collection by the classroom door previously. The Year Group Leader may answer directly via email or ask a class teacher to phone you. Please be aware that staff are busy in class teaching and out of class planning and therefore replies may be delayed.

Year Group Leader Emails:

Nursery at Alexandra Primary School nursery@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Reception at Alexandra Primary School reception@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 1 at Alexandra Primary School year1@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 2 at Alexandra Primary School year2@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 3 at Alexandra Primary School year3@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 4 at Alexandra Primary School year4@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 5 at Alexandra Primary School year5@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 6 at Alexandra Primary School year6@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Children in need in November raised £780 – This is a huge achievement, well done everyone and thank you.

I have been asked to publicise the Christmas Card competition from Hiyos, formerly known as the Firstcare Practice in the Blenheim Centre.



The poster features a festive winter background with snowflakes, holly leaves, and red berries. The Hiyos logo is prominently displayed in the center. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout, providing details about the competition rules and submission instructions.

Christmas Card Competition
hiyos
For all school age groups

CALLING ALL CREATIVES

The winner's Christmas card will be displayed on the Hiyos.org website during Christmas and will win a gift voucher.
Some of the runner-up's design will also be displayed on the website.

Your design should

-  Have a traditional Christmas Design
-  Be no larger than A4 and should clear in the picture you will take.
-  Must write your name, age and class on the design For Example Alex-4M 8Y.

Please take a clear picture of your design and send it to any of the below Social Media channels by 5 PM on Friday 18th December.

-  <https://www.facebook.com/gphounslow>
-  <https://twitter.com/hiyos8>

Good Luck !

And don't forget:

December 11th is National Mountain Day and Wear your Christmas Jumper Day, we will also be doing this on Thursday 17th December too.

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day#!>

The winter solstice, (shortest day) is on December 21st

Christmas Day is on 25th December

We hope that you are able to enjoy your holiday and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 4th January 2021.

Staff wish you a very Happy Christmas and a fantastic New Year

Thought for the week:

Hard times don't create heroes. It is during the hard times when the hero within us is revealed.

Question of the week:

What if there wasn't any electricity?

Nursery - We have been focusing on the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children have listened to the story and acted it out, practising the skill of retelling a story. The children have had lots of opportunities to explore with props from the story, including tasting some porridge and sitting on the different sized chairs. We have been planning Goldilocks' route through the forest and have been using lots of words to give her directions. In phonics the children have been working on their listening skills. They have been listening to a range of sounds and describing what they can hear and identifying what made the sound. We look forward to moving on to our last bear story for this half term 'Snow Bears'.

Please look out for the Nursery Homework for the Christmas break. We look forward to reading your responses in January.



Reception - Our topic this half term 'we're going on a journey' has taken our learning all around the world. We have been learning about India, Australia, Africa and South America. This week we have been learning about the Arctic and comparing and contrasting it to the other areas that we have learnt about. We have learnt that the Arctic is very cold and the children have engaged in activities that reflect their learning.



Choosing painting as an activity Anya has used her fine motor skills to paint a snowy picture.

Jai has used his fine motor skills to use scissors to cut paper to make a snowflake. He was delighted at the result of cutting the paper.

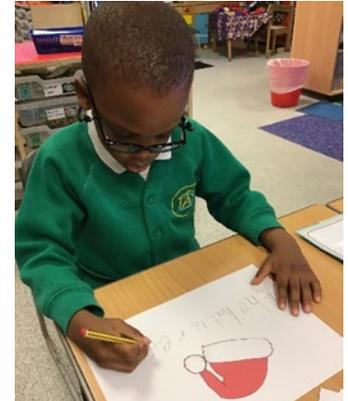


In maths we have continued to learn about 2D shapes. We have been detectives looking for rectangles and squares in our environment, we have been creating square and rectangle shapes and we have also been learning about the features that are the same and features that are different between rectangles and squares.

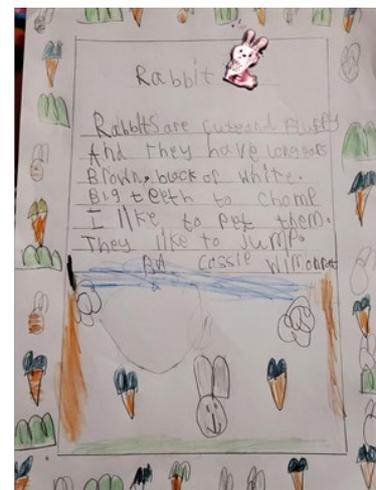
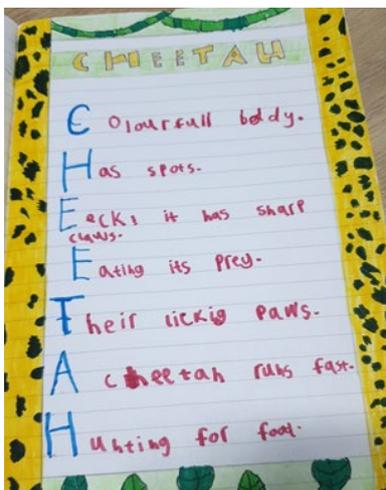
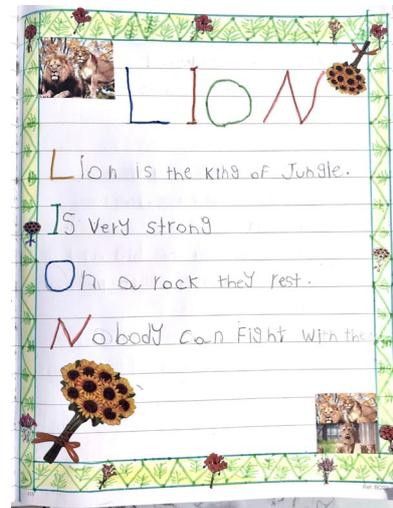
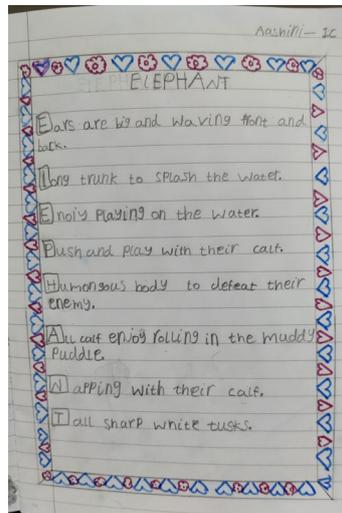


Chikezie chose to explore a range of 2D shapes. He copied a design of a train. He chose the shapes carefully and named the shapes that he used.

With Christmas approaching, we have been writing about Santa's red hat. A super sentence was written by Chinedu.



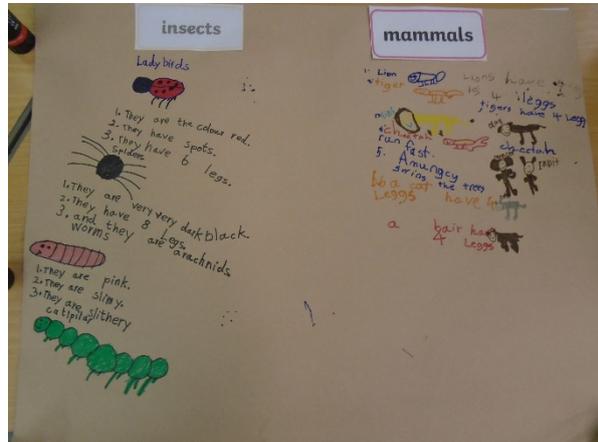
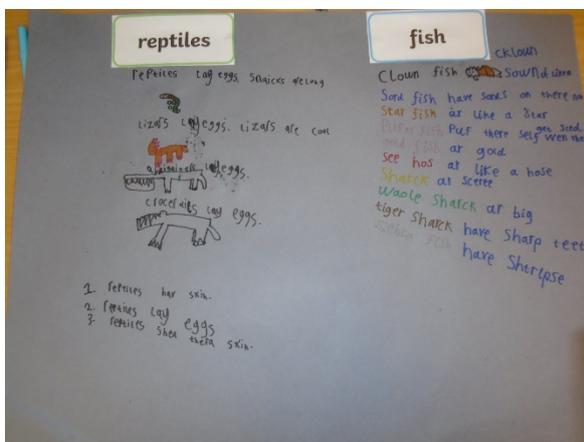
Year 1 have been learning about different types of poetry in their English lessons. Last week they created some wonderful acrostic poems about their favourite animals. The teachers were so impressed with their presentation skills.



In Maths, the children have been learning about place value. They have been looking at ways to represent tens and ones with drawings.



In Science, the children have learnt about different groups of animals. We spent time in class sorting the animals and discussing what features the animals have as well as their similarities and differences.



We have been so impressed with the children's learning this term, both at school and at home. Well done for all your effort. You should be very proud.

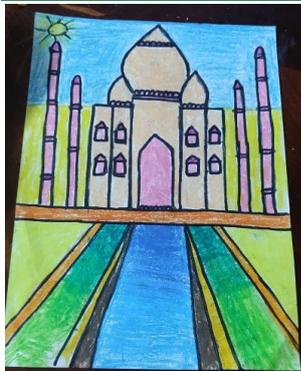
Year 2: Leading up to the end of the year, we here in Year 2 have become some fantastic scientists! We discovered that we could make water move from one cup to another without touching or moving the cups. Here are some pictures to show you this!



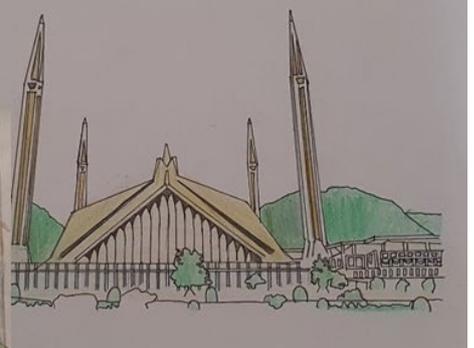
In English we have been working hard to create our own Paddington Bear stories and are planning on turning these into actual little books for us to keep in class and use in our book corner.

Mathematically we have been practicing our multiplication facts and have been creating arrays to help us solve some tricky questions.

In Year 3:



Over the past week, Year 3 children have been working extremely hard, both online and offline!



Landscapes and landmarks (English, Geography, Art, Computing)

In English, we have been analysing, planning, writing and editing information texts about individual counties of the United Kingdom (U.K.). This task links to our Geography topic about the U.K. To consolidate all of our learning so far, our homework was to create a non-chronological report about a country of our choice and present our work to our class. In addition to this, we created a piece of art showing a famous landmark or a landscape scene from the country we chose. We are extremely proud of our excellent work and enjoyed practising our public speaking skills when presenting our reports and art work.

Where is India?

- India is a part of the continent Asia.
- It is surrounded by the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.
- Its neighboring countries are Pakistan, Nepal and China.



United Kingdom

About the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is located in the continent of Europe. U.K. is a country of Western Europe made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. 64 million people live in the U.K.

Official Languages:

English is spoken across the U.K. but it is not the only native official language. You may also occasionally hear: Welsh in Wales, Gaelic and Scots in Scotland.

Seas or Oceans Surrounding the U.K:

1. South by the English Channel
2. East by the North Sea
3. West by the Irish Sea
4. Atlantic Ocean

Pakistan's Culture & Food



Pakistan culture includes colourful colours and beautiful dresses. In the picture we can see Horse riding, colourful dresses, henna which is also known as mehndi, Islamic prayer as the majority of people are Muslims and last but not least the colourful and shape-filled kites.

We can also witness the mouth-watering foods which are found in Pakistan from the picture. Some of these foods are Samosa, Kebab, Karahi, Naan, Biryani, Jalebi, Gulab Jammun and Last but not least Halva.

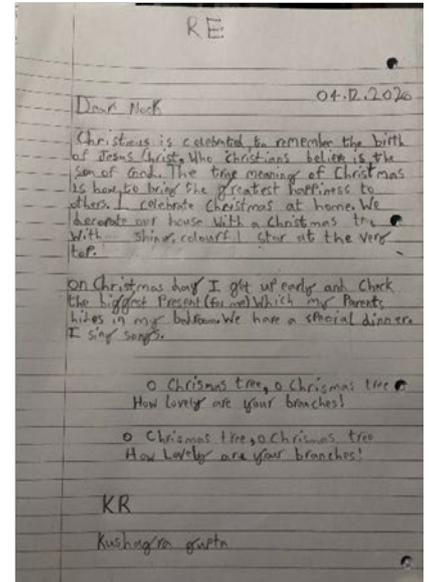
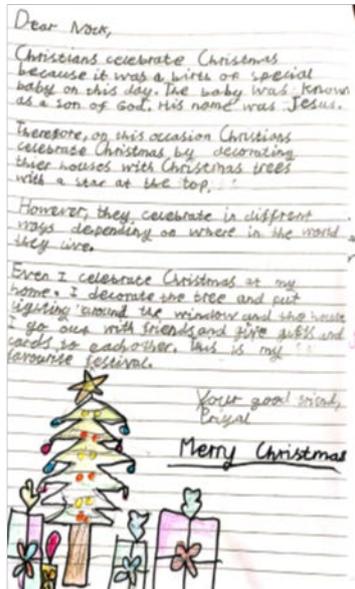
R.E.

In RE, we practised our researching and letter writing skills when we wrote a letter to an alien called Nock to explain what Christmas is, why it is important to Christians and how it is celebrated in different ways by us and by people all over the world. We described some of our own family traditions around Christmas time.

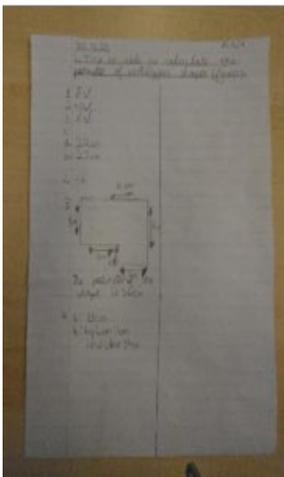


DEAR NOCK

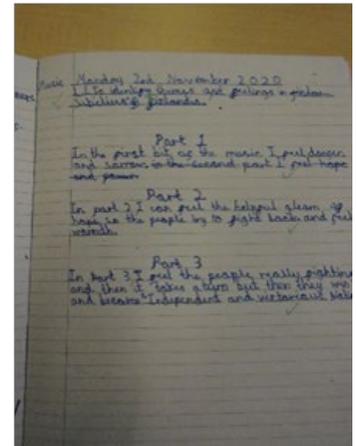
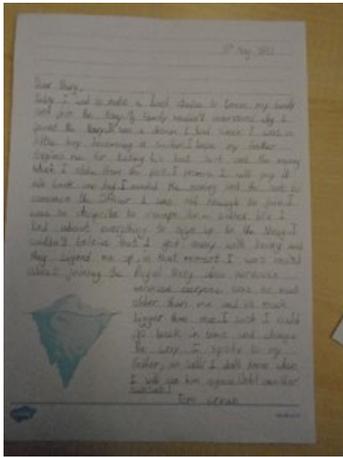
I'm Catholic and my mum is Polish so we start celebrating Christmas early. We decorate the tree after 9th of December. On the tree we have to put something sweet, some chocolate and oranges. We have Christmas dinner on 24th of December. We start our dinner after first star shine in the sky. We have twelve different dishes on the table which symbolise twelve apostles. Before we start dinner we decorate the table with white cloth and we put hay under table. This is symbol where Jesus was born. On the table we have extra place. This is place for secret visitor. We believe if someone knock the door we should invite them in. That will be like inviting Jesus to you home and heart. On the table we have Christmas candle and bible. Before we start dinner we pray and break white waffle symbol of Jesus with each other to wish each other well. We have to try twelve dishes. We eat fish, different type of dumplings, beet-root soup, potatoes and drink home made kompot. We not allow to eat meat that day and we do fast since breakfast. We not allow to get up from the table till finish eating. We do sing carols and talk. We finish our Christmas Diner with prayer. After dinner we go to window to see if we can spot Santa Clause and his reindeers. When we hear bell ring that's sign that all presents are under the tree. We do open them on 24th of December. We do go for a Midnight Mass at church to pray and get Christmas blessing from priest. Hope you like my family tradition. Alicia



Year 4 - We were delighted with the positive transition to learning at home last week, with most children engaging with our adapted curriculum. Since our return, children are making a lot of effort to ensure their knowledge and understanding is secure. In Maths, children have completed a unit on measurement where they learnt how to find out the perimeters of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. They are now revising how to multiply and divide with multiples of 10.



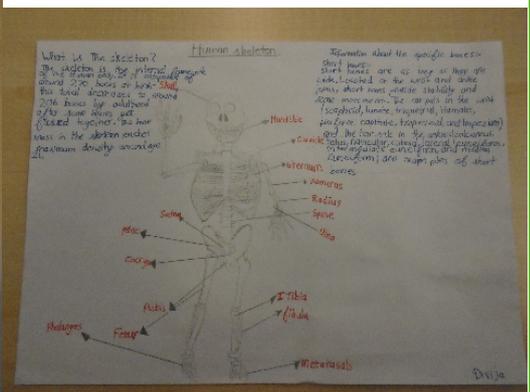
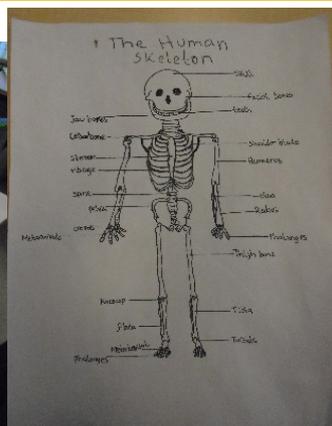
Our topic theme for the Autumn Term, 'Frozen Kingdoms' has moved from a geographical study of the polar regions to a historical study of significant people. We are learning about the historic explorations of Antarctica at the beginning of the 20th Century and, in particular, about explorers such as Robert Falcon Scott, Ernest Shackleton and Tom Crean. Children are considering the significance of these individuals and how they contributed to national achievement. They also produced some beautiful art on the theme of 'exploration.'



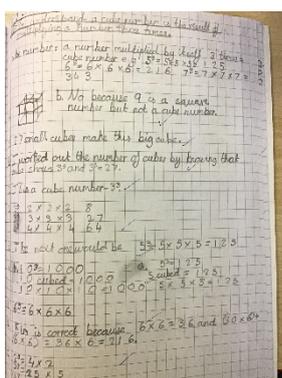
Music, our specialist music teacher introduced the children to the music of Sibelius and one of his most famous compositions, 'Finlandia.' Sibelius is known for writing music which reflected his love for his country, Finland, which straddles the Arctic. In our music lesson this week, the children have started to develop their own compositions based on 'Finlandia.'

Children are also enjoying their gymnastics lessons in which they are revising backwards rolls, different jumps and balances and are learning how to do cartwheels. Outside PE lessons are focusing on developing throwing and catching skills, important for team games such as cricket, rounders and netball or basketball.

Science lessons this half-term are about the digestive system. Children started with a detailed study of the mouth and teeth and the human skeleton before moving on to study how food moves through the body. They have produced clearly labelled diagrams to complement their writing of information texts in English lessons.

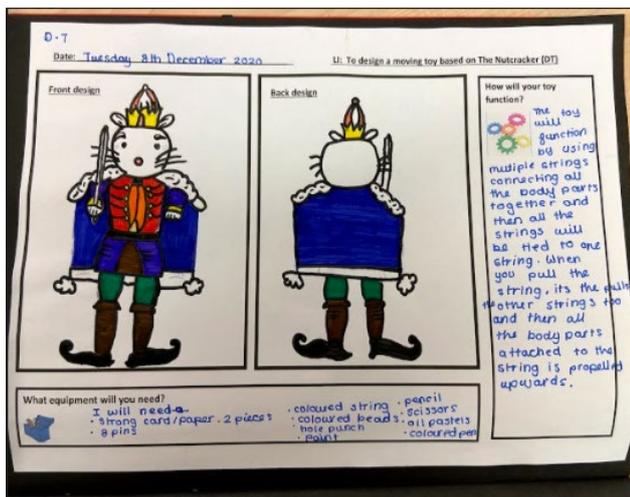
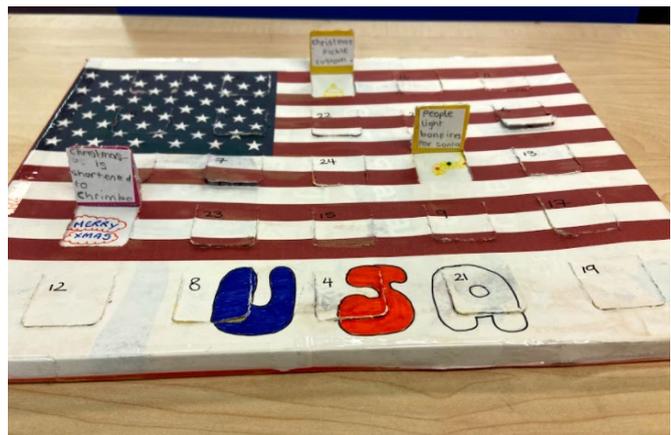
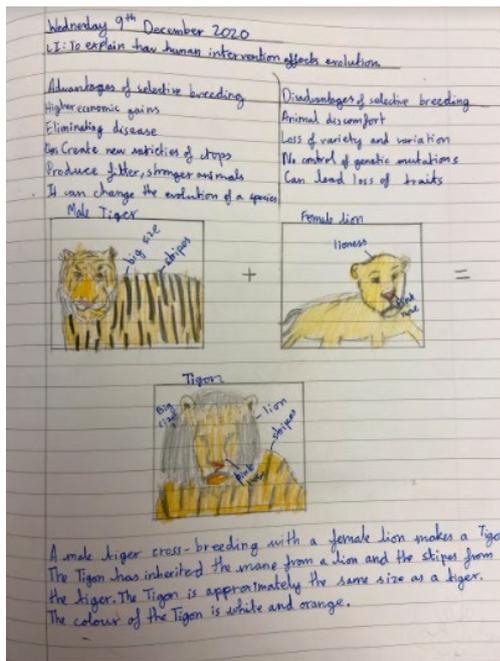


Year 5



In Maths, we have been revising and extending our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000. We have been using our knowledge of both place value and multiplication facts to solve calculations. Furthermore, we have investigated and solved problems involving square and cubed numbers.

Year 6 - In Maths this week, we continued working on fractions; looking into multiplying fractions and integers. In English, the children practised using direct speech to create dialogue and also started writing their historical narratives based on their knowledge of the Victorian era. In Geography, they explored and identified the extent of the British Empire – identifying which countries were colonised during the 17th and 18th century. In Science, children researched human intervention in cross-breeding where they conducted some wonderful discussions, exploring the disadvantages and advantages. In the lead up to Christmas, each class has been exploring how it is celebrated around the world; 6C focused on Spain, 6NC looked into France and 6K researched the USA. The children created some amazing posters, PowerPoints and advent calendars to show what they discovered.



There has been lots of learning both at school and at home this term. Lots of challenges and fun too.

I hope the term went well for you with some challenge but also things that you found easier. Keep reading over the holiday and doing your homework!

At the weekend do some reading, relax, rest, recover and we will do much more next term. What learning do you remember from this term?

