

# Alexandra Primary School

## Aspire, Perform, Succeed



News: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Message from the Head Teacher

Hello Parents and Carers,

We have reached the half term break. Children have worked hard and produced some excellent work. There have been many opportunities for children to develop their knowledge and skills across the curriculum. Information about our curriculum can be found on the learning pages of our website. Weekly learning overviews, including homework, can also be found here: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/curriculum-overview>. From this page, click on the Year group tabs to open up each Learning overview.

Over half term, we hope that children will get an opportunity to read daily and listen to stories being read to them. We have included a number of reading resources to support this. Resources posted on the school website can be found here (scroll to the end): <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/learning-reading> and here: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/news/news-detail/bookspace-lockdown-reading-lists>.

You can also hear staff reading stories by following this link: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/learning-reading>

This term you will have noticed that our new grounds maintenance team have been very busy cutting back trees and bushes and opening up the site. We have also been busy trying to make use of the space we have available both outside and inside the building. Infant parents will have noticed the disruption by the scooter shelter. Thank you for being so patient.

A new room has been created from a storage cupboard. We are calling this room 'community corner' and we now need your help. We want to run a preloved uniform shop after half term. If you have any preloved uniform, in good condition and washed, please send this in so that we can stock the preloved uniform shop.

We would also like any puzzles that your child has outgrown for the toy shop. They also need to be in good condition and complete. Many thanks in advance.

This term we continue to teach the school breathe techniques to children. Ask them to demonstrate. These can be used anywhere and are fun. Adults can use them too! Found here: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/school-breathe>

Parents, please sign up to National Safety Online, link below. Here you can get regular updates and find out more information to help keep your child safe whilst they are online. <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/alexandra-primary-school-1>, There have been a number of parent information leaflets and we have added these to the school website.

A reminder that term time leave will not be authorised. Once again good school attendance is high on the agenda.

School Meals: please make sure that you have discussed the menu with your child, so that they know what to expect each day. This can be found here: <https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/school-meals>

## World Book Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

To celebrate the books that the children love to read, on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book and if possible, bring that book with them to school. We do NOT expect families to buy new and expensive costumes for the day, but rather, work together to create these costumes from objects around the home.



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**<sup>®</sup>

3 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS

Reading Aloud  
to Kids...



At times, you may want to discuss concerns and issues with class teachers. Just at the moment it is best to use the telephone or email. You can email the school using [office@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:office@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk) or telephone on 020 8570 6826.

Year Group Leader emails which can be used for general concerns.

Nursery at Alexandra Primary School [nursery@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Reception at Alexandra Primary School [reception@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:reception@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 1 at Alexandra Primary School [year1@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year1@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 2 at Alexandra Primary School [year2@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year2@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 3 at Alexandra Primary School [year3@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year3@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 4 at Alexandra Primary School [year4@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year4@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 5 at Alexandra Primary School [year5@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year5@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

Year 6 at Alexandra Primary School [year6@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:year6@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk)

The Year Group Leader may answer directly or ask a class teacher to phone you. Please ensure school has at least two contacts and that you keep us informed of changes to mobile numbers and email addresses.

Family learning opportunities can be found here: <https://fsd.hounslow.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/>

### And don't forget:

In February we have...

St Valentine's Day – 14<sup>th</sup> February

<http://projectbritain.com/valentine.htm>

National Nest Box week – 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February

<https://www.bto.org/how-you-can-help>

International Mother Language Day – 21<sup>st</sup> February  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/mother-language-day>

Pancake day – 1<sup>st</sup> March  
<http://projectbritain.com/shrove.html>

**Thought for the week:**

**One moment of patience, in a moment of anger,  
can save a thousand moments of regret.**

**Question of the week:**

**What questions did your teacher or another adult ask you this week?**

**Nursery** - This week in Nursery we have been planting and learning how to grow our own beanstalks. We have a growing investigation area where we can explore gardening tools, books and real seeds and beans. All of the children will be bringing home their own bean plant to care for.

In Math's we have been focusing on the vocabulary of height. The children have been comparing the heights of beanstalks and talking about the tallest and shortest ones.



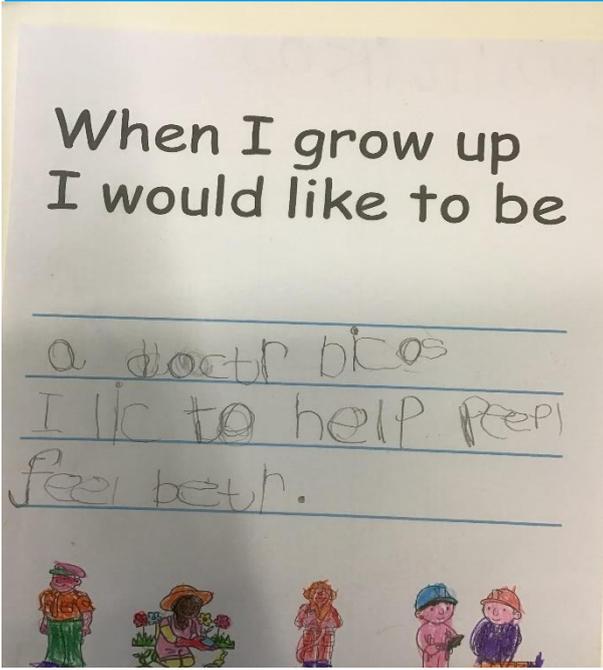
This week we have also been focusing on the children's achievements so far in Nursery. They were very excited to look back at photographs of themselves doing something that has made us feel proud. The children were delighted to take the special photo home to share with their families.

**Reception** – The children in Reception have been very busy over the last couple of weeks. The children immersed themselves into the learning about the celebration of the Chinese New Year. The children played percussion instruments to encourage the dragon and the lion to dance.

The children have also had fun playing in the Chinese kitchen and exploring using chop sticks.

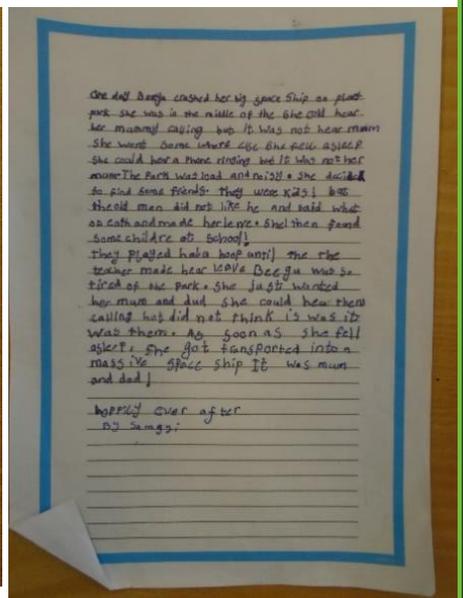
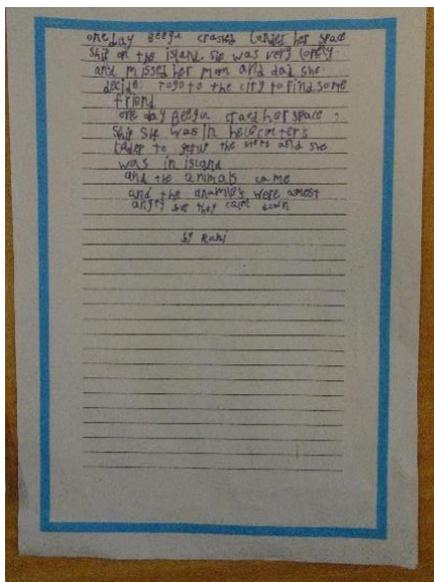
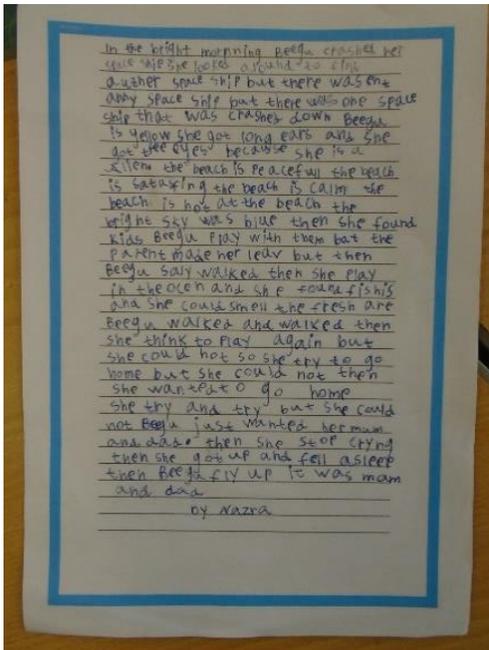


As part of the topic work, the children have been thinking about what they would like to do when they grow up. They have produced writing using their phonic knowledge and engaged in roleplay.

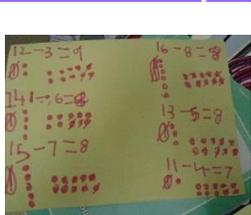


I want to be an animal doctor – a vet

Year 1 – We have been working very hard on our learning before the end of this half term. The children became authors of their very own versions of 'Beegu' in their English lessons. They took Beegu to a new setting for their stories and spent lots of time and effort writing them neatly in their published versions.



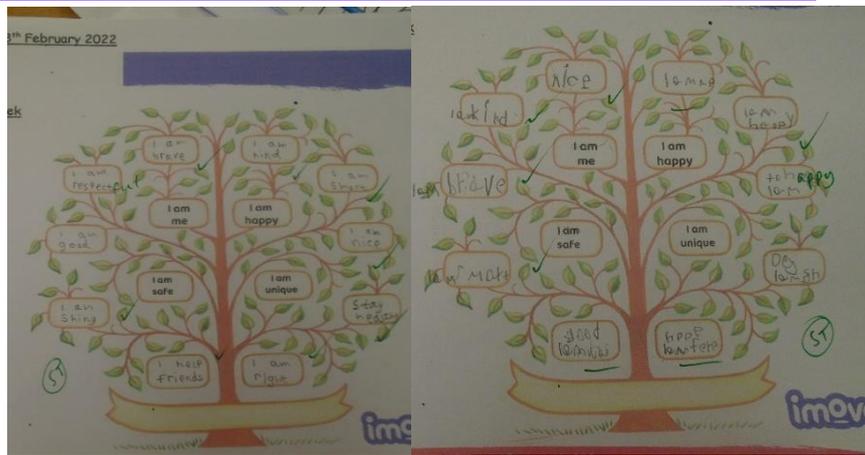
In Maths, the children have been practising subtraction by regrouping the ten into ten ones. We spent lots of time in class saying the steps we need to follow to answer a subtraction by regrouping question. Write it! Draw it! Regroup it! Cross it! Count it! Answer it!



During computing this half term, the children have been working on iPads. They have learnt about following commands using a robot. We have been using the 'BeeBot' app to practise this.



This week is Children's Mental Health Week, run by the mental health charity "Place 2 Be". The theme for this year is 'Growing Together', focusing on personal and emotional growth, goal setting and resilience. In class, the children created 'positivity trees' which celebrated how amazing and unique each of them are.

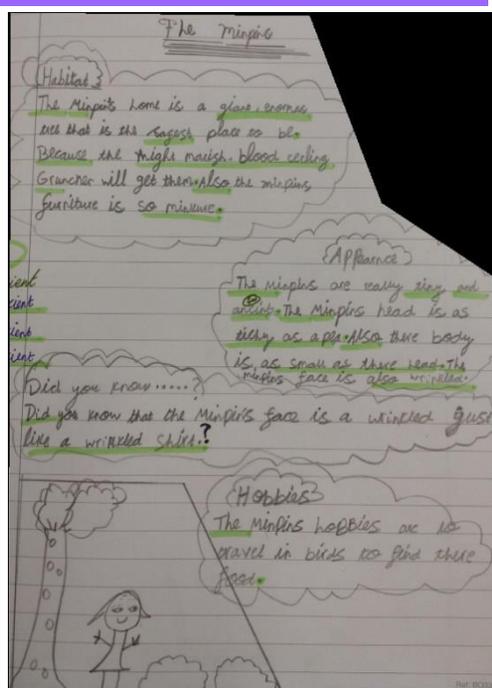


During DT lessons, the children have been designing a space buggy. This week they were able to create their designs using cardboard and masking tape. Each space buggy looked different and the children worked hard to make them stand up. It was not easy so well done for your perseverance!



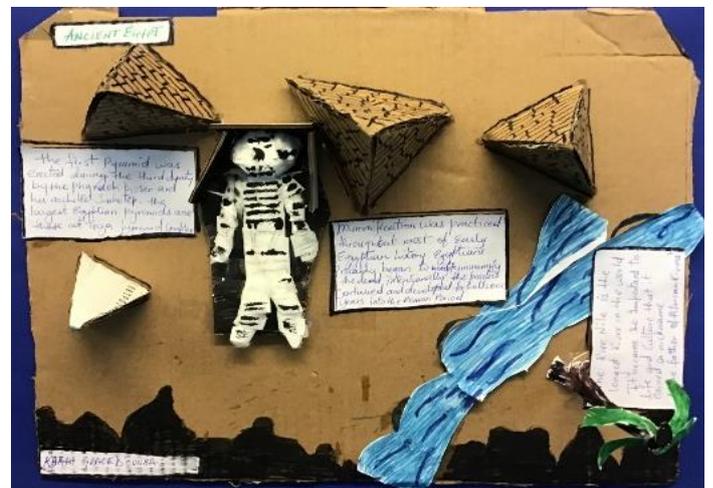
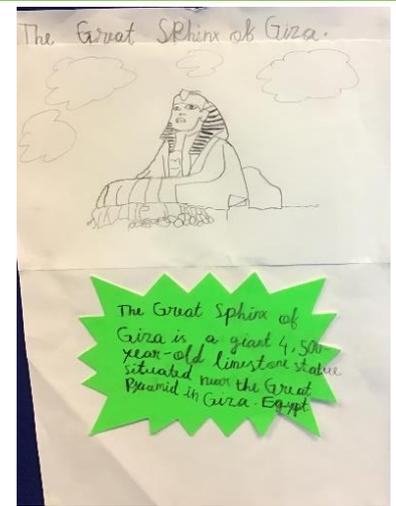
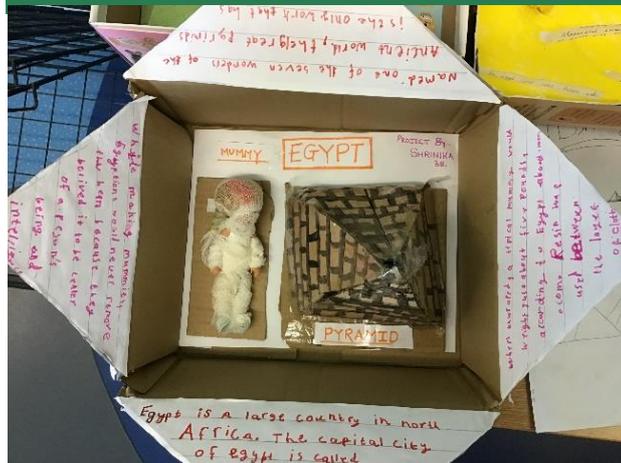
Year 2 - We have been learning about monsters and reading stories about monsters. We have been reading 'The Minpins' by Roald Dahl where we have discovered lots of information about the little creatures called Minpins. We learnt about their appearance, habitat and hobbies. Using this we created our own information report about the creatures in the story.

We then gathered some ideas about the different monsters from the story. We heard about snozzwangers, spittlers and the dreaded Gruncher.

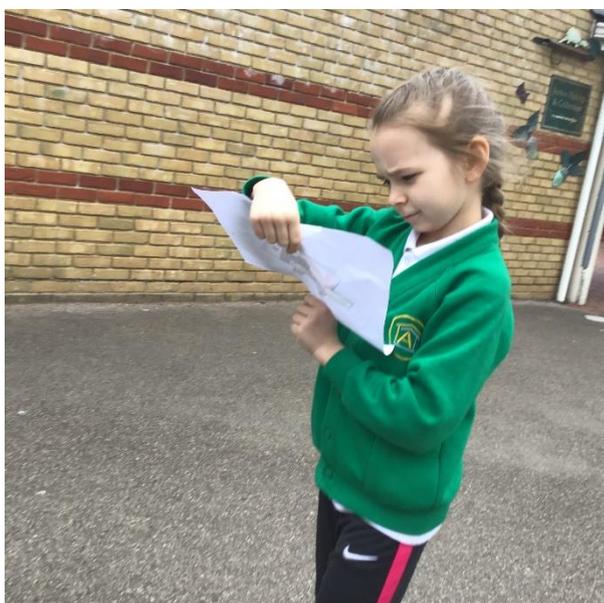




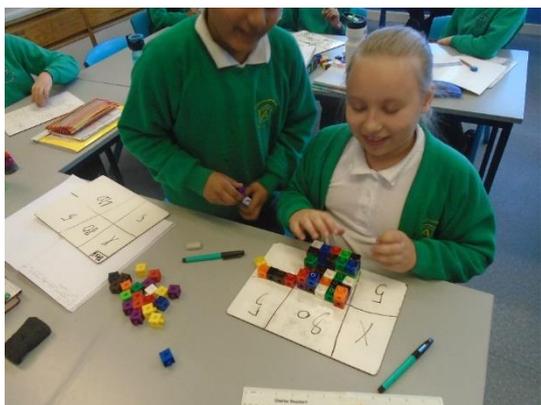
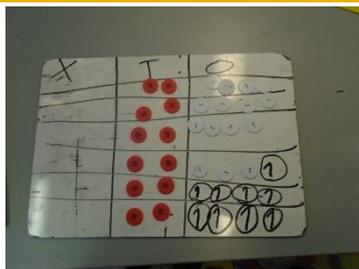
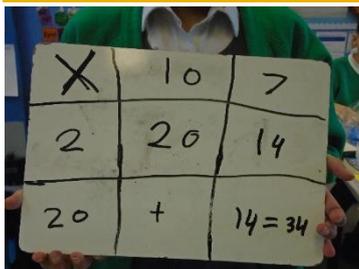
To consolidate our learning so far about Ancient Egypt, our homework was to create an information text or 3D artefact exploring one or many aspects of Ancient Egypt. We are extremely proud of our excellent work and enjoyed practising our public speaking skills when presenting our reports and art work. Here are some of our impressive pieces of work on display in the year group.



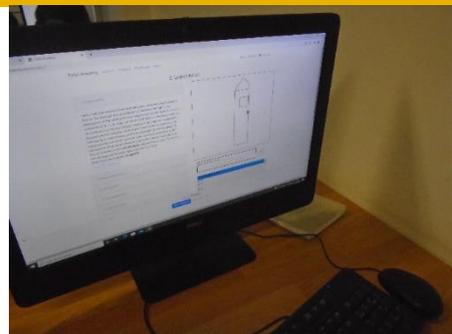
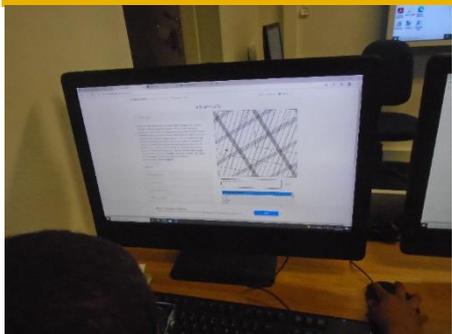
Year 4 - We have been learning about orienteering, using the Controls and Punches used in real Orienteering competitions. The children put their map-reading skills to the test by placing and locating these controls on our new orienteering course.



In Maths, we were studying the formal written methods of multiplication, beginning with concrete methods and leading into abstract ones.



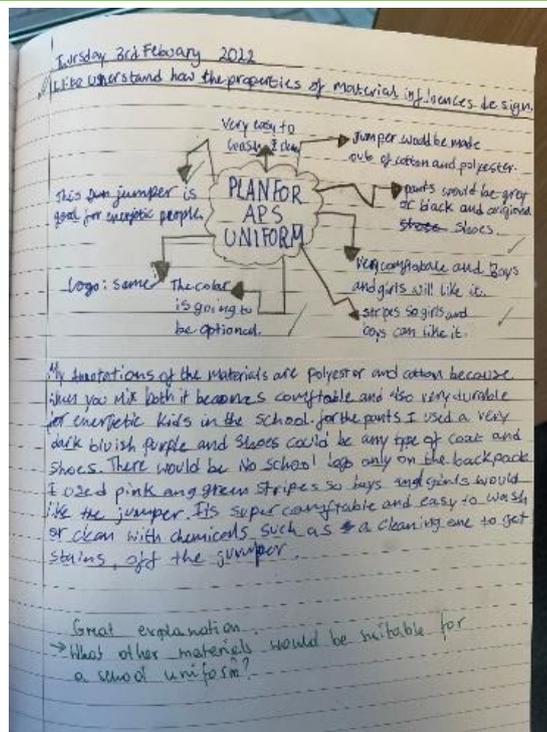
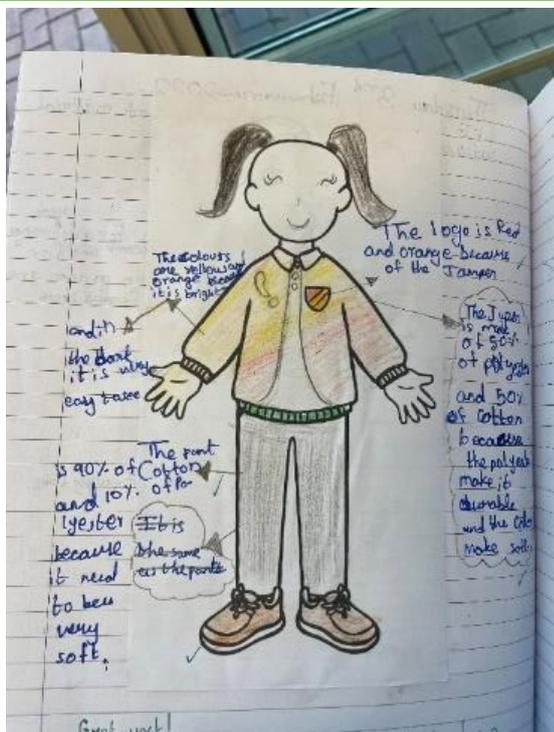
For Computing, we were controlling a 'turtle' by using algorithms.



Music – we worked on ostinato, keeping repeated rhythms and patterns continuing through our 'River Music'.





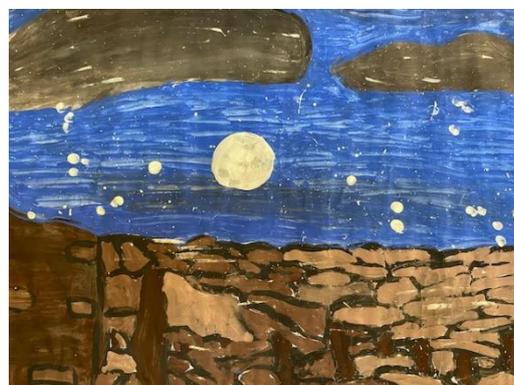


Year

6: This week in English, the children have been summarising Carrie's War. In Maths, we have been looking at measurements. Based on a science experiment on mould, the children have been drawing conclusions. It has been great to see the children apply their creativity in art, to produce paintings in the style of Paul Nash. The art work represents the destruction of WW1, depicted through an appropriate colour scheme to reflect the sombre mood. Here are some examples of the art work produced.



Tony 6P



Mary 6P



Jastej 6P

Last week, the children wrote letters from the perspective of a WW1 Soldier. It was great to see the children include a variety of techniques such as emotive language and detailed description to describe the trenches.

# Adyan 6P

*Adyan*  
 Tuesday 1st February 2022  
 I.I. To publish an informal letter

Dear Magnus, IV Battle of Somme  
September 25 1916  
Trench No. 3

How are you? To be honest, I'm quite lonely. Well, life is pretty mundane in these trenches. There's nothing much to do but do our boring duties and watch those dog-sized mice tear holes in our rugged, ill-fitted clothes. I hope you're ok. With all that moving around to trench no. 3. It's getting kinda hard to figure out where to send these letters. Anyway, here's your update:

When I signed up for the army, I didn't expect these atrocious conditions! I thought that they would provide us 'patriotic' soldiers with some decent chicken and all! At least some fruits and veggies. But all they gave us was some sloppy bully beef and stale so called 'chocolate chip' biscuits. Billy tried to bite one (as a dare) and lost his 2 front teeth! Laughter really is hard to get these. I offered to try one - just for fun - and ended up having to deal with the lingering taste of cardboard in my mouth for a week! Ugh!

I must tell you, trench life isn't easy, infact - it's terrible! You have all these chores you gotta do and when you finish them, and try to get some shut-eye those generals call us out to do that atrocious, all-night, sentry duty. Such stupidity, am I right? At least let us sleep! Well, unfortunately, I had to scoop the poop out the toilet - that was the worst!

My mum died 3 days ago, since then I've been in a pretty melancholic mood. Not a day goes by when I remember. James wrote to me saying that she had collateral damage in a giant zeppelin crash. But on the bright side, I found a letter from Auntie I.F.R.A. He I've always found her name peculiar. Emily told me it's just a tiny mistake but James says it stands for Incredibly Forlorn Rad Auntie. 'Bit strange, isn't it? Auntie I.F.R.A sent me a pic of her and her chiwahawwa Tim. All I have here is good ol' Tommy, a German Shepard. Anyway, that's all. I'll write to you again next week. If I can...

From, Adyan, your friend.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022  
 I.I. To publish an informal letter

June 2nd 1916 

Dear beloved, Mum

I was on top of the world, when the sergeant gave me your letter and a batch of your home made chocolate chip cookies. I feel so lucky because some of my mates didn't get anything. I really miss you and dad alot, and Floppy. How is Floppy anyway? Do you still take him outside for walks? I can't wait to come back home. By the way, do you remember John from highschool? I met him when we were setting up the tents.

This morning, I went to the field kitchen with John. I was so glad, as the sergeant is so stern, he is one of the lost people I want to talk to with. Usually, I would have bully beef or biscuits that were as hard as bricks, but in the field kitchen I got a bowl of hot, delicious chicken soup. The delightful smell travelled up my nose, it had been ages since I'd had a decent meal. Last night, I was on watch out with some friends and we were given the same stale biscuits, but when Henry (my friend) took a bite, we all laughed because he spat it out saying this will make it chewy and softer.

Every once in a while, I step on my toes, which are probably red by now, to make sure our enemies aren't nearby. If I'm in the trenches, it's because I'm doing clean up duty or digging them, which is very tiring. Cleaning the trenches is impossible, it's as bad as my room. The worst part of cleaning the trenches is the scurrying rats. They appear from little holes out of nowhere. They always chew on our equipment when we're asleep, which makes us hate them. Bob, also a friend, is different. We think he doesn't hate them. He'll always appear from somewhere scaring us and he will snuff out left over food. I actually thought he was one of them.

Anyways mum, I'm in a hurry because I can hear gunshots in the distances. Oh I forgot could you make more cookies? I want to share them with my friends. Thank You!

From your beloved son,  
 James

# Nevin 6P

Enjoy the half term break. Read, relax, rest, recover and we will do much more next term.

What do you remember from this week, last week, last month, last term?

What are you able to do now that you couldn't at the beginning of this term?

What will you be able to do at the end of this term?

