

# Alexandra Primary School

## Aspire, Perform, Succeed



News: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Message from the Head Teacher

Hello Parents and Carers,

There has been a great deal of learning over the past two weeks. It has been lovely to talk to the children about their learning and experiences in school. Do ask your child, what they have been learning when reading to and with your child.

Recent parent welcome meetings have been well attended. All the information shared is now on the school website, along with our Welcome Booklets and this terms curriculum information. Weekly overviews can also be found in the Learning Overview section and on Google classroom.

There is a great deal of research to suggest that the more children read or are read to or have reading modelled by parents, teachers and adults the more successful they will be later on in life.

Encouraging and facilitating reading for pleasure is something we want to maximise. If you catch your child reading, please share a photo via email of this to the Apsallstars at Alexandra Primary School: [apsallstars@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:apsallstars@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk) to go on the website gallery. It would be great to see children reading a range of books in a range of environments!

There is information about reading, great reads on our website along with some videos of staff reading their favourite books. You can find this here:

<https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/learning-reading>

Breakfast club and aftercare are available. If you need a space, please contact the school office. More information can be found here:

<https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/breakfast-club>.

The Pre-loved uniform shop is open on Tuesdays from 3pm – 3.30pm. We are also selling sew on school badges for 50p. If you have any unwanted uniform, school bags or school shoes, please send these in to help us stock the pre-loved shop.

When walking to and from the school, please always walk on the left-hand side of any school paths. Try not to stop as there are people behind you and please enter and leave the site promptly.

Local residents have asked that parents, quite rightly, do not block driveways when dropping and collecting children. Please make sure your child stays with you and does not run ahead. Do talk to your child about road safety and the dangers that road traffic can pose as we know recently there have been a few, thankfully, near misses on Tiverton Road. Car users should not be using Denbigh or Tiverton between the hours stated unless you have an exemption.

We also respectfully ask that you consider others whilst parking. Cyclists and scooters – please be vigilant and careful not to run into anyone, again on the left please.

Safeguarding children is one of our highest priorities and we ask that you follow the procedures set out on the website. Parents of Junior children need to use the Tiverton Road exit at the end of the day, collecting their infant children **first**, entering via the Denbigh Road entrance.

At times, you may want to discuss concerns and issues with class teachers. You can email 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 and home addresses.

A reminder that school will not authorise any term time leave, holidays or trips to visit sick relatives abroad. You may incur a fine for taking your child out of school or lose the place at this school. Our Attendance Policy has been revised following new guidance from the DfE and Local Authority. You will find this on the website shortly.

### And don't forget:

In October we have...

**October is Black History Month**

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

**National Grandparent's Day – 1<sup>st</sup> October**

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/discover/2021/october/grandparents-day/>

**National Poetry Day – 5<sup>th</sup> October**

<https://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/>

### Thought for the week:

**You are braver than you believe and stronger than you seem  
and smarter than you think.**

### Question of the week:

**What if we walked on our hands instead of our feet?**

### Rights Respecting Articles of the Week:

**Articles 2 (non-discrimination) and 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups) relate to Black History Month**

**Black History Month takes place in October every year and is a celebration of key figures and events in Black history. Having begun in the USA, it has been celebrated in the UK since 1987, with the emphasis on celebrating particularly the history and contributions to society of people with an African or Caribbean heritage.**



There is a different theme every year, for example in 2021 the theme 'Proud to Be', aimed to recognise the achievements and contributions that Black people make to the UK every day. The 2022 theme, Time for Change: Action Not Words highlights the importance of being an ally and coming together around shared common goals to achieve a better world for everyone. This year it is 'Saluting Our Sisters' highlighting the crucial role that black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities.

Why do you think celebrating Black History Month is important?  
Did you think of these?

To recognise the contribution and achievements of those with African and Caribbean heritage throughout history.

To ensure that we hear a diverse range of stories when considering the past.

To celebrate people's heritage and cultures.

Because all communities, including schools, should encourage respect for everyone and celebrate diversity and inclusion.

To think about how we can make the world a more equal place where everyone's rights are respected.

To learn how to challenge negative stereotypes.

To ensure that there is time and space for people to discuss more recent events and issues such as Black Lives Matter, the treatment of the Windrush generation and the death of George Floyd.

Because no one should be treated differently because of who they are.

To learn about racism and its effects.

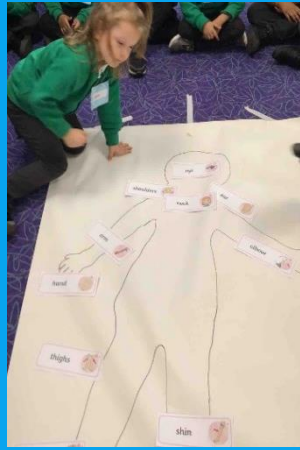
To support people to recognise and challenge discrimination.

**Nursery** – The children have been continuing to explore their new environment and resources. They have also been developing their listening skills by singing rhymes and joining in with stories. The children have especially enjoyed mark making on a large scale, hunting for insects in the garden and playing alongside each other in our giant sand pit.



**Reception** – The children have been busy learning about their body, learning or reinforcing lots of vocabulary.

First a child was drawn around and then the children talked together to work out where to place different labels on the body.



The children have had fun by using their fine motor skills to create faces using plasticine.



The children have been using their imagination in their play.



Building a house



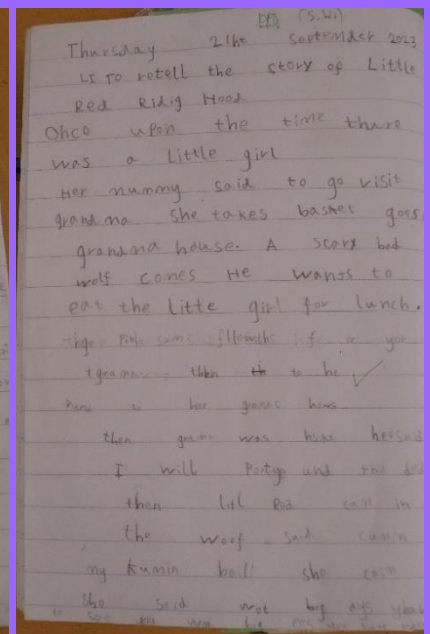
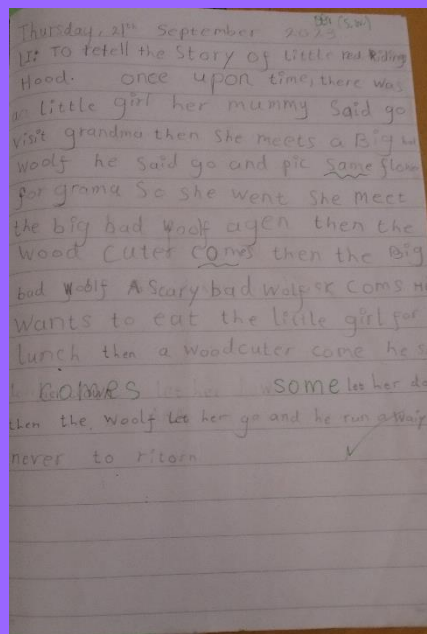
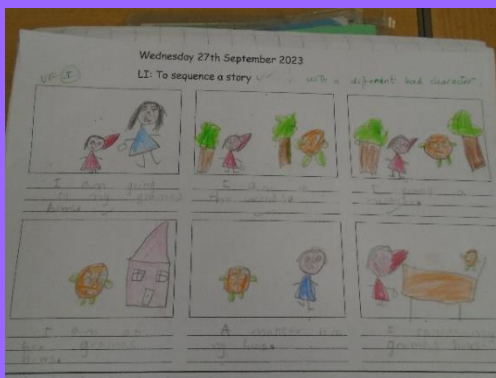
Phoning for an engineer



Building an airplane.

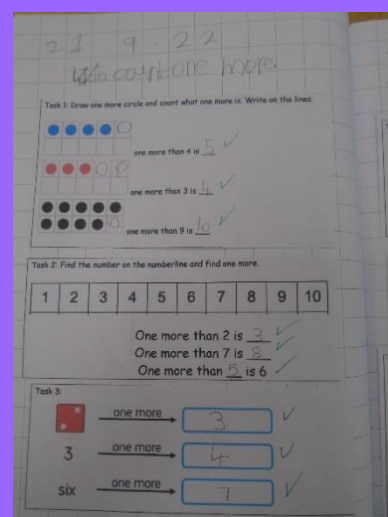
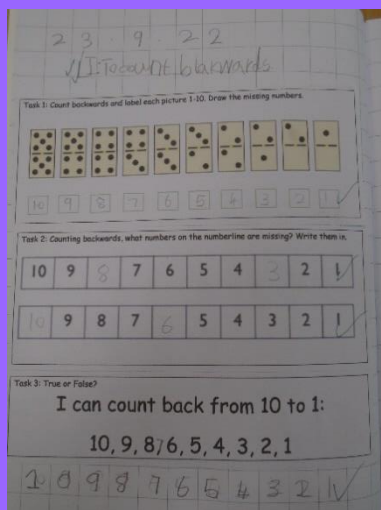
Well done Reception, you are having a great time with your learning.

**Year 1** – We have been working hard on story writing in class. After using a story map to draw the main parts of Little Red Riding Hood they began retelling the story. The children focused on their neat handwriting, using simple sentences and their phonics for their spellings. They did a super job!

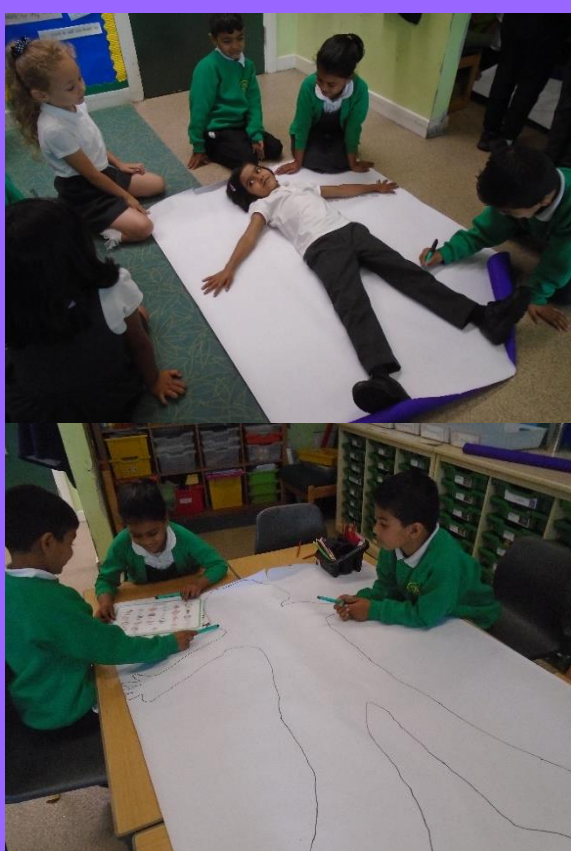


In Maths, the children have been learning about counting forwards and backwards and they have started using the greater than, less than and equal to symbols ( $>$   $<$   $=$ ).

They have been working hard to present their work neatly in their books and use the correct number formation.



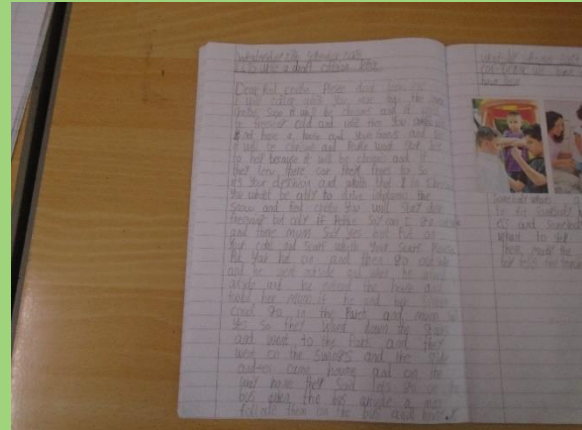
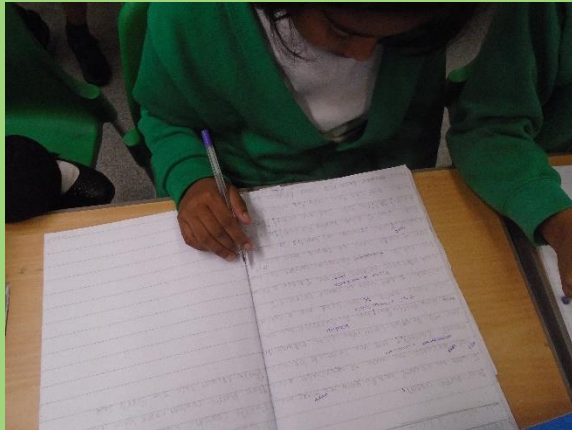
In Science, we have been learning about the human body. Over the past few weeks we have been learning about the names of different body parts both inside and outside the body.



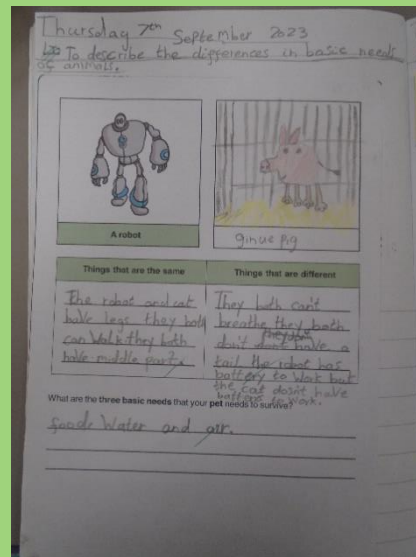
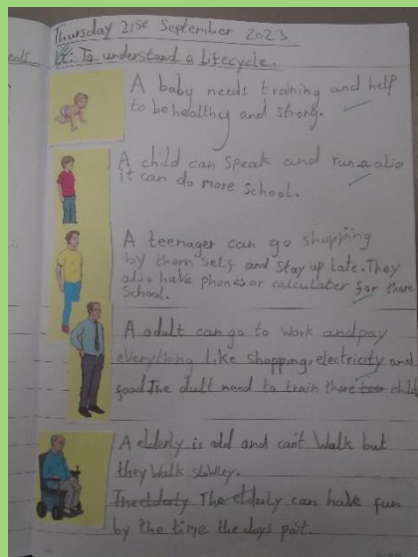
Year 2 - In Maths, we have been practicing adding two-digit numbers together, using different strategies such as; place value, part whole models and number lines. We have also been able to make our own two-digit word problems for our partner to solve.



We have been learning how to write opinion letters in English and what features are needed to create a good opinion letter. Following our class text 'The Day the Crayons Quit', we discussed and drafted a letter to our favourite colour crayon, explaining why we don't want them to quit.



In Science, we have been learning about Animals and Humans. So far, we have studied the lifecycle of animals and humans and what their basic needs are.



2S have had a lovely Mufti day, celebrating 100% attendance. Well done 2S for being in school every day!



**Year 3** - We have been incredibly busy and have been putting our writing skills into practice across the curriculum!

Here we have some examples of our very own Stone Age Boy stories. We had to write these completely independently and try to use as many writing skills as we can.

Once there was a girl <sup>who</sup> ~~she~~ lived with her granny.  
 One sunny bright day she was walking in the woods.  
 She fell into a river. She drowned because she didn't know  
 how to swim. When she woke up she found herself in  
 a ~~cave~~ deep dark cave. She looked around and she ~~heard~~  
 some voices in further ~~into~~ the deep cave. She saw a  
~~cave~~ girl. The cave girl saw the normal girl and sniffed  
 her. The ~~stone~~ cave girl showed her dad and her confused  
 mum. She and the ~~stone~~ cave girl became best friends. The  
~~stone~~ cave girl and the normal city girl saw a animal  
 so they slowly crept up behind the green soft bushes and  
 then charged but as soon as she touched the wild animal  
 she went back to the father and told her granny what  
 happened but her granny didn't hear or see her.  
 Suddenly she got pulled back to the stone age but  
 nobody could hear or see her. ~~There~~ she realised  
 she was dead and meeting the stone age people was  
 just a dream before she passed away.

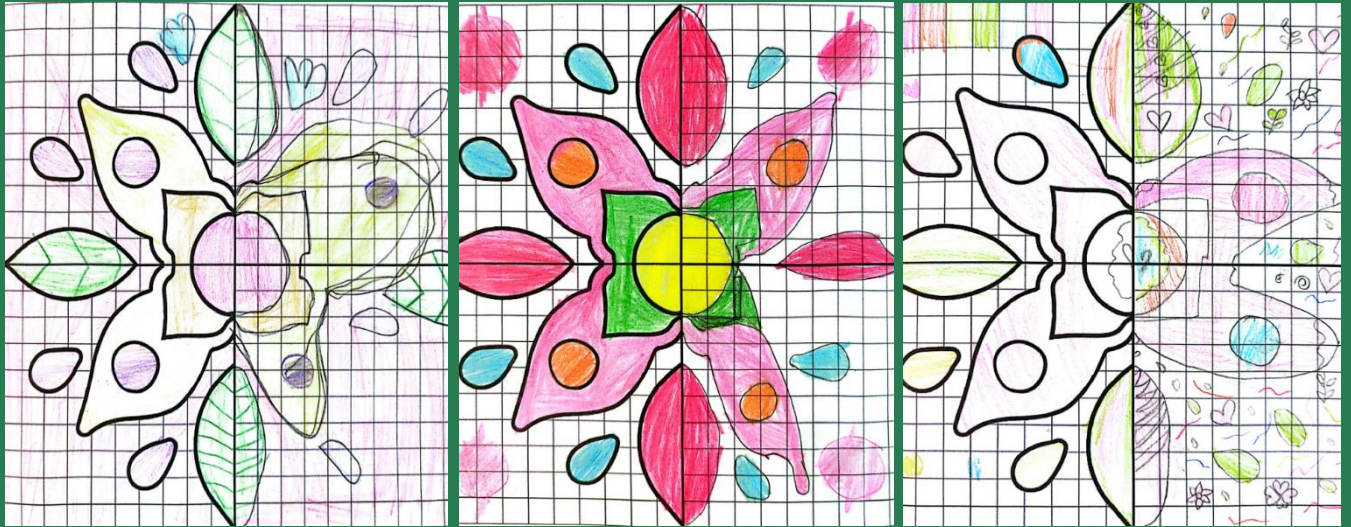
We had to create our own story where we changed the portal that was used in Stone Age Boy into our own versions. Here you can read about a river being a portal and also an ancient piece of sharpened flint.

Once upon a time <sup>Boy</sup> on a sunny day ~~and~~ a boy  
 touched a flint and he went back in time. ~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> the so  
 a girl and the boy said in his mind <sup>thank goodness</sup> ~~there~~  
 someone to help me. This isn't a girl I see in school.  
 The girl said "Yes This is my family and" the boy  
 replied "They look like <sup>they're</sup> from the stone age." And she  
 said "Because they are from the stone age." Their  
 family showed <sup>helped me</sup> me how to make an arrow with flint  
 and they also ~~killed~~ <sup>helped me</sup> a brown massive mammoth. ~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> they  
 celebrate. There <sup>was</sup> loud music and we all  
 together. And it was delicious. After that I went to  
 bed in a cave, it was actually really warm and.  
 On the next day we killed some silver fish. <sup>drew</sup>  
 it was so so easy. And ~~then~~ then I <sup>drew</sup> with ~~on~~  
 on the cave with blood. And I saw other cave  
 paintings it was really realistic. So I went in to  
 cave and in that cave it had so many pictures.  
 the cave. But suddenly there was a... BEAR!  
 Om went so I ran but it nearly caught me.  
 So I touched a flint and it took me back to future.  
 I told my parents but they ~~don't~~ didn't believe  
 me. The End.

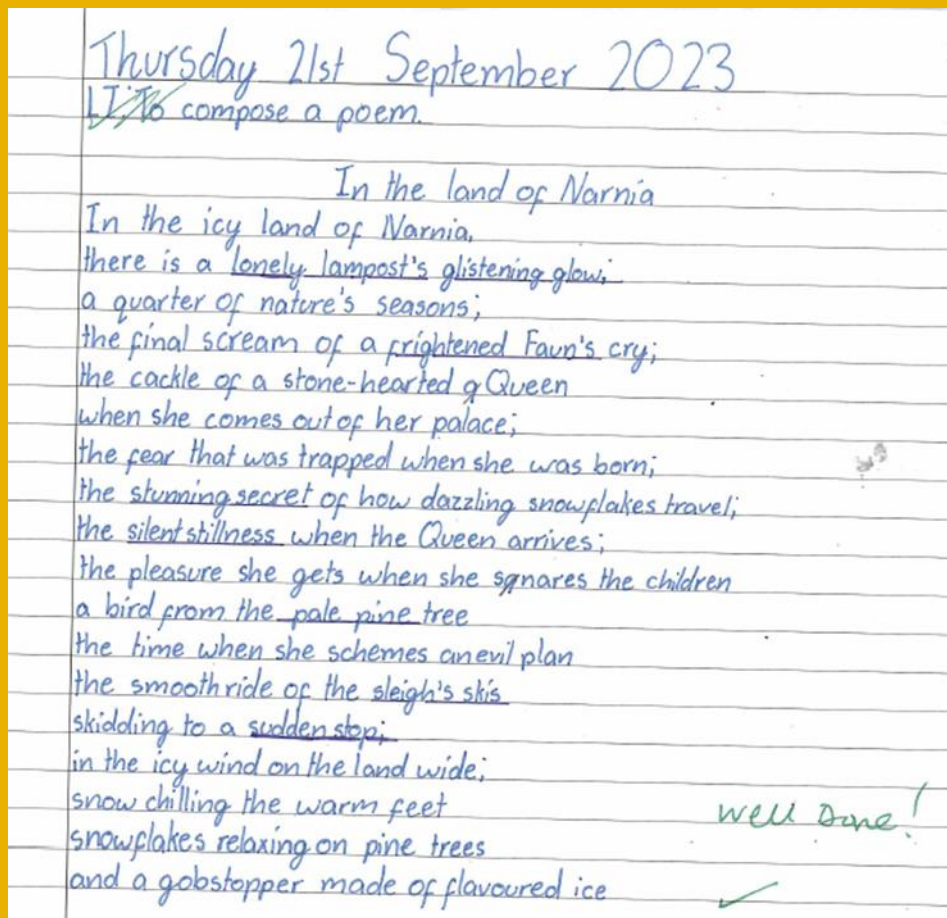
Also, through RE we have been learning about traditions of the Hindu faith.

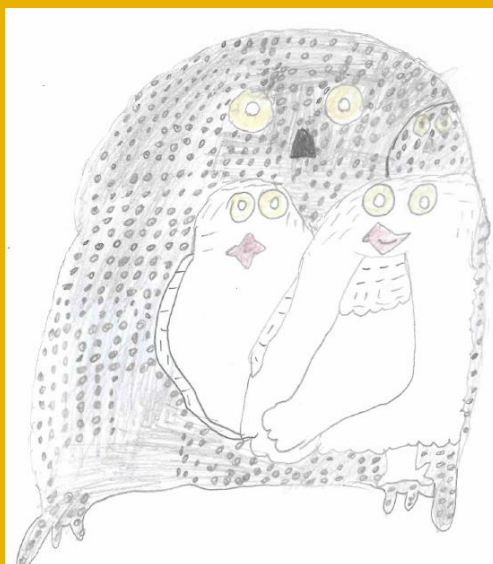
We have learnt about the story of Diwali and Rama and Sita.

Recently, we have learnt about Rangoli and what these symbolise for the Hindu religion. We had a go at creating some of our own Rangoli using lots of bright colours.



Year 4 — In English, we have been busy identifying, acting out, planning and writing our own poems in the style of 'In the land of possibility'. We have been demonstrating how we could use personification, possessive nouns, apostrophes, and adverbs/ adverbial phrases within our writing.

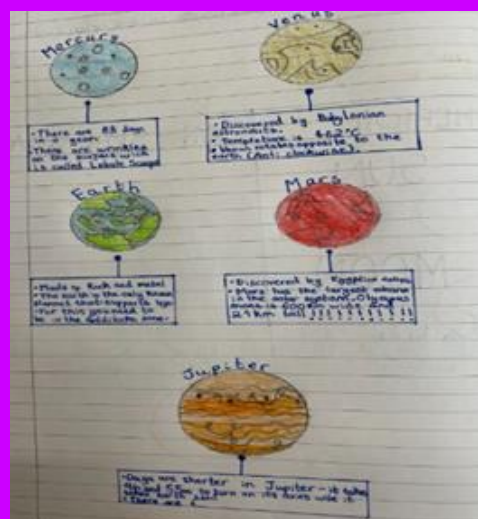




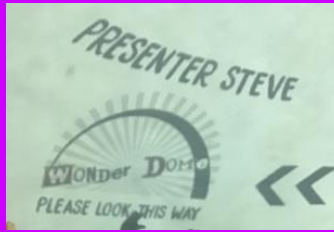
Dunya 4C

Aishwarya 4C

**Year 5** — In Science, we have been learning about our solar system. We have researched facts about each planet and looked at scientific beliefs such as Geocentric and Heliocentric. We had an exciting and thrilling trip to space! In this workshop we sat inside the ‘wonder dome,’ where we viewed our solar system and all the planets , inside a rocket and the space station.



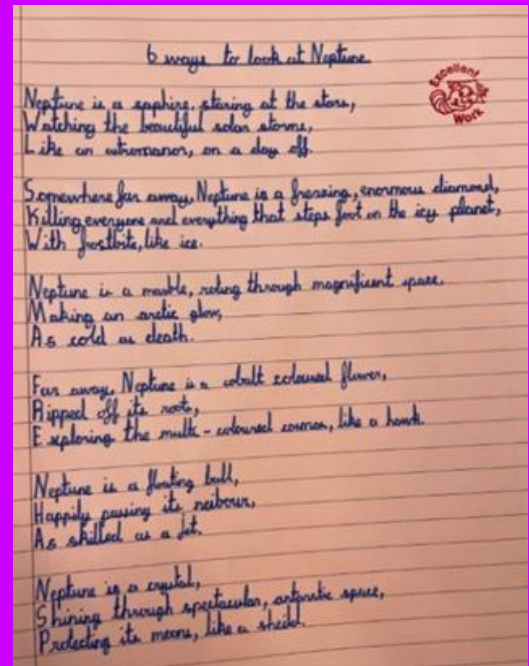
Here are some photos of what we got up to:



In English, we created and edited our own version of 'six ways to look at the moon' and made it our own by changing the noun to a planet.

Here is an example of our work over this unit.

In PE we have been learning and practising the skills to help us in football. We have practised our dribbling skills with different parts of our feet and how to pass and receive the ball accurately in smaller spaces.



In Music, we have been learning about Looping and remixing. We have performed a looped body percussion rhythm; keeping in time with each other. We have used loops to create a whole piece of music, ensuring that the different aspects of music work together.



**Year 6** - In Music, the children have been learning about the different form film music takes and how it can influence our understanding of what is happening and will happen next.

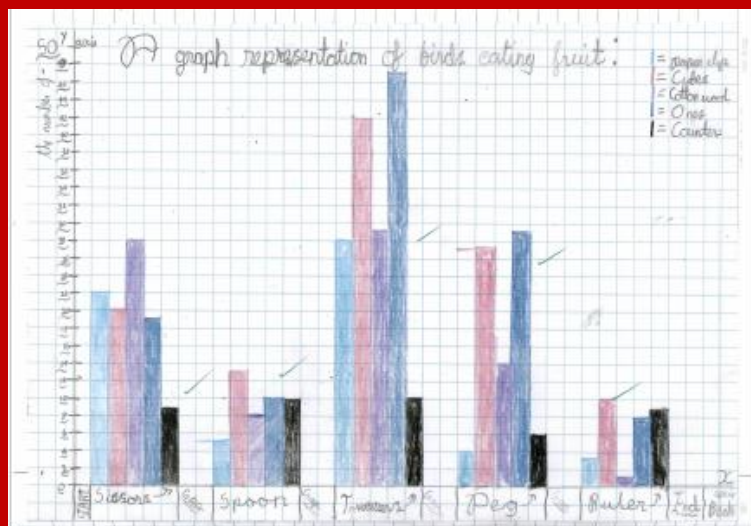


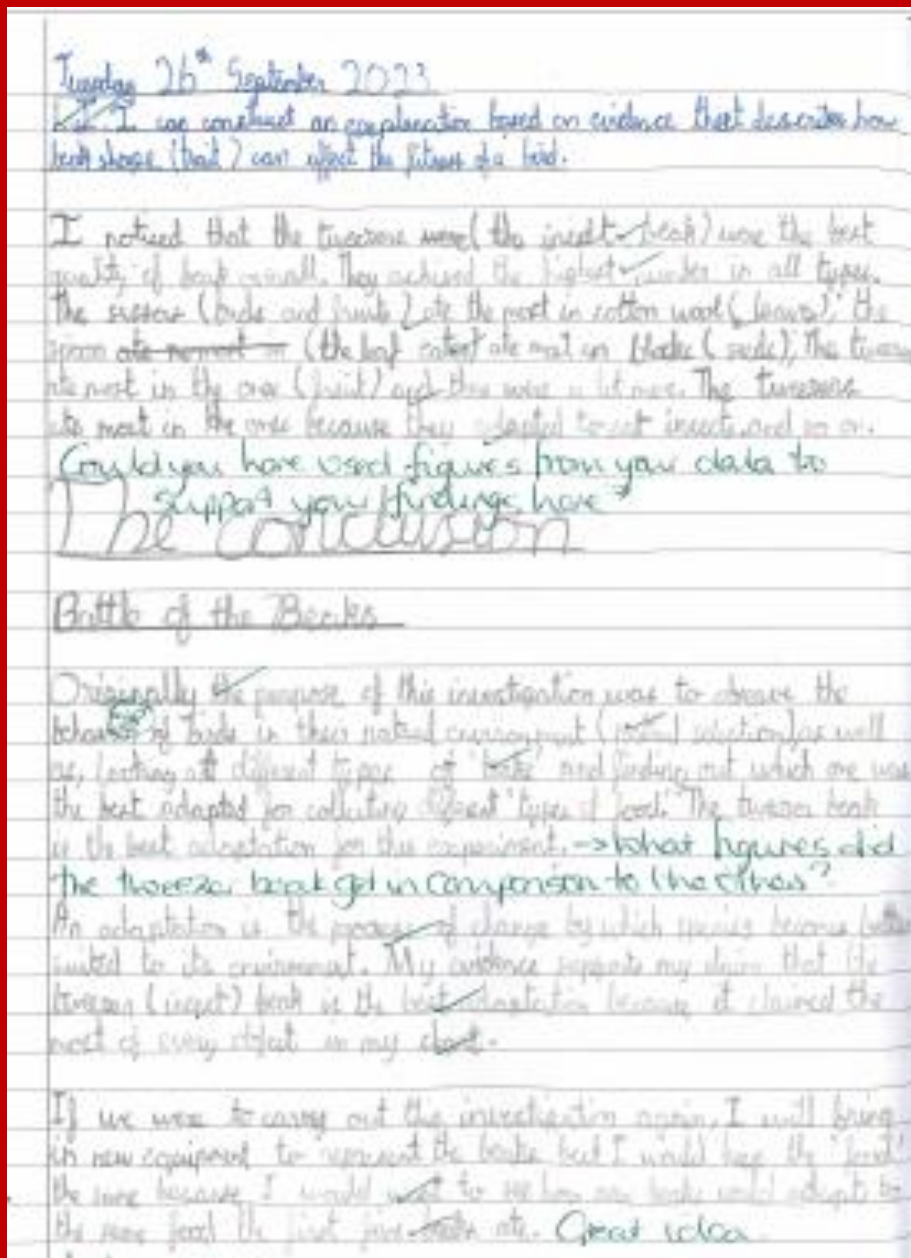
The children looked at music notation and created their own short piece of music using body percussion and record it using their own notation.

This half term in outside PE, the children are learning about the invasion game hockey and learning about attacking and fielding in static and game situations whilst remembering the correct grip and different passes. In Dance, they have been learning a Victorian dance using unison, cannon, mirroring and levels.



During our Inheritance and Evolution unit, the children have been looking at why the beaks on the islands in the Galapagos were different. They have planned, made predictions, carried out the Battle of the Beaks experiment which was a lot harder than it looked and then drew conclusions on their findings.





At APS we talk about the values that underpin our school aims.

Alexandra children, staff, parents and carers know what they want to achieve and how to achieve it. We do not give up when things are difficult and show determination to find a solution to a problem if we face any difficulties. We demonstrate our achievements in a variety of ways such as: academically, or through our creative talents and through our social skills and friendships.

Have you been using your School Breathe Techniques?

What did you learn this week and what do you remember?

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

What are you looking forward to being able to do next week?

