



Alexandra
Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed

The Alexandra Times

Autumn Term 2023



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Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed

Hello Parents, Carers and Children,

As you can imagine, this term has been filled with lots of opportunities to learn, lots of fun activities to get us thinking and lots of tasks that help us develop and practice our skills, knowledge and understanding. In each subject the children have had many opportunities to learn new things, revise and retrieve previously learnt knowledge and ask questions and challenge themselves to do more.

At APS, we have been focusing on the importance of reading for learning and for enjoyment. Reading skills are taught at school and we have been teaching reading through phonic development, decoding, development of vocabulary, use of the 8 reading strategies taught, developing reading comprehension and through hearing children read to develop fluency, expression and reading stamina. We have also been using child led book talk. This helps build a picture of what reading looks like at school.

Storytelling promotes creativity, enabling us to create our own pictures and open our eyes to how others view things. Books can help relax and recharge us, so that we are better able to cope with other things and other emotions.

Building the love of reading in children has been proven, through conversations between children and adults, to change a child's brain. Back-and-forth conversations are actually more critical to language development than the size of a child's vocabulary for example, talking with children about books and stories and taking what the child says and rephrasing it into grammatically correct sentences and phrases helps reinforce learning, builds confidence and supports children to build upon their language.

We have added many helpful resources on the website to promote reading and storytelling.

Read on to find out what we have been learning, investigating and discovering through the texts and stories that we have used in class.

All best wishes and have a lovely break,

Mr. Norton

Nursery

Nursery have had a busy first term settling in to school life. They have been getting used to the routines as well as becoming more independent. The children have had lots of opportunities to try new experiences and learn through their play. Our topics this term have been: colours, nursery rhymes, bears and festivals. Here are some examples of the great learning that children in nursery have demonstrated.

The children have learnt about different festivals and how people celebrate. They have explored festivals through books, role play, art, music and talking about their own experiences.



Zain



Maahi

The children have explored natural objects as the seasons have changed. In the autumn we went on leaf hunts and created autumn artwork. As we moved to winter the children have enjoyed listening to the story 'Snow Bears' and have been exploring with ice.



"The ice is so cold!"

Sarah



The children have learnt lots of new songs through our daily singing sessions. The children also have the chance to sing and play instruments inside and outside during their free-choice time.

"Twinkle little star."

Dhir and Angela



The children have been learning a range of new skills. This includes pedalling the trikes. The children have learnt to steer around the track and follow the arrows.

The children have opportunities to play in role and act out real life experiences. They have been writing orders and counting coins in the café.

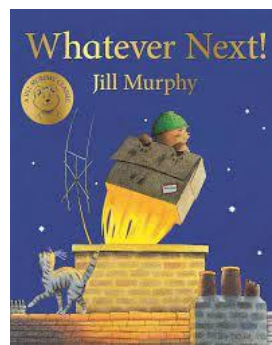


We are always encouraging the children to share a book with us or with their friends. We make our book area into a cosy and engaging area with the books and resources regularly changing to keep the children's interest. The children also have the opportunity to explore small world resources that link to their favourite stories. This supports their vocabulary development and recall skills.



"Whoosh, we are going to the moon"

Satvik



All of the children made and tasted porridge. During this activity the children learnt about measuring, counting, cause and effect, temperature, hygiene and their senses.

The children enjoyed bringing their favourite teddy to school and sharing a picnic with their friends.

We have enjoyed reading lots of bear stories this term. As you can see, one of our favourites was Goldilocks and the Three Bears.



Reception

Reception children keep busy during their time at school with lots of activities to support their learning.

Magnificent Mathematicians

The children have been exploring numbers, shapes and patterns in Maths using manipulatives to enable the children to learn in a hands-on way.



Whether the children use playdough and numicon to explore numbers, shapes to create and match pictures, bears to create patterns or using people and a bus to learn about one more and one less, these activities not only support the children's learning but also they are FUN!

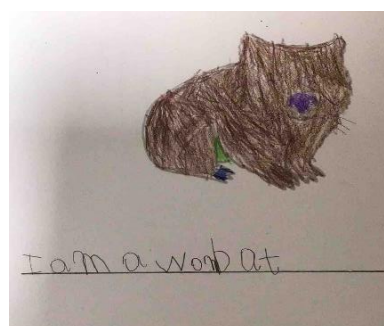
Confident Creators



Getting creative is always popular. Creating models, or creating a piece of artwork gives the children a great sense of pride and achievement.

Wow, look what we have been making!

Excited Explorers



Learning about the world and the many animals that live in different countries has been a great stimulus for art work and writing.

Relaxing Readers



Whether we read to ourselves or with a friend there is nothing more lovely than getting stuck in to a book!



Year 1

We have been very impressed with Year 1's writing this term. They have shown great determination and perseverance. The children have made lots of progress and are now able to write in lots of different genres and write at length. During English in Autumn 2, children were asked to write stories based on 'Amazing Grace'. The children used descriptive language, remembered correct punctuation and retold the story in their own words.

1st December 2023
 L1 To write a new version of
 Amazing Grace with a new setting

one day there was a little girl her name
 was Grace. She loved to dance. ✓
 The next day Grace went to school her
 teacher said we are going to do a play as
 Peter Pan. But Ray said you can't be Peter
 Pan because you are a girl a girl can't
 Natally she said you can't be because
 you have dark skin. ✓ When they went home
 Nana said you can be what ever you want.
 Nana took Grace to the park. She saw a dog
 he is fluffy said. She was much happier. ✓
 The next day Grace was Peter Pan. ✓

- Saw:
 1. Saw 3. Fall

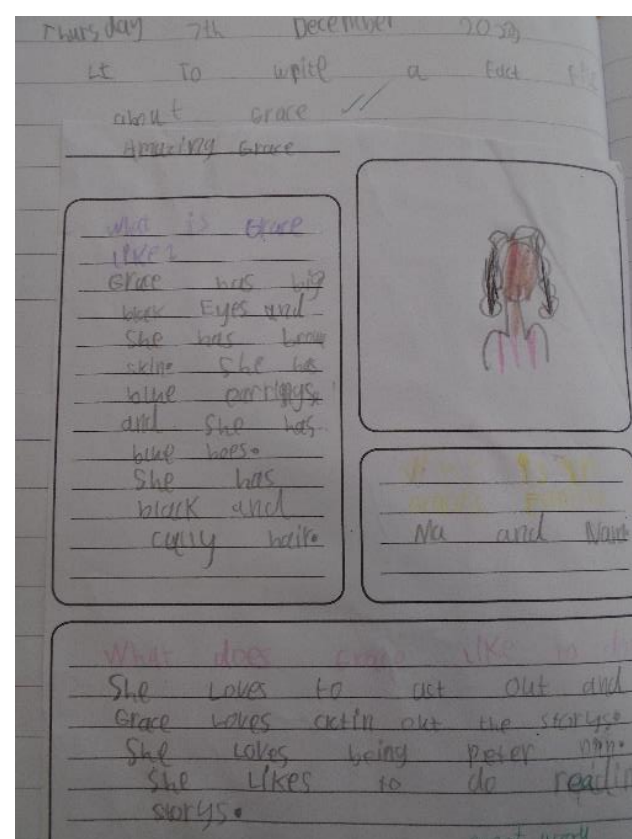
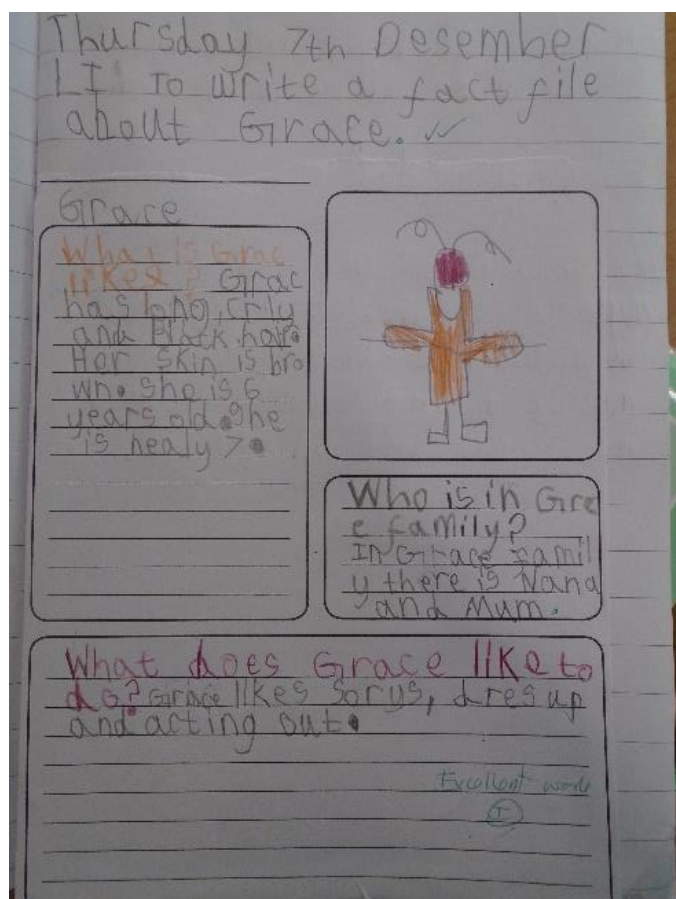
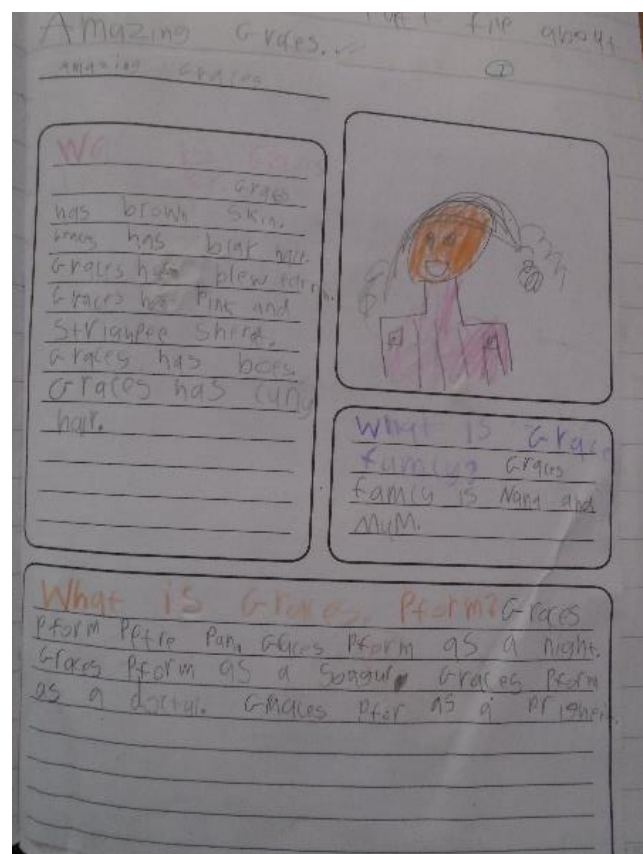
1st December 2023
 L1 To write a new version of
 Amazing Grace with a new setting

They was a haws and the Nana and
 Grace. and Nana was en ^{reading} din at the
 Grace. They went all train and ^{beach}
 They was a Grace jarkin at the ^{beach}
 I can see a girl I can see a Grace I can
 a girl I can see a Nana. They was
 a Nana was saying a you are a star.
 at playing Peter Pan in the
 school play.

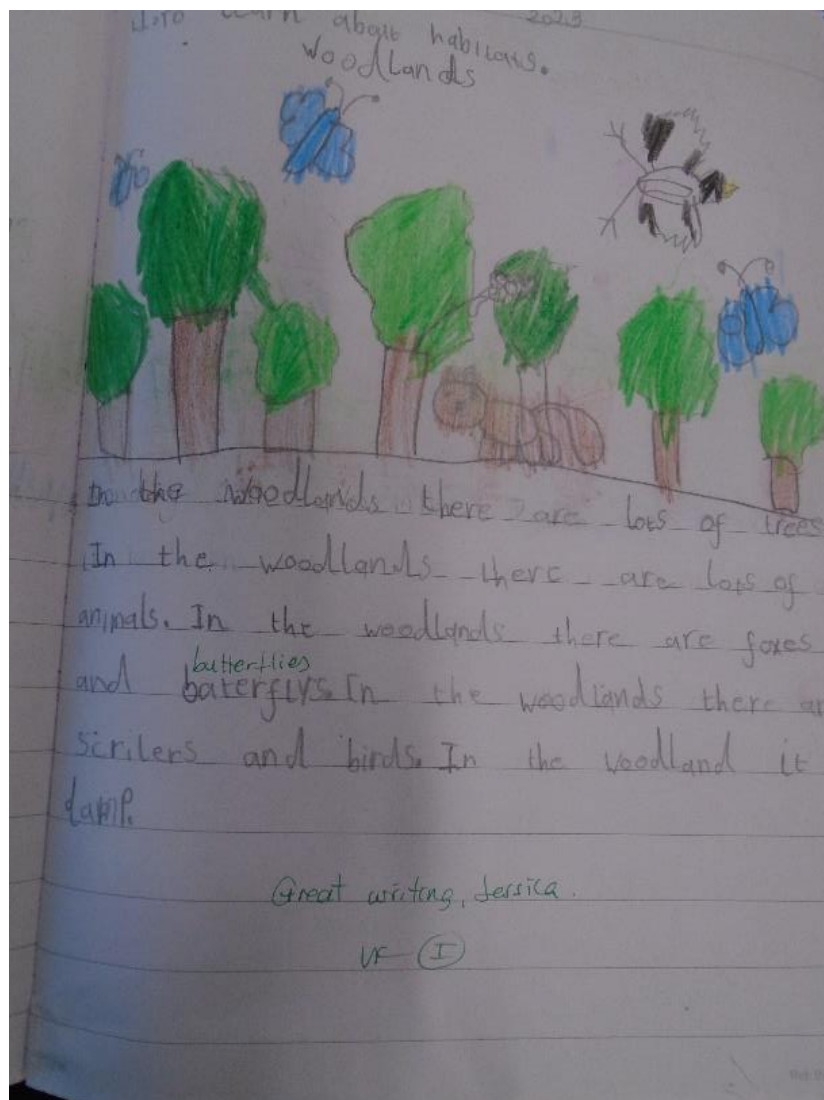
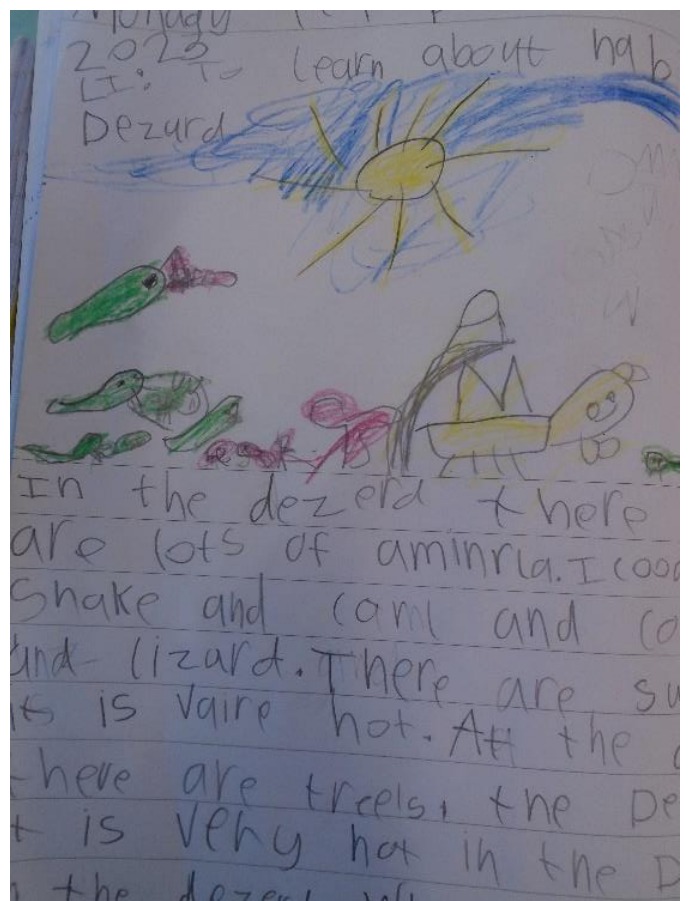
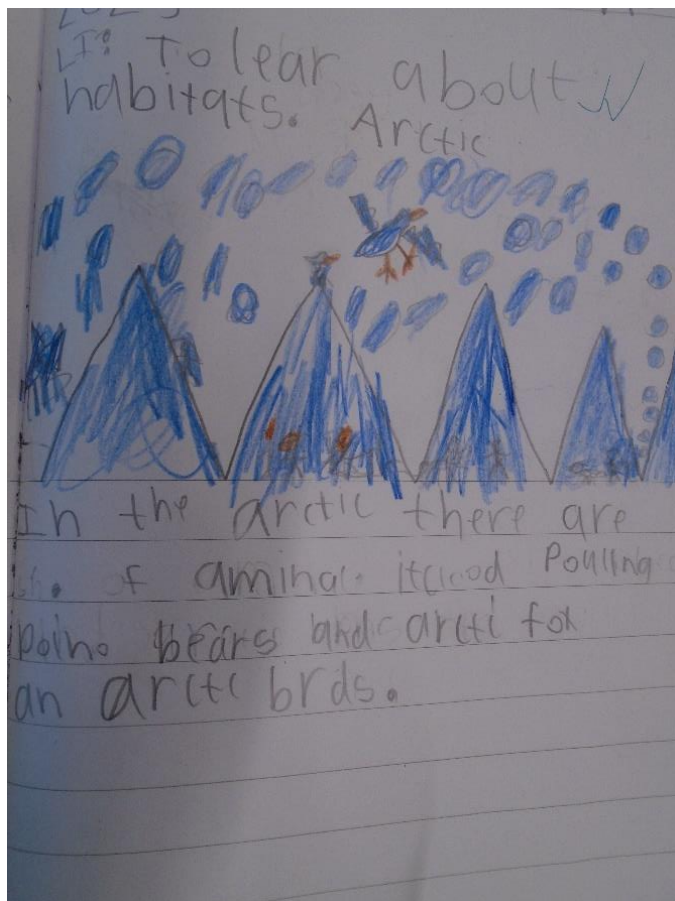
Friday 1st December
 2023
 L1 To write the story with
 the Amazing Graces With
 the new Setting. ✓

One day there was a little
 girl her name is Graces.
 She love dressing up. She ask
 love to Ray a Story. ✓
 She went School then the
 teacher said hoo What
 be a Peter Pan then Gra
 Put her hands up then
 said to Graces you can
 be a Peter Pan because
 you are a girl. When she
 at home. But she was

Year 1 have now learnt about the difference between fiction and non-fiction writing. After their story writing, they moved on to writing fact files about Grace from 'Amazing Grace'. The children learnt how to lay out a fact file and what information to include. Finally, this term, the children used their knowledge about fact files to write a fact file about a loved one of their choice. The children wrote beautifully about their loved ones and presented their work very well.



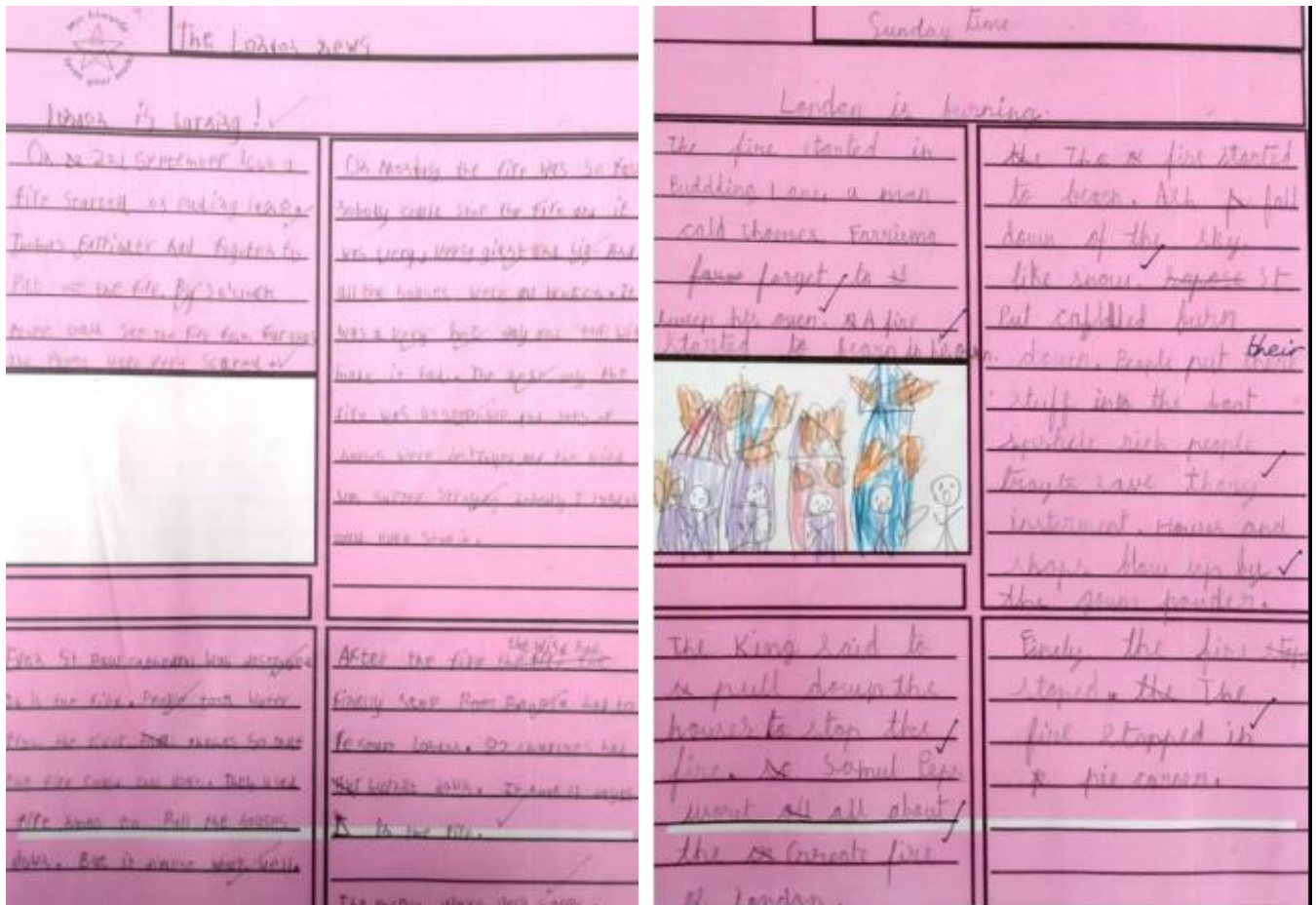
In their Science lessons this term, children have been learning about different habitats. They have produced some super writing about different habitats which shows off how much information they retained.



Year 2

We have spent a long time learning all about the Great Fire of London and the reasons behind it starting. We learnt about the time order of the main events during the fire and we also discovered the eye witnesses to these events.

We then had a go at becoming newspaper reporters and created our own newspaper stories about the Great Fire.



Through our DT topic, we have been researching the construction of the London Eye. As part of this, we had to design our own working model of a Ferris wheel. We had to learn how an axle works and had to ensure that everything was cut correctly to make sure that the wheel would spin. They really do work!



Finally, we want to celebrate our amazing Christmas performance! We practiced a range of different songs and even sang in a different language. We hope you enjoyed our performance, as much as we have and we want to take this opportunity to thank you for coming and showing your support!



Year 3

We have been working incredibly hard throughout this half term! Firstly, we would like to show off some of our amazing pieces of diary writing:

Clearly Adam (3MC) enjoyed his time at the school disco!

Dear Diary,

Last Thursday was the best day ever! I can't wait to tell you about it...

It all started when my mum woke me up in the morning. She reminded me that it was the day of the disco and I was very happy because it was my first time going to my school's Winter Disco.

All day, I was excited at school- especially because my friends, Chenidu and Revansh, were going too.

At 3.30, my mum picked me up from school and we rushed home so I could get dressed up in my party clothes. I wore a blue sweatshirt, black trousers and a blue jacket. Everyone said they liked my clothes, even Miss Conway. I felt very confident.

When we went back to school, the teachers took our tickets and let us go into the hall. It was very crowded with children from Year 1, 2 and 3. All my friends were there and we soon found each other.

The bright, flashing lights made us all excited and when the music played, I danced with Kritveer. I really liked the songs and music that were played at the disco and danced so much that my shirt got sweaty and I needed to sit down and rest.

Soon the disco was over and it was time to go home. My mum collected me from the office and saw that I was very happy.

I can't wait for the next disco.

Dear Diary,

Today was the most extraordinary thing that has ever happened to me! Can you believe it?

I woke up in the morning and then I brushed my teeth. Then I had a shower then got dressed up quickly. As I hungrily gobbled my breakfast, ~~an~~ ^{deep} idea flashed through my mind. I could go on a walk in the woods!

As I happily skipped across the path I thought absent mindedly all about ~~every~~ ^{sp} thing in the wide wonderful wood. Suddenly, I slipped on a big wet puddle.

Down, Down, Down. I fell for what felt like days until Bump! I had hit a ^{camp} dark cave floor. I sat up, blinked a few times, soon I saw a ~~saw~~ speck of ~~darkness~~ ^{light} and walked towards it. Later I saw a girl she ~~put~~ ^{pointed} towards it.

Later I met a girl, the ^{strange looking} girl pulled me towards her camp. Her ~~the~~ Family gave me stew and I fell into a deep slumber.

Your Sincerely,
Eleena

Eleena (3C) has been working hard on improving her paragraphing and presentation. Just look at that lovely handwriting!

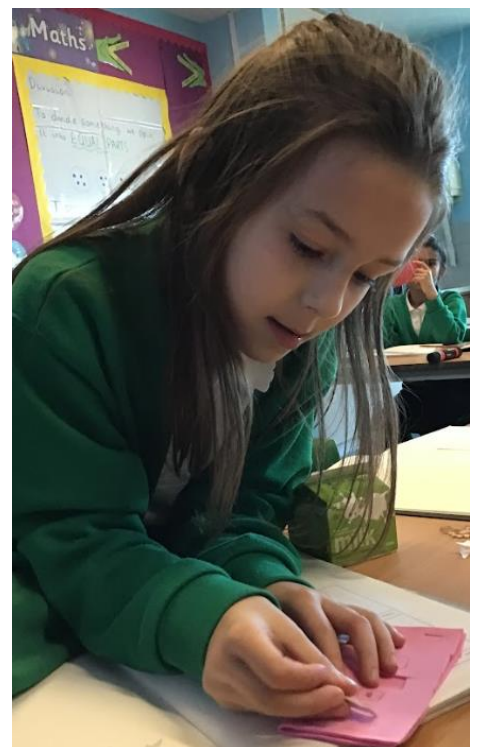
Also, Eleena has been extending her vocabulary choices and now uses a range of adverbs and adjectives to add some further description.



We were also visited by the History man where we learnt lots of amazing facts all about the Stone Age. Part of this experience was learning about cave art and how stone age man would make paint out of rocks and other natural materials. Here are some of our pieces of art:



During our Design Technology lessons, we have been designing some light up pouches that would be used as safety devices for cyclists.



We had to use felt to craft our product, making sure that we left some gaps for the light-up microbit.

After doing this, we had to programme our flashing light sequence into a coding app before transferring it to the microbit.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

11) 20 recat subtraction series ✓✓✓ Amazing!!

Watch it.

②

1 6 8 7 8 = 8 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 8410 \\ 222 \\ \hline 213 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 573 \\ 512 \\ \hline 1085 \end{array}$	✓
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4 3 2 8 = 4 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
5 3 2 8 = 9 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
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7 1 2 8 = 36 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
8 2 8 8 = 9 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
9 4 8 9 = 10 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
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5 3 5 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
5 9 6 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓
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3 7 7 ✓	$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ 457 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 832 \\ 232 \\ \hline 600 \end{array}$	✓

THE HUMAN BODY

Our skeleton is a part of our body and it controls movement.

We make 17 million blood cells per second.

Our body transports oxygen around your body.

Did you know? It is through that there are around around in the human body.

White blood cells fight bacteria and germs.

Conduct mean when the heart beats and pump blood.

Small means the intestines and digestive system.

Your red blood cells transport oxygen around.

206 bones in a adult's body.

The Skeleton.

300 bones in a babies body.

Us as babies have more bone because it fuse.

For fact The smallest bone is stapes in the ear.

Over half of the bones are in the hand and finger.

Femur, pelvis, skull, rib cage, spine, jaw, collarbone, shoulder blade, humerus, tibia.

Year 4

All about Narwhal Whales by T'shayah 4P

Did you know that Narwhal whales like to eat fish, shrimp and squid? Therefore they are carnivores so they only eat meat. Also Narwhal whales can live up to 50 years and they can change colour with age. Interestingly, Narwhal whale tusks are actually teeth and did you know that the distinctive tusks are found on male Narwhal whales only?

Diet

Narwhal whales are carnivores so they only eat meat for example fish, squid and shrimp. Sadly, Inuit people hunt Narwhal whales mainly for the ivory but they hunt for the skin too.

Appearance

An interesting fact is Narwhal whale babies are the colour blue and grey but teenagers are blue and black. Moreover, adults are speckled grey meanwhile older Narwhal whales can be completely white.

Habitat

For some reason, Narwhal whales are only usually found in Canada, Greenland, Norway, Russia and the Arctic. Did you know that surprisingly, in the Arctic Ocean, Winter can last up to 5 months?

Fun Facts

- Surprisingly not all Narwhal whales have tusks,
- Narwhal whales spend entire months under ice.
- Narwhal whales can live up to 50 years.
- Narwhal whales are luckily not endangered.

Billy and the Purple Phoenix by Neil 4C

On bright, sunny day there was a boy called Billy, who lived with his family. One exhausting afternoon Billy got very bored because everyone was busy working and he felt left out. So, while he was lazily laying on his bed he spotted a glistening red object poking out from underneath his blue slippers, "Wow! What is that?" Frightened but wanting to discover what it was he slowly crept out of bed, walked forward and picked up the red object and quickly realised that he could draw with it, and that is what he did.

He drew a red door on his wall and a glowing light which shone brightly in his eyes appeared. Suddenly, to his surprise within seconds he was sucked through the door in the wall, he disappeared leaving no trail behind. After a few moments, he was able to focus on where he found himself, he was in a forest with flickering candles and a canal which led north. Seeing this, Billy thought he would draw a tiny canoe and get in it, as he slowly drifted gently across the canal his eyes were met with the most majestic sight ever...

He saw a glorious-looking, eye-piercing castle with crystal clear, shimmering glass and colourful bricks, his canoe floated straight into a deep but welcoming moat where hundreds of boats had docked and people waved eagerly and happily at him. Continuing his journey being taken by the current, on the horizon he spotted a waterfall, maybe those people weren't happily waving at me but warning me to go back, Billy thought. At that very moment, his canoe capsized, as he fell he quickly drew a huge hot air balloon and safely flew away. As he rose higher and higher he spotted something in the distance and soared towards it.

Flying alongside his hot air balloon, Billy saw a swooping purple phoenix being chased by the evil emperor and his fierce guards, he watched in horror as the phoenix was captured and imprisoned in a golden cage. Billy quickly drew a magic key to release the captured creature. As the phoenix flew away it knocked the red crayon out of the Billy's hand with its huge wings, as Billy focused on the disappearing crayon get lost in the grey cloud, the evil emperors guards caught him and placed him inside the golden cage. Billy begun to panic until the purple phoenix swiftly swooped into the grey clouds and found the crayon and handed it back to Billy who quickly drew his escape. He jumped onto the phoenix's back and soared and sailed through the clouds in the sky.

Unfortunately, the emperor and his guards saw this and gave chase. As they gained ground on the creature, Billy knew he had to do something, but what? He thought he could draw a door but where would it take them? A boat would only mean they would be followed on the water. Suddenly Billy had an idea, he thought he could draw a ball with a trap door and as the emperor and his guards approached he could open the door and then close it trapping them inside and that is exactly what he did.

Biography on Ernest Shackleton by Jhanoy, 4P

This biography will be about a famous explorer, Ernest Shackleton. He was known for his journeys to Antarctica and his exploration in Antarctica with Robert Falcon Scott. He was born in 1874.

Early life

Shackleton was born in 1874 in Kildare, Ireland, His family stayed in Ireland until 1884 when they moved to London.

Family

This brave explorer had 10 siblings and he was one of the older siblings. Specifically, he was the second oldest. Did you know that Shackleton's father really wanted him to be like himself and get a job as a doctor?

Shackleton soon got married to Emily Dorman and she was very supportive- raising money to make Shackleton's dream come true.

Career

Ernest Shackleton at 16 years old became a sailor in the merchant navy. He was soon qualified as a master mariner (means he could sail a ship anywhere). Shackleton decided to be an explorer.)

Expeditions

Shackleton went on three expeditions to reach the south Pole.

1. Shackleton's first expedition was with Robert Falcon Scott. Sadly, Shackleton was 27 years old at the time. Unfortunately, he got sent back because of sickness.
2. Shackleton's 2nd expedition was on a ship named Nimrod. His team members were Frank Wild, Eric Marshall and Jameson. The journey lasts 2 years (1907-1909). This expedition reached the closest to the South pole (180km away). On January 9th, 1909, his team turned back, Shackleton then got a knighthood which made him "Sir Ernest Shackleton."
3. Shackleton sent an advert for his third expedition to get people to join him. He did his third expedition on a ship named Endurance. Unfortunately, in 1915, the ship was trapped. Shackleton abandoned the ship and they had to eat seal meat and dogs to survive. They successfully expedition and nobody died.

Death

Sadly, Shackleton died at the age of 47 due to a heart attack during his fourth mission. He was buried in South Georgia.

Did you know?

A 100 year old biscuit from one of his expeditions cost a whole £1250 at an auction! There is also a statue of Shackleton in Westminster.

The children have also been learning and applying the rules and skills of dodgeball. They practiced the different ways to throw the ball and considered the importance of space in a game situation. Throughout the half term, the children had the opportunity to practice how to dodge, jump and duck out of the balls path as well as block the ball during games.



In DT, as part of our textile unit, we investigated the history, purpose and use of different types of fasteners.

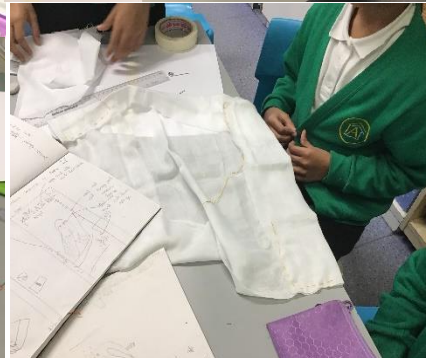
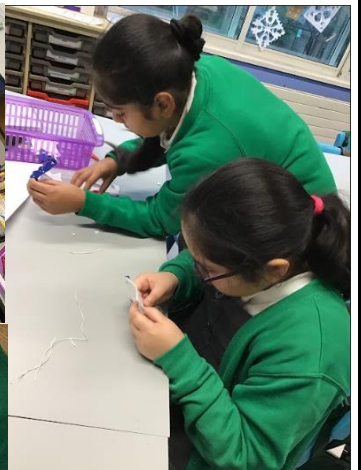
Fastening	History	Use	Pros	Cons	Rating /10
Zip	Used since 1825 invented by Scott McCreedy	Pencil case Coat	lasts long	gets stuck	5/10
Buttons (plastic)	invented in 1877	Seat belts Horse Curtains	diff sizes	small become loose	9/10
Buttons (metal)	Roman invention	Treasure chest	Strong	can rust	8/10
Buttons (round)	invented by Inuit Valley	Coat Caravan	different colours	falls off	7/10
Buttons (eye closure)	date back to Egyptian Civil.	Wool Coat	Wash easily	fiddly	2/10
Buttons (fastening)	Used since 1850, Germany	Coat	Strong	opens easily	10/10

Fastening	History	Use	Pros	Cons	Rating /10
Buttons (metal)	1870s	Horse	Secure	can get stuck	7/10
Buttons (metal)	Used by Climbers in 19th	Key chain Toggles	hold things well	Hard to use	10/10
Buttons (metal)	China, 1940s	Coats	easy to use	not secure	6/10
Buttons (metal)					
Buttons (metal)					
Buttons (metal)	bronze/Tonday	bracelets	tight	can hurt skin	4/10
Buttons (metal)	Invented after 1912	Shoes	flexible	gets hair stuck on it	4/10
Buttons (metal)	First Made in 1845	books hair	flexible	can snap	5/10

We explored the different types found on clothing and bags today and from our findings we will be able to decide on the fastening that will best fit our design brief for our Art book coverings.



We designed our front covers thinking about the purpose of the book, colours and placement. We practiced our sewing skills before making our book covers and evaluating our finished products against the design criteria.



Alongside our weekly swimming lessons that have run through the Autumn Term, the children have been taking part in PE lessons that focused on the fundamentals. The lessons gave the children the opportunity to work on their balance, coordination and communication; which we know is important in different ways for a variety of sports and activities.



In the Land of Loyal by Daksa 4C

There is a cruel siren who haunts with a hypnotizing voice;
There are the gloomy, exasperated clouds that surround the lake of shadows;
There is a murky queen that craves for more dark and powerful magic;
There are the highest mountains watching over the land anticipating its fate;
There are the ancient trees that guard the forest against unknown strangers entering;
There are dancing fairies glimmering in the light as glitter falls from their fluttering wings;
There are trolls making small houses for their young and using rocks for comfy pillows;
There are fawns playing tremendous melodies on the flute like the King of music;
There is pitch black ground with the slither of green flashes, flashes of hope.

In the Land of Spook by Anaiza 4C

An evil witch with a tongue as long as a snake's body, sinks boats in the water like a mermaid;
Poisonous, wicked maleficent witches' castles are surrounded by angry clouds;
The colossal mountains are protected by the button-eyed trolls searching for humans flying through the air.

An aghast lake whispers slowly through the darkened branches as it searches for dead bodies and ashes;
Singing fawns, floating flutes, creating an enchanting lullaby;
Strangers being followed by talking trees.

A dark tower as black as your soul with windows that watch you wherever you go;
Angry clouds gather above the land and unleash their rage all night and all day;
A land where all your nightmares come true.

Year 4 have been extremely fortunate to have the Hounslow Music Centre teaching the children throughout the term. The children have enjoyed learning the different songs and accompanying beats and actions. They even had the opportunity to perform to an audience, showing just how much they have learned.



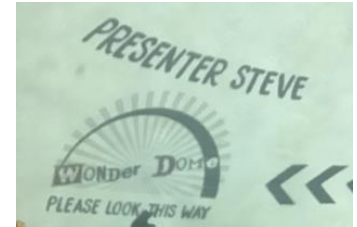
Year 5

We have had a superb Autumn term, here is a selection of our amazing work from over this term.

Planetarium

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:



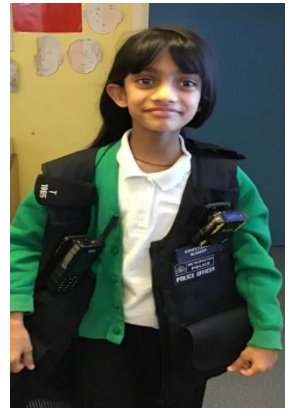
African mask and drumming workshop

Year 5 had an exciting workshop where we immersed ourselves in African art and music. We created our own African masks using spot markings from the 'Dan tribe' from the Ivory coast. We also created music on drums as a class using different parts of our hands.



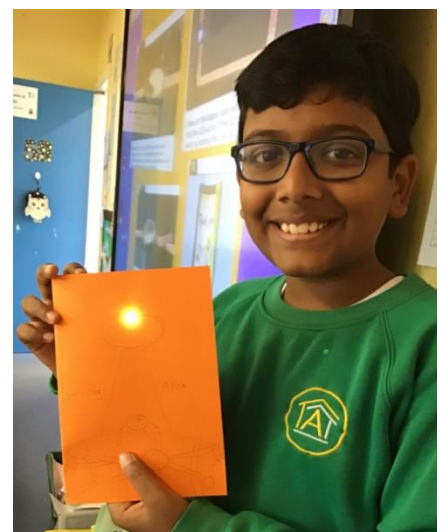
Junior road watch

We had a visit from the local police to inform us all about the importance of being safe on the roads. We were able to wear the police vest to see how heavy they were and looked at a speed camera and its uses.



D&T – electronic greeting cards

We created electronic greeting cards for our D&T topic. Our purpose was to create a functioning circuit which linked with space. Here are some examples of our functioning circuits and designs



Art and D&T

We created South African silhouettes, where we used blending and shading of paints for our backgrounds and black card to create the foreground silhouette.



Homework examples



We linked with our Science topic 'living things and their habitats' we created some of our own hybrid animals which were able to adapt in two different habitats. Here are some examples of our model homework.





Examples of work

Poetry - Sometimes when it storms

But sometimes when it storms ,
The angry rain dances down the green leaves
Like a tap dancer.

Sometimes when it storms,
The callous mist swings across the night sky ,
Like Spider-man swinging from building to building.

Sometimes when it storms,
The irate thunder shouts down from the sky,
Like an army general.

Sometimes when it storms,
The sparkling lightning zaps the clear sky,
Like an underwater electric eel.

Shirley 5H

Poetry - Sometimes when it storms

But sometimes when it storms,
A wet, cold, heavy rain leaps straight
Down as quick as a flash

Sometimes when it rains,
Up In the sky, a cheerful crowd of mighty,
gloomy rain rush towards us
As fast as a cheetah.

Sometimes when it storms,
You want to scream and shout as hard as you
can even though the thunder is the
champion who always wins.

Sometime when it rains,
You want to chase and catch the rain like you
are a thunder god.

Fatima 5S

Character description using Journey to Jo'burg

Wiping his forehead, Toro trudged down the entangled, dusty path ahead. Sweat drizzled down his dark sun burnt forehead as he stopped to polish his old, worn-out sandals. Suddenly, a humid breeze swaddled Toro's wispy, coarse hair. All of a sudden, a fresh, fragrant perfume wafted up his minute nostrils. His frayed clothes (which once belonged to his Rra) were weathered and his thin shirt clung to his frail, slim body as beads of sweat trickled down his back.

Anirudh 5H

Journey Jo'burg

Elana and Arna staggered through the uneven terrain. The tar road stretched for hundreds of miles, it was as if the journey would ever end. Their legs felt like pieces of wood- heavy and stiff. They couldn't stop thinking about Nono and how Mmangwane was all alone looking after sickly Arno. The weight of their grief was crushing their ruptured hearts.

Tiana 5H

Feeling weak, and stumbling across the dusty, dry track Elna and Kaya had walked for miles. Whilst dragging painful bruised feet along the track Elna and Kaya held each other in their arms stopping themselves from falling over.

Arjas 5S

As tired as a sloth, Maredi and Chiro slowly stumbled along the dusty, cracked road. Maredi and Chiro could hear their hungry stomachs grumbling. After a while, Chiro drank the last remaining drops of water to moisturise his dry cracked lips. Dragging their tired feet along the floor they held one another up to stop them from falling over. Wiping the drops of sweat away from their face, they lifted their heads and could see the dirty track led all the way to Johannesburg. Maredi and Chiro knew they still had much more to walk. A few meters in front of them, they spotted a gorgeous mango farm, with hunger taking over they eagerly marched towards it.

Siya 5S

Naturalist fact file - 5B

Friday 8th December 2023
 LI: To find out about the work of naturalists

All about Jane Goodall

Age: 89 years old

Date Of Birth and death: 3 April 1934 (Alive)

Full name: Dame Jane Morris Goodall

Decision to become Naturalist: Jane knew that she had to take action to protect the forest and chimpanzees.

Studied in College: Ethology Bachelor Arts in Natural Science

Quotes: "Both Hope does not deny the evil but is a response to it."

Known for: The world's foremost expert on chimpanzees

Religion: Christian Congregationalist

Stages in the career: Created Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2003.

Achievements: The medal of Tanzania, the National Geographical

Educated people: Founded the Jane Goodall Institute

Campaigned: Protected Chimpanzees

Important people say: She seems to be a genuine decent human who interacts wonderfully with animals.

Naturalist fact file - Swara 5S

Monday 4 December 2023
 LI: To find out about works of marine naturalist

Sylvia Earle oceanographer

Sylvia Earle is a oceanographer. For her discipline Earle collected more than 2000 samples of algae to catalogue aquatic plants in the Gulf of Mexico. Her project was named in the discipline as she was one of the first scientist.

How many species did she discover?

Overall they documented 154 species of marine plants yet 26 species still undiscovered in the virgin island. on September 19 1979 Sylvia did an amazing thing.

Fun fact Favourite animal

Sylvia broke 2 world records for underwater diving. AS Some of you might know from my previous blog Sharks are my favourite animal I like them because they are big and beautiful. I some times get nervous.

Hobby her submarine

Sylvia Earle fav hobby is singing she can sing anywhere every under water!

Monday 20th November 2023
 LI: To observe and comparing the life cycles of animals in our local environment with other animals around the world.

Savanna

Animals
 Animals in Savanna there are wildebeest, Blue-wildebeest, Gazelle, caracal, plains zebra, Hartbeest, Zebra, Central African rock python, African-spurred tortoise, Lion, giraffe, cheetahs, Leopard.

Environment
 In General, Savannas grow in tropical regions 8° to 20° from the Equator. Conditions are warm to hot in all seasons.

Challenges
 The large mammals of the Savanna, especially in Africa are often prone to being targets for poaching and human conflicts.

Overstory density is typically greater and understories are not as well developed and may contain more woody plants.

Fatima 5S - Environments around the world and how animals are adapted to them.

Year 6

Here is a selection of work from Year 6.

A Modern Retelling of a Christmas Carol

"Lando dribbles...and misses! Rashford was in the clear!" screamed the match commentator. Rashford roared at Lando for not passing, but he just rolled his eyes and walked away. Lando wore the number seven shirt for Manchester United and never passed to his teammates not smiled at them: he just whacked the ball wherever he wanted. When the match was over, they had lost the FA Cup final to Manchester City, their biggest rivals. All the team could do at this point, was watch the sky blues lift the historic trophy.

The Red Devils had one more chance: The Carabao Cup final. If they won, it would make the front page! As his team, were getting ready, Lando burst in. The room fell silent. Then, he heard some of his team mates muttering to each other. "You tell him," Varane said.

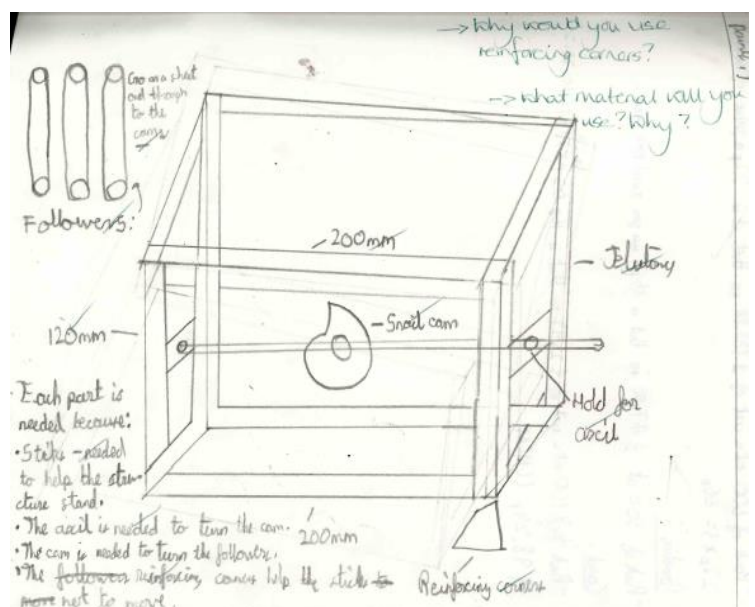
"No! You do it!" Mount retorted, shoving him.

Varane gave in, "Urrmmm...Lando. W-w-will you come and celebrate the win with us?". Lando simply grunted and stormed out, slamming the door behind him.

A while later, Lando was in his grand mansion, surrounded by golden statues of Saints counting his money. The home had no life: not even a pet. Every part was empty and the only sound was himself flicking through his money and the creaking of pipes. Suddenly, the door swung open and the wind roared. "Who is there?" the footballer questioned. No answer. He glanced at his money. Then the TV. It had morphed into the shape of a man, a man who looked undoubtedly like his father. Stammering, Lando enquired, "Dad...is that you?"

By Ashkan 6C

In DT, this half term, the children are learning about designing and making their own Victorian automata window display. They need to consider which three components will move and design their mechanism labelling the different parts of their display, including measurements, and think about how each part will fit together.



They also looked at the cost of materials being used for this product, where it would be sourced and the sustainability of each piece.

Wood Jetulony:

- Pack of 600 at a cost of £188.88 so that it is 22p a piece of wood
 $220 \times 3 = 660$

Panelling:

- Pack of 300 at £47.50 so that is 16p a piece you saved one piece.

Card:

- Pack of 100 at a cost of £2.99 so that is 16p $66 \times 37 + 16 + 0.29 =$
 998.29p (CHEAP)

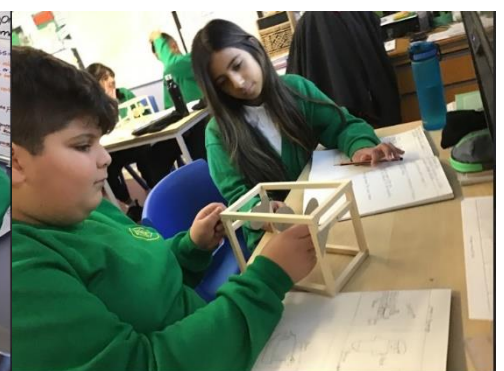
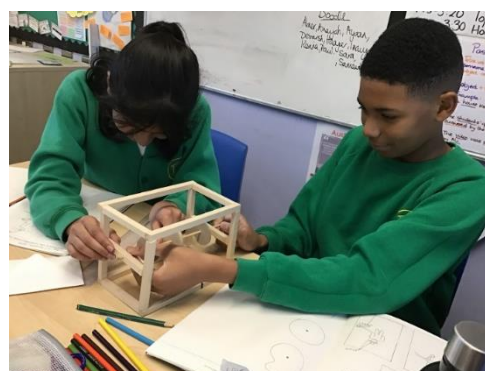
The children also got the opportunity to recall and use their mathematical knowledge to convert unit of measure when accurately measuring the wood and worked safely to cut all 18 pieces ready for the next stage – construction.

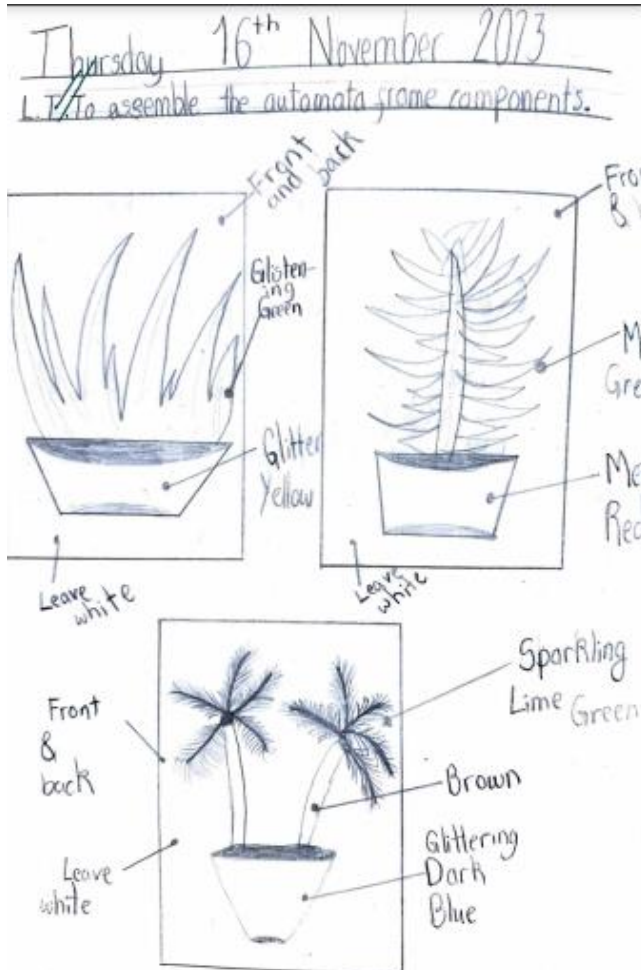
**Remember, measure
 twice, cut once.**



Once they had measured and cut their pieces of wood, they had to work together to assemble their frames. They had to ensure the angles were perpendicular (this is where they discovered how accurate and straight their cutting was). They demonstrated collaboration and resilience to ensure the pieces held accurately and the structure was secure.

Children had to think about the linear or rotary movement they wanted for their mechanisms, they explored different shaped cams to create the movement they required.





Axle

A long straight piece of material which connects to a rotating components i.e. the wheels of a car

Cam

It is a rotating or sliding piece in a mechanism. It changes rotary motion to linear motion.

SNAIL CAM!



I used the snail cam because it has a sharp edge, that drops back towards the centre of the cam. This shape causes the follower to fall immediately and gradually rise.

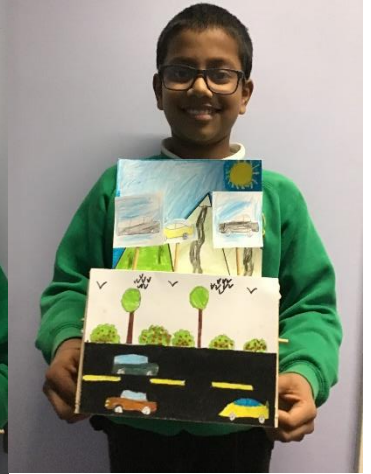
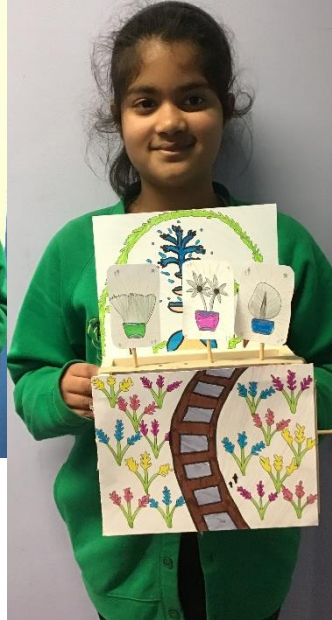
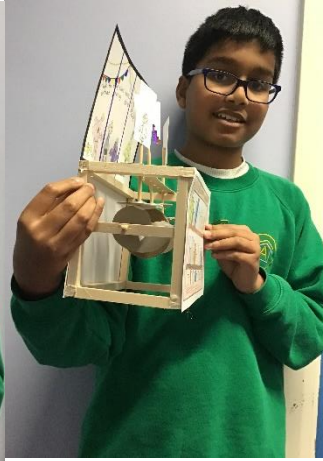


Children had the opportunity to think about what their follower would like (thinking about what their shop front was promoting) creating an annotated design. They explored the different shapes of the cams and noted how the shape made the follower move. This informed their final decision.

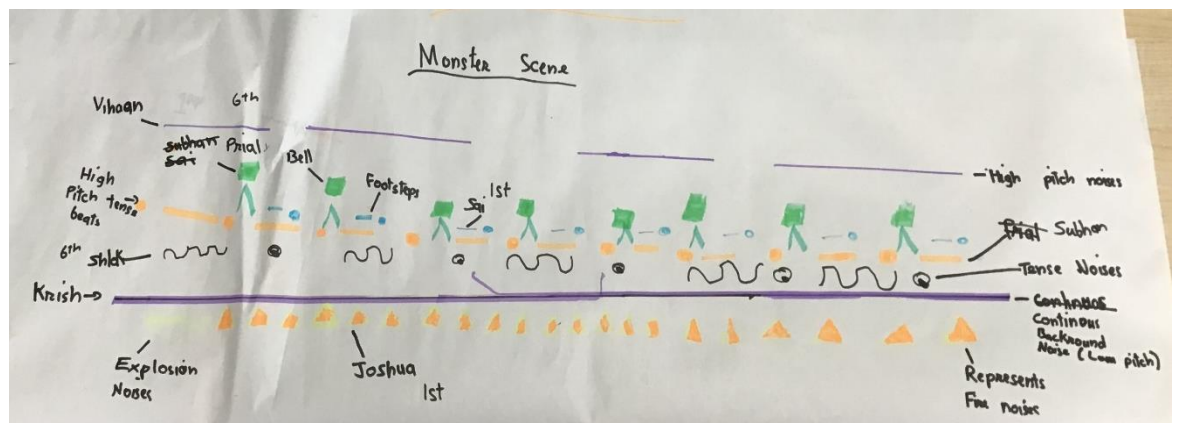
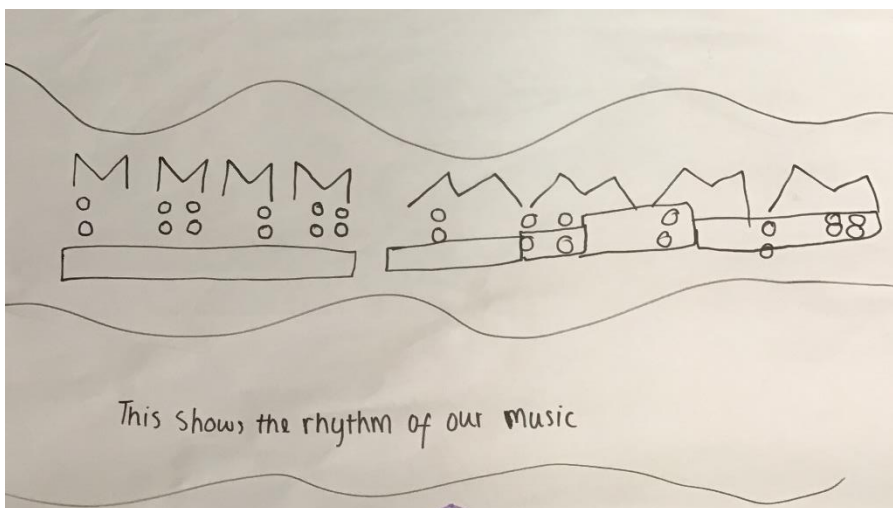


To finish their frames the children had to think about applying the finishing touches to their frames, this included referring back to their design criteria and decide on a foreground and background that would reflect the products they were selling.

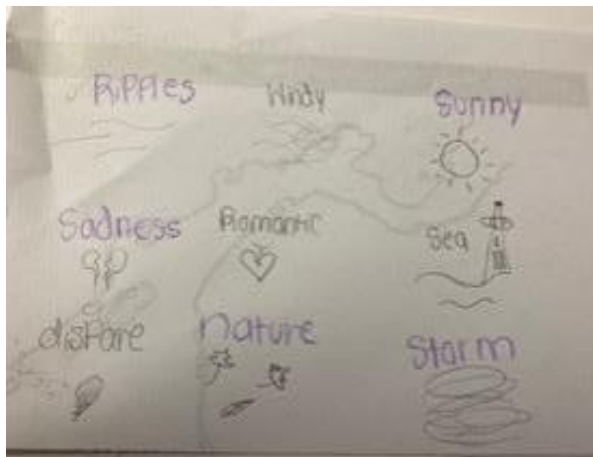
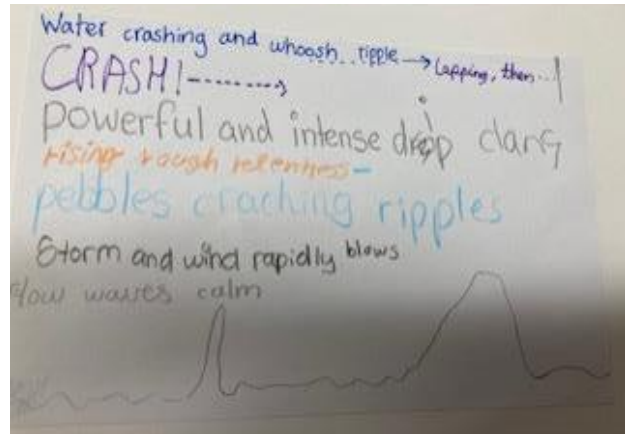
Children thought about how to make their shop fronts eye catching, bold and considered the size of their sketches.



In Music, the children have learnt 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. They then used their knowledge of notation, creating their own scores to create and perform body percussion.



The children have enjoyed looking at dynamics, tempo and pitch within pieces of music. We listened to Fingal's Cave by Felix Mendelssohn and recorded what words and phrases came into our minds (what we visualised), then in groups we chose six words to accompany the piece to show the changing tide of the sea. Using these skills the children have worked in small groups to compose, conduct and perform short pieces of music depicting the sounds of nature.



Science – Letters to World Leaders

Dear MP,

I am writing to you to urge your local community to do more to combat climate change. If we don't act about climate change, the world will become smaller and smaller.

To combat climate change, we could use less energy; like use less electricity and gas. We could also re-use and re-cycle materials such as plastic bottles and be more environmentally friendly by using paper bags instead of plastic bags and metal bottles instead of plastic bottles. So please, please stop cutting down trees because many people around the world are suffering from climate change.

This is the only world we have, we must save it!

Yoshitha 6B

Dear World Leaders

I am pleased to make your acquaintance. I come to you to spread awareness relating to the recent events of Climate Change. The residents of planet Earth are disappointed by the ignorance displayed by the world leaders.

World leaders are relying on young people, who should be in school, for hope and a planet to live up to. Children are protesting and begging for attention to spread what needs to be spread as a result of your ignorance.

Trees are our friends, renewable resources are our family, non-carbon emission vehicles are the best but why are we not using them, if we have them we shall use them. This is not an alien's planet we are destroying, this is ours.

If all people unite and come together in harmony we can solve this man-made disaster.

We must take a stand for this.

Thank you for your time.

Goodbye.

Arjun 6B

History – Diary entry Victorian hospital

Dear Diary,

It's my first day at the hospital and I feel so weak that I can't even write in this diary; I have a sore throat, aching stomach and a very, weak body. I am worried that I may not return to my home by tomorrow because the nurses are not qualified and do not know how to do the job properly.

I hope I don't get this viral disease called typhoid, everyone is dying from it, even my uncle died. The hospital atmosphere was making everything worse. I was feeling so hot but people were complaining that it was too cold.

As I write this, my parents are talking to the nurse. I hope I get well.

Yoshitha 6B

Dear diary,

It is only first day of being at the hospital and I already hate it so much. I'm here to get better but I'm feeling worse especially as I haven't seen the doctor yet. The pain in my tummy is so painful I feel like I am in the worst nightmare I have ever been in. The hospital is packed and it will take forever for me to be treated. I bet my family won't be surprised if I don't survive until tomorrow.

I really hope I don't have to stay in the hospital for ages. I am in such a dangerous situation and position and there is probably a high risk that I could have a disease. Some of my family have passed away from common diseases but not my immediate family luckily. I am worried that I have the same genes as my family that had diseases. Many other patients in this hospital are just like me, clenching onto their bellies.

The doctors aren't even trained and they either make you get even more unwell. They have no idea what they are doing and have so many unseen customers.

Ayah 6B

21.7.1869

Dear Diary,

Last Thursday I entered Charing Cross infirmary. It's boiling in here, I am so sweaty that when I finished writing this entry, the page was soaked through. I had ruined two pages before this one was neat enough to read. I feel terrible, the walls spin, the people on the ward scream and I haven't slept properly for days. I still have this terrible rash on my body and I think I am turning green. I have felt so unwell that even if I am lying down in the hospital bed, I still cannot stop feeling or being sick (Euughhhh). I hope it's not cholera, or typhoid. I have read such horrendous articles of people who have suffered from this. Let me tell you diary; it aint good news!

Before I entered my mother went to the apothecary and brought some herbal medicines for me it tasted like sewer water, and the medicine made no difference; I still don't feel right! The nurses and doctors do nothing and the smell is unbearable. I keep seeing nurses and doctors disappearing in doors, and running around, but are they aren't helping; everyone in here seems to be getting worse (the staff are not even trained). Everyone who has entered the hospital so far have never left...

Saicharan 6B

During outside PE this year, the children learnt about the invasion game hockey, how to attack and field 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 as well as partner work.





In the second half of Autumn term, we have been looking at the rules and skills of tag rugby, the children had to develop their throwing and catching skills alongside developing and applying their communication and awareness of passing to their team mates, once in a space to ensure that they moved the ball across the pitch in line or behind their own player in order to score a try before losing a tag (being tackled).



In gymnastics, we have been looking at balancing on a different number of points, rolling and jumping (straight, tuck, star and straddle). The children have been perfecting their handstands, cartwheels and bridges. They have also enjoyed making different shapes on the wall bars and using the spring board to complete a simple vault.



Persuasive speech By Kerina 6SC

Dear World Leaders,

Climate change cannot be solved by turning a blind eye. Instead of being at school, I stand here in front of you, talking about an issue that should have been resolved decades ago. Yet you turn to the younger generations expecting them to have the answers, expecting them to help with technology that has barely been invented. How dare you! How dare you need children to tell you how to do jobs. How dare you take away our rights and freedom; I should be running around on my school playground, or sitting in a lesson. This. Is. Wrong.

Glaciers are melting, water levels are rising, coral reefs are dying, ecosystems are collapsing and plants are shifting locations and yet you sit here making empty promises. It is predicted with the melting of glaciers 30% of all wildlife will become extinct. Low lying islands will be destroyed along with thousands of lives both human and animal, food supplies will diminish and species will disappear. The planet's average temperature has increased by 1.5 degrees Celsius since the 18th century. So how dare you just sit there on your sofa acting like it isn't your problem. We need immediate action. So, don't come to us when your grandchildren don't know what a polar bear is. Are you ready to tell them you could've done something, but chose to do nothing? If you fail us, we will never forgive you.

When you are mature enough to act and stop being oblivious to what is staring you in the face this is what we need to do:

- Use renewable energy such as wind, hydro, solar and stop the use of non-renewable sources despite the set-up costs,
- Enforce the use of electric vehicles, this includes all public transport vehicles, trucks and aeroplanes (it needs to be everyone not just a few),
- Encourage the use of public transport rather than using cars,
- Provide incentives for people to reduce, reuse and recycle,
- Fine supermarkets and firms that are not eco friendly such as the use of plastic to wrap fruit and products: this is not necessary.

Even turning off the tap when brushing your teeth or taking a shower instead of a bath or turning off electronics when not in use can all help. These are not big sacrifices, but these small changes will have a massive impact on the reduction of pollution, particularly if everybody is doing them. So why are you acting as if it is too late? If we don't act it will be. How dare you sit there thinking about the money and how much these suggestions and solutions will cost.

We have one planet and it is time to act like it.

And finally...

As you can see, it has been a very busy term. Lots of fun and plenty of learning for all. Thank you parents for working with us throughout this term.

You have been doing an amazing job supporting your child. You are your child's greatest supporters and we know how much you support, encourage and invest in your children so that they can aspire, perform and succeed at our school.

Children - we hope that you have been able to develop your curiosity and questioning skills this term. We hope that you have gained new skills and practiced others. We hope your knowledge has developed and that you can apply your knowledge and skills to new activities and problems. Please do continue to read over the holidays.

Reading is one of the best ways of relaxing. Remember the importance of reading, stories, poetry and non-fiction.

Stories and text provide a great way of learning and remembering knowledge. Stories provide an effective way to learn about many aspects of life, social conventions and shared values and they can teach decision making and problem solving skills.

Stories, written or re-told, can help us discover 'the big picture', promote empathy and provide insights into the views of others, including religion and culture.

Stories can help us sort through complex ideas, strengthening or changing our views and helping our minds to make connections to other learning. Often they are full of rich vocabulary that we can use in fun and innovative ways to enrich our writing.

Stories are inclusive, promoting active participation, providing a voice and helping to give a sense of belonging and identity and they can also act as a mirror. Storytelling promotes creativity, enabling us to create our own pictures, they can help relax and recharge us, so that we are better able to cope with other things and other emotions.



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

What are you looking forward to being able to do in the coming year?

Happy New Year and all best wishes for 2024!