

Class Updates - 12.01.2024





Reception Butterflies update



Happy new year!

Wow, such a wonderful return to school this week Butterflies, well done!

In **Phonics** the children have enjoyed learning our new Phase 3 digraphs and the introduction of the 'trigraph' (three letters, one sound) 'igh' with the phrase 'a light in the night'. Keep on reading these new GPCs 'sounds' at home—

 tail in the rain	ai	 sheep in a jeep	ee
 a light in the night	igh	 soap that goat	oa

In our **Maths** lessons the children have looked at what happens when they share out items, getting one less each time and then ending up with nothing, no more, it's empty and there is zero. The children have studied images depicting zero eggs in a nest, zero cars in a car park, zero bugs on a leaf. The children know that zero '0' represents the absence of something. The children were able to say when images showed '0' and 'not 0'.

If you'd like to support this work, please watch the **Numberblocks** episode 'Zero', where there are 'no frogs on your head and no squirrels in your bed!' It has a very catchy tune as well!

In our **PE** lessons, the children are developing their throwing techniques. This week, in pairs, they took turns to throw and tried overarm and underarm. The children also learnt that they had to 'aim' to get bean bags into a hoop and use some 'control'.

In **RE** the children found out that the wise men or 'magi' took a while to reach baby Jesus and this is a Christian celebration called Epiphany, and the children made stars and crowns.

Grayson was very brave to be the first person to have their **Show and Tell** after the Christmas break. Well done Grayson!

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS Team





Year 1 Ladybirds Update

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring term Ladybirds!

We are thrilled with how well the children have settled straight back into routines after Christmas and are all full of energy and ready to learn. We have had an exciting first week, starting off our new Topic 'A Toy's Story' with a visit to the Saffron Walden Museum. We had a special workshop organised by the museum teaching us all about toys from the past. We all got the chance to play with a variety of toys, old and new and look closely at them.

In school we have been writing about our favourite toys and recapping all our Maths learning from the Autumn term. In Computing, we have started using the Beebots, learning how to give commands and in Science we have looked at classifying animals. What a busy first week back!



The Year 1 Team



Year 2 Caterpillars Update

We have had a fantastic return to school and a busy week starting some new topics.

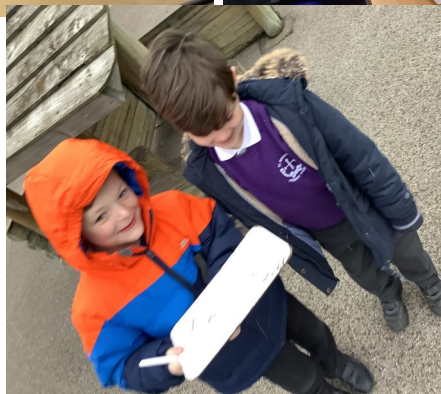
In ICT, we are looking at robot algorithms. To start, we paired up and gave each other instructions to get from one point to another, just like a robot. This followed on to giving instructions to our Beebots, trialing different instructions/algorithms to find a variety of routes.

In Geography, we have started our new topic– Our wonderful world. We have been using atlases to name the countries and capital cities of the UK.

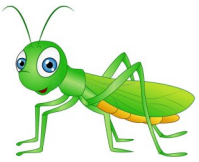
We have begun looking at our new class book in English– The Bog Baby. This week we have made predictions about the creature that lived in the story setting, have written description poems about The Bog Baby, used interesting vocabulary from the text to form our own sentences and have written a setting description! We are becoming fantastic writers!

Please continue to read daily and practice spellings stuck into reading records.

Mrs Holmes & the Year 2 team



Grasshoppers Update



Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

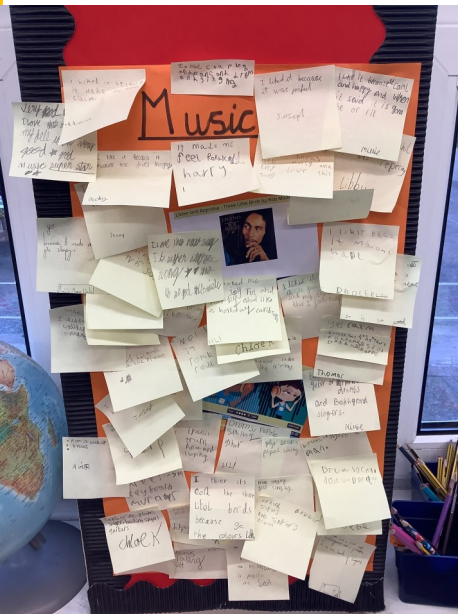
In Grasshoppers we are straight back into learning. During maths this week, we have been focusing on division and using the bus stop method. I have been impressed with how quickly the children have managed to pick up this method and we will continue to work on this next week.

In English, we have started to look at setting narratives. We have looked at an example text and the descriptive techniques within the paragraphs, as well as some of the SPaG features. I am looking forward to reading the children's own setting descriptions in the coming weeks.

Finally, In PSHE, we were learning about friendships and what key attributes we would look for in a friend. The children were fantastic at approaching this topic and came up with some brilliant ideas.

Have a fantastic weekend,

Mr Brown and the Y3 team





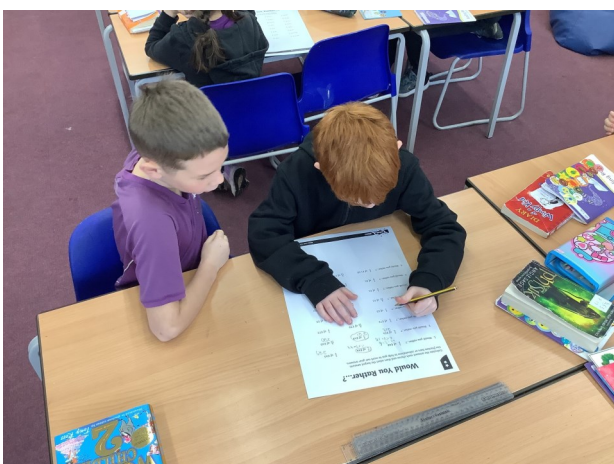
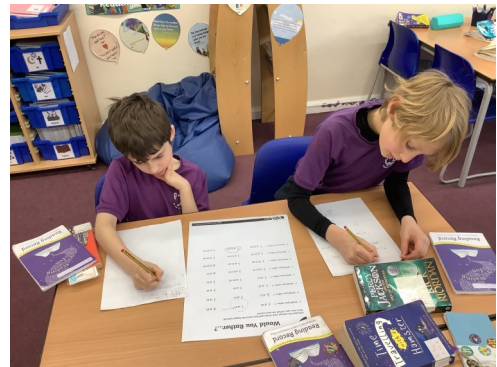
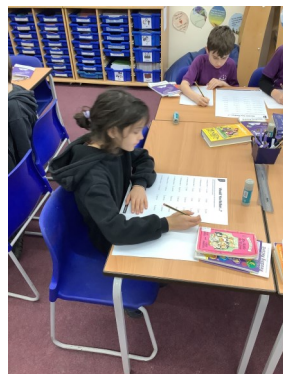
Year 4 Fireflies Update

Welcome back, I hope you all had a calm and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. We are straight back into this Spring term. In Maths, we are starting our fractions unit (alongside decimals). We looked at finding tenths and hundredths. Then, we moved onto finding fractions of amounts with a focus on showing our 'thinking' (methods). The class are starting to see the importance of knowing their times tables as this features heavily in this unit.

In English, we have been focusing on building sentences and paragraphs as well as editing our work. This will continue to be a big focus this year in preparation for Year 5.

We have started our new topic 'Water' by seeing what the class already know and researching rivers, seas and oceans across the globe. In science, we are going to be learning about Living Things & Their Habitats. We started the unit by classifying living things, for example: warm-blooded, cold-blooded, flies or not, lays eggs or live young etc...A great start to the new term, well done Year 4.

Mr Pike & the Yr4 team



Year 5 Busybees Update



*What a busy and wonderful first week back we have had! The children have really impressed us with how hard they have worked this week. In maths, we have started a new unit on fractions. We have been looking at equivalent fractions as well as mixed numbers and improper fractions. In English, the children have been practising different sentence writing techniques based on a short story called *The Old Mill*. It seems we have a class of budding gymnasts as they took to the floor to practise counter balances, moving in unison as well as canon moves. In RE, we are looking at anti-racism and what we can learn from different religions. We have been warming our voices up in music and in Computing, we have been looking at programming and data. PSHE lessons have given us an interesting opportunity to think about risk—what it means, why it's sometimes necessary and what we can do to keep things as safe as we can while still taking on new challenges. The children discussed risks involved in online games, but had sensible responses to how to keep themselves safe and what they could do if they felt uncomfortable. Great job Bees!*



Mrs Robinson, Mrs Potter and Miss Driscoll





Y6 Dragonflies Update

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and that you got a good rest too.

The children have come back really well and got stuck into their work with gusto; we have been looking at some number 'types' in maths, and the class have recapped prime numbers, odd and even numbers and looked at ways to systematically list all the factors and common factors of numbers.

In English, we have begun our new unit all about exploration texts! We read a section of Darwin's Origin of the Species and wrote our own poems about an animal we would have liked to discover on our own adventure like Darwin's on the HMS Beagle.

We also launched into our new topic for this half term—'It's a Disaster', a topic all around extreme weather! The children had a hunt around the school for facts on temperature and climate around the world—ask your child if they can remember any crazy facts we found out during our Geography lesson.

In PSHCE, we had a lesson on road safety. We considered all the ways we can keep ourselves safe when walking along the roads, and also had a go at a hazard perception test to see if we could spot any potential dangers developing.

Have a nice weekend and we'll see you Monday!

Mr Clarke and Miss Naunton

