

Class Updates - 01.12.2023

Reception Butterflies update



Another super week in Butterfly class. The children have made us very proud being so well behaved during Collective Worship and during lessons. Well done!

This week we looked at the country **Tanzania** where the beautiful and special story we are reading, is based upon a visit from a nana who lives there. The children really enjoyed finding out facts about the country and playing djembe drums.

Our **RE focus** was another celebration and **festival of light**, this time the Jewish celebration **Hanukkah**. The children have made lots of super links to similarities of Christmas, Diwali and Hanukkah and thought about similarities and differences of special people.



Thank you to the parents who have been encouraging their children to sing the Nativity songs at home, they are sounding so lovely...we hope they don't get too much stage fright on the night!

Stars of the week: Jackson, Dani and Max

Well done Jackson for great progress in Maths, Dani for wonderful singing and Max for super kindness at lunchtimes—as recognized by the Year 6 Play Leaders!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS Team



Year 1 Ladybirds Update

Well the weather has turned chilly hasn't it! Ladybirds weren't phased by the cold on Wednesday for forest school—we had lots of layers on. Thank



you for sending your children in with the right clothes—they had lots of hats and gloves which was great. Don't forget some lovely thick socks as their feet can feel cold very quickly otherwise.

We were excited to find some ice and looked carefully at it, remembering our describing words from science—transparent, smooth, cold and hard. Then we practised our fire lighting, ready for next week when we will roast some marshmallows.



The children have been working so hard on our Nativity songs, we are very proud of how much they have improved. We've sent an email out about costumes so thanks for getting your animal outfits sorted for next week.

The Year 1 Team



Year 2 Caterpillars Update

Caterpillar class have been busy this week practicing our lines and songs for our nativity.

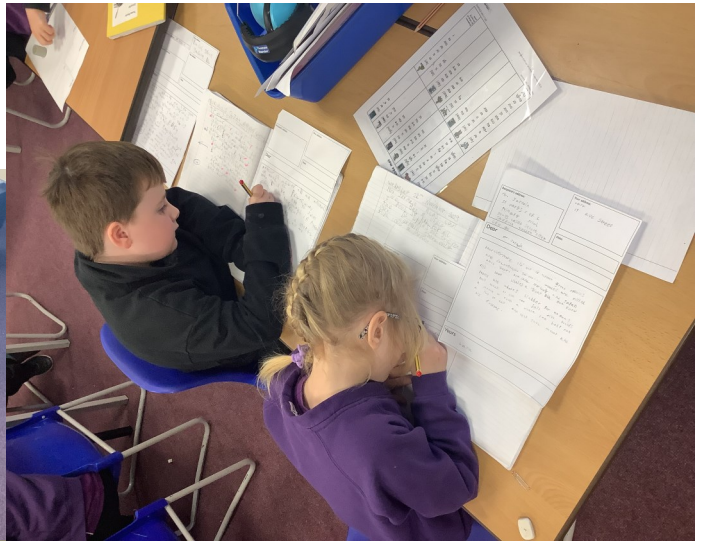
In Maths this week, we have started revising shapes, counting their sides, vertices and have used geo boards to recreate them.

In English, we have begun drafting our persuasive letter to Mr. Jarmain, to convince him to adopt a whale, in honour of one of our class book characters— Arthur the whale.

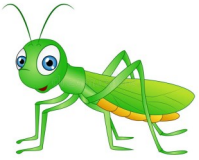
We have continued looking closely at incarnation in RE and wrote some questions we thought the shepherds might have asked Mary and Joseph upon meeting baby Jesus.

REMINDER: please bring your child's nativity costume in a named bag before Thursday 7th December.

Mrs Holmes & the Year 2 team



Grasshoppers Update



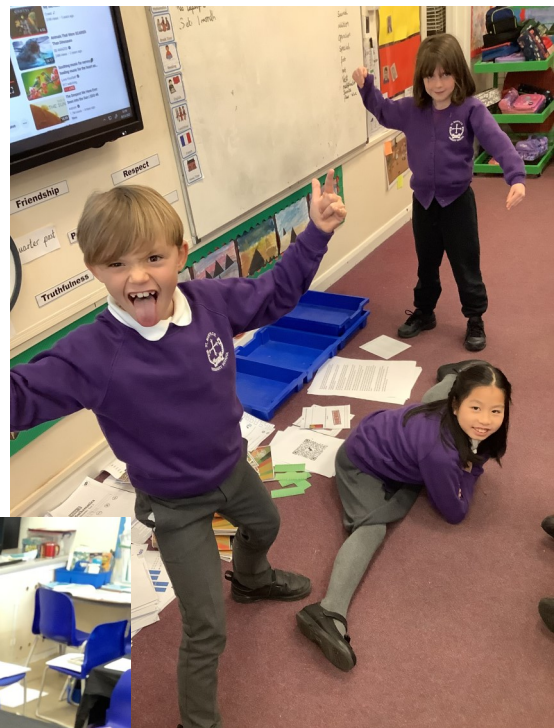
We have had another busy week in Grasshoppers! This week, we have been learning the song for our pantomime, which is coming up. The children used actions to match the words and are looking forward to the event.

In Science this week, we did an experiment involving reflection. The children created a reflective surface and tested many different surfaces using a torch. We had to be creative to get the required darkness, so we used materials to cover the desks and conducted the experiment under the desks in the dark! The investigation found that bright colours reflected light the most efficiently.

Finally, the children have been fantastic this week completing their assessments. I was very impressed with their attitude towards them, and they all tried 100%. Well Done Grasshoppers!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Brown and the Y3 team





Year 4 Fireflies Update

This week year 4 have completed a range of assessments—3 x maths and a reading comprehension. I have been really impressed by the classes' attitude and focus during these tests. In art, the class designed and made Greek inspired plates using patterns, shapes and images from our topic's learning. In English, we have been focusing on using apostrophes for contracted forms and use of pronouns to replace nouns.

Next week, we will be starting our block of design and technology. The first session is to review toys, so I have invited the class to bring in a toy on Monday 5th so that we can use it within our lesson (I have suggested they don't bring in anything too precious as I would not want it to get damaged or lost).

We will be using junk modelling materials for the week beginning the 11th December so any cardboard, boxes, plastic bottles and tubes would be much appreciated. If you have any at home that could be used, please send them in next week or by the 11th. Many thanks.

Mr Pike & the Y4 team



Year 5 Busybees Update



The bees have been working very hard this week completing their Autumn assessments. Well done team! In music, we have been learning pentatonic scales as well as our improvisation skills. In Science, we investigated friction by testing out the most effective materials for a marble run. We are getting ahead of the game in PE by practising our indoor athletic skills in preparation for an Uttlesford competition in January. The class have wowed us with some very impressive adventure stories in English and have shown fantastic maturity whilst peer assessing each other's work. In our history lesson we found out the difference between primary and secondary sources of information and it was fascinating reading some first hand accounts of slavery during the Atlantic slave trade. During PSHE we discussed Internet safety and reviewed the code: Stop, Close, Tell!

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Potter and Miss Driscoll





Y6 Dragonflies Update

Dear parents/carers,

Year 6 have been getting creative in the STEM subjects this week! In Science, we finished a storyboard that detailed the journey of a oxygen and carbon dioxide through the body, using cartoons to make the subject a bit less dry and more engaging!

We also did some designs for our own Websites, detailing the content that we are going to have on each page before getting down to the nitty-gritty of coding. We've been working on creating hyperlinks between webpages and using CSS to add images and colour to them too!

In History, we had a visit from a plague doctor, who came to tell us all about the theories of medicine and the medical practices employed in the medieval period. It was interesting to find out that medical knowledge doesn't always improve over time—ask your child to explain how medieval medicine slowed, stagnated and, in some areas, even went backwards!

Well done to all the children for approaching their assessments this week with good energy and showing great perseverance!

Have a great weekend!

Mr Clarke and Miss Naunton

