

Class Updates - 03.11.2023

Reception Butterflies update



Butterflies have settled back into school life and were ready to get back to learning on Monday! We have been impressed and other school adults have said how well behaved the children have been coming back to school. Most of the children attended their first Key Stage 1 Collective Worship with Mr Jarman and he was impressed with how well they sat and listened to his assembly.



The children enjoyed being part of the school **Light Day** on Tuesday and they attended their first whole school **Collective Worship** in the Hall, showing their work, listening to other classes and joining in with singing songs. In Reception, the children learnt about how Christians believe that Jesus is the light of the world and that we can all shine, like stars, just as our school motto says '**Let your light shine, as you grow**'. Butterflies created their own dotty stars and brightly decorated candles and showed them in the collective worship.

In **music** the children have enjoyed learning the '**Shine from the Inside Out**' song and a new song '**Come on and Celebrate**' which links to our new topic. The children are also learning '**This Remembrance Day**' song and will be learning more about Remembrance and will be making poppies next week.

The children all had super **fun at Forest school**, were got very muddy, splashing in muddy puddles up to their middles! They could also swing on the new rope swing, decorate leaves in the outside classroom, go on a mud slide, make mud soup and search for the fairy door!



Have a super (hopefully dry) weekend!

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS Team



Year 1 Ladybirds Update

Welcome back to our Ladybirds! We've had a fabulous week getting back into the swing of things. We started the week with our Light Day celebrations—we were learning all about the Chinese New Year and the Zodiac story. We loved acting out the story of the animals racing across the river and then made some of our own animals, using lots of bright colours and textures. We were very brave presenting them to the whole school at the end of the day. At Forest school we had lots of fun making spider webs using conkers, sticks and white wool. It was really tricky but we persevered! We have begun a new unit in computing learning to create digital art. The countdown to Christmas has officially started and you may start to hear some of the songs from our Nativity being sung at home!



Miss Nicholson, Mrs McInnes and the Year 1 Team



Year 2 Caterpillars Update

**Welcome back Caterpillars!
We hope you all had a
fantastic half term.**

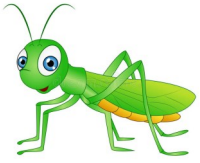
**We have had a very exciting
week this week! We have
started our new book in
English– Dear Mr. Blueberry
and have been analysing
the letters throughout the
story. On Tuesday we had**

**Light day. We looked closely at Hanukkah and what this means to the Jewish
community. We looked at special objects, how it is celebrated and why. We
had a fantastic day of crafts, painting and collaging a Hanukkiah and even
had a go at making our own dreidels. In History this week, we have been
investigating what schools were like in the past and have written some
questions to ask our visitor next week, who came to St Mary's over 50 years
ago!**

Mrs Holmes & the Year 2 team



Year 3 Grasshoppers Update



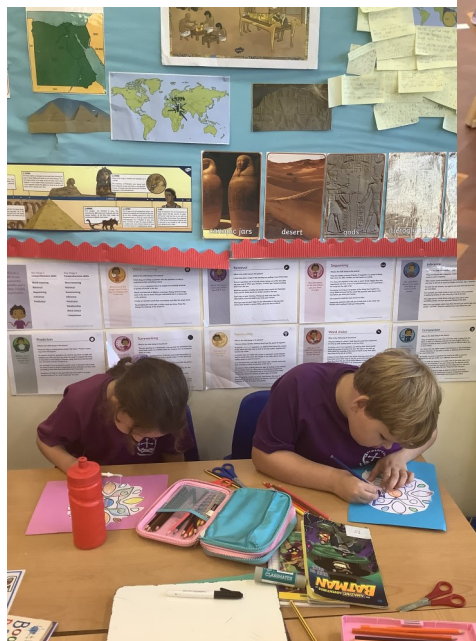
In Grasshoppers, we have had an incredibly busy first week back after half term! Firstly, in RE, in celebration of Light Day, we created Rangoli patterns for Hindu Diwali. In order to make these, we used dyed rice in a range of different colours to make our favourite design. Finally, the children then used glue to stick the rice down to make their picture.

In Maths, we have continued to look at addition and subtraction. I have been impressed with how the children have swapped between the two operations and how their knowledge has been developing.

Finally, in PE, we worked on our problem solving and communication skills. The children had to organise themselves in height order without touching the floor. Throughout the session, the children worked hard to achieve the goal set at the beginning of the lesson.

Have a fantastic weekend,

Mr Brown and the Y3 team





Year 4 Fireflies Update

Welcome back after half term. The children have got straight back into work. In English, we have been focusing on sentence development focusing on nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, determiners, prepositions, adverbials, conjunctions and pronouns. I have been impressed with the development of vocabulary over the week and the quality of their sentences. In maths, we have focused on times table knowledge as this skill really helps with all areas of maths but in particular our next unit—formal methods for multiplication and division. Please encourage your child to continue practising their tables at home—in particular: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10x. In music, Mrs Smith has been teaching the class a Greek style dance as well as using the glockenspiels to accompany various pieces of music.

On Tuesday, we had our annual Light Day celebration. Our focus was Diwali so we made lamps called 'diyas' using folder card.

Mr Pike & the Yr4 team



Year 5 Busybees Update



A lovely first week back—it has been a busy one as usual! We started our new Science unit on forces by investigating how the pull of gravity affects different masses. We have been continuing with addition and subtraction in maths and finding ways to improve our sentences in English. We listened to a piece of jazz music and played along on glockenspiels and have been improving our archery skills in PE. The end of the week has been Art-tastic—lots of creativity flowing with poppy art and sketching in the style of Gustav Klimt. Just what was needed at the end of a busy week. Well done Bees—smashed it again!

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Potter and Miss Driscoll





Y6 Dragonflies Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a great half term break and the children got enough rest for this next half term.

We have launched straight into our new units in Maths and English. In Maths, we've been looking at the properties of 2d and 3d shapes. The children handled 3d shapes to work out the vertices, faces and edges, and also learnt all the different types of triangles and quadrilaterals (ask your child if they can tell you them!).

In English, the class have been considering how to write arguments, considering their evidence and how to refute points made by the other side. Together, we looked at some different persuasive letters to try and pull apart what makes an argument effective.

On Tuesday, the class celebrated Light Day by researching the festival of Wesak! They used the laptops to research and create presentations in teams on the history of Wesak before creating their own origami lotus flowers (which the children took to superbly!).

We have also begun our new topic—Medicine through Time! The class went all the way back to the Stone Age, and, acting as a prehistoric tribe, we looked at different medical practices utilised by people from the distant past. This culminated in having to use trepanning on one member of the tribe, Charlie, who was suffering from bad spirits. Luckily, the Year 6 class shamans were there to help!

Have a great weekend and we'll see you Monday,

Mr Clarke and Miss Naunton

