

Class Updates - 22.11.2024

Reception Butterflies update

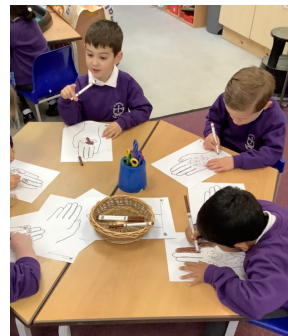


It's been a chilly week in Butterflies class this week but we have stayed busy and active to keep us warm. We have learned more about festivals around the world, looking at Diwali, making Rangoli patterns and diya lamps. We learned about lots of different kinds of dancing and made up our own dances in PE.

In Maths we have been looking at the number 4 and 5, identifying it, building it and learning about subitizing.

In English we did some writing about our dances, finding the sounds ourselves and spelling out the words.

This week we had Forest school on the decking, we hunted for the hidden star in the apples and made apple prints.



Ms Nicholson, Mr Powlesland, Miss Hunter, Miss Murnane , Miss Marks and Miss Brighten



Year 1 Ladybirds Update

In science this week, we identified common signs of Autumn and investigated the school grounds, searching for signs of Autumn. We used our observation skills to identify and look closely at our findings. We have been identifying and sorting 2D and 3D shapes in maths this week. In DT we have designed our moving Christmas card, thinking carefully about which mechanism to use. We had to think carefully in geography this week about what our playground looked like. We drew a map using symbols and added them to our map key. English had us planning a diary entry this week from Meesha's point of view. Phonics has been challenging this week, reading split digraphs and using them in our writing. We have been very impressed with the number of reads each child is doing at home, please keep it up.



Mrs Holmes, Ms Tickle and Mrs Slade





Year 2 Caterpillars Update

Another week in Year 2 has flown by! Here are a few of the exciting things we have been doing in the classroom.

This term, we've been exploring the fascinating world of living things and their habitats. The children have been learning about food chains, understanding the roles of producers, consumers, and predators. We've been creating our own food chains in class, helping the children to understand how energy is transferred in nature. It's been amazing to see their curiosity and excitement grow as they uncover how the natural world works!

In English, we are focusing on non-chronological reports. The children are becoming little researchers, gathering interesting facts and learning how to organise information into clear sections. They've been practising using headings, subheadings, and bullet points to present their ideas.

Our Maths lessons have been all about mastering the column method for addition. The children are learning to add two-digit and even three-digit numbers with confidence! We've been focusing on lining up the digits carefully and writing the correct number. They've been fantastic at rising to this new challenge, and we encourage practising at home to keep building their skills.

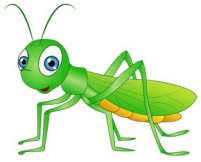
The children are very excited as we prepare for our Nativity performance! They have been working hard to learn their lines, practise their songs, and perfect their roles. It's wonderful to see their confidence develop as they rehearse.

Reminders:

Costume Requests: These have been sent home today. Please contact a member of the class team if there are any issues. Thanks for your help and support.

Have a great weekend,
Mr Brown and Mrs Wulfse





Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

This week in Grasshoppers class, we have been working to secure exchanging for subtraction using column method. I can see the progress the class have made with their understanding of this. The next step is to keep practising and identify when to use this skill.

In English, we have been writing diary entries based around our book 'Seal Surfer'. We focused on an event that happens to the boy and his seal friend whilst surfing. The class have been pushing themselves to extend their sentences and add interest through their choice of verbs.

In History, we looked at the Ancient Egyptian timeline and worked back to 7500BC so the children could start to understand the length of the Egyptian period and the key events from it.

In Science, I set the challenge—can you turn a pair of scissors into a magnet? This really stumped the class but as a team they worked out how they could use the magnet to temporarily make the scissors magnetic and pick up a paperclip. They loved this challenge and seeing the end results!

Mr Pike, Mrs Smith and Miss Dye



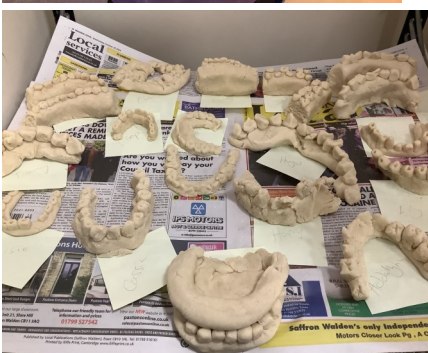


Year 4 Fireflies Update

This week in Science, we looked at part of the start of the digestive system—the teeth. We used dental mirrors to examine our teeth and enjoyed biting into apples to get an impression of our bites. We also had to think carefully which teeth did which jobs in helping us pierce, bite, chew and macerate. Finally, we created wonderful reproductions, in salt dough, of our teeth that any dentist would be proud of!

On Wednesday morning, we attended a dodgeball tournament at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre. Grouped in four St Mary's teams, we competed against lots of other schools in several rounds of competition. The final result saw Mrs Norman's Green team picking up third place certificates in their group. Congratulations to all the students who participated, you were hard working, confident, courteous and honest! A real credit to St Mary's.

Mrs. Dell, Mrs. Norman and Miss Humphreys

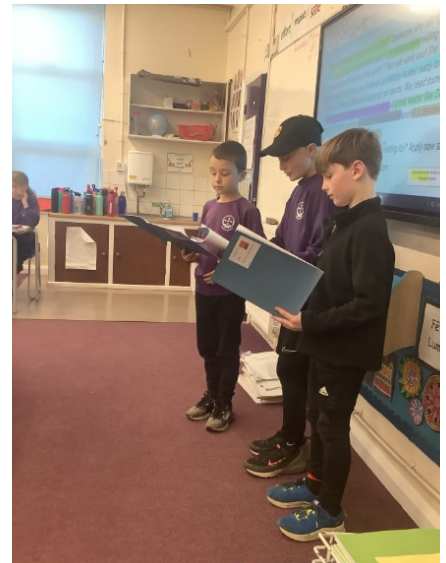


Year 5 Busybees Update



Another very busy week in Year 5. The children have been continuing to grow their knowledge of fractions by ordering and comparing fractions with different numerators and denominators as well as adding and subtracting fractions. We have continued with the diary entry unit in English and have nearly finished reading the Matthew Henson story. In RE, we have been learning about Incarnation and thinking about our big question—Was Jesus the Messiah? This week we wrote adverts for a Messiah which included all the qualities you would expect a Messiah to have. In Music, we continued our jazz unit and the children did a fantastic job at improvisation on the glockenspiels.

Training for the indoor athletics competition next term is now in full swing during our PE lessons. The children have been working hard to improve their skills and to show support for each other. Well done for a great week!



Mrs Potter, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Flack and Ms Brighton



Y6 Dragonflies Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 6 have had another brilliant week with a whole range of lessons!

In Maths, we've been working on angles—learning how to draw, measure, and even estimate them for drawing them without a protractor. The children had a lot of fun testing their skills, and they were so accurate that they were often only 2 or 3 degrees off!

In History, we stepped into the world of Ancient Egyptian medicine in the first lesson of 'history', moving on from the prehistoric medicine we looked at last time. The children took part in a fast-paced relay quiz, racing to answer questions and fill in their team sheets. There were some gruesome findings about the items used in Ancient Egyptian treatments—can your child tell you what some of the objects in the picture below were used for?

In English, we combined technology and environmental awareness. After watching *Blue Planet*, the children researched the impact of plastics on our oceans using the computers. They've now begun planning persuasive arguments to tackle the issue of plastic waste. Each child has chosen their own campaign focus—what has your child decided to champion?

In Computing, we took another step in building our websites by learning how to add images. The children explored linking images directly from the internet, saving them locally, and resizing them to fit perfectly on their pages. It was great to see them work through problems and see them have that feeling when they finally got it to work!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Clarke and Miss Driscoll

