

Class Updates - 24.10.2025

Reception Butterflies update

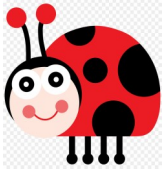


The children have come to the end of their first half term at school and we are so proud of all the progress they have made so far. They are following school and class routines and becoming so independent.

This week we have been exploring autumn. We have made dotty pumpkins, based on the work of Yayoi Kusama. We have been working hard on our handwriting, practising pattern making to develop early writing. We even made pattern pumpkins! In Maths we have been looking at one more and one less, singing lots of songs and counting back and forwards to 10 and beyond. In PE we are training for the dot challenge. How many times can you run 2 metres in 30 seconds? All the children have shown good progress in Phonics this term, learning their first Phase 2 sounds and this week we have begun segmenting and spelling simple words. Well done Butterflies! We wish you a safe, restful and happy half term!

Miss Nicholson, Miss Hunter and Miss Murnane





Year 1 Ladybirds Update

What a fantastic half term we have all had! This week we have been focusing on our fine motor skills in English and enhancing our cutting skills. We have been using scissors to cut with accuracy, ensuring we hold and use them correctly.

In maths we have continued using part whole models for adding. We have found systematic number bonds and number bonds to 10.

Forest school has been lots of fun in the Eco garden digging up potatoes, pumpkins, courgettes and lettuce, yum! We also had fun decorating conkers and creating a massive conker run, wow!

On Friday we celebrated Light Day, specifically the Chinese Lantern Festival. We created our own lanterns, practiced some weaving and did some of our own dragon dancing.

Have a restful half term, we look forward to seeing you back on Monday 3rd November.

Mrs Holmes and the year one team





Year 2 Caterpillars Update

We've had a brilliant end to the half-term in Year 2!

Maths

In Maths, we have been learning all about ordering and comparing numbers. The children have been practising using the greater than, less than and equal to symbols, as well as putting numbers in the correct order. They have shown great focus and enthusiasm when working with different number challenges!

English

This week, the children worked hard to finish their diary entries. I was so pleased with how much effort they put in — so many of them included the key features we had discussed and took great pride in presenting their work neatly. It was lovely to see their creativity and growing confidence as writers.

Topic

In our topic lessons, we explored *climate* and carried out a weather investigation. The children really enjoyed observing and recording the weather and thinking about how it changes over time.

RE

As part of our Light Day, we learned about Hanukkah and made some fantastic Hanukkah-inspired crafts. The children loved being creative and learning about this special celebration.

There will be **no spellings or times tables** to complete over the half-term break. However, if the children can continue to **read regularly** and record this in their reading records, that would be fantastic.

Have a great half-term break!

Mr Brown & the Year 2 Team





Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

What an incredible end to our first half term in Year 3! The children have worked so hard and shown great enthusiasm in everything they've done.

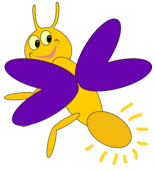
In Maths, we finished the term by learning how to exchange in column addition and subtraction. The children showed real perseverance as they tackled these new skills and enjoyed putting their learning into practice through games and problem-solving challenges. In English, we completed our focus book *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne. The children used their imaginations brilliantly to write their own alternative endings, showcasing creativity, emotion and some very impressive vocabulary! We very much enjoyed learning a new rock song in Music! Our History lessons took us back to Ancient Egypt, where we explored the fascinating world of pharaohs and discovered how they lived, ruled and were remembered. In Science, we have been learning about forces and magnets. To finish our topic, the children designed and created their own magnetic games – combining creativity, teamwork and scientific thinking. We also enjoyed a wonderful trip to the local library, where the children explored our topic further and learned more about how libraries help our community. It was lovely to see so many children inspired to borrow books and continue reading for pleasure. To round off a busy and exciting week, we celebrated Light Day – a special whole school event where Year 3 explored the festival of *Diwali*. The children immersed themselves in the sights, sounds and traditions of this celebration through art, storytelling and reflection.

It has been a busy and fantastic first half term filled with learning. We are so proud of everything the children have achieved. We wish you all a *relaxing and enjoyable half term break*. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another exciting term ahead!

Mrs Potter and the Year 3 team



Year 4 Fireflies Update



We have had a wonderful final week of half term in year 4,

I cannot believe we have finished our first half term already! This week, the children have been consolidating lots of their learning.

In **Maths**, we have revisited our place value knowledge and made sure we are really secure with ordering and comparing numbers, as well as counting on and back in multiples.

In **PE**, the children took part in a yoga session and discussed the importance of mindfulness and taking time to breathe and relax.

In **Science**, the class investigated objects and materials which worked as conductors and insulators as part of the circuits they had made. As always, it was lovely to see their discussions and how well they work as part of a team.

There is no homework over this half term, but it would be great if the children could continue to read where possible. We are working hard in Year 4 to continue fostering a love of reading and the children can read anything they enjoy.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term rest and we will see you in a week.



Mrs Tagg and the Year 4 team





Year 5 Busybees Update

This week in Maths, we have been problem solving using place value skills. On Thursday, the children took part in a maths trail. They had to identify a specific card from a clue and then answer a question based on the images on the card.

It was great to see so many of them challenge themselves with the extension questions and challenges.

In English, we wrote our acrostic poems based on the people they had researched for Black History Month. We also did some creative writing based around the falling Autumn leaves. In Science, we looked at how shadows change as the Earth moves during the day. We had a few issues with lack of sun but we got a few readings recorded.

In PSHCE, we discussed our Emotional Literacy and what different emotions feel like inside and reactions we have to them physically on the outside.

Mr Pike, Mrs Smith, Miss Driscoll





Year 6 Dragonflies update

We've reached the end of our first half term in Year 6—and the class has done superbly at adapting to the new expectations as the oldest pupils in the school!

This week, we headed off to a dodgeball tournament where all the children gave it their all. There was lots of energy, determination and some very tired arms by the end! Everyone showed great perseverance and team spirit—well done for never letting your heads dip, St Mary's!

Back in school, we put the finishing touches on our Mayan masks. After building the base from plaster of Paris, the children painted an undercoat and then added their own decorative details. The results are fantastic; each one is completely unique, and it's clear how much care and creativity went into them.

In English, the children wrote some descriptive setting pieces. They focused on varying their sentence starters, extending their sentences in different ways, and using descriptive techniques such as personification to bring their writing to life. They also experimented with sentence length to create atmosphere and effect.

A huge well done to Year 6 for all their hard work and enthusiasm this half term. I hope you have a fantastic break—you've earned it!

Mr Clarke and the Year 6 team

