

# Class Updates

## Reception Butterflies Update



Another busy and exciting week we have had in Reception! We have been developing our listening and phonics skills, enjoying Dough Disco and practising our letter formation and handwriting patterns. We have been celebrating what makes each of us unique and special, talking about ourselves and creating some fantastic self-portraits. In maths, we have been exploring size, mass and capacity through lots of hands-on, practical experiences and playful learning. In PE, we have been busy creating and exploring our own obstacle courses, developing our gross motor skills, balance, coordination and confidence as we moved in different ways. We have also enjoyed spending time with our buddies, who are wonderful role models and help us to develop our confidence, independence and sense of belonging within our school community. We are so proud of the children and all the learning they are doing each day!

***Miss Nicholson and the Reception class team***





### ***Another fantastic week in Ladybird class!***

**Computing:** We have been working on programming Beebots to start and end in a specific spot. We are developing our understanding of sequencing actions to programme a robot.



**PE:** This week we used our previously acquired ball skills and played a game of football. We learnt about moving into a space, not chasing the ball, moving with the ball, looking ahead when kicking the ball and using the inside of our foot to kick the ball.

**Science:** For our materials topic, we looked at their properties and how they can be manipulated. We investigated which materials can be squished, stretched, bent and twisted.

**Art:** We have been painting a landscape inspired by Bronwyn Bancroft using water colours. This week we added acrylic paint details onto our landscape painting from last week. We added dots, lines and swirls to give our painting a more aboriginal feel.

### ***Mrs Holmes and the Year 1 team***



## Year 2 Caterpillars Update



Another busy and exciting week in Caterpillars!

In Maths, we've begun exploring multiplication, learning how to use arrays to help us multiply numbers together. The children worked in groups to solve different problems, discussing their ideas it was lovely to see such fantastic teamwork, especially when some of the questions got a little tricky!

In RE, we learnt the story of Rama and Sita as part of our work on Diwali. The children had great fun acting out the different parts of the story before reflecting on the importance of light and what it symbolises for Hindus. Can your child remember what happened in the story and why light plays such an important role in Diwali?

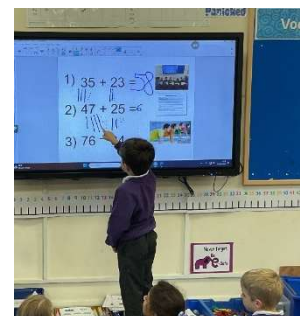
In Computing, we've continued experimenting with editing photographs, and the children have now unlocked all sorts of crazy abilities! From changing colours to making pictures glitch, stretch and warp, they've been discovering just how much they can manipulate an image. There have certainly been some rather unusual creations, but the children at least have thought they're all works of art!

We also had a lovely time at our Harvest celebration this week, where the children proudly showed off their harvest baskets in all their glory! It was wonderful to see their hard work on display after all the care and effort they put into making them.

Finally, in Science, we've been learning about where different materials come from. The children discovered the origins of materials such as wool, precious metals and plastics, and began thinking about how the objects we use every day often start life as something very different! Can your child remember where materials like paper, wool or cotton come from?

Have a great weekend,

**Mr Clarke**



## Year 3 Grasshoppers Update



In English, we have been busy writing some fantastic letters, thinking carefully about our ideas, vocabulary and the features of a letter. I have been really impressed with the children's writing and the effort they have put into making their letters interesting and engaging.

In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting hundreds, tens and ones. The children have worked hard to apply their place value knowledge to calculations – their presentation is really improving! We are taking much more care with our number formation, spacing and setting out.

In RE, we compared three different rites of passage from three different religions. We explored their similarities and differences and thought carefully about why these ceremonies are important to the people who take part in them.

In Art, we have started creating the backgrounds for our final Egyptian-inspired paintings. The children experimented with blending colours to create their sunset backgrounds, and they are already looking fantastic! In Science, we investigated whether magnets would work through different materials. The children made their own predictions before carrying out the investigation and carefully recorded their results. We had some interesting findings and enjoyed discovering whether our predictions were correct!

Another super week, Year 3 — well done for your continued effort, respect and resilience!

**Mrs Potter**



## Year 4 Fireflies Update



### A lovely week for Fireflies class!

This week in **Maths**, we have been solidifying our knowledge of negative numbers, counting backwards and forwards on number lines through zero and counting in multiples of 25. It has been lovely to see the children grow in confidence as we approach the end of the unit and really take responsibility and ownership over their learning. They have worked extremely hard to identify areas in Maths where they feel they need further practise and I am really proud of their effort and dedication.

In **RE**, we have been further examining our big question 'What do Christians learn from the Creation story?' We discussed as a class what forgiveness means to Christians and how/why Christians may ask God for forgiveness. We linked this to Adam and Eve and re-told the story from different perspectives, where they may have asked God for forgiveness instead of hiding from God. We finished our learning by discussing how we can interpret this in our own lives and learn from our mistakes by apologising and making better choices when we can.

In **Science**, we have been learning about electrical insulators and conductors. We identified electrical insulators as products we use every day and examined how they keep us safe. We then looked at the dangers of electricity and guessed which materials we thought would be electrical conductors. We tested our hypothesis by creating circuits with bulbs and buzzers and adding different materials as extra components. If the circuit was open, this meant the material was an insulator. The children worked hard to record their results and had lots of fun!

We have been working hard in **French** to continue our counting beyond to 20 and recalling days of the week. We have enjoyed lots of songs with actions and it has been great to see the enthusiasm in the room!

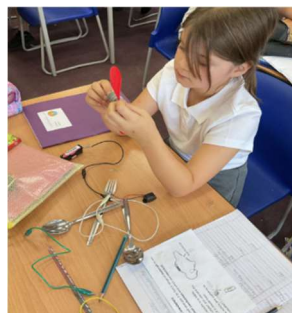
As always, please support your child at home to read where possible and encourage Times Tables practise where possible. The following websites can be really helpful:

[www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com) (Children will have a login in their reading diary).

[www.timestables.co.uk](http://www.timestables.co.uk) (Speed test).

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Mrs Tagg and Mrs Tickle.



## ***Year 5 Busybees Update***



It has been another fantastic week in Year 5, with the children continuing to work incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum. We have been particularly impressed with their enthusiasm, confidence and willingness to challenge themselves.

In Maths, we have been focusing on partitioning numbers according to their place value. The children have been developing their understanding of how larger numbers can be broken down into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. They have worked hard to recognise the value of each digit and explain how larger numbers can be broken down into smaller parts.

In English, we have continued writing our diaries based on Bessie Coleman and her incredible achievements in flying. The children have produced some excellent writing and have worked hard to include the key features we would expect to see in a Year 5 diary, including first-person language, emotive vocabulary, descriptive detail and appropriate organisational features. We have been particularly impressed with the way the children have written from Bessie's perspective and shown an understanding of her experiences and achievements.

In Science, we have been learning about day and night and the changes that occur as the Earth moves. The children completed some excellent work comparing these changes and explaining why we experience day and night. They have been developing their scientific vocabulary and confidently used words such as axis and rotation when explaining their ideas.

In RE, we have been exploring Creation vs Science and considering some of the different opinions people may have about how the world was created. The children have used their excellent speaking and listening skills to share their ideas, listen respectfully to different viewpoints and explain their own answers clearly. It has been fantastic to see them engaging in thoughtful discussions and giving reasons for their opinions.

Well done, Year 5, for another brilliant week! We are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm you continue to show. Have a wonderful weekend!

**Mr Brown and the Year 5 team**



## Year 6 Dragonflies Update



It has been another busy week in Year 6. In English, we explored 'The British' by Benjamin Zephaniah, discussing what makes Britain great and how our country is like a recipe made up of different cultures, religions and nationalities. We practised our oracy skills by presenting the poem to each other in groups.

We then planned and began creating our own versions of the poem, focusing on what makes 'St Mary's' such a special place.

In maths, we used inverse operations within addition and subtraction to check our answers. We then applied the skills we have developed throughout this unit to solve challenging multi-step problems, explaining our reasoning along the way.

In Science, we became fossil detectives! We studied fossils and used the evidence left behind to make judgements about what life may have been like in the past and how the different creatures survived.

In RE, we thought about the river of our life. We reflected on the barriers and challenges we have encountered along the way, where we are heading now and where we would like our journey to end.

In Art, we completed our Blitz artwork, using blending, colour and silhouettes to create dramatic representations of a city during the Blitz. The finished pieces look fantastic!

Well done, Year 6, for another fantastic week of learning!

### Mr Pike

