



Weekly Learning Update 05 May 2023

Nursery

Nursery have been super this week and brought lots of energy to their learning.

We have continued with our book focus of 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and this week looked at the heights of beanstalks as they grow, we have started to measure the children and they have had a go at measuring each other and seeing if they can work out where there should stand in height order using words such as bigger than, shorter than, taller, smaller amongst others. It has been great to hear the children using this language in their learning. Alongside this, the children looked at 'Jack and the beanstalk' and were introduced to the story and the characters with opportunities to re-tell the story.

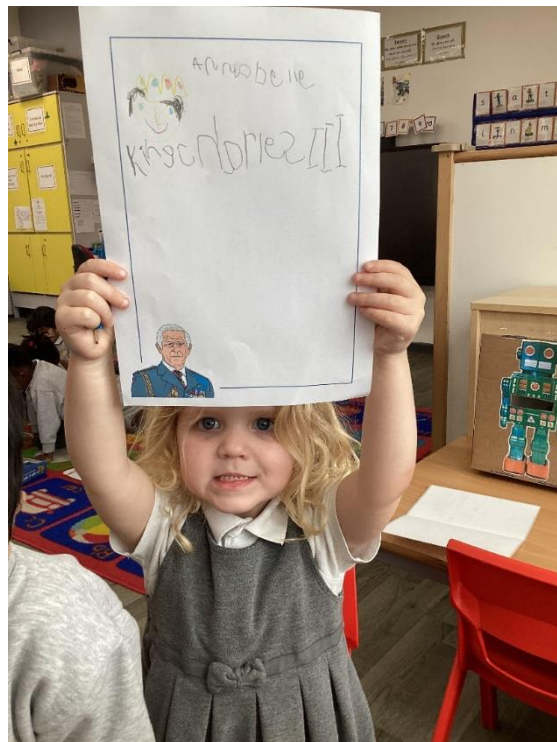
On Wednesday afternoon, all children took part in a large scale mark making session where we covered the floor in paper and the children could lay down or sit around the edge. They then had to follow instructions and directions to draw on the paper. They were able to draw different amount of leaves and flowers and also different sized beanstalks. There was some excellent listening and following of instructions. The children were so involved that we had to cover the floor again with paper!

To finish the week off, we looked at the King's coronation and what this means. The children were provided with opportunities to create crowns, flags, collage pictures and we saw some super observational drawing of King Charles III. There was also 'king' dressing up and crowns for the children to wear and take turns walking around the room with a procession of children marching behind to music!



Thank you for the baby photos that have been sent through on tapestry, if you haven't already done so it would be great if you could send them or feel free to bring us a photo in.

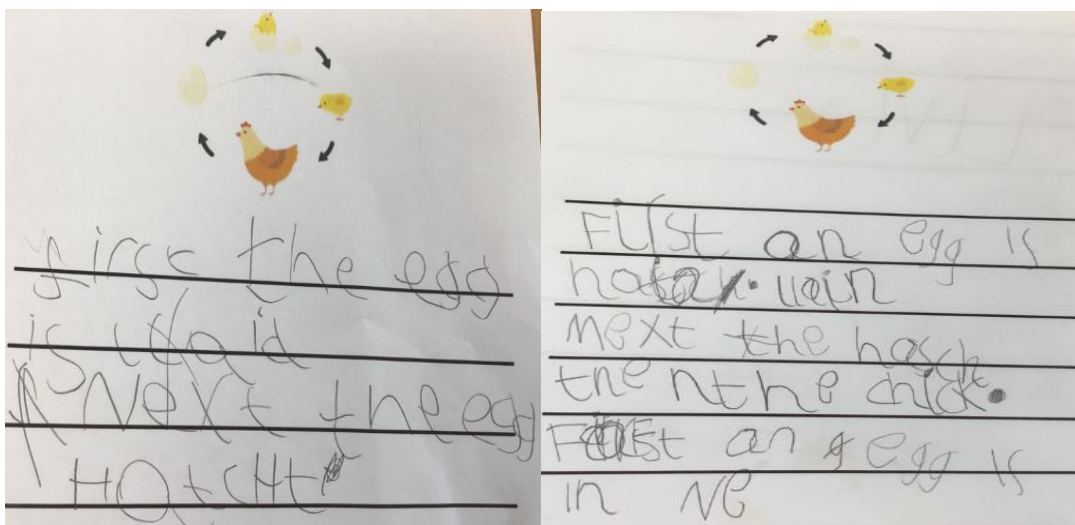
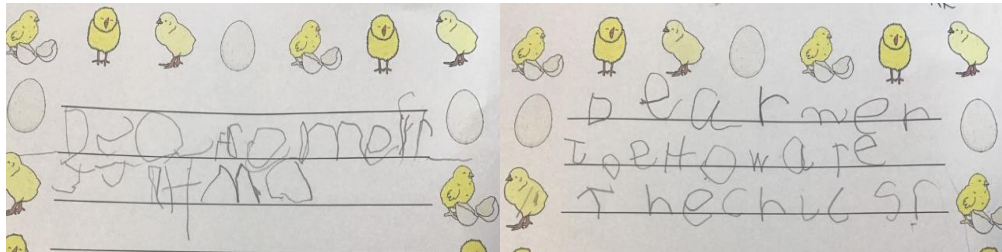
Enjoy the coronation weekend! ***I wonder if the children can tell you anything they can remember about King Charles III?***



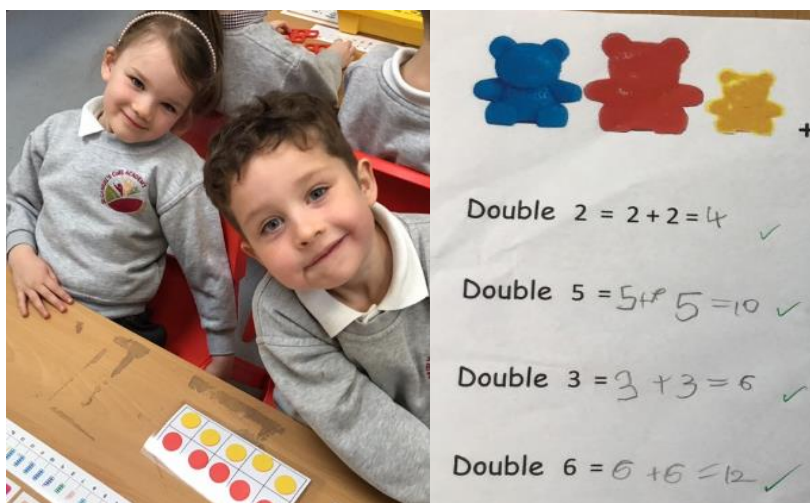
Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

It has been another fun filled week in Reception!

During English, the children have finished their writing based on the chicks and wrote a letter to Farmer Joe. Alongside this, the children wrote about the life cycle of a chick using time connectives.



In Maths, the children have been learning about doubling. We have used objects around the classroom and '**tens frames**' to help understand the concept of doubling.



In phonics, we have continued with '**Phase 4**' with a focus on *using* the phonemes in *spellings*. The children have produced some fantastic sentences and are using their *phoneme fingers* to help them.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

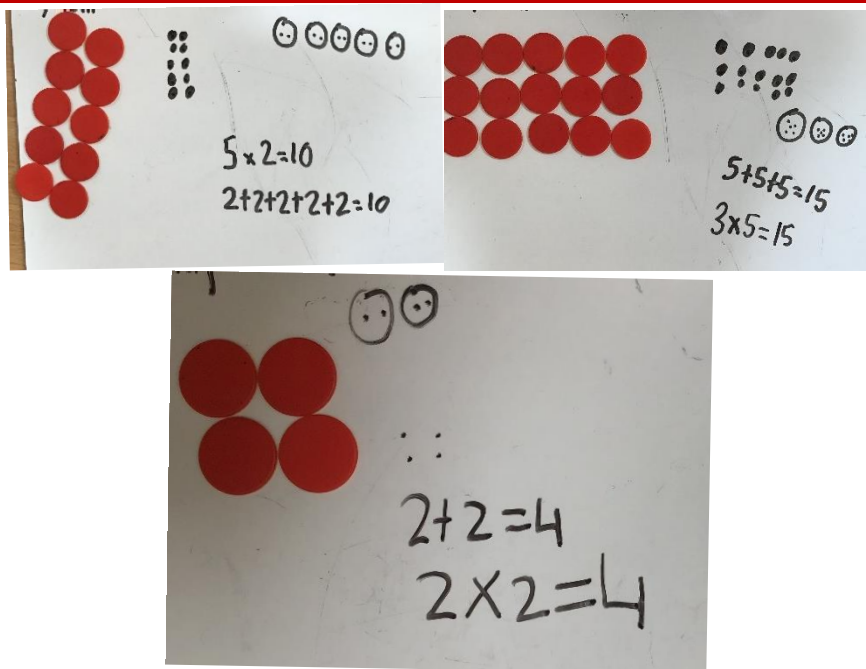
Another brilliant week for Year 1!

In Phonics, we have been recapping our '**Phase 5**' phonemes and have been practising for our upcoming *phonics screening check*, which will take place in June. The children have been working hard at being able to recognise 'alien' and real words as well as identifying *digraphs*, *trigraphs* and *split-digraphs* in words.

In English, we finished reading our book 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' and discovered Mr and Mrs Grinling's plan to get rid of the scavenging seagulls. Because of this, the children had a go at concocting their own mustard sandwiches and had a go at writing their own instructions. Some children even had a go at tasting the final product!



In Maths, we have been continuing our multiplication and division unit and have been focusing on making **arrays** to support multiplication. The children have been using repeated addition to write a number sentence to match the arrays.



In Geography, we have been looking at identifying human and physical features at the seaside and the children created their own postcard, explaining to someone what they will find at the seaside. Some of the features included: a harbour, lighthouse, shops, beach, sea and even caves!

In PE, we have been learning about the skills involved in 'invasion games' and focusing on the need to be able to observe their surroundings and dodge out of the way from opponents! Children were able to play a range of team's games, which they really enjoyed doing.



In Art, the children have worked so hard with their art project. These are the pieces that are going to be forming Year 1's contribution to the whole art gallery. The children cannot wait to share with you their pieces, which are going to be mounted and framed and then exhibited as part of a whole school experience!

Year 2 (Braille Class)

We have had another amazing week.

The children have started their SATs tests this week and I am so proud of them.

They have worked super, duper hard!

In English, we have been planning our own versions of 'Jim and the Beanstalk,' and the children came up with so many amazing ideas.

Wednesday 3rd May 2023

L.O. To learn to plan my own version of Jim and the Beanstalk.

Skills:

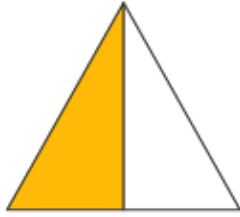
- 1.) I can rehearse the Jim and the Beanstalk story.
- 2.) I can split the story into sections and identify the key words for each part of the story.
- 3.) I can box up the story writing in full sentences.

| Key parts | Original | Adapted version |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Setting | Giant's castle | |
| | beanstalk | sunflower |
| Characters | Jim | Josephine |
| | Mum | Dad and Great Grandma |
| | Giant | |
| What does the Giant give him/her for breakfast? | Beer and beef | Pancakes and passion fruit juice. |
| | | |
| | | |

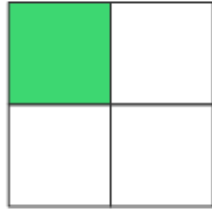
In Maths, we have been learning to find different fractions of amounts and have been trying to understand the difference between unit and non-unit fractions.

Here are some super examples.

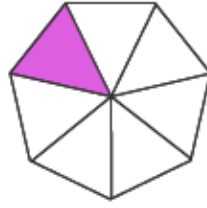
Unit Fractions



$$\frac{1}{2}$$

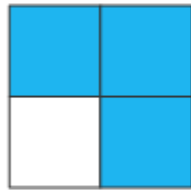


$$\frac{1}{4}$$



$$\frac{1}{7}$$

Non-Unit Fractions



$$\frac{3}{4}$$



$$\frac{3}{8}$$



$$\frac{2}{3}$$

In Art, the children have been studying the work of Monet and have been recreating his 'Bridge over a Pond of Water Lilies,' work. Here are some super examples.



Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Berners-Lee have had another fantastic week of learning!

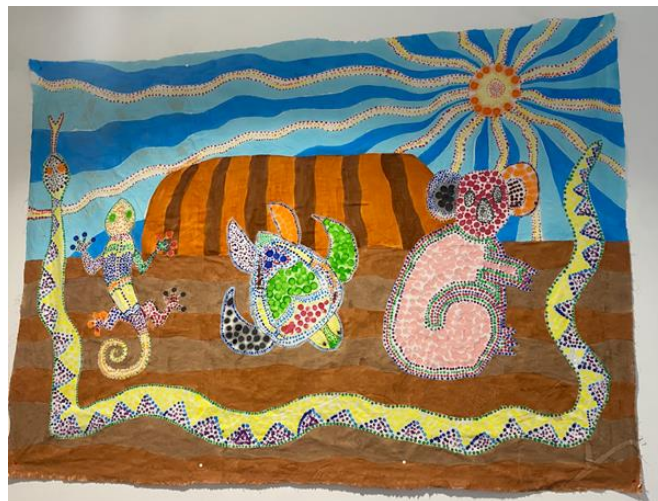
In English, the pupils have learnt to use **adverbs** for time, place and cause as well as recapping how to punctuate dialogue. At the end of the week, the pupils summarised the main events of the Mount Vesuvius eruption and they planned time and place adverbials to use in their newspaper.

In Maths this week, the children have learnt to find fractions of objects. They used their knowledge of the numerator and denominator to know which number to divide by and how many groups to look at. This fraction learning was quite challenging however all the children showed lots of perseverance and resilience!

In Art, the pupils used acrylic paint or oil pastels to complete their work inspired by Hokusai's Great Wave. All the pupils are really excited to get their artwork framed and to see it at the school Art Gallery.



We have also completed our Aboriginal inspired artwork from World Art Day.



This week in Science, the pupils learnt about the different types of skeletons animals have. They identified and classified animals into **vertebrates** and **invertebrates** and then they were challenged to classify animals based on if they had an endoskeleton, exoskeleton or hydrostatic skeleton.



In RE, the pupils explored the story of Noah and how Noah and his family may have felt during the events of the story.

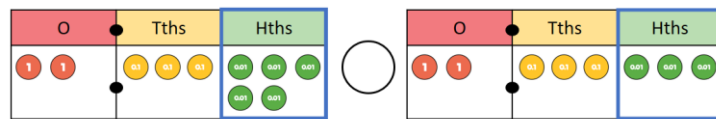
This week in PSHE, they explored gender stereotypes in families.

Year 4 (Hopper Class)

This week in English, we have built towards our biography about Howard Carter and his significance in history. This started off with learning the features of a biography so that we knew what we needed to include and how to make it appealing to the reader. We then conducted a little bit of research into who Howard Carter was and found out lots of interesting facts so that we could give the reader lots to be impressed about.



Building on we have learned over the last few weeks, we have comparing and ordering decimals in maths this week. To do this we have applied our understanding of place value and compare digits from the tenths and hundredths columns!



The values in the **ones** column are the same, so I need to look at the values in the **tenths** column.

The values in the **tenths** column are the same, so I need to look at the values in the **hundredths** column.

This week moved onto how we can programme and code repeating algorithms to create shapes and the children had a tremendous amount of success as well as finding some funny 'bugs' in their code.



Our Science learning this week was all about 'how do we hear sound'. The children listened and took part in a very thought-provoking experiment on what sound is, how it travels, the difference between loud sounds and quiet sounds so that they could create an informative drama script to perform for their classmates. They did a fantastic job too!





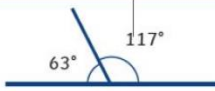
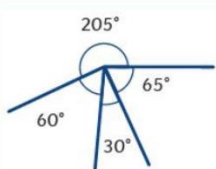
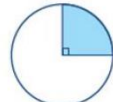



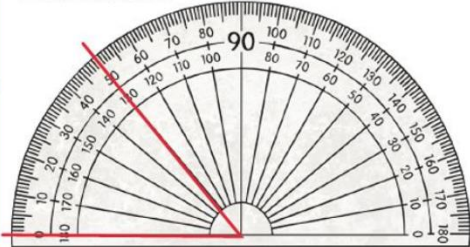
In History, we looked at the question; Why was the River Nile so important to the Ancient Egyptian civilisation? The children took time to research and understand the significant role the River Nile played in ensuring the Ancient Egyptians flourished in Northeast Africa.

Year 5 (Jackson Class)

Another busy week in Jackson class! In English this week, we've been really focusing on our use of words to create **cohesion** in our writing and the children have used a range of **adverbial phrases** to describe a particularly gruesome scene from Beowulf. The class have taken great effort to choose effective vocabulary to

create a certain mood in their writing and they have been very entertaining to read.

In Maths, we have moved onto looking at our next topic of 'Shape' and we have learnt about angles. We can now classify angles and estimate the size of them based on our knowledge of acute, right, obtuse and reflex angles. On Friday, we learnt how to measure angles using a protractor!

| Identifying Angles | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Acute Angles Any angle that measures less than 90° is called an acute angle. |  | Obtuse Angles Any angle that measures greater than 90° and less than 180° is called an obtuse angle. | |
|  | Reflex Angles Any angle that measures greater than 180° is called a reflex angle. | | |
|  Angles on a straight line always total 180° . |  Angles around a point always total 360° . | Measuring and Drawing Angles To measure angles, we use a protractor. Look carefully at how the numbers on the scale count from 0° to 180° in both directions. | |
| Multiples of 90° can be used as descriptions of a turn. | | | |
|  $\frac{1}{4}$ turn - 90° |  $\frac{1}{2}$ turn - 180° |  $\frac{3}{4}$ turn - 270° |  1 turn - 360° |
|  | | | |

We really enjoyed finishing our sunset pictures ready for the whole school class gallery in Art. Our final pieces looked absolutely stunning and we cannot wait to see them mounted and framed soon.



In RE this week, we were introduced to a non-religious group known as the Humanists. We explored their code for living and made comparisons with Christian codes for living. The children had to imagine what a world would be like if everybody followed Humanist or Christian codes for living, the benefits and drawbacks of this and then evaluated whether they could work alongside each other.

Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)

It has been a wonderful week in Gutenberg class! We have continued with all our hard work in preparation for formal assessments next week. In English, we have been reviewing our understanding of parenthesis and how it can be shown using commas, dashes and brackets. We have also been practising our use of sign language to help us recall the differences between the Simple, Perfect and Progressive tense. You might want to support this at home by asking your child to show you what signs we use to help us remember and what they mean.

In Maths, we have continued to strengthen our use of problem-solving skills as we have worked hard on carefully reading, breaking down and completing a range of multi-step problems. Continuing to practise calculations at home will also help to support this.

In Art, we have been able to complete our own recreations of Peter Max's landscape artworks to be used for the St Gabriel's Art Gallery later this term! It has been wonderful to see the children create such meaningful pieces and we can already tell how proud they will be when they see their finished product!



In Science, we have been continuing our exploration of Evolution and Inheritance by asking the question "Why do living things look and act the way they do now?" First, we remembered how all living things are different from one another and these different characteristics can either be helpful or unhelpful in allowing them to adapt and survive within their environment. We then extended this as we explored Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace's theory of evolution through Natural Selection and we did this by playing the 'Natural Selection Game'. This was a very

tricky game which required each of us to become 'birds' with different 'beaks'. Over a few rounds, we were able to notice that one specific 'beak' shape was more helpful in getting grains of rice, which led to a change in our 'bird' population. Overall, this helped us to explore quite a tricky topic in an easier way and by the end we were able to understand the theory much better!



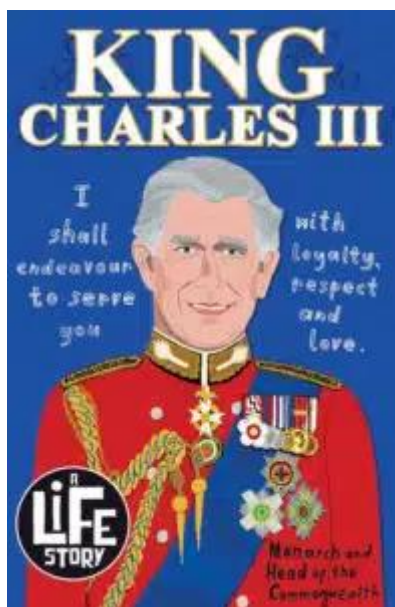
Other News

We are currently preparing artwork; which is going to be mounted and framed and then exhibited as part of a whole school art gallery. After school on **Thursday 18th May**, we will be welcoming families into the school as part of a St Gabriel's art gallery. The exhibition will be showcasing children's work and there will be an opportunity to buy your child's originals.

This week in Angels, we have been talking about the King's coronation! We have made our very own bunting to display, creating silhouettes of King Charles III. Throughout this week we have been playing lots of games together. The older children have enjoyed teaching the younger children how to play Uno and Dobble! It has been wonderful to see children of different ages mixing so well.



Recommended Read



This week in celebration of the Coronation, our text is all about our new monarch. Read all about the life of King Charles III, from his early days at boarding school and watching his mother become queen to his dedicated work as an environmental activist and becoming king himself, this book will take you on a royal tour through King Charles III's life. Did you know that Charles has a frog named after him? Or that he's a qualified pilot and diver? How about that Charles is an accomplished artist?

Online Safety

This week's online safety tip is all about **smartwatches**. [National Online Safety](#) have released an infographic that weighs up the pros and cons of this very accessible technology.

Family Information Service Newsletter

The Family Information Service supports families across Warwickshire with advice and information. You can get in touch with the team by [emailing \[fis@warwickshire.gov.uk\]\(mailto:emailing_fis@warwickshire.gov.uk\)](mailto:emailing_fis@warwickshire.gov.uk), calling 0800 408 1558 or finding support on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies.

Each week, the Family Information Service produce a newsletter with useful information for families. Click [here](#) to read this week's newsletter.



Celebration Assembly – Friday 12th May

Come join us next week to see work from Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5.



St Gabriel's CofE Academy, Houlton Way, Houlton, Rugby, CV23 1AN

✉ office@stgabrielscofeacademy.org ☎ 01788 222405