



Weekly Learning Update 14th October 2022

Nursery

Our children in nursery this week have been superstars, we have been practicing how we count, singing number rhymes and the children have been great at correcting the grown-ups if we count wrong!

The children have been getting on really well in phonics - and identifying a range of different sounds and having a go at predicting what the sound is.

We have continued with mark making our name dinosaurs and the children think it has been brilliant that they have used their photo for the dinosaur face.

As Autumn is here, we have been talking about and looking at leaves, conkers, acorns and the changes that take place - Our conker run in the garden has been a huge success this week and it has been brilliant to see the children problem solve and work out ways to make the conkers travel faster and further. If you are out and about this weekend please collect some Autumn leaves, conkers and acorns.

It has been amazing to see the children independently carrying out and repeating the tasks this week. Well done Nursery!



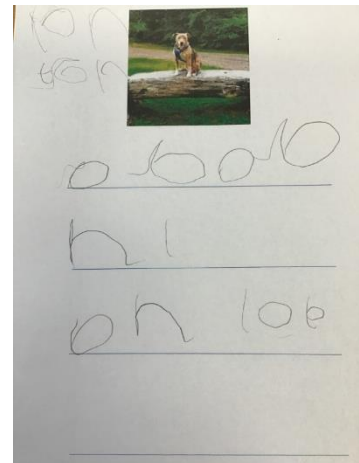
Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

In reception this week, we have had a lovely time using our senses to explore the pumpkins in the sensory area. We have been investigating the changes that we see in autumn, using the magnifying glasses to look closely at conkers, acorns and leaves. What a hit our cutting area has been this week! Where we have been making our own worry monster puppets.



In maths we have been learning how to subitise. *The children are great at recognising small amounts without counting them, maybe they could show you using a dice?*

In English, we have taken a big leap in our writing, moving onto to writing our first sentences. We have used our sentence fingers to throw down the words and our phoneme fingers to hear the phonemes in each of those words. Finally, we had a go at writing our sentences.



Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

Within our Phonics this week we have learnt the phonemes 'ow', 'oi', 'ear', 'air' and 'ure'.

In Maths, we have been continuing to deepen our understanding of comparing objects and numbers as well as ordering numbers using the terms and signs for 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to.'

In English, we were very excited as we received a letter from Floella and Marmie's on Monday and the children then planned and wrote letters back explaining about themselves, the school, their favourite food and the weather!

In Science, the children enjoyed exploring with their senses and in Humanities they worked really hard with creating their own maps of Houlton.



Year 2 (Braille Class)

We have had another super week.

In phonics, we have been learning alternative pronunciations for phase 5 phonemes:

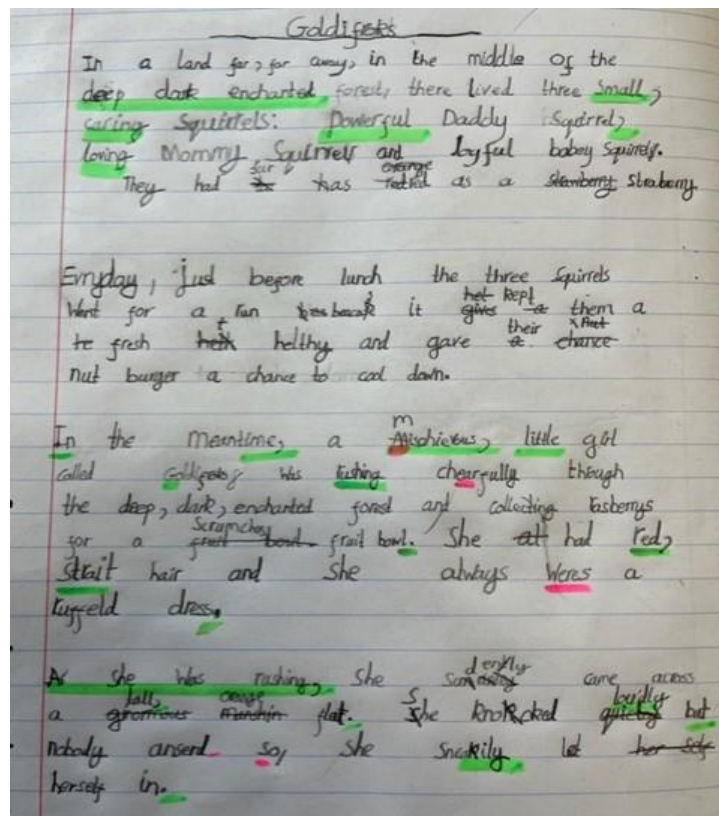
u for (yoo) in words like unit

ow for row and ow for cow

ea(ee) making e in words like bread and head

and ie as in ee in field.

In English, we have continued writing our own versions of Goldilocks adding extra details and changing the characters and the plot. Here is a super example:



In Maths, we have carried on with our topic of place value and have been counting in 2s, forwards and backwards using different resources.

In Science, we had lots of fun this week conducting our experiment to see which materials were waterproof and which would be the most suitable for making a raincoat for Goldilocks. Our results showed that the tissue and fabric were absorbent and the tinfoil and clingfilm were waterproof. We then had to decide which, out of the tinfoil and clingfilm, would be most suitable to make a raincoat

and discussed the fact that raincoats need to be flexible so the user can get it on easily so we decided that the clingfilm would be most suitable.

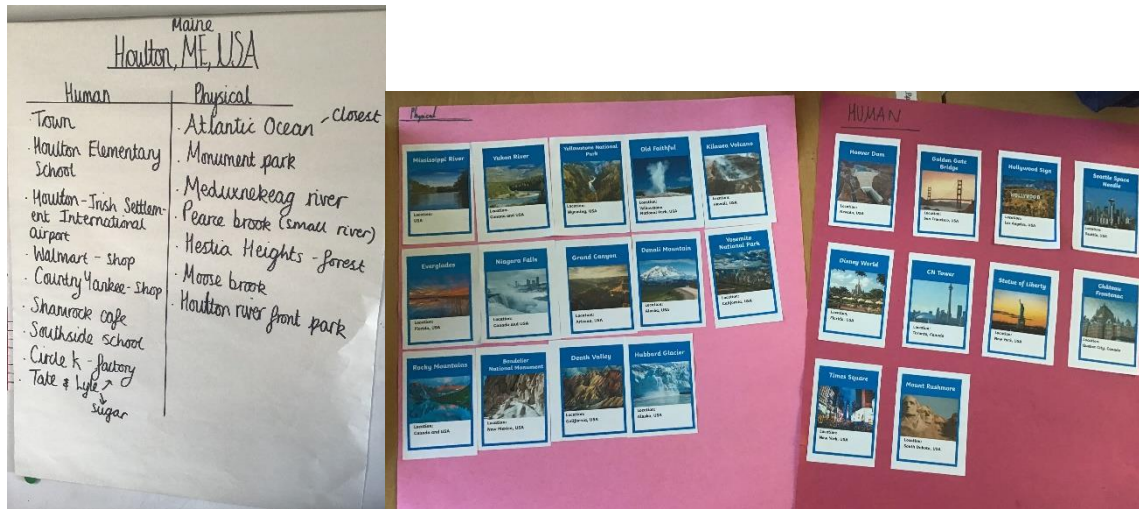


Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Berners-Lee have had another great week of learning especially in English and our afternoon lessons.

In English, the pupils have learnt how to write prepositional phrases to describe Leon when he enters the place between. In addition, they have learnt how to create conversations and punctuate direct speech accurately; I was really impressed with how accurate the pupils were with their punctuation.

In Geography, we learnt all about the physical and human features of North America and Houlton, Maine and the pupils really enjoyed using street view to explore the area.

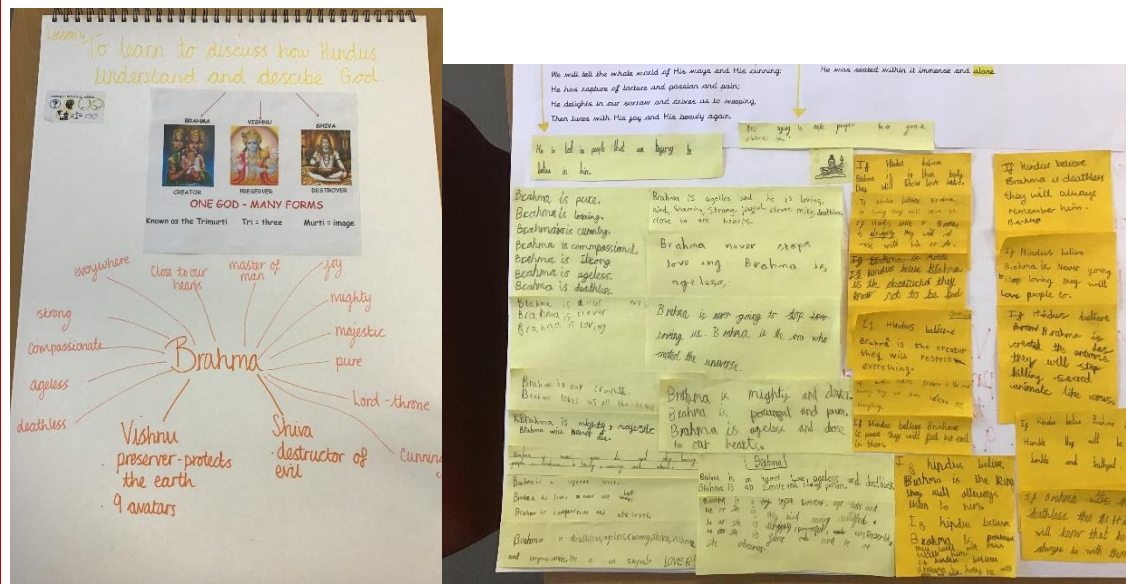


The pupils also had a really exciting science lesson this week as they learnt how fossils are made by creating their own fossils with bread and sea creature sweets. This supported the pupils in their understanding of the fossilisation process and ensured every pupil could describe all the steps clearly in their own words.



Finally, in RE, the pupils have learnt all about how Hindus describe their God Brahma. The pupils identified lots of words to describe Brahma from the poem

WHO by Sri Aurobindo. They then connected this learning to how Hindus live their lives.



Year 4 (Hopper Class)

In Hopper class this week, we have finished a read through of our topic book FARTHER and developed our description skills even further by using adverbial phrases for time as well as conjunction use to extend our sentences. In maths, we have worked hard on learning how to add and subtract up to 4-digit numbers including calculations with an exchange. Our DT lessons have seen us creating plans for our very own irrigation systems whilst making sure research helps to inform our product design. Our Hinduism theme for R.E. has allowed us to reflect upon how the goals for life for a Hindu may or may not align with our own personal beliefs and sparked an excellent debate. Science involved us executing the plan we created for an experiment about tooth decay in which we aim to see how different liquids affect a piece of chewing gum. We were also able to conduct some field research by walking through the Houlton area and noting down the different types of land uses that we could see. A very busy and successful week, well done Hopper Class!

Tooth Decay Investigation

I can use my existing science knowledge to make a prediction.

Question: Which liquid affects chewing gum the most?

Prediction: I predict that in the cola will along it the most, since it is fizzy and acidic.

Change: The type of liquid

Effect we are observing: how the chewing gum changes

Keep the same: the amount of liquid, type of chewing gum, storage area, type of chewing gum.

Equipment we will use:



Method:

1. Collect your equipment. After that, measure amount of liquid and pour into your container. Repeat this with all liquid types.
2. Next place your chewing gum into the containers. Now place your container in storage room. Observe changes at 7:00am every school day. Repeat each container, record observations on sheet each time.

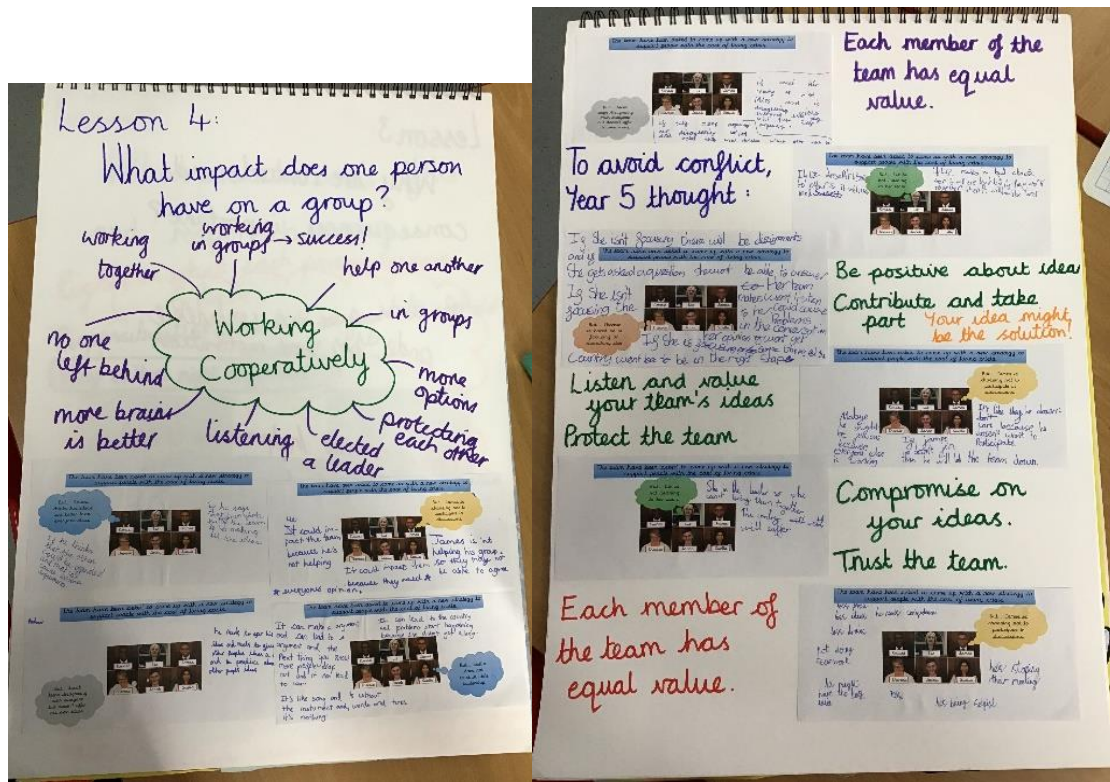


Year 5 (Jackson Class)

This week in Jackson Class, we have been working hard on uplevelling our writing in English. We have written a setting description based on the Odyssey and applied our skills of effective adjectives and prepositional phrases. Our Maths work has been quite challenging this week, focusing on using inverse calculations to find missing numbers and to make comparisons. The children have shown excellent perseverance to help them with this.

In Humanities this week, we were transported back to the rise of Greek civilisation as Corinth was being established. The children learnt all about the physical features of Greece with its steep mountain slopes and numerous islands. They had to problem solve as to how they could survive and make civilisation possible despite the challenges of the land's geography.

Finally, in PSHE, we were discussing the importance of an individual's behaviour when working in a group. We thought about Liz Truss and the government, how each member had a specific role to play and why it was important for them to work together to make a positive impact on the group's success. We found out that it was important to listen and trust the team, as well as being positive and contributing our own ideas.



Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)

This week has been a very busy week in Gutenberg class! In English, we started our new text *The Princess' Blankets*, written by Carol Ann Duffy. The children have begun to explore the powerful vocabulary used by the author and considered its impact on the reader. They have also written some persuasive letters as the stony-eyed stranger to the kind, convincing him to let them into his kingdom.

In Maths, we have been very brave this week exploring a new skill of Long Division! It has been great to see the children progress each day with their use of this new skill and development of some interesting sayings to help remember the steps to solving these calculations.

In French, we have been exploring the topic of 'School' and how to ask and answer questions about subjects. This week, the children developed their skill of asking "Est-ce que tu aimes . . ." to their partner and answering correctly using responses, such as "Oui, J'adore la musique!"

Recommended Read

Rather than recommending a book this week, we would like to recommend an author. Jackie Morris is an artist and writer. She is well known for her stunning watercolour artworks and loves to walk near her home by the sea, watching and dreaming of bears and whales.



Online Safety

The number of households in the United Kingdom subscribing to Netflix has reached over 17 million active accounts during 2022. This helpful [guide](#) from Parentzone will help to make sure your children stay safe whilst enjoying their latest episode or movie.

Celebration Assembly – Friday 21st October 2022

Come join us next Friday at 10:15am to celebrate more amazing learning from Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5!



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

✉ office@stgabrielscofeacademy.org ☎ 01788 222405