



Weekly Learning Update 17 March 2023

Nursery

Nursery have had an amazing, busy week.

We've enjoyed Science Week by taking part in various science experiments including making coloured rain, bubbly fireworks, rainbows, observing bulbs growing in our garden and using cars with guttering to see which one travels the furthest.

As part of English this week, we have been re-telling 'Handa's hen' and creating sequence pictures. We created a book called 'Rory's rabbit', where the children helped to think of words and find animals dotted around our room, this was set up in a similar way to the Handa's hen book.

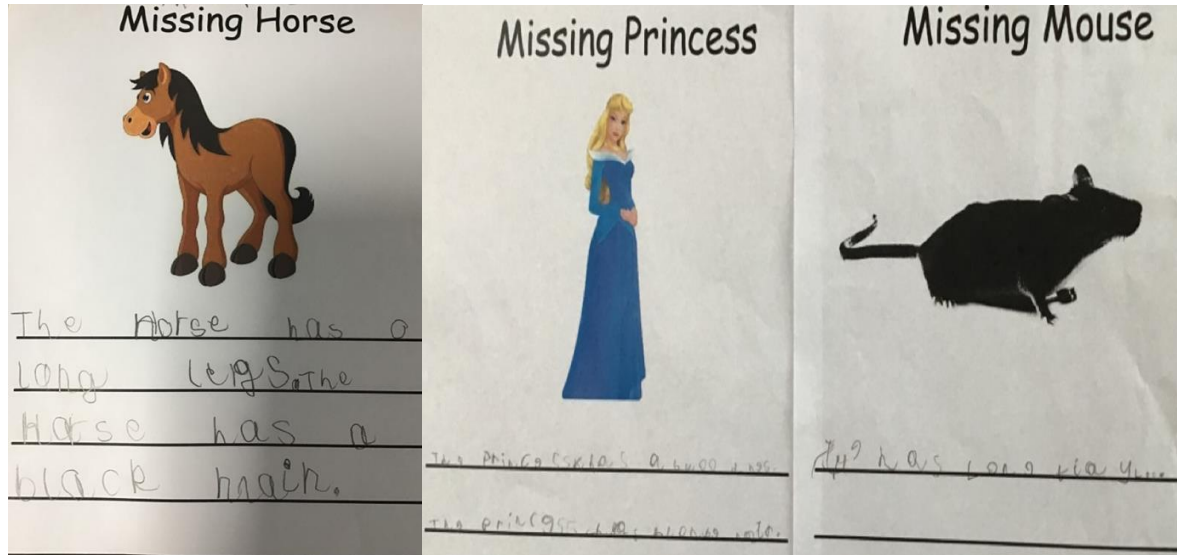
A lovely way to end the week was where we welcomed in lots of lovely mums and nans as part of our Mother's Day celebration. It was great to see so many of you join in and get involved with some craft activities and share some scones with cream, jam and fresh strawberries.

We wish you all a Happy Mother's Day ♥

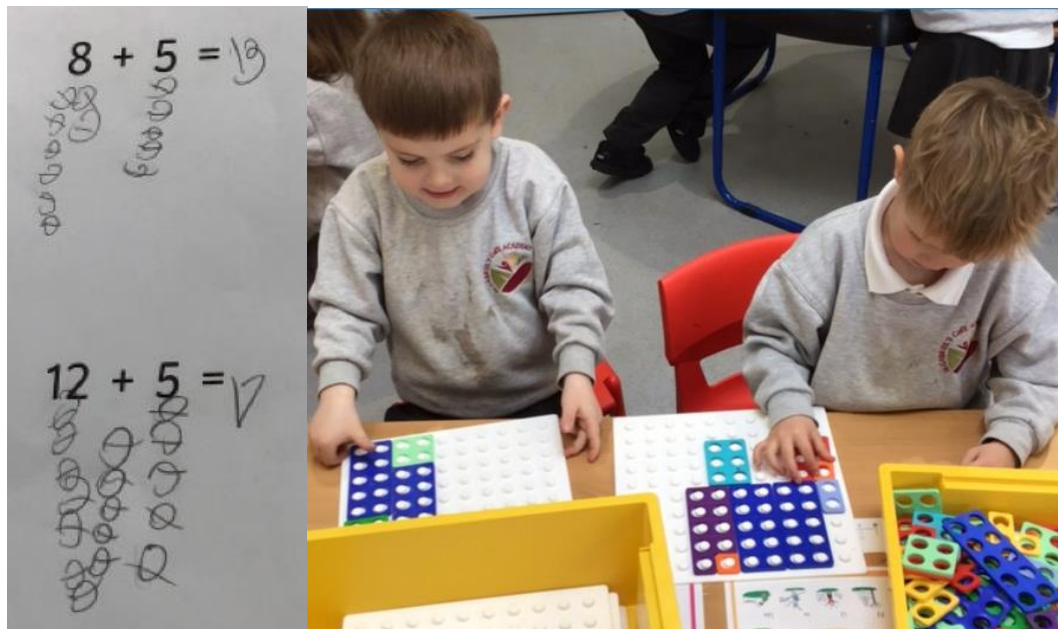


Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

This week we have enjoyed creating missing posters for characters from our book 'George and the Dragon'. We have really focussed on introducing describing words to our writing.



In Maths, we have been starting to add by counting on from different numbers. Numicon is a great resource for this and the children have really enjoyed this new learning.



In Phonics, we recapped **ee**, **igh**, **oa**, and **oo**.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

We are so proud of all of Year 1 this week as they have been completing their assessments in Maths, Reading and Phonics. They have all done a wonderful job and should be very proud of themselves.

In English, we have been looking at our new unit 'Once Upon a World' where we looked at four key traditional fairy tales: Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel and The Princess and the Pea. We looked at identifying key features in these fairy tales and the use of story language. We have also looked in-depth as Cinderella being the protagonist and looked at creating a character profile for her based on appearance, personality and dreams and goals.



In Maths, we have consolidated our knowledge and skills in our unit 'Place Value to 50' and have looked at finding one more and one less to any given number between 0 and 50.

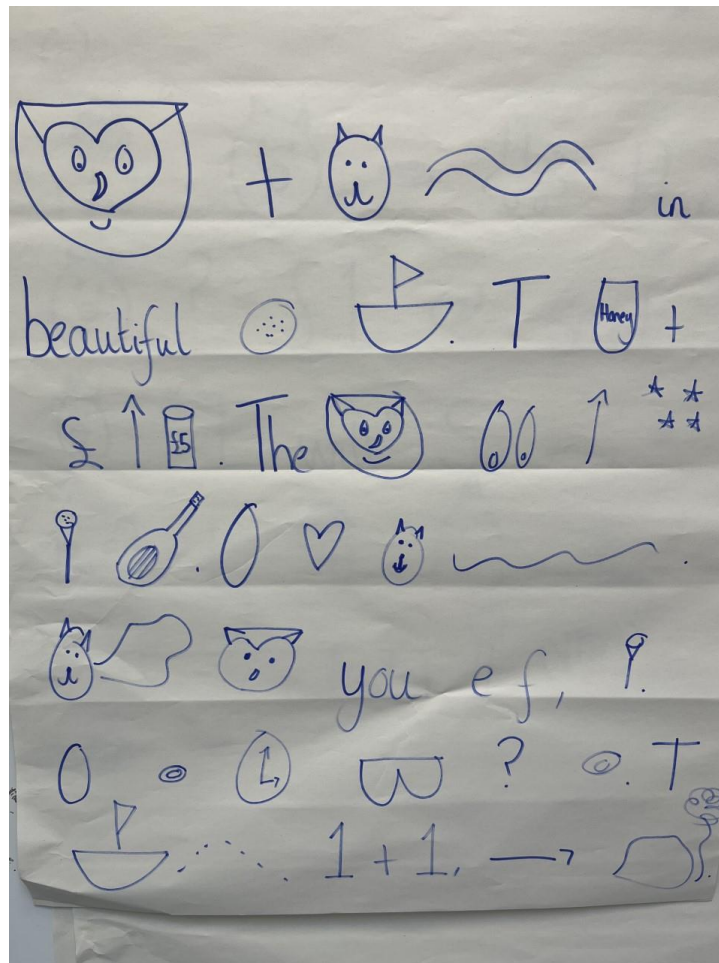
In Science, we have continued our unit on 'Materials'. The children enjoyed answering questions about materials and deciding which material would be best to make various objects. The children also enjoyed an immersive experience using our 'Now-Press-Play' resource where the children were exploring a magical material land.

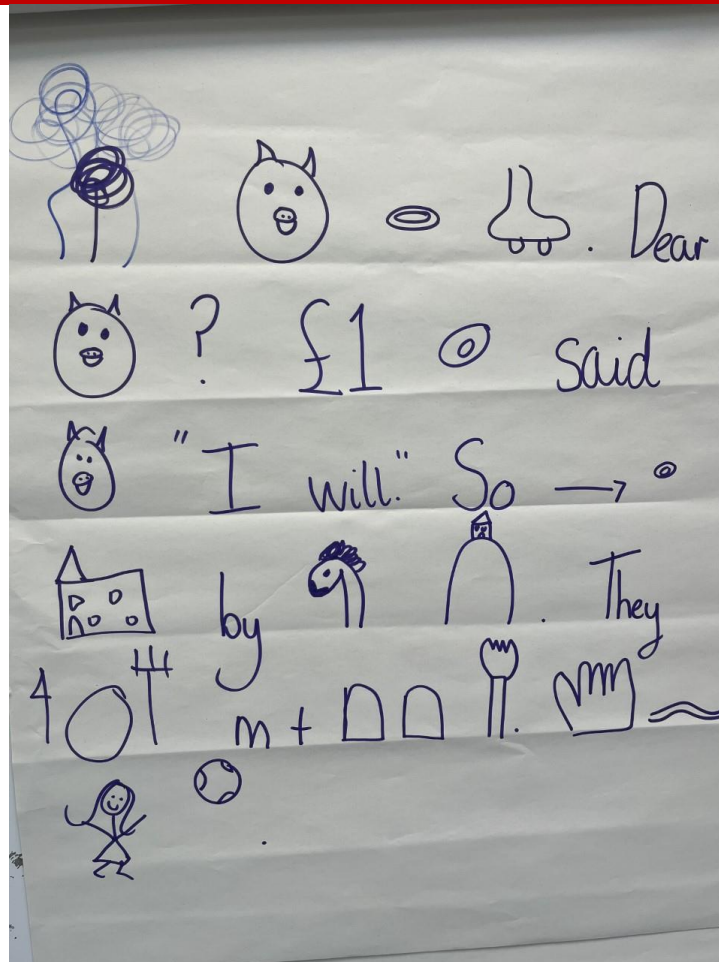
In RE, we have looked at our focus religion of 'Judaism' and explored ways to understand their key beliefs about God.

Year 2 (Braille Class)

This week we have been completing assessments in Maths and Reading and I am so proud of all of the children. They have worked super-duper hard and have showed fantastic resilience and have made great progress!

In English we started our new book 'The Owl and the Pussy-cat,' by Edward Lear and learnt the poem off by heart using actions. Here is our story map. ***See if your child can use the story map to retell the poem.***





In Maths we finished off our topic on division and answered worded problems using our chosen strategy.

In History, we started learning about Christopher Columbus and the different significant events in his life.

3rd August 1492	12th October 1492	1492
<p>In 1492 he sailed with 3 ships the Nina, Pinta and the Santa Maria.</p>	<p>In 1492 he arrived at the Bahamas but he thought he was in India and he called the people Indians.</p>	<p>In 1492 he came back with no gold but Christopher Columbus got tomatoes, pineapples, turkeys, potatoes and coconuts.</p>

Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

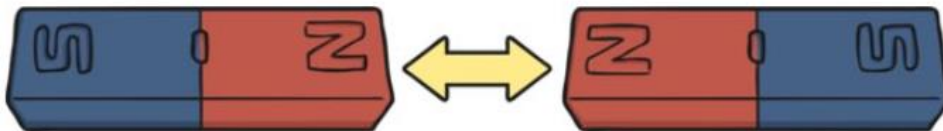
Throughout this week, Year 3 have worked incredibly hard on their Reading, Writing and Maths assessments and I am so proud of the progress they are making in all of their learning.

In Art, the pupils have continued studying Stonehenge and this week they have learnt to use chalk pastels to blend colours and create different tones. They then used black pastels to create silhouettes of Stonehenge and they were challenged to create perspective in their artwork.



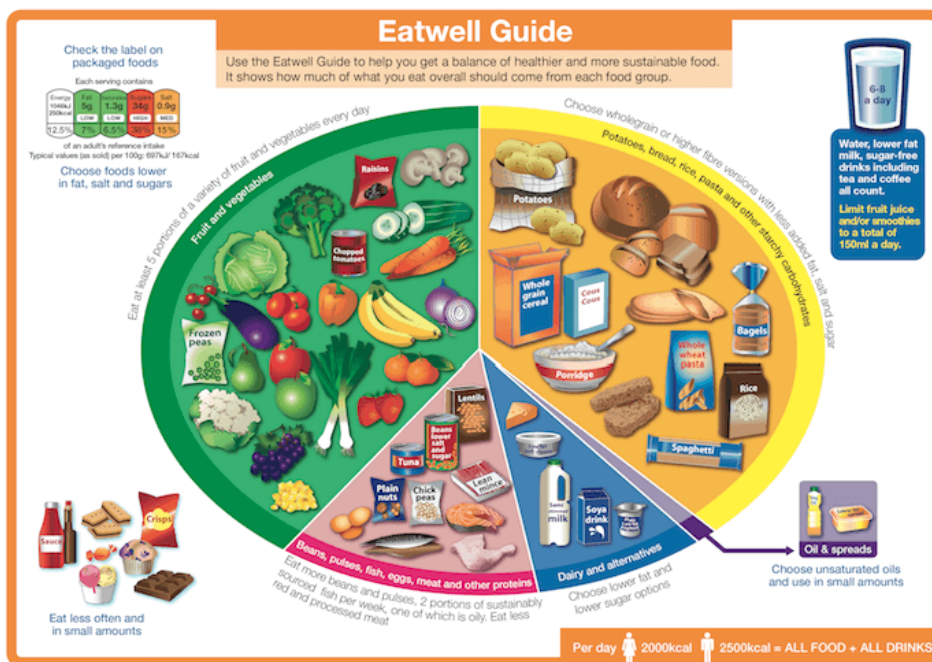
In Geography, we learnt the physical features of Wiltshire and they learnt to identify places on the map. They learnt the names of several rivers, woods and forests in Wiltshire as well as learning that Wiltshire has chalky soil.

In Science, the pupils explored how a magnetic force works observing that opposite poles attract and the same poles repel. The pupils had lots of fun observing and identifying patterns in the way different magnets attract and repel each other and other items in the room.



In RE, we have learnt all about the life of Lay Buddhists and monks which is part of our unit on Buddhism.

In PSHE, we have considered the very important topic of healthy eating. The pupils studied 'The Eatwell Plate' and considered why it is so important to ensure people eat a balanced diet.



Source: Public Health England in association with the Welsh government, Food Standards Scotland and the Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland

© Crown copyright 2016

Year 4 (Hopper Class)

Year 4 have worked really hard this week and tackled each assessment with determination and a great growth mindset.

We were very fortunate to have visitor to take us on a learning journey all about the Romans and their fantastic achievements. We revisited how Rome came to be with the legend of Romulus and Remus; we learned all about the conflicts of the empire and how the power of those in charge wasn't all that easy whilst also getting to play 'Delta' - an ancient Roman board game. We were also able to hold a real Roman gladius and see other Roman equipment. We re-enacted the great rebellion of Boudicca and our day ended with gladiatorial battles with foam swords and shields! There were some epic showdowns!

In RE, we looked at how temptation can make it difficult to make the right choice with 'The Fall' and 'Jesus tested in the wilderness' from the Bible. We talked about religious guidance like the ten commandments can be used to help when faced with tough decisions.

In Humanities, we developed our understanding of what Roman Baths were like. We looked at the different types of rooms, their purpose, who used the Roman Baths and how the Romans got their fresh spring water if there were no nearby sources.



A successful and tough week, well done for showing such fantastic resilience and determination Hopper Class!

Year 5 (Jackson Class)

Year 5 have been working really hard in their Spring Term assessments this week and I am very excited and proud to see the progress the whole class is making as we move swiftly through the year.

Alongside our assessments this week, we have been able to learn about figurative language in English and how this can be used to build up more effective description in narratives. We had a go at using our own examples to describe space! In Maths, we have continued our work on decimals, looking specifically at decimals up to three decimal places and ordering and comparing decimals.

In D&T this week, we started to build their own rockets using recyclable materials from home – thank you to all the families that donated some materials for this! We are looking forward to continuing with the make next week and then testing them out in our final lesson.

We had a very interesting History lesson on Tuesday, where we learnt that to be an effective historian we have to look at historical sources critically because they are not as reliable as we may think. We learnt about how sources could be biased or could miss out important information. An example of this was associated with the first flight of a motor power plane by the Wright Brothers. While history remembers their achievements as aviators, history does not tell the full story of their sister, Katharine Wright, who actually financed and supported her brothers to complete this new adventure! We looked at an actual newspaper clipping from the day after the event in 1903 and we had a go at rewriting the headlines to change history so that Katharine would be remembered alongside her brother!



In PSHE this week, the children learnt about emergency first aid and learnt how to use the recovery position for people who are unconscious but still breathing! An excellent skill for life!

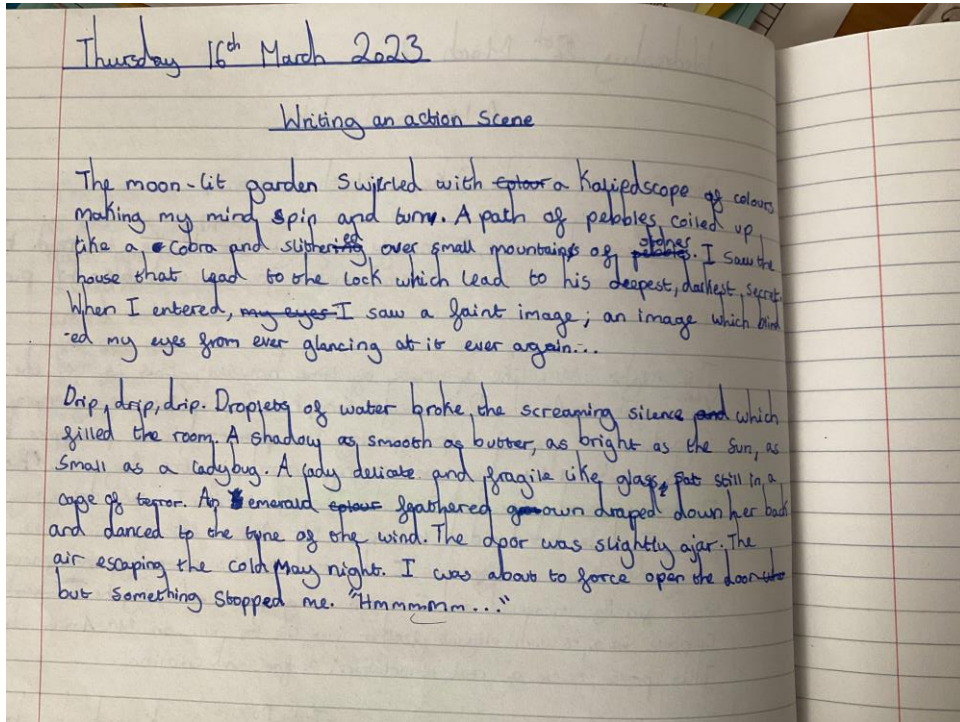


Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)

It has been a very busy week this week in Gutenberg as the children have worked so hard in their Grammar, Reading, Maths and Writing assessments! It has been great to take a moment each day to celebrate how we have progressed over the last term and how much our confidence has grown!

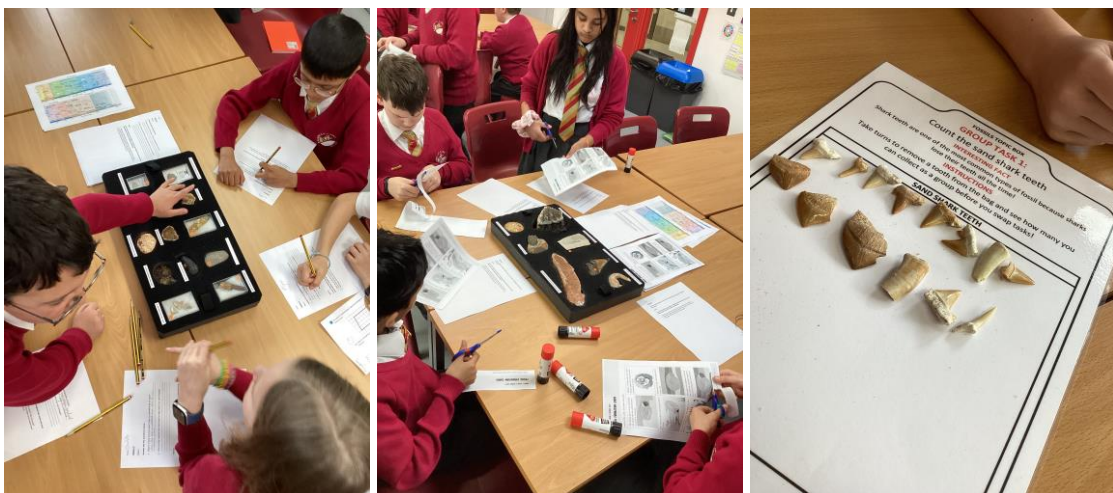
In Maths, we have become masters of calculating the area of triangles and parallelograms as well as finding the volume of cuboids. Next week, we will move onto our next topic on Statistics as we will learn about line graphs, pie charts and finding the mean and mode.

In English, we have been using our writing skills to rewrite our very own action scenes, using a range of descriptive devices.



This will be applied to our writing lessons next week as we begin to plan our own Gothic style narratives.

Finally, in Science, we have continued our learning about Evolution and Inheritance through our exploration of fossils as evidence of life in the past. We were very lucky to be able to have a fossil box sent to us and the children had an amazing time handling, observing, sorting and comparing genuine fossils, using a geological time scale to help. Fossils included a megalodon tooth, ammonites, pyrite, trilobites and a mammoth tusk just to name a few! All in all, it was a great experience as each child was able to understand how fossils help palaeontologists make connections between living things in the modern day and past life.



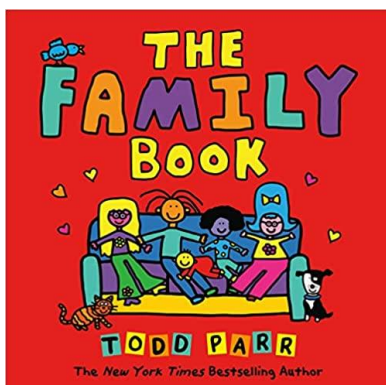


Other News

In Angels Club, Miss Buggins and Miss Fuller wanted to give the children the opportunity to bake some cakes. The children had a great time and are keen to do more baking in the future!



Recommended Read



This week, our book is in celebration of all our wonderful families which we have the pleasure to serve. 'The Family Book' by Todd Parr celebrates the love we feel for our families and his message is all about the importance of embracing our differences. With his trademark bold, bright colours and silly scenes, this book will encourage children to ask questions about their own families.

Online Safety

National Online Safety have put together a great guide on developing healthy online habits! Find out more [here](#).

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 24th March

Come join us next week to see work from Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6.



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

✉ office@stgabrielscofeacademy.org ☎ 01788 222405