



## Weekly Learning Update 21 April 2023

### Nursery

It has been so wonderful to welcome everyone back after the Easter holidays and to hear all the lovely things you have been doing. Thank you for the tapestry updates and photos the children really do love to see and discuss what everyone has been doing. The nursery children have been so lucky this week to have had a visit to the reception classrooms to observe some eggs that have hatched in to chicks, this was so exciting to see. The children returned to nursery and have drawn some lovely pictures and had a go at making nests. We have started to talk about the life cycle of the hen and will continue with this briefly. Next week we are hoping to be able to watch the chick on the carpet and say 'hello'. This week we have also started looking at elements of our next book focus which is 'Jasper's beanstalk' and this week we have been introducing measuring to the children using tape and cubes. Over the coming weeks we will also be planting our own beanstalks and sunflowers for you to take home and maybe have a growing competition to see how tall they grow. The children have also been getting creative as we started our art gallery pictures ready to be showcased in the hall in May - look out for more information soon. On Friday we finished off the week by talking about the celebration of Eid ul-fitr as it is now the end of Ramadan, the children created some beautiful pictures and sampled some delicious dates. In the afternoon Mrs Chand came to see us so that we could say 'good luck' as she starts her maternity leave and gets ready to welcome her bundle of joy. The children have been busy drawing some pictures of what they think the baby will look like to form a giant card.



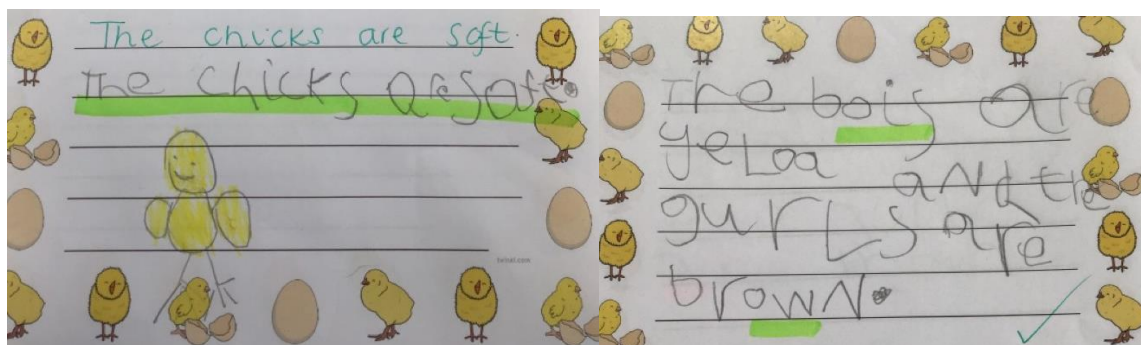
## Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

We have had a lovely first week back after the Easter break! The children have loved welcoming the new additions to the classroom, the living eggs. Most eggs have now hatched, and it has been fantastic to see the children engage with the life cycle of chickens.



This has inspired the children to produce some amazing work in the learning areas such as split-pin chicks. Furthermore, the children have enjoyed planting in the role-play area.

This week in Maths, the children have started learning number bonds to ten. During English, the children have started looking at facts about chickens linked our visiting eggs.



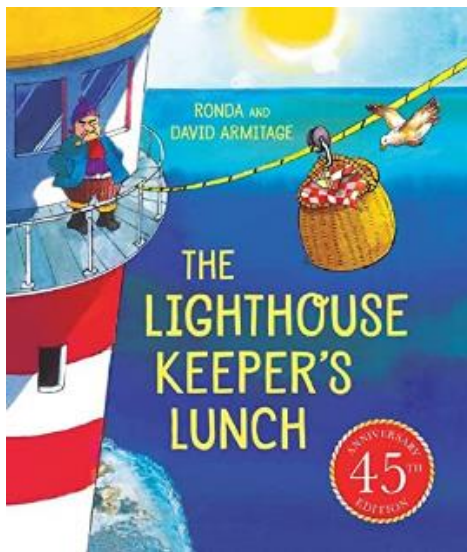
During phonics, we have revisited the phonemes **igh**, **ear**, **air** and **ure**.

## Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

It has been a fantastic first week back!

In Phonics, we have continued to consolidate phase 5 phonemes and been retrieving information of taught split digraphs.

In English, we have started our new unit linked to our topic 'By the Seaside' and introduced the children to 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' by Ronda and David Armitage. The children have created their own predictions about the text based on the front cover. They also started thinking about what a setting was and how retelling a story, understanding where the story is taking place is important.



In Maths, we have been counting in different multiples. We began focusing on the pattern of counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. The children have really enjoyed exploring the pattern of counting within these multiples and grouping objects as well. We have shared a song with the children, which they have really enjoyed. See if your child can participate by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/ks1-maths-counting-with-john-farnworth/zbct8xs>

In History, we have looked at the key figure Robert Stevenson, who engineered and built over 150 lighthouses around Scotland. The children were fascinated to learn about the significance of lighthouses and key facts about the Bell Rock lighthouse. ***Can your child share any facts with you?***



In PE, we began our new topic of 'invasion games.' We began this unit by practising throwing and catching and manoeuvring.



## Year 2 (Braille Class)

We have had a super start to the week.

In phonics we learnt that:

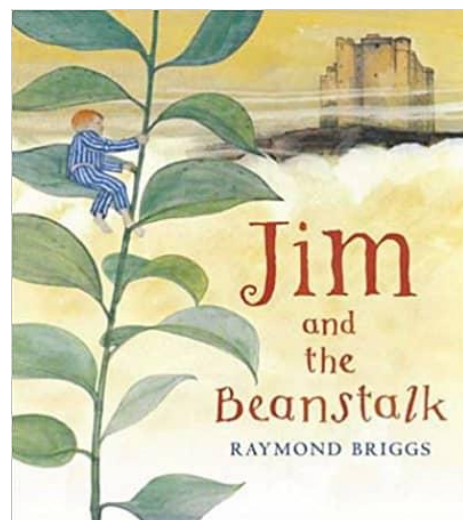
-il makes the phoneme l in words like evil, civil and pupil.

-ture makes the phoneme cher in words like picture and chor in words like immature.

We then focused on reading for fluency and have been practising the skills of retrieving information from a text and understanding the meaning of key vocab.

In English, we started our new book 'Jim and the Beanstalk,' and the children have been predicting and inferring. We also started writing our own openings for the story and added extra detail using expanded non phrases and similes.

In Maths, we started our new topic of fractions and have been learning to understand the difference between a whole and a part and have been finding half of a shape and quantity.







In Humanities, the children learnt about Robert Falcon Scott and why he was important. They then used different resources to create a fact file all about him.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HosGqMXSeWk>

Watch the link above to remind yourselves about him and why he is important.

### **Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)**

This week, Year 3 have settled back into school brilliantly showing a mature attitude to their learning which will help them as they continue to make progress in our final term.

In English, we have begun one of my favourite books, *Escape from Pompeii*, which is based on the tragic events of AD79 when Mount Vesuvius erupted. In our first lesson, the pupils were challenged to discover and predict the plot based on the clues they had been given. The pupils were very excited to be detectives and they came up with very imaginative predictions based on the clues they had been given. This week, they also learnt how to use a possessive apostrophe applying this knowledge when writing a diary entry linked to a character in our book.

In Maths, we have completed our unit 'Mass and Capacity' and after two weeks off I was very impressed with the key knowledge and skills the pupils had retained.

This week, they learnt how to find equivalent volumes and how to compare volume and capacity. Finally, they learnt to add and subtract capacities.

In Science, we commenced our new unit 'Animals including humans' by learning about the 5 main food groups and the importance of a balanced diet. The pupils learnt why each food group is important in order to keep our bodies healthy.

In Art, the pupils studied 'The Great Wave off Kanagawa' by the Japanese artist Hokusai. Initially, they learnt about Hokusai's childhood and how he developed his artistic talent. They also studied several pieces from his collection 'The 36 view of Mount Fuji'. Then they sketched and painted their own version of 'The Great Wave' using their own ideas.

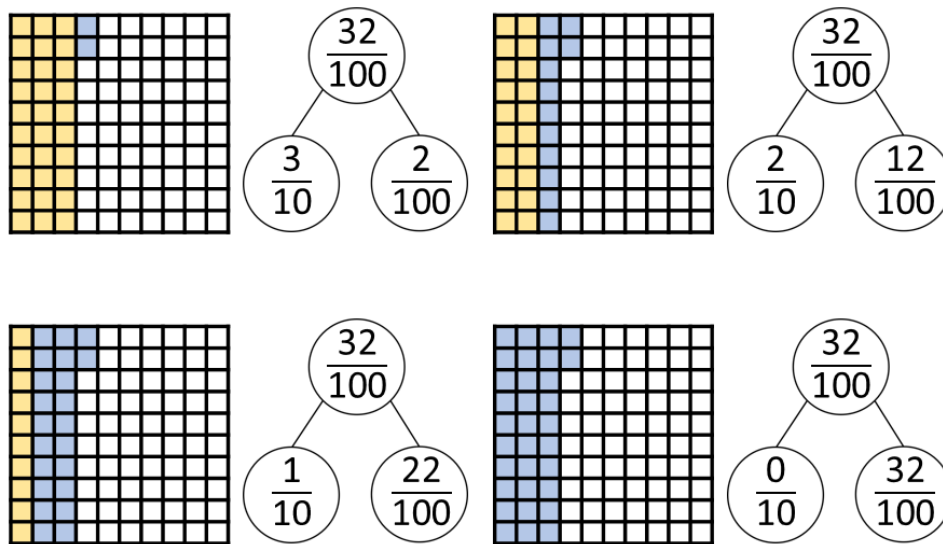


## Year 4 (Hopper Class)

It has been a flying start to our learning this half term and the children have shown just how keen and excited they are!

In English, we have started to look at our new theme book 'The story of Tutankhamun'. We have looked at the lifestyle of Ancient Egyptians and compared it with our own and carried out some further research into a category that piqued our interest to find out more interesting facts.

We have continued to develop our understanding of decimals in our Maths lessons this week by exploring what happens to 1-digit and 2-digit numbers when we divide by 10 as well as looking at the relationship between tenths and hundredths.

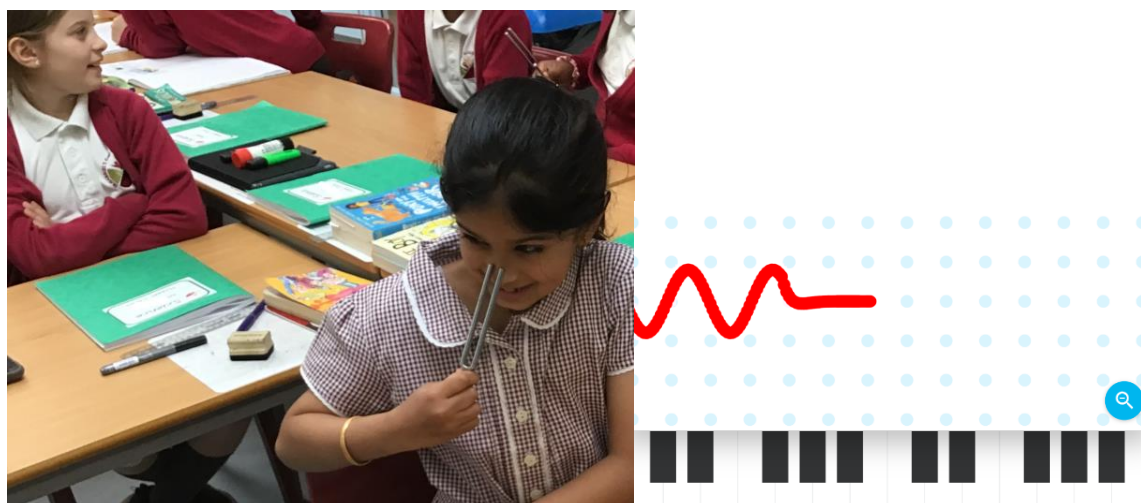


During our Computing lesson this week we looked at how to programme and code a repeated set of instructions and the impact that would have on a screen turtle. There was lots of debugging and collaboration occurring during what was a very tricky lesson!



We have also started a new topic within our Science learning this term, Sound. The children focussed on what a sound was and how it travels from its source to our ear.

We carried out fun practical experiments to feel sounds and we also looked at the visual representation of what sounds are and how they move.



Humanities saw us look at the Egyptian civilisation and create a physical timeline so we could see just how far the Egyptian empire spanned through time. We then compared this duration of time to other concurrently occurring civilisations and empires as well as what Britain was like during that time.



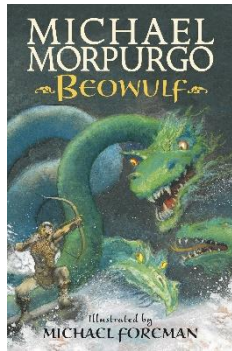
Well done on a great start to our Summer term Hopper Class!



## Year 5 (Jackson Class)

It has been lovely to see Jackson class return after the Easter holidays with a fantastic attitude and enthusiasm for learning. We have had a brilliant first week together, which makes me excited for what is to come for the rest of this term!

In English, we have started a brand new text called 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo, which is a legend story over 1000 years old! We made predictions about who Beowulf could have been then analysed the opening of the narrative and how this draws the reader in. On Thursday, we met the story's victims and villain - a foul fiend called Grendel - and together discussed how the author had built up an understanding of these characters through description.



In Maths, we have started our topic on Perimeter and Area. We have learnt how to calculate the perimeter of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and various polygons. We have used our reasoning skills to find the missing dimensions of a shape based on its given perimeter too.

We were excited to embark on our new adventures in History under our new theme 'Invaders and Settlers'. We explored the timeline of the Anglo-Saxons, who chose to invade Britain after the Romans left around 380AD. We then discussed the reasons why Britain would have been a good option for invaders to move and settle in and the consequences of this decision for the country as a whole.

Our new RE topic for this term aims to answer the question: "What matters most to Christians and Humanists?" In this week's lesson, we discussed the value of actions – what makes an action good? We soon discovered through debate with each other that actions are valuable depending on the individual situation and the people who may be involved.

## **Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)**

It has been a great first week in Gutenberg! We have loved having the children back in class and hearing about all the things they did over the break. This week, we have focused a lot on tying up our learning in Maths and English as we move closer towards formal assessments in a few weeks.

In Maths, we finished off our exploration of Geometry as we looked at describing and plotting points on all four quadrants of a coordinate's grid. We then extended this learning by finding out how to translate and reflect shapes accurately. If you want to support this at home, you might like to ask your child what our top tips are for finding points on a grid and translating and reflecting shapes correctly!

In English, we revised our understanding of main and subordinate clauses and even used the Simpsons as an effective method of remembering how to identify and use each type of clause! We then applied this to also strengthen our skills of using coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. You might like to support your child at home by asking them to write some complex sentences which use both main and subordinate clauses, maybe even an embedded clause!

In History, we continued our study on the Early Islamic civilisation, this time focusing on the city of Baghdad including its unique structures and features. Without seeing an artist's representation of the city, the children were given a challenging task of reading ten clues, which were written sources from people who had visited in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, to formulate their own aerial view picture of what they thought the city looked like. We'll let you decide if you think their ideas were close enough to the real thing!



pride, the poems in this anthology perfectly put into words all the different things we feel in our hearts.

### **Online Safety**

A very popular game amongst children is Fortnite and with a new season update that could bring in new players or returning gamers, National Online Safety have put together a fantastic [infographic](#). The infographic contains advice about the risks that children may be exposed to in game and has some advice on how you could keep your children safe if they do play.

### **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](http://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 28<sup>th</sup> April**

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



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