



Weekly Learning Update 28 April 2023

Nursery

Nursery have been really busy this week taking part in lots of different learning opportunities! As part of our English work, we shared our new book 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and the children have started to have a go at drawing cats using pencils and on the drawing screen. We looked at the initial sound of the word 'cat' 'c' and continued this by practicing the phoneme (sound) to segment and blend together as well as writing the word 'cat' on their pictures. Some children have also had a go at *rhyming* words this week.

The cubes have been really well used this week to form different sized beanstalks which saw children counting the cubes and working together to measure the height.

On Wednesday, the children took part in a yoga session. They then got the chance to meet and hold a real chick which was wonderful!

Our surprise art gallery creations are now also finished and from this the children have shown a real interest in flowers and their lifecycle.

World Art day on Thursday was a great success looking at the continent of Antarctica in a variety of ways. We looked at artist pictures of Antarctica, drone footage to show the different shades of blues from the seas, ice, snow and animals that live there. The children created some magic art marbling ink pictures, observational drawing of penguins using an augmented reality photo, used real snow (yes we kept a real bowl of snow in the freezer from the last snowfall!!!), ice, magic snow cubes and foamy soap to try and create igloos and houses for the



penguins. Some polar and sea animals also got trapped in ice so the children had to work out ways to free them. Antarctica provided us with lots of opportunities to discuss the temperature, what people wear and the landscape.



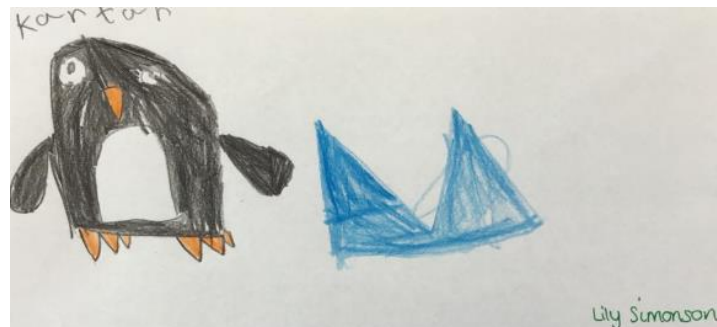
We would also like to say a massive 'congratulations' to Mrs Chand and her husband on the birth of her beautiful daughter Olivia this week!!

Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

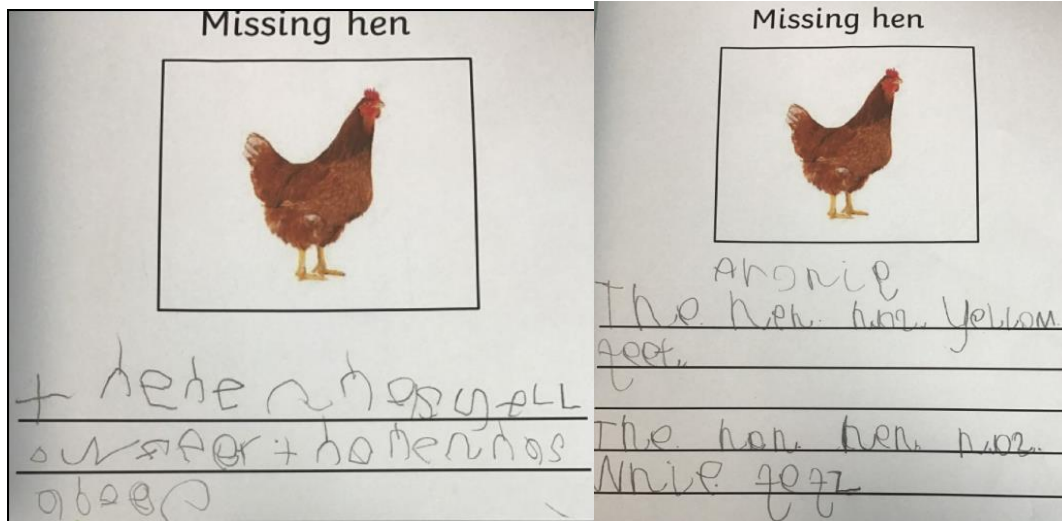
It has been another exciting week in Reception, our chicks visiting and growing nicely. The children have learnt so much from watching the chicks from the start of their life cycle.



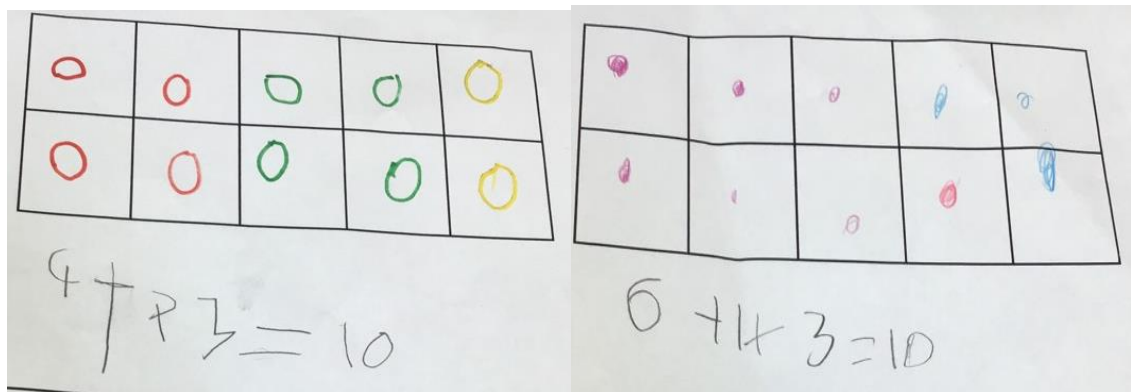
Like Nursery, we enjoyed learning about Antarctica for World Art Day on Thursday.



During English this week, the children enjoyed making missing posters.



In Maths this week, the children have continued to learn about number bonds to ten using 'tens frames' to help them write number sentences.



In Phonics, we have moved onto Phase 4 recapping all previous phonemes and using them in spellings and writing sentences.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

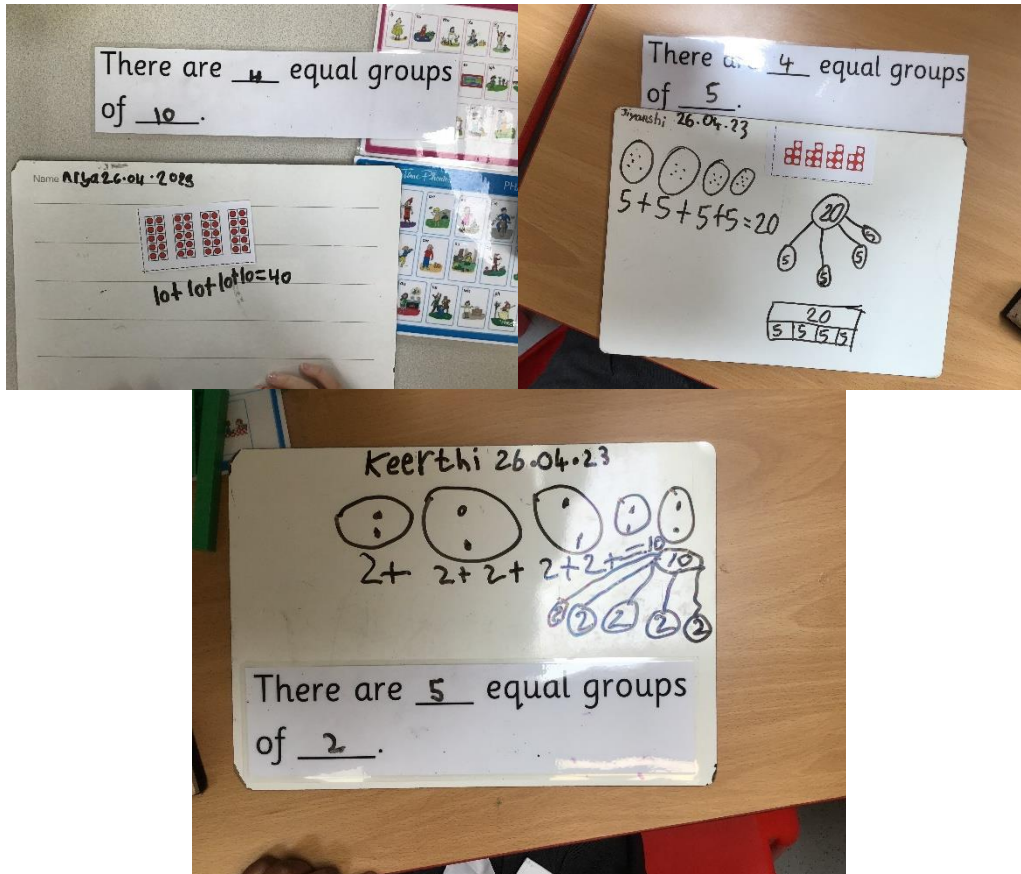
We have had a super week of learning in Year 1.

In Phonics, we have recapped our Phase 5 phonemes and have been applying these skills by identifying the phonemes in real and nonsense words. The children have also been practicing using their phoneme buttons.

In English, we have continued our book 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. The children spent the beginning of the week identifying words in the book where they wanted to find out the definitions of these words, as well as finding

synonyms. The children then spent the last half of the week planning and writing a diary entry from Mr Grinling's point of view.

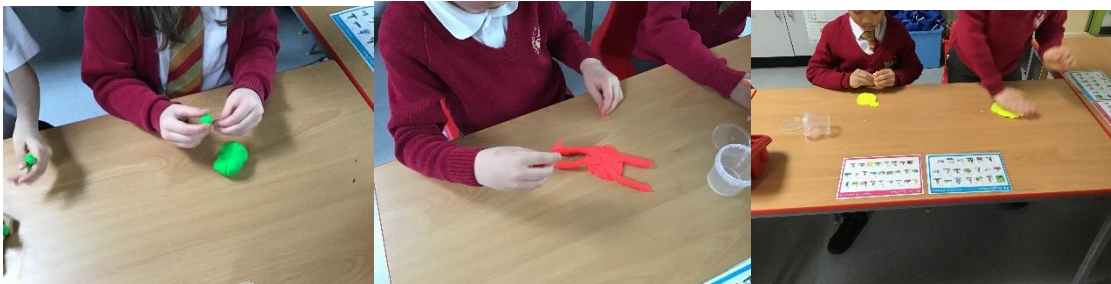
In Maths, we have been continuing our multiplication and division unit and have been looking at recognising and adding equal groups. The children have been consolidating practising in counting 2s, 5s and 10s to add the equal groups together.



In History, we were focusing on Grace Darling and found out some key facts about her famous rescue in 1838. The children also enjoyed re-enacting the rescue to help them retain key information.



In PSHE, we began a new unit linked to relationships with a lesson on **Metacognition**. The children were introduced to the concept of metacognition and that it is the 'learning behind our learning.' There are animals that linked to the different learning strategies, and we focused on 'Kelly the Koala' who's learning power is being curious. We then thought about skills which relate to curiosity like being creative. The children were given modelling dough and were able to create anything they wanted. We explored how being creative can bring its challenges and the children were discussing different questions including: 'How am I being creative?' and 'Why is this creative?'



We also celebrated World Art Day on Thursday. We began by exploring the continent of Africa and we learnt about Esther Mahlangu, who is a South African artist from the Ndebele tribe. We took inspiration from some of Esther's most iconic pieces and learnt about the Ndebele's history of art and how it links to their culture. We were excited to learn that Esther has painted on canvases, planes and even cars!



Year 2 (Braille Class)

We have had another fabulous week!

In Reading, we have been learning to retrieve, sequence and infer.

In English we finished writing our more detailed openings for 'Jim and the Beanstalk,' and learnt to place the apostrophe in the correct place in order to spell different **contractions**.

1. I really can't believe they'd do that!
2. They'll be coming over at 12 o'clock.
3. He knows he shouldn't have gone there.
4. He'll be home after dinner.
5. The team is very proud of its reputation.
6. The noise isn't really that bad.
7. We've really worked hard on this homework.
8. What's the name of the plumber you hired?
9. The town has lost half its population since the tornado.
10. I don't know why you're being so rude today!
11. I hadn't really thought of it that way.
12. If you didn't mean it, why did you say it?

1. Finish these statements. The first one has been completed for you.

I will is contracted to I'll.	it is is contracted to <u>it's</u>
you will is contracted to <u>you'll</u>	would not is contracted to <u>wouldn't</u>
he will is contracted to <u>he'll</u>	could not is contracted to <u>couldn't</u>
she will is contracted to <u>she'll</u>	should not is contracted to <u>shouldn't</u>
we will is contracted to <u>we'll</u>	have not is contracted to <u>haven't</u>
they will is contracted to <u>they'll</u>	you would is contracted to <u>you'd</u>

2. Now choose 3 of the words. Write each word into a sentence below.
Don't forget capital letters and full stops!

We'll go to the park. You haven't cleaned the dishes.
It's a beautiful day. We could not do that.

In Maths, the children have been learning to find $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ of a shape and a quantity. I have been really impressed with their confidence in understanding the difference between the denominator and the numerator. Here are some super examples.

25/04/23
Find a quarter

1) Colour $\frac{1}{4}$ of the objects below. You may need to draw some of the objects.

a) The whole is $\frac{1}{4}$ of 12

b) The whole is $\frac{1}{4}$ of 28

c) The whole is $\frac{1}{4}$ of 24

d) The whole is $\frac{1}{4}$ of 32

e) The whole is $\frac{1}{4}$ of 16

f) The whole is 40. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 40 = 10

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26/04/23
 LQ: To learn to recognise $\frac{1}{3}$ of a shape.
 Skills:
 I can understand that shading one quarter is the same as halving a half.
 I can draw the dots to represent each quantity and show the dots equally into four groups.
 I can understand that shading one quarter is the same as halving a half.
 I can draw the dots to represent each quantity and show the dots equally into four groups.
 I can understand that three thirds go together to make a whole.
 I know that one third is one of three parts.
 I can recognise and shade $\frac{1}{3}$ of a shape.

1.) Colour one third of each shape.

Color one third

Color one third

Color one third

2.) Colour two thirds of each shape.

Color two thirds

Color two thirds

Color two thirds

In Geography, the children learnt all about the ***Dominican Republic***. They learnt about the climate, the population, the currency, the famous landmarks, physical features and the traditional food eaten there. They then compared it to Rugby.



We also had lots of fun for World Art Day and created our own Carnival masks linked to the continent of South America.



Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Year 3 have had another super week of learning!

In English, the pupils are working towards creating a newspaper article to inform the citizens of Italy of the disastrous eruption in *Pompeii*. This week, the pupils have learnt how to form the *present perfect tense* as well as learning to use conjunctions to show time, place and cause. They also learnt the features of a newspaper article.

In Maths, the pupils continue to make excellent progress as they continue to build on their strong understanding of fractions. This week, they have learnt to add and subtract fractions in addition.

In Science, we learnt how different animals require different diets. The pupils then researched the different diets of children, adults, footballers and rugby players. They were amazed to find out that rugby players need to eat 6000 calories a day (Mr Grafton!) and they learnt that a rugby player's diet will mainly consist of meat and lots of carbohydrates to ensure they get enough energy and protein in their diet.

On Thursday, the pupils had a fantastic day celebrating World Art Day. In Year 3, the pupils studied the history and culture of Aboriginal art as well as studying the

work of famous Aboriginal artists (Paddy Bedford, Simryn Gill, Emily Kame Kngwarreye and Jeannie Petyarre) which then inspired them to create their own work.





Year 4 (Hopper Class)

During our English lessons this week, we have been looking at distinguishing between fact and opinion. This was guided by the archaeological discoveries from the tomb of Tutankhamun where we had to back up our opinions with scientific evidence to substantiate them.

Monday 24th April 2023

Opinions

To learn to express an opinion

- can distinguish between fact and opinion
- can use cause and effect conjunctions
- can edit and improve my work

Murder	Accident	Illness
<p>In 1923 Howard Carter's assistant Arthur Mace suggested Tutankhamun had been murdered by his successor, the pharaoh Ay. Assassinations of Egyptian kings were rare but not unheard of.</p> <p>Evidence In 1968 a skull X-ray revealed a loose bone fragment in Tut's skull. British anatomist Ronald Harrison believed it was proof the king died from a blow to the back of the head. However, later analysis revealed the bone fragment had broken off while the corpse was being mummified so it wasn't linked to Tut's death.</p> <p>Thirty years later, expert Bob Brier re-examined the X-ray and suggested a dark area visible at the base of the skull could indicate damage from a head blow. However, further scans in 2005 revealed the dark area in the original X-ray was most likely due to the angle of the scan.</p>	<p>Tut had six chariots in his tomb, which were used in Ancient Egypt during battles and when hunting. Most academics believe King Tut probably died as a result of a chariot accident.</p> <p>Evidence In 2006 a team led by Egyptian archaeologist Dr Zahi Hawass, found King Tut's left thigh bone had been broken close to his time of death. Furthermore, Tut's chest cavity was caved in and he had broken ribs. These injuries support the theory.</p> <p>However, Hawass' team also found evidence that Tut suffered from a curved spine and a painful bone disease in one foot. Some scientists believe his physical frailty could have prevented him from riding a chariot at all.</p>	<p>In the first decades after King Tut was found it was assumed he had died from tuberculosis. However, a 1969 chest x-ray ruled this out.</p> <p>Evidence Theories about potential illnesses have continued. In 2010 DNA tests by Egyptian archaeologist Dr Zahi Hawass suggested Tut's parents had been siblings or cousins. If true - and not all Egyptologists accept these findings - it would significantly increase his risk of inheriting genetic disorders.</p> <p>In 2014 Dr Hutan Ashrafian, from Imperial College London, suggested Tut died as a result of having epilepsy. Left untreated, it would have increased Tut's risk of having a fit, falling and sustaining a fatal injury.</p>

I think Tutankhamun died from a illness because Dr Hutan Ashrafian suggested Tutankhamun had with epilepsy that was untreated which increase his chance of having a fit. Also think Tutankhamun died from illness because Dr Zahi suggested his parents were siblings/cousins which increases his chance of getting genetic disorders.

Our Maths lessons have helped to develop our understanding of how tenths and hundredths make up a whole and we have worked on learning how to partition decimals into tenths and hundredths. The children have worked very hard on this and the progress has been fantastic!

5 Complete the part-whole models.

a) $0.29 = 0.2 + 0.09$ ✓

b) $0.37 = 0.3 + 0.07$ ✓

c) $0.53 = 0.5 + 0.03$ ✓

d) $0.81 = 0.8 + 0.01$ ✓

e) $8.75 = 8 + 0.7 + 0.05$ ✓

f) $3.09 = 0.09 + 3$ ✓

6 Here are five number cards.

Annie, Rosie, Jack and Dora each take one card.
Use the clues to work out which number they each have.

Annie: My number has 3 hundredths.
Rosie: My number has twice as many ones as tenths.
Jack: My number has two zero placeholders.
Dora: My number is the smallest number.

Annie: 6.03 ✓ Jack: 30.6 ✓
Rosie: 3.6 Dora: 3.06

Compare answers with a partner. 6.3

Year 5 (Jackson Class)

We delved deeper into our new English text – Beowulf- and have explored the role of dialogue in a story. We listened to a speech that Beowulf gave to declare to King Hrothgar that he would defeat the foul fiend, Grendel. We then took on the role of Beowulf and created our own heroic speeches.

In Maths, we have been learning about area this week and found out how to find area of compound shapes. We also had a go at estimating the area of irregular shapes using a grid to help us.

On Tuesday, the Anglo-Saxons invaded! We re-enacted the events in Britain after the Romans left and discovered how three tribes (the Angles, Saxons and Jutes) invaded the land and settled into different kingdoms. It was great fun acting out the parts!



On Thursday, it was World Art Day in school and we focused on the continent of North America! At first we learnt about different artists from countries all over this continent and then we zoomed in on Mexico, where renowned artist, Frida Kahlo, was from. We learnt about her troubled life and how she taught herself to create self-portraits from her bed while recovering from a near-fatal injury. Feeling inspired by Mexican culture and Kahlo, we created our own 'Papel Picado' (flags created for celebrations such as the day of the dead celebrations) and our very own self-portraits. The portraits were quite tricky but, with some determination and some perseverance, we have been produced some fantastic artwork with

vibrant backgrounds and animal companions – just like Frida's!



Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)

This week has absolutely flown by in Gutenberg class!

In English, we focused on strengthening our skills with use of relative clauses and relative pronouns. We have also been learning a few catchy songs to help us remember key facts relating to the active and passive voice, subordinating conjunctions and relative clauses. ***If you would like to support at home, you might want to have a listen to these three songs with your child!***

1. [Active and Passive Rap](#)
2. [Subordinating Conjunctions Song](#)
3. [Relative Clause Song](#)

In Maths, we have been focusing more on applying our problem-solving skills while breaking down and answering more challenging reasoning questions.

In Art, we have been enjoying taking time to prepare for St Gabriel's Art Gallery. This year we have been inspired by the bright and colourful works of Peter Max, a German-American artist known for his pop-art style landscapes. This week, we have been planning our own recreations of landscape art and experimenting with different mediums including watercolours, acrylics and pastel crayons. We look forward to bringing this all together next week into a final piece!



Other News

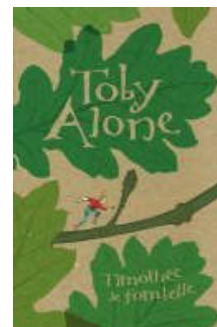
The Friends of St Gabriel's (our new PTA style organisation) met for its first AGM on Wednesday and appointed the key roles of chair, treasurer and secretary as well as securing committee members. The group also began planning fundraising activities which will support the school going forward. Look out for news of events soon! Communication can be directed to the group at:

PTA@stgabrielscofeacademy.org

Recommended Read

Toby Alone – Age 10+

An awards-laden adventure of heroism, friendship and survival - with a powerful ecological message - set in a captivating miniature world.



Online Safety

Safer Internet Broadcasting – UK Safer Internet Centre

In the modern world many children and adults are seeing live streaming as a valid way of generating low start up income. The rise of YouTube, Twitch, Instagram, and other platforms, have opened up ways of making money that didn't exist before. Now users are able to get opinions, views, and advice across to people all over the world, simply from your computer or laptop. There is no minimum age to these kinds of activities. And people that make a success of YouTube can be as young as primary age. However, this opens up opportunities for those who prey on these channels of under aged people. They encourage them and ultimately try to gain their trust. This requires those in the educational and safeguarding sphere to be able to give good advice to keep them safe whilst pursuing these online objectives. The Safer Internet Centre has produced a page dedicated to mitigating harm for those engaging in these online activities. To find out more please follow the link below:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/livestreaming-2>

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), 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 5th May

Come join us next week as Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 will be sharing



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