



Weekly Learning Update 27 January 2023

Nursery



This week, we have been wishing our friends 'Happy Lunar New Year'. The children have tried Chinese mark making in a range of ways using magic writing, black sand and using oil pastels. Using play-dough, the children created noodles thick and thin and we had a challenge to see who could make the longest one. Children were also offered a lychee to peel and taste - there were mixed reviews about the how tasty they were! We have created dragons (big and small) and followed instructions to cut and create a concertina effect for the dragon's body. Together we danced to some Chinese music and shared some blessings for the year ahead from a child and her family.

As part of Burns Night on Wednesday, the children created tartan patterns, Scottish flags, weaved kilts, listened to bag pipe music and tasted shortbread biscuits.

Today, we have been talking about caring for birds as part of the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. We worked together to fill up bird food with the children making bird food chains to take home. These can be hung in your garden on your fence or in a tree, please tell us know if you spot any birds having a nibble.

In Maths, we have been counting quantities and calculating one more and one less than a number. We have explored this in a range of ways by turning plastic coins

into chocolate coins, drawing peaches and plums on the whiteboard and counting out birds.

Thank you for sharing photos on tapestry, the children really look forward to looking at these each day.

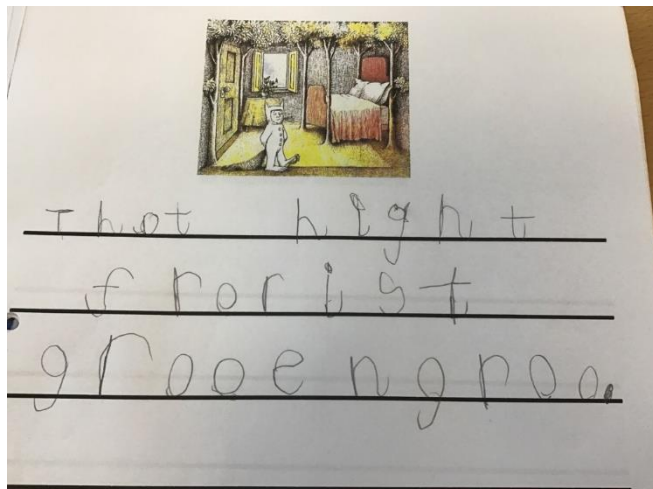
Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

Reception have had a mysterious week with our 'Where the wild things are.' books disappearing!

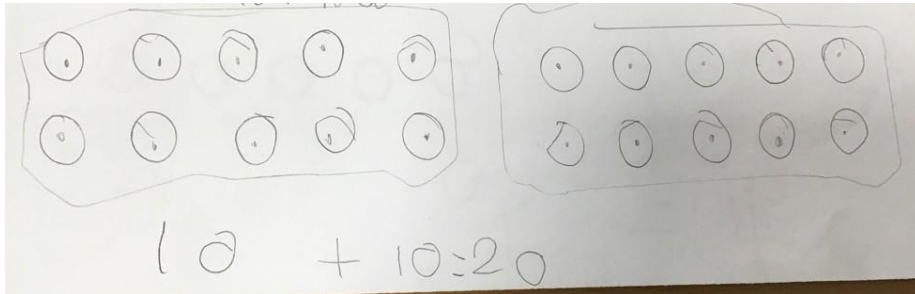
On Monday morning, we came in to find all of our books we had been using in English had disappeared. We went on a book hunt around the school. The children suggested looking in lost property, the library and nursery but unfortunately, they were not found. Some children even searched the playground during their playtime. We now have Mr. Marshall on the lookout!



In English, we decided to become authors and create our own books of 'Where the wild things are.' to replace our missing ones.



In Maths, we have been learning to accurately use vocabulary related to addition. The children have learnt some actions for our new words 'add' and 'equals'. They have also developed their understanding of number sentences.



We also made invites for our 'wild rumpus celebration' in RE.

In Phonics, we have learnt our new digraphs: **oo**, **oo**, **ar** and **or**

The reading area has become very popular this week. The children have been taking on the role of teacher as they teach others phonemes, tricky troll words and read stories to them. We have had alien slime in the sensory area along with colour mixing in our creative area.



What a great week! 😊

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

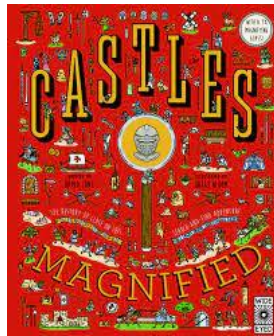
It has been a wonderful week again in Year 1!

In Phonics, the children have learnt the following phonemes: **ew**, **au**, **oe**, **ey** and **a_e**.

In English, the children have continued exploring types of poems and developed their own acrostic poem based on our School value of Community. Their masterpieces are going to be entered into the national Big Green Poetry Machine for a chance at being published!

THE BIG GREEN POETRY MACHINE

We have also begun exploring a new non-fiction key text: 'Castles Magnified' by David Long. The children have really engaged with identifying features of non-fiction books and are beginning to research and plan their own version linked to their History unit 'Crowns and Castles'.



In PE, the children have been developing their flexibility and strength as they focus on movement and control within Gymnastics. The children have been learning to travel in wide, curled and narrow stances and are combining them to create a routine.

In RE, the children are developing their understanding of Christian beliefs as we continue to explore God being the Creator. Children focused on how Christians celebrate God being the Creator, identifying different ways in which this is shown. The children provided some excellent contributions as they discussed different examples.

In Science, we have been exploring the enquiry type 'fair testing' as we explore the properties of waterproof materials. We first began by identifying what waterproof means and thought of examples of items that are waterproof. We then created an experiment to identify whether objects were waterproof. The children made predictions and then tested them. Afterwards, they consolidated their thoughts into a conclusion.



We hope you have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Year 2 (Braille Class)

In Phonics the children have learnt:

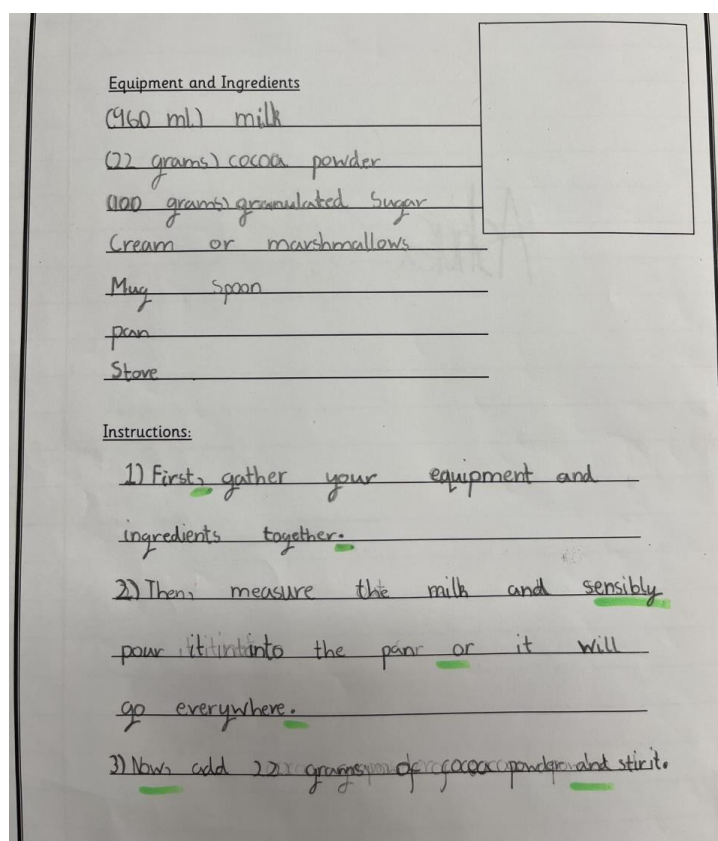
-**o** makes the phoneme **oa** in words like **no** and **go**.

-**oul** and **o** makes the phoneme **u** in words like **could**, **nothing** and **mother**.

-**ui** and **ou** makes the phoneme **oo** in words like **fruit** and **through**.

We have also been focusing on reading with accuracy and automaticity.

In English, we started writing up our instructions for making a hot chocolate using adverbs and imperative verbs. We then used these to make our own hot chocolate!



4) After that add 2 or 3 table
spoons of sugar and mix it all
together.

5) Next sensibly turn on the stove but
make sure that it is not too hot or
it will burn.

6) Afterwards mix it all together and once
it is smooth, hot and looks ready, pour it
into the mugs.

7) Finally, add whip cream or marshmallows and
enjoy your delicious hot cocoa.

• am • oo • a • whipped

In Maths, we have been learning to answer missing number problems, find the difference between numbers, make £1 and find the total change. We have used part-whole models and bar models to help us with our learning.

$$1) 2 \text{ 0p} + 1 \text{ 0p} + \text{£} 5 = \text{£} 30$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \text{ 0p} \\ + 1 \text{ 0p} \\ \hline 3 \text{ 0p} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{£} 5 \cdot 30 \\ \text{£} 5 \text{ and } 30\text{p} \end{array}$$

$$2) \text{£} 1 + 7 \text{ 0p} + \text{£} 3 + 3 \text{ 0p} = \text{£} 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \text{ 0p} \\ 3 \text{ 0p} \\ \hline 10 \text{ 0p} \\ = \text{£} 1 \end{array}$$

$$\text{£} 1 + \text{£} 3 + \text{£} 1 = \text{£} 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{£} 1 \\ + \text{£} 1 \\ \hline \text{£} 3 \\ \hline \text{£} 5 \end{array}$$

- 4 Dora and Mo each have some money.



Dora

I have two £10 notes and three £1 coins.

£ 23

I have one £20 note, one £5 note and two £2 coins.

£ 29



Mo

$$\begin{array}{r} 29 \\ - 23 \\ \hline 06 \end{array}$$

Who has more money? Mo

How much more money do they have?

£ 6

- 5 Jack has been to the cinema and bowling.



£4 and 55p

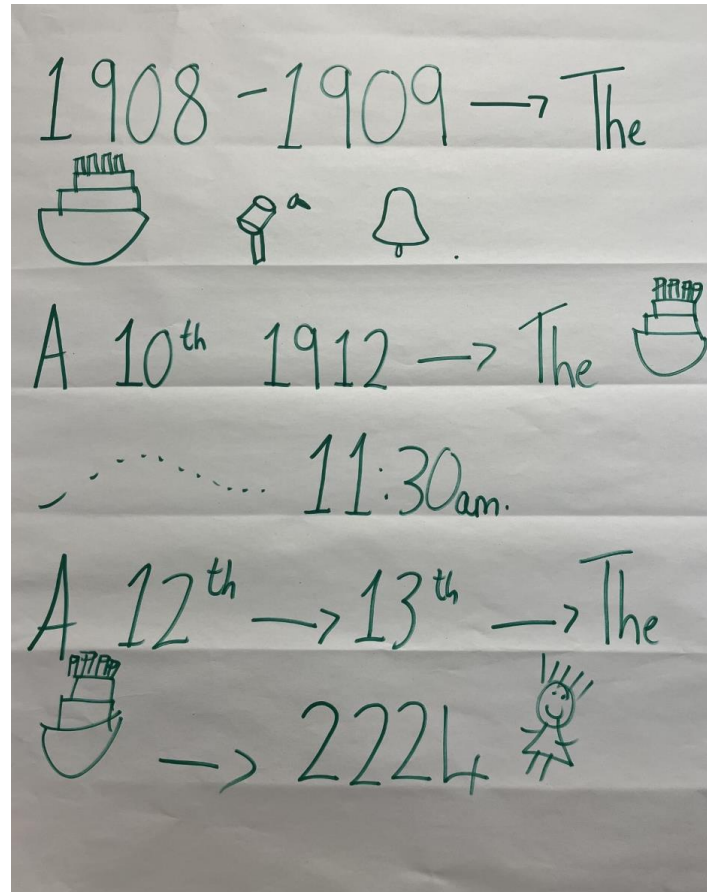


£4 and 19p

How much more did Jack spend to go to the cinema than to go bowling?

36p

In History, we started learning about the events that led up to the sinking of the Titanic. We created a story map to help us to remember the order. See if your child can use the story map to recall the events!



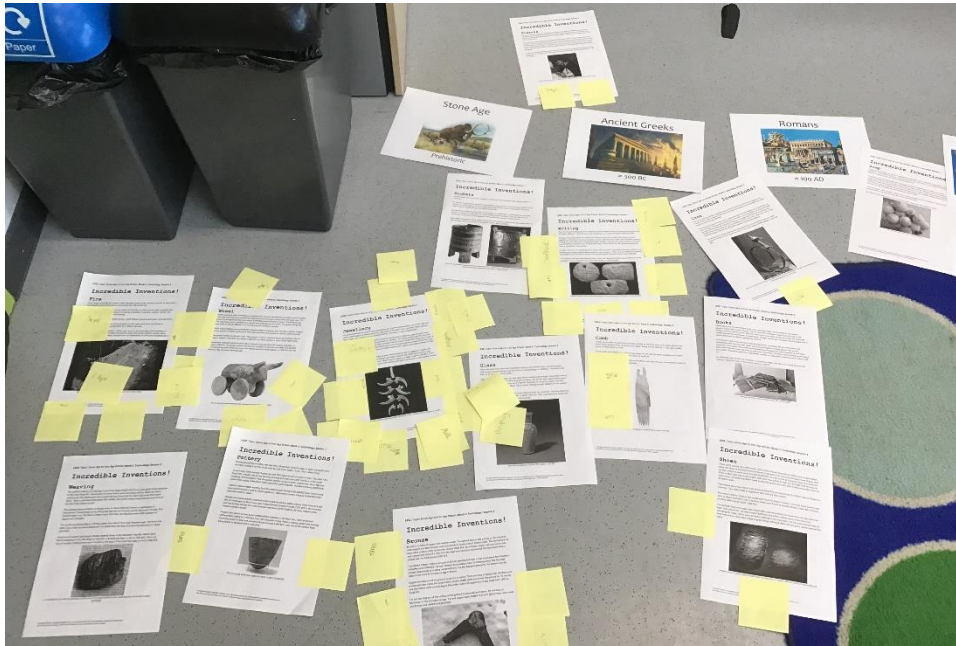
Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Berners-Lee have had another fantastic week full of learning!

This week, in English, they have written their instructions on 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. They were challenged to include a range of fronted adverbials, prepositions and conjunctions in their writing and lots of the pupils have even added humour to their instructions!

In Maths, we have recapped our key methods for multiplying 2-digit by 1-digit numbers and learnt how to find different combinations to questions. We have also begun our fraction unit where the pupils learnt what the denominator and numerator represent. The pupils have also learnt to compare and order unit fractions (fractions where the numerator is 1).

In Humanities, we used sources of information to learn about the inventions in the Stone Age to Iron Age period. The pupils were surprised to find out that in these periods the people had invented lots of items like wheels, combs and glass.



In Science, we investigated how shadows are formed and the pupils learnt the terms: opaque, translucent and transparent. They then classified items into these groups by observing which material created dark or light shadows or no shadow at all.

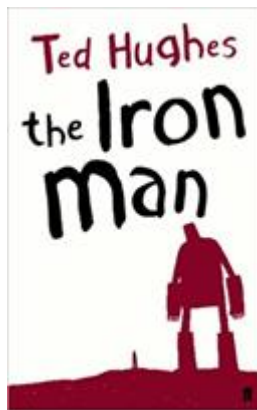


In Design and Technology, we have completed making our Stone Age tools. The pupils have done a brilliant job with their tools as they have tried to use similar materials available in this time period. Finally, the pupils learnt how to evaluate their work.




Year 4 (Hopper Class)


This week in English, we started our new unit of Mystery Stories. For the duration of this unit, we will be using the fantastically written and illustrated book 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We started off by identifying clues about the book, before moving onto character description and revisiting the punctuation of speech.




Maths saw us conclude our learning on multiplication and division with correspondence problems and moving onto our new topic of length and perimeter with kilometres and metres.

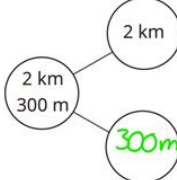
What do you notice? Complete the models.

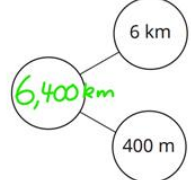
6 possibilities  $3 \times 2 = 6$

9 possibilities  $3 \times 3 = 9$

8 possibilities  $4 \times 2 = 8$

Complete the models.





3 km 300 m		1 km 280 m	
3 km	300 m	280 m	1 km

Our project in Design and Technology requires us to learn how axels work on Roman chariots. We did some further research and constructed working axels to gain a better understanding of the mechanics behind them. In Humanities, we discussed the impact Romans had on Britain and how they created so many roads with some that still exist today!



In R.E., we delved into interpreting what Jesus meant by 'Fisher of Men', looking through at Mark's gospel (Ch1:40-44) and the importance of love to all.

Year 5 (Jackson Class)

Year 5 have been working really hard this week across all of our subjects. In English, we have written a letter from the point of view of Mary Jackson trying to persuade the judge to allow her to take night classes at an all-white school. The children had to use their knowledge of modal verbs and adverbs of possibility to convince the judge to make this happen.

In Maths, we have been tackling the long multiplication method and learning how to multiply by two-digit numbers. We are now much more confident at applying our partitioning and multiplication fact knowledge to this method and most of us

can now multiply a four-digit number by a two-digit number, which is amazing!

		1	2	2	
x			1	5	
	6	1	0		(122 x 5)
	1	2	2	0	(122 x 10)
	1	8	3	0	

In Humanities, we learnt all about Ordnance Survey maps and we had a chance to look for landmarks and symbols of the local area using one for ourselves. We had to use the key at the bottom of the map to help us to understand what everything was and had to use close observation skills to work out where everything was as well.



In RE this week, we analysed the creation story in Genesis and the Big Bang Theory proposed by scientists. We questioned whether these theories were enough to explain the beginning of the universe and whether they were able to work alongside each other. It was incredibly interesting to consider exactly who came up with these ideas, when they came up with them and also how reliable they are.

Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)

It has been a wonderful week in Gutenberg this week. In English, the children found out more about Giant Kelp and researched more about these fast disappearing underwater forests. We created a range of 'fact splats' around the classroom and strengthened our use of modal verbs to write persuasively in non-chronological reports.

In Maths, we continued to broaden our understanding of algebraic expressions and equations. We looked at how we can use diagrams and descriptions to create simple equations. Later on, we then applied our knowledge to solve one step equations.

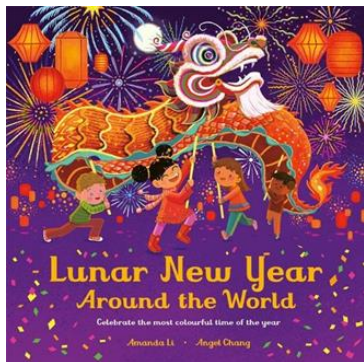
In Humanities, we delved deeper into our exploration of tropical rainforests as we found out more about their four different layers. The children did an amazing job at making connections with their previous learning as they were able to suggest what the climate might be at each layer within the rainforest and how this might have a further impact on the type of vegetation and creatures that could be found there.



Other News

In collective worship this week, children have been learning about the importance of perseverance. The children learnt about the perseverance Mary and Joseph showed when they had to flee to Egypt and how the Old Testament prophet, Jeremiah showed great bravery and determination when spreading God's word. Finally, the children listened to the story of a boy who displayed perseverance on a residential trip.

Recommended Read



Following last weekend's celebrations, our book this week helps children and their families learn all about Lunar New Year and how it is celebrated in different communities across the world. This stunning picture book is the perfect introduction for little ones and explores how the most colourful time of the year is celebrated in communities around the world.

Meet families in China, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia, as well as in bustling cities like San Francisco, London, Sydney and Toronto and join them in their celebrations at home and on the streets in parades, lantern festivals and in temples. Packed with fascinating facts, young readers will love finding out all about different Lunar New Year traditions in this gorgeously illustrated picture book.

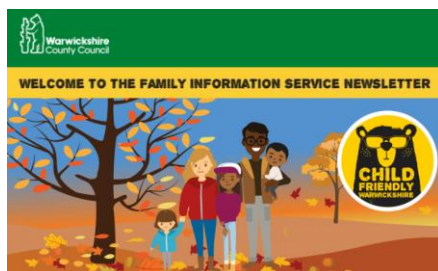
Online Safety

Physical security is often taken very seriously in our homes and National Online Safety have created a great infographic on ensuring your digit security is just as well maintained. For a guide on how make sure your family and your children are digitally secure at home [click 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), 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 3rd February 2023

Come join us next week to see more amazing 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