

### Nursery

The children were filled with so much joy and excitement on Monday after their return to Nursery. We have spent time listening to some great stories about half term and asking the children questions. It has been really wonderful to see some Tapestry updates, which the children have enjoyed sharing with us all.



This week, the children were introduced to the 'Dear Zoo' book; we were very lucky to receive a letter and present of the book from the zoo. We have shared the story, discussed the author and the children have worked hard to create letters to the zoo with some fantastic drawings of an animal they would like from the zoo. They have also added some writing and labels to their pictures. They then put their

letters in envelopes and posted them. We can't wait to see if we get anything back in the post.



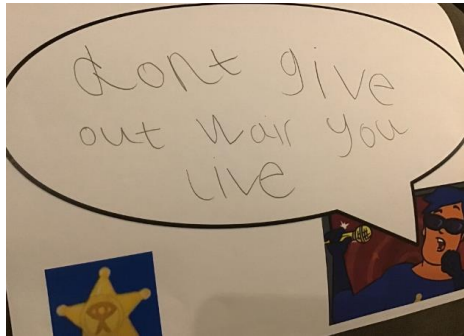
In PE, the children practised their super racing again and will soon be ready to go and practise on the grass. We have also started learning some new songs which will form part of our school leavers' celebration for all those moving to Reception in September - look out for the date announcement next week.

Have a wonderful weekend and keep safe in the sun!

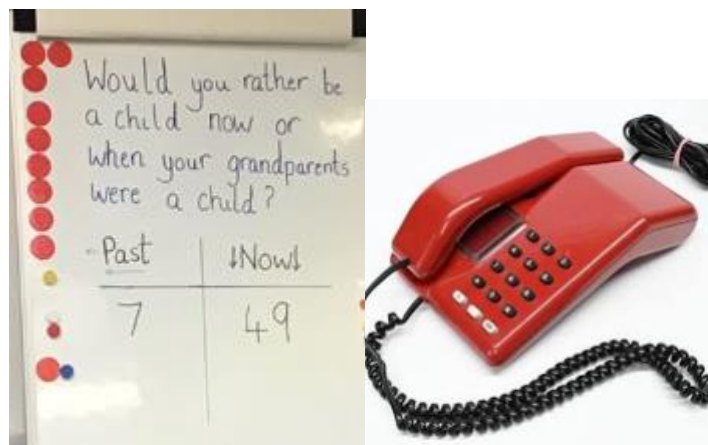
## Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

We have had a wonderful week!

On Monday, we learnt about staying safe online. We learnt about the importance of not sharing personal information and enjoyed creating our own posters with important online safety messages.



On Tuesday, we learnt about the past. We discussed how we have changed since we were babies and also learnt about what life was like in the past. We loved having the opportunity to look at, and explore, technology from the past.



On Thursday, we really enjoyed taking part in Empathy Day. It was great sharing our books from home and identifying emotions in different rhymes and songs.

## Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

It has been a fabulous week in Year 1!

In Phonics, we have been continuing to focus on preparing for the Phonics Screening Check. The children are working super hard, checking whether a word is a real or alien word, spotting phonemes within a word, saying the phonemes three times and then reading the whole word.

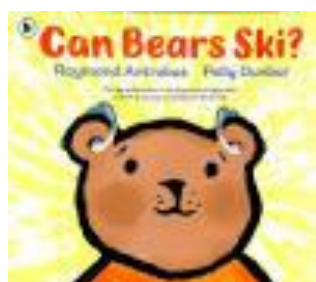
In Maths, we have been learning about money. Throughout the week, the children have been developing their understanding of the value of money and this began with unitising on Monday. As the week has progressed, the children have learnt the values of coins and notes and how to make different values using both.

In English this week, Year 1 have spent time focusing on the skills of inference and empathy. We began the week with the focus text 'My Beautiful Voice' written by Waterstones Children's Laureate, Josep Coelho. We began by thinking about the feelings of the main character and the behaviour that affected this throughout the book. The children then thought about how the teacher, Miss Flotsam, supported the child and enabled the child to find the courage to realise the power of their voice. The children then wrote thank you letters, from the perspective of the child.



On Thursday, St Gabriel's celebrated Empathy Day. We took part in some fantastic activities and the children developed their understanding of what empathy is and the impact that it can have. Throughout the day, we discussed that empathy is the ability to understand other points of view and how other people are experiencing the world. We used the book 'Can Bears Ski?' by Raymond Antrobus and how individuals communicate in different ways. The children thought about the challenges that may be faced with individuals that cannot hear and how these can be overcome. The children then spent time learning some British Sign Language. We wonder if they can remember how to spell their names and show you? The children were also keen to create their own questions to find more out about

others and empathy resolutions. There were opportunities throughout the day to celebrate with other year groups, sharing books and hearing others read to them as well.



On Friday, we were lucky enough to be able to welcome an author into the school. Kat Walsh has written a fantastic book called 'The Box' and the children spent time with her learning more about her journey to become an author and spent time doing an activity with their very own boxes! Can they share their favourite part of the day with you?



## Year 2 (Braille Class)

In English, the children have continued writing the next few paragraphs for their own versions of 'Jim and the Beanstalk.' I am so impressed with their stories!

"Haven't you got a wheelchair?" asked Janet (before telling the Witch her plan). But the witch didn't have a clue of what a wheelchair was. So Janet explained all about it. "If you like I'll go and get you one" said Janet politely. "Yes" said the Witch. "I'll give you a whole bag of luxurious jewels!"

So Janet measured the witch's bum and like the witch said she gave Janet a bag of jewels. Janet rushed out of the door and fled down the cornstalk. She was just as a Lamborghini. Her hair was blowing behind her and she kept eating corn. When she got to the bottom she quickly got changed into her cute, little skirt and top. Once she was dressed she headed towards the wheelchair maker.

The wheelchair maker was flabbergasted when she saw the bag of jewels. Her jaw ~~dropped~~ to the floor and she fell to the ground. She ~~ludly~~ set to work. It took hours and hours and. When the wheelchair was ready she had worked for twelve hours but it was ready in time. When she was finished she was extremely exhausted. In fact she was so

that she could barely keep her eyes open, think straight or even talk.

Janet jumped into the wheelchair ~~back~~ to ~~return~~ back to the cornstalk. That was when she realized that she couldn't get the wheelchair <sup>up</sup> the cornstalk so she went to ask a builder ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> bottom ~~building~~ <sup>building</sup>. She ~~cleared~~ <sup>wrote</sup> her throat.

"Please can I borrow the ~~crane~~ <sup>crane</sup> to lift this wheelchair up the cornstalk?" said Janet.


"Of course!" replied the builder.


The builder hopped into the ~~crane~~ <sup>crane</sup> and started to lift the wheelchair up the cornstalk. Janet ran up the cornstalk at top speed. She got there when the builder delivered the wheelchair.


In Maths, the children have been completing their topic on length and height and have been solving problems using the four operations. They have also started their new topic on mass and have been comparing different masses.


In History, the children have started learning about Florence Nightingale and used iPads to find out facts about her, which they then used to create their fact files.


**Florence Nightingale**

 Date of birth: 12<sup>th</sup> May 1820 ✓

 Date of death: 13<sup>th</sup> August 1910 ✓

Florence Nightingale is significant because she was a nurse who saved many lives during the Crimean war. She wanted to make hospitals safer and cleaner. ✓ 

A picture of Florence Nightingale 

Interesting Fact  
Florence was named after the Italian city she was born in. ✓ 

What was her nickname?  
Lady with the lamp ✓

Later in Life Achievement  
Queen Victoria awarded Florence the Royal Red Cross. ✓

The children also had lots of fun on Thursday during Empathy Day. They enjoyed completing their empathy exchange, doing their book swap and inferring during their English lesson about 'The Stompysaurus.'

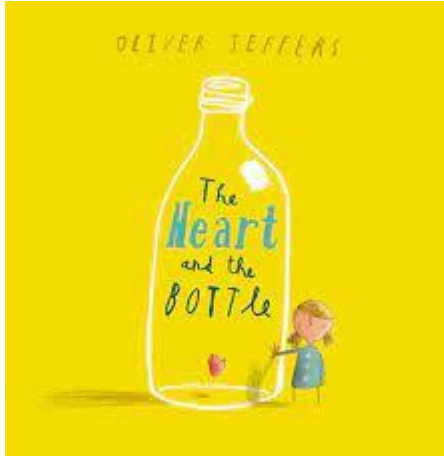




### Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Berners-Lee have had another incredible week!

In English, we have begun reading Oliver Jeffers' emotive book, 'The Heart and the Bottle' which tells the story of a young child who is curious about the world until



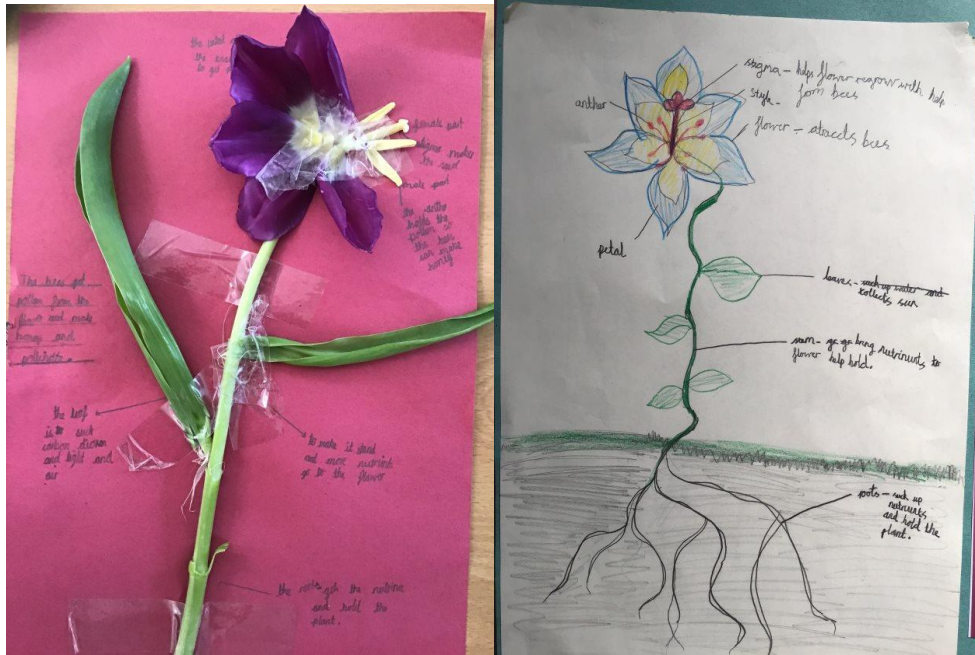
one day she experiences the loss of her grandfather. As a result, the girl keeps her heart in the bottle however she is no longer curious about the world and nothing is the same. In our first few lessons, we explored the meaning behind the story and the characters in the book. The children were then challenged to focus on developing their use of powerful vocabulary

when writing a character description.

In Maths, I have been really impressed with the pupils' perseverance as we have learnt how to calculate duration of times which required the children to apply all their learning linked to time and calculation. We have also learnt how to calculate how many hours are in multiple days as well as learning to measure time in seconds and minutes.

In Geography, we learnt how earthquakes occur and then the pupils had lots of fun practising how to stay safe in an earthquake as they enjoyed having to hide under the tables any time they heard the bell!

In Science, we began our new topic on plants by learning the parts of a flowering plant and the functions of the different parts of the plant. The pupils had opportunity to dissect tulip as well as creating their own scientific diagrams of the parts of the plants.



On Thursday, the children partook in our whole school Empathy Day. In our English lesson, we read the beautifully illustrated and powerful book, 'A Shelter for

Sadness'. This book enabled the pupils to understand that the emotion sadness will always live with us however sometimes this emotion is more prominent in our lives. The children then created their own shelter for their chosen emotion.



Throughout the day, the pupils loved the opportunity to read their books and

interact with other children throughout the school.



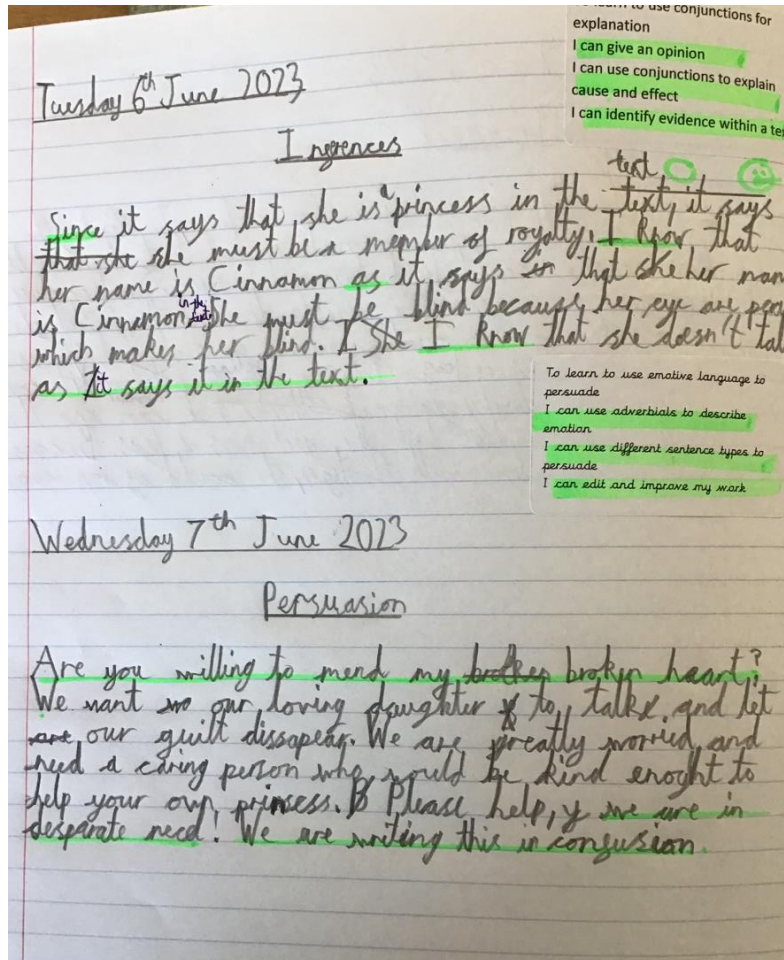


Finally, we are all very excited for our upcoming trips to the Alive Festival next Friday and Conkers on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June. The pupils have also loved beginning to learn the songs to our Peter Pan production as well as learning a song and dance for the Alive Festival.

### Year 4 (Hopper Class)

We have been working hard at developing our understanding of the properties of shapes and angles during our Maths lessons this week. This meant we investigated how certain angles can be categorised using vocabulary such as; half turn, quarter turn, clockwise and anticlockwise.

This week, we have started reading our new inspirational book 'Cinnamon' in English and spent a lot of time using our inferencing skills to gather evidence and make predictions about what we thought would happen based on the evidence provided. We also completed a piece of work on persuasion, using emotive language to touch our reader's feelings and help the poor princess' family in need.



We have had lots of fun in our STEM lesson this week. The children have learned all about potential energy and how this can be transferred from one object to another. We did this by constructing a small catapult powered by the potential energy stored within a stretched balloon skin.



We were also able to take part in Empathy Day and really focussed on what it means to be empathetic and understanding of others. The children were treated to a reading from Children's Laureate, Joseph Coelho online and inspirational advice from other famous authors and illustrators like Jaqueline Wilson, Chris Riddell and Cressida Cowell.



### **Year 5 (Jackson Class)**

What a fantastic week Jackson class have had to begin our final term! We have been busy learning lots of new songs for our upcoming production of Peter Pan and we have started to learn a song ready for our trip to the Alive Festival next Friday!

In English, we began to explore our new text, 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan, which is about an immigrant travelling to a foreign land. We have really enjoyed getting into the role of the characters and empathise with their experiences. On Tuesday,

we wrote a diary entry from the point of view of the immigrants, considering their feelings about the challenges they face by going to a new foreign land.

In Maths, we have continued looking at decimals. We have been recognising decimal sequences and applying rules to create new sequences. We have then been consolidating our skills on multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000 using decimals.

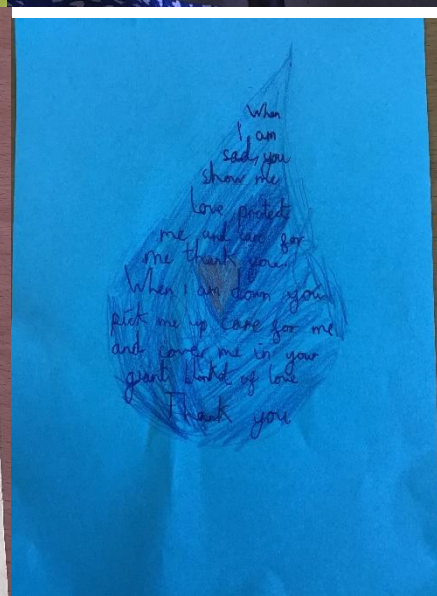
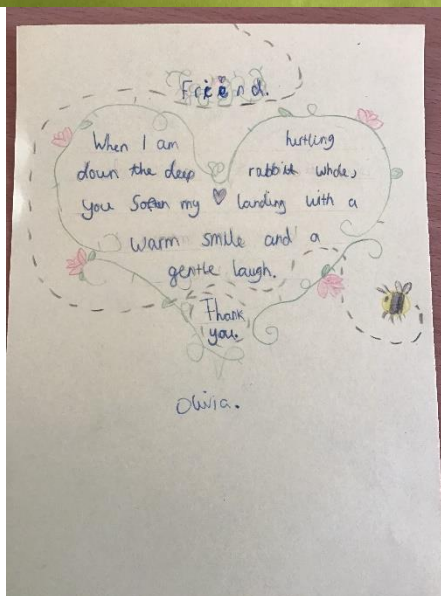
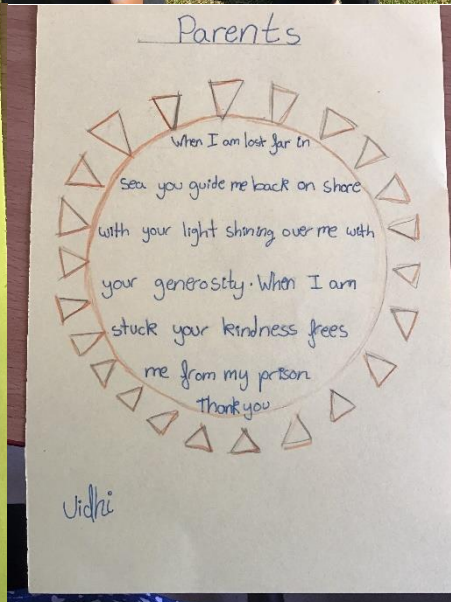
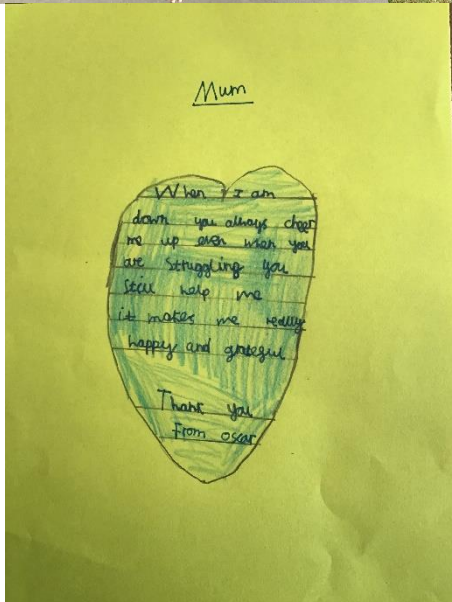
In History, we have started to discuss the impact of the Viking invasions from 793AD on the settlers in Britain. The first invasion happened on Lindisfarne Island. We looked at reasons behind the invasions and how this would have made the Anglo-Saxons feel.

With Mrs Wright in Art, we have started to explore illuminated letters inspired by the Lindisfarne Gospels and we had a go at exploring ways to decorate our own names.



On Thursday, we celebrated Empathy Day as part of our whole school themed day. We started by creating our very own superpower Empathy glasses and we then explored a range of poetry that shared messages of empathy. Feeling inspired, we created our own shape poems to thank somebody or some people in our lives that really understand us when we are feeling low. Later, we then took part in an

empathy exchange with Hopper class, asking questions to get to know and understand each other better. We were really excited to then go visit Windsor class in the afternoon and to share our favourite stories with them.



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

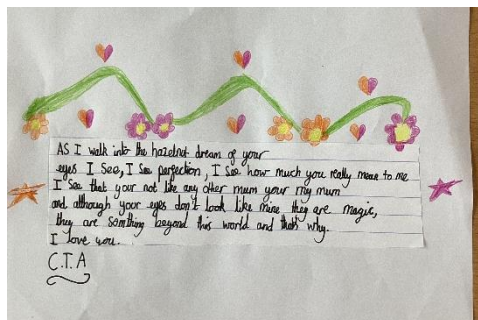
It has been a very busy first week back in Gutenberg! In English, we have been looking at how we can use dialogue as an effective tool to help show character or continue action within a story. We took the time to watch a short film clip based on soldiers arriving to battle in WW2, however the film had no speech in it. The children considered lots of different things throughout watching the film: what the soldiers may be thinking or feeling, what things they might be seeing, smelling or hearing and what they could be saying to one another. They were then given the task to write their own short dialogue scenes based on the film. They had to think hard about how speech between a Sergeant and his soldiers may differ between a few comrades and try to show this in their work.

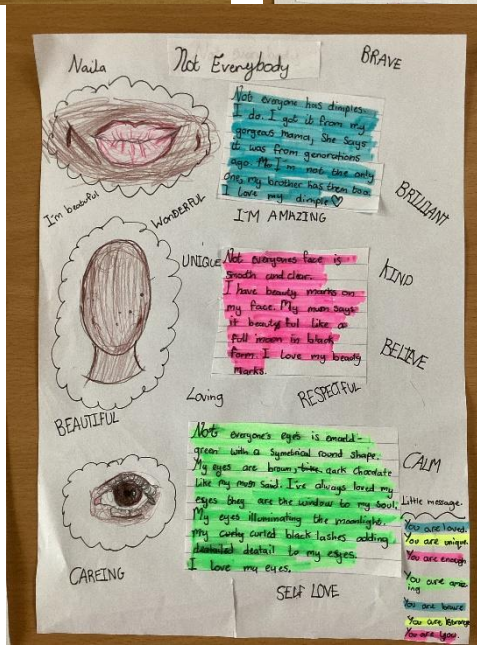
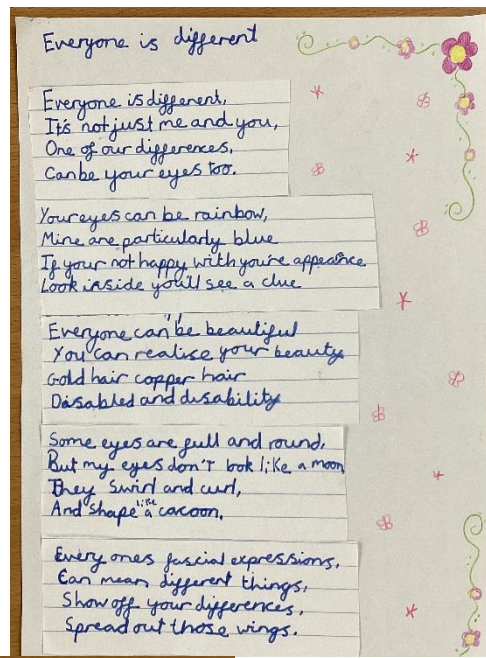
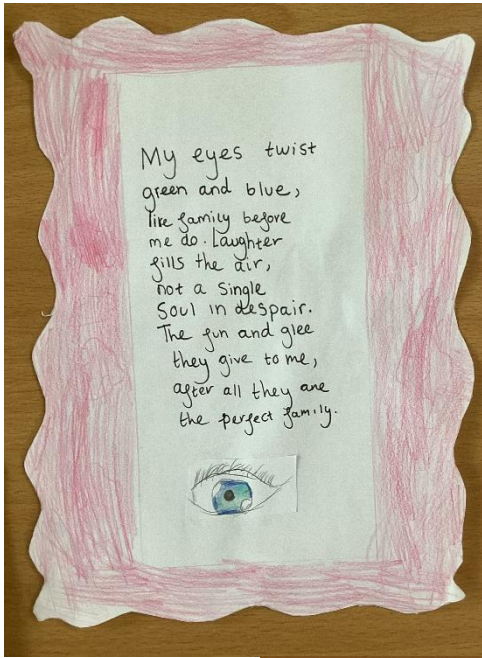
On Tuesday, we were visited by Warwickshire Safe & Active Schools for an Impulse Control Session. Throughout the session we learnt and talked about the concept of Impulse Control and what it really means and how this can play a big role when out and about near the roads. The children looked through several different scenarios and considered different factors that might distract a person from being safe near the roads. Overall, it was a great session where the children were able to develop a very important skill that will be vital as they move on to secondary school.



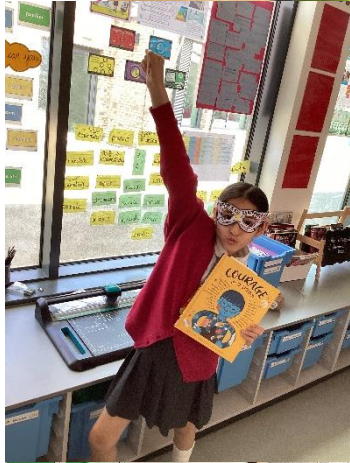


On Thursday, Year 6 and the rest of the school celebrated Empathy Day! It was such a wonderful day exploring what empathy means, why it is important and how we can develop it in ourselves. One of the best ways to learn about empathy is through reading books so, throughout the day we took the opportunity to read a variety of different books together. In Year 6, we explored the importance of self-love and appreciation for other people, their backgrounds and cultures. We looked through '*Courage in a Poem*' and took time to read Joanna Ho's '*Eyes that Kiss in the Corners*'. From this book the children were then given the task to write in a similar way to Ho by either writing about their own eyes or those of someone they love to celebrate their own unique qualities and experiences.





Throughout the day, Year 6 also enjoyed visiting Reception, Year 1 and Year 4 to take part in an Empathy Exchange and Book Swap. They also took the time to make their own Empathy Resolutions and have a go at drawing a bush baby with author and illustrator, Rob Biddulph!





## Other News

Here are Windsor class, Jackson class and Gutenberg class celebrating Empathy day altogether!



## Recommended Read

Following on from our Empathy Day on Thursday, our recommended read this week is not just one book...but lots!



By clicking the link below, you will be able to access the Primary Reading for Empathy Collection which covers all year groups and have a wide range of great books to support the development of empathy.

<https://irp.cdn-website.com/b2f3fbc2/files/uploaded/%21FINAL%20WEB%20PRIMARY%20EMPATHYLAB%20GUIDE%20web.pdf>

## Online Safety

Anime is a very popular form of animation across the world and has been used in films, games and animation series that are popular both amongst children and adults. Cartoons can often look very child friendly at a quick glance and [National Online Safety](#) have put together a great infographic all about the risks involved as well as a few helpful tips to keep everybody safe when viewing this popular entertainment format.

## 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](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**

Our next Celebration Assembly will Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Come join us to see more amazing work from Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5.



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