

Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School

MESSENGER

Friday 24th November 2023



Dear Overleigh Family,

We hope you enjoy seeing examples of the work the children have been completing since half term. Thank you to everyone who donated so generously to *Children In Need* last week. We raised over £500, which is wonderful!



Christmas Sing Along Carols Event



This event will be in the school hall on Wednesday 6th December from 3.45 in the school hall. Everyone welcome. We will be accompanied by QPHS band who have kindly agreed to come and play for us. Some children will also be sharing Christmas readings and poems.

There will be non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies for adults and squash and biscuits for children. Father Christmas will be available for visits for those children who have been extra good this year and there will also be a few stalls to enjoy.

Do come and join us. You don't have to be tuneful – just enthusiastic and I am sure it will put everyone in the spirit of Christmas.



For the event children and parents can bring along their own lantern or come and make one in school.

We will have materials, glue, tissue paper and a battery candle, available in Nursery, Reception and Y1 and in the school hall on:

29th November – 9.15am-10.45am
and 1.30pm-3.00pm

If you wish to come with your child to make a lantern, we ask that children **bring a clean and empty 2 litre plastic bottle** and **£1 donation each towards materials**. Children who attend Cosmic Club will be able to complete their lantern there if parents are unable to make the time slots. If you are able to start saving bottles now and bring along some spares to share, that would be very helpful!

There is no need to book, just come along and join the fun. We have done several events like this over the years which are very busy but we always have a wonderful time with everyone helping each other to get the job done!

Once the lanterns are dry, the always fantastic Mr Flynn will string them up in the hall ready for the 6th December.



Baby On The Way

Mrs Norbury is starting her maternity leave next Friday 1st December. We send her with all our love and hope she manages to put her feet up before baby arrives. We all look forward meeting the new arrival soon.

Rev Ric

On Sunday, it was announced that Rev Ric and his family will be relocating to Newcastle in the spring. Ric will be taking up a new post with the bishop there. It is a wonderful opportunity for the family and we know our loss is very much going to be their gain. It will be a big change for everyone and I am sure you will join with us in supporting the family in getting ready for their big move. In the meantime we will enjoy spending time in worship, in school and at our special Christmas celebrations with Rev Ric.



In time, a new vicar will be appointed for St Mary's and we will let you know when we know more.

DATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Wednesday 6 th December | Xmas after school event – Carol Singing and Readings + refreshments in the school hall. |
| 8 th & 11 th December | KS1 & EYFS Xmas Performances |
| Tuesday 12 th December | KS2 Carol Service – at St Mary's Without Walls |
| Tuesday 12 th December | Panto for children |
| Wednesday 13 th December | Xmas Lunch |
| Friday 15 th December | Xmas Class celebrations/last Day of Term – <u>2.15pm End</u> |
| – | |
| 2 nd & 3 rd January | Inset Day School Closed |
| Thursday 4 th January | First Day of Spring Term - Values Day – Justice |
| Friday 5 th January | Art & DT Theme Day |
| 1 st – 2 nd February | Mathematics & Computing Theme Days |
| Friday 16 th February | Last Day of Half Term – usual 3.20pm Finish |
| Monday 26 th February | First Day of Half Term – Values Day - Friendship |

In Love & Peace,

Emma Drew

Attendance

| Class | WB 06/11/232 | WB 13/11/23 | WB 20/11/23 |
|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Quavers | 98.0 | 95.5 | 96.4 |
| Crochet | 92.3 | 92.5 | 94.7 |
| Minim | 95.8 | 91.9 | 91.5 |
| Ballad | 94.0 | 89.6 | 90.8 |
| High Note | 95.6 | 98.5 | 92.6 |
| Glissando | 91.7 | 91.3 | 95.3 |
| Melody | 94.8 | 93.3 | 97.7 |
| Maestro | 98.7 | 99.3 | 97.6 |
| Harmony | 98.5 | 98.9 | 97.0 |
| Note | 96.7 | 94.7 | 96.7 |
| Maestoso | 96.0 | 97.3 | 99.0 |
| Allegro | 99.0 | 96.1 | 93.0 |
| Pizzicato | 94.8 | 93.5 | 90.6 |
| Joyeux | 99.0 | 93.0 | 96.5 |
| Finale | 94.0 | 98.0 | 99.0 |
| Heptatonic | 94.8 | 94.3 | 98.1 |

Attendance Key

96% and above **Green**

95—90% **Amber**

Less than 90% **Red**

It is very important that attendance is maintained at 96% and above, please note some of the classes that have fallen below this.

Below is a message we've been asked to share:

Sexploitation - Kent Police

The internet age has been a wonderous event in human history, bringing the power to create, write and access all the information in the world with but a few flurries across a keyboard. The advent of social media, and the ensuing creation of the always online society of the past decade though, has brought formerly distant vulnerability windows far closer to home. As people have got more intelligent about navigating these opportunities for harm, those who seek to harm internet users have become better at evading detection by said users. The area of sexploitation is one of these vulnerability windows. Unscrupulous individuals have evolved their tactics to include infiltration of friends groups, the manipulation of Instagram accounts and recently the deployment of AI. All in the cause of gaining access to explicit photographs, videos and messages for the purpose of gratification or financial blackmail. Kent Police have released a video on their YouTube page, designed to raise awareness of this activity. If interested please follow the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AddVGsFIV_s

Shin Pads and Football Boots Appeal



As a result of increased interest in football, particularly amongst our girls, we were wondering if anyone has got any decent quality spare shin pads or boots, that school could keep to use for those who are trying it out for the first time or who have been selected for competitive events and might not yet have purchased shin pads. It is predominately Year 4, 5 and 6 children that we need them for. If you can help then please could you ask your child to give them to Mr Longworth who will store them away for safe use.

We are also looking to enhance our school team kits. We do currently have a full set but if you do come across anyone who has a spare set of shirts for our older children, or knows a company that might like to possibly sponsor a school kit, then please let us know. Any help would be much appreciated.

The Highwayman



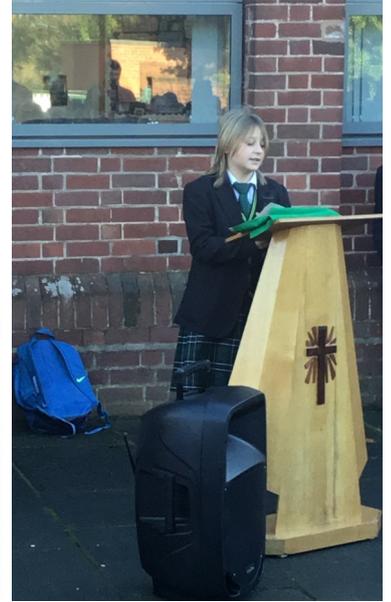
The moon was a glistening galleon hanging like a lantern suspended in the cold, gloomy sky. It glared down at strangers like a raging lion and its prey. Gradually, the eerie silence was broken by the deafening howls of the furious wind. A faint galloping protruded the area, quiet at first, but getting louder and louder. At that moment, a man on a stallion came riding down the meandering maze of mossy tiled bricks that made up the never ending path. The angry trees were reaching out to grab him, but he didn't mind. The mysterious highwayman wore a blazing, scarlet coat made of claret velvet. He had leather boots up to his thigh and the butt of his pistol seemed to reflect off of the moon. As he reached for the whip in his brown doe skin pants, the raging wind grew louder and made his silky black hair blow freely.

The above piece of writing is by Rory in Year 6, influenced by the poem, The Highwayman.

There has been a range of stunning writing this week as the poem has really captured the children's imagination in Year 6.

Remembrance Day

Our Year 5 and 6 children were delighted to be invited to observe a remembrance silence at Catholic High School with their pupils and staff on Friday 10th November. Some of our children were asked to participate in the remembrance, including Ruby, Sana, Freddie and Matullah, who read beautifully in front of a large audience. Jess, our head pupil, laid a poppy wreath on behalf of Overleigh. The children's behaviour was impeccable throughout and we thank them for the manner in which they represented our school on such a poignant occasion.



It was also fantastic to see Scarlett, an ex-pupil of ours, reading so eloquently as a representative of Catholic High School. Well done to all the children involved and many thanks to Catholic High for their hospitality, which included some tasty biscuits and juice afterwards.

Follow Up Message from the Children's Commissioner

Rachel De Souza (Children's commissioner) is seeking the views of children around the topics that are important to them ahead of the general election. This is in the form of a national survey and she is trying to get as wide a base of opinion from children across the country.

You may decide this is a good opportunity to explore with pupils the fundamental issues affecting their lives and to give them the chance to participate. There is quite a bit of typing involved (adults can answer on behalf of children if necessary) and some other information needs to be inputted regarding personal and educational background, so do have a look first to see if you think it is appropriate!

Access to the survey is via the link below:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/

The Big Ambition - Have your say!

Please take a few minutes to take our survey.

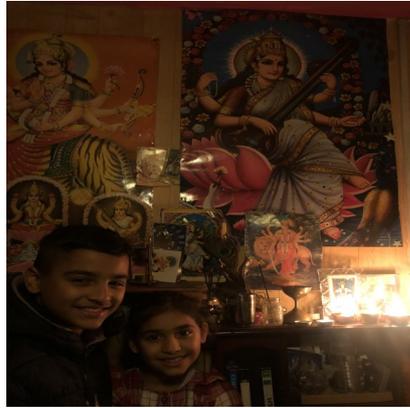
www.smartsurvey.co.uk



Reading with Giraffes

Andrea in Year 6 found a novel place to complete her reading as she visited Chester Zoo and tested the literacy skills of the tallest animals in the zoo. We hope that the giraffes approved the book that had been written about them.

DIWALI



Delighted to share some photos of Eashan and Sharaya taking part in Diwali celebrations. A wonderful opportunity for everyone to see the joy that the festival of lights brings to millions of people around the world.

Anti-bullying Week

Last week was anti-bullying week. Here at Overleigh we STOP.

This years theme was 'Make Some Noise', so in our classes we wrote and performed raps to get our message across. We also shared the story 'The Proudest Blue' and thought about how the characters would feel and advice we could offer.

Watch this space for a photograph of our whole school display which is currently underway in the corridor.



Basketball Heroes

Our children represented the school superbly at the Cheshire West and Cheshire basketball competition at Ellesmere Port Sports Village. They performed really well against some strong and extremely tall teams. Although we narrowly lost the first couple of games we improved significantly culminating in an amazing finish thanks to Rory's long range basket. Well done to all the children involved you were an absolute sporting pleasure to work with, respecting both your team mates, opponents and referees throughout.



Multi-Skills Festival

Earlier in the week, Joel, Leo C, Leo D and Owen from Years 3, 4 and 5 represented our school in the multi-sports festival at the same venue. They had a brilliant day and all came back with 'Champions of Sport' stickers to celebrate their involvement in the events. Miss McFaul could not have been prouder of the boys involved.

Lots of extra-curricular lunchtime clubs began this week. Here the children can be seen enjoying one of the lego clubs that has been running.



KS2 Lego Club



Friday Certificates 10.11.23



| Class | Value | Comment |
|------------|------------|--|
| Crochet | Hope | Iris has worked incredibly hard to settle and follow the new routines and expectations of Reception. She is open to trying new things, overcomes her fears and is always on her best behaviour! Amazing Iris, we are so proud |
| Minim | Respect | Zian's attitude to learning has been especially positive this half term! He is always sat beautifully on the carpet and is really trying hard in his phonics. Well done Zian! |
| Ballad | Respect | Tyler for making great choices in school. Tyler follows the classroom rules beautifully and tries really hard to put every effort into his work. Well done Tyler, you are making great choices and we are very proud of you. |
| High Note | Compassion | Milo is a superstar - He always listens and tries his best. He has been working hard on his writing recently and made excellent progress. We are very proud of him. Good job Milo |
| Glissando | Integrity | Eray is a sensible and hardworking member of the class. He is constantly showing that he is able to ignore distractions and focus on his learning and making the right choices. Well done Eray, we are so proud of you! |
| Melody | Respect | Enya - am really pleased with the way Enya has been trying her very best in everything she does. She has been working extremely hard, consistently listening and trying to find ways to improve. Well done, Enya please keep it up! |
| Harmony | Integrity | Alfie always does the right thing even when nobody is watching and can be counted on to be a model student for everyone. Well done, Alfie! 🌟 |
| Maestro | Integrity | Jacob has been working so hard this week to follow all our school and classroom rules even when no one is watching. He has been showing that he is ready, respectful and safe in class and trying to be a good role model for others. Well done Jacob, keep up the good work! |
| Note | Integrity | Tanay has worked so hard since joining us at Overleigh this year, he is always respectful and can be seen doing the right thing. Tanay happily follows the rules and routines of school and he has impressed me this week with the wonderful Bonfire Night poem he wrote for his homework. |
| Maestoso | Love | Mostafa (Mohammed) always works hard and has particularly impressed me with his addition and subtraction in maths over the last few weeks. He is enthusiastic, friendly and polite at all times. Keep it up Mostafa! |
| Pizzicato | Respect | Lilly is always a sensible member of the class who sets an excellent example to others. I have been really pleased to see all of the effort she has been putting into her learning recently. |
| Allegro | Respect | Cha Cha has really impressed me with his good manners and attentiveness in lessons. He always puts an enthusiastic effort in to his learning and is making great progress as a result. Well done! |
| Joyeux | Integrity | Connor - for always working hard and doing the right thing. |
| Heptatonic | Peace | Charlie- for demonstrating enthusiasm during class discussion. |
| Finale | Peace | Savannah is a lovely member of our class who is always polite and kind to her peers. Last week, on our values day for peace, she participated brilliantly in class discussions around inner and world peace. |

Friday Certificates 17.11.23



| Class | Value | Comment |
|------------|-----------|--|
| Crotchet | Love | Lucas for working so hard to make the right choices with regards to his behaviour. Lucas is showing kindness to his friends, sharing his toys and using words instead of actions to share his feelings. We are so proud, well done Lucas! |
| Minim | Peace | Olivia has tried so hard this week to make sure she has her hand up in lessons as she loves sharing what she knows with the rest of the class. She also makes sure she shows respect by being the first to tidy up our classroom every day. Well done Olivia we are so proud of you! |
| Ballad | Integrity | Joshua for putting every effort into all aspects of his learning. Josh has a fantastic attitude to learning and always puts in maximum effort. Well done Josh, you are a fantastic member of Ballad class. |
| High Note | Hope | Amelia has been working super hard in English and Maths lessons and is making great progress in her writing. She always joins in her phonics lessons and is one of the first to have her hand up to have a go. Well done Amelia, what a great attitude to your work! |
| Melody | Integrity | Adonis has really impressed me with his perseverance and determination in all areas of the curriculum, especially maths. Adonis has really outshone in maths recently and it has been a pleasure to see his confidence grow. Keep up all the hard work Adonis! |
| Glissando | Integrity | Tam is such a hardworking and kind member of our class and school. He is always respectful, ready and safe and a good friend to all. |
| Harmony | Integrity | Emma is a hard-working and polite and demonstrates the values of Overleigh all the time! I can always count on her to be doing the right thing, showing the other children in the class what is expected of them. You are a star! 🌟 |
| Maestro | Wisdom | James has been working so hard this week in Maths and he should be proud of how hard he has worked this week. He comes to school ready to do his best and to learn new things every day! Keep up the fantastic work James! |
| Note | Peace | Grace is a wonderfully kind and friendly girl; she is a pleasure to teach and is always polite and respectful. Well done Grace on being such a brilliant member of our class. |
| Maestoso | Love | Joel is working really hard and is making great progress. He is impressing me with his kindness, enthusiasm and the way he treats others with respect, kindness and encouragement. Keep it up Joel! |
| Pizzicato | Respect | Alfie. I have been really impressed with the effort he has been putting into his learning recently and the maturity and kindness he is regularly demonstrating in class. |
| Allegro | Respect | Rolien has really impressed me this week with his super effort in his learning but in particular his use of his excellent maths skills to solve problems. Keep up the excellent work and outstanding effort. |
| Joyeux | Integrity | Nuriyah. For using fantastic figurative language in her writing. |
| Heptatonic | Wisdom | Riley is such a hardworking, mature member of the class - just how we like Year 6 to be! He always tries his best to move onto a challenge and shares his ideas and explanations with the class. He also helps and supports others in a patient way. Well done Riley! |
| Finale | Love | Ben is such a kind and thoughtful friend. He will go out of his way to ensure all his peers are happy and included in games during break times as well as helping them in class where necessary. Thank you for being such a lovely and valued member of our class, Ben! |

Friday Certificates 24.11.23



| Class | Value | Comment |
|------------|-------------------------|---|
| Crochet | Hope | Jackson, for persevering and trying new things. Jackson has worked extremely hard in his phonics and writing work and is now building the confidence to become more independent. He has also started to eat a school lunch every day and we are super proud of him. Well done Jackson! |
| Minim | Peace | Raya has been trying so hard practicing for our Christmas production! She sings her heart out and loves doing the actions! Well done Raya you super star! |
| Ballad | Integrity | Elsie for being a fantastic member of our class. Elsie works extremely hard in every aspect of school life. She produces work to a high standard and does so with a great big smile on her face. Well done Elsie, you have a great attitude to learning. |
| High Note | Respect | Since returning after half term Andrea's confidence has grown greatly. She is trying really hard and applying what she has learned in class independently. It is so lovely that Andrea is now settled in at Overleigh and loves coming to school every day. Well done for all your hard work. |
| Melody | Integrity | Flynn is a sensible and hardworking member of Melody Class. He has constantly been trying to ignore distractions around him, working extremely hard and always finding ways to improve by making the right choices. Well done, Flynn! This has been wonderful to see, please keep it up. |
| Glissando | Integrity | Jemima is a sensible, hardworking and mature member of our class. She is always doing the right thing and is an excellent role model. She has been working really hard on her handwriting this week and it is looking beautiful. You're a star! |
| Harmony | Wisdom | My nomination is for Chloe for the value of wisdom. Chloe has been working extremely hard in all subjects which has really shown in the work she is producing. Her presentation is outstanding and her work is a pleasure to read! Well done, Chloe. |
| Maestro | Integrity | Heleena has been trying her best to follow our school and classroom rules. She has been taking responsibility for her own learning this week and helping others to do the same. Keep up the fantastic work Heleena! |
| Note | Thankfulness | Leo proudly represented Overleigh at the school sports festival last week and he joined in brilliantly with all of the activities. Leo has also been working really hard in English and maths recently, with a positive 'can do' attitude and great concentration. Well done Leo! |
| Maestoso | Integrity | Weston always tries his best, working hard in all his lessons. He is trying really hard in his reading at the moment and is making some great progress. Well done Weston, keep up the hard work. |
| Pizzicato | Respect | Dexter. I am also pleased to see how eager he is to learn and shows a great attitude towards all of his work. |
| Allegro | Respect | Ella has been really engaged in every aspect of her learning, always contributing to class discussions and also helping others engage when they are finding it difficult. This has been noticed by all staff who work with her so it is a pleasure to award her star of the week. |
| Joyeux | Service and Stewardship | Matiullah - Despite finding some tasks challenging, he works incredibly hard and always tried his best. He offers to help with many jobs around the classroom and is always willing to lend a hand to his peers. Joyeux are so lucky to have you in their class! |
| Heptatonic | Compassion | Ivy - She always helps others - including us teachers. She is a supportive friend and a really engaged member of the class. She always puts her hand up to share her creative, thoughtful ideas in class and we've been impressed by her attitude to work. Keep it up Ivy! |
| Finale | Service & Stewardship | Rory has an outstanding attitude to his learning in year 6 and is particularly passionate about our current study of The Highwayman in English. His writing these past couple of weeks has been incredible; he is conscientious and has constructed clear and concise pieces of writing using his mastery targets. Keep up the super efforts, Rory! |

Forest School

Autumn in Forest School!

Our Forest School area is now starting to look like one big mud bath. Think of a rainy music festival and you know what I mean. This means that sometimes some children will be taking their Forest School clothes home to get washed if they get particularly dirty during our session. Please send them back for the following week!



It also means we need spare socks! Last week we ran out of school's spare socks, so please send in an extra pair for your child! If you have got socks that your child has grown out of, please send them in so we can add them to our spares' collection in school. No-one likes wet feet!



Forest School Clothes

Just a reminder that Forest School clothes are just **old clothes!** Clothes that you as a parent/guardian don't mind getting wet and dirty. Now the weather is getting colder, children need to wear layers to keep warm: a vest, t-shirt, jumper, and a warm, waterproof coat. They will also need their hats, scarves and gloves. Please go with what is right for your child but remember... it is better to have too many clothes than not enough.

Tools

We use a lot of different tools in our forest school sessions. These last few weeks most classes have experienced using different kinds of tools, like knives or potato peelers to whittle wands for Halloween, a hand drill to make holes in conkers for our forest school poppies, and a bow saw to saw off wood cookies for our upcoming Christmas crafts.



Autumn 2 Timetable

| | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Morning</i> | Reception Minim Reception Crochet | Year 1 High Notes Year 3 Maestro | Nursery Quavers Year 3 Harmony |
| <i>Afternoon</i> | Year 5 Allegro Year 1 Ballads | Year 2 Glissando Year 2 Melody | Year 4 Note Year 4 Maestoso |

Nursery



Another busy week in Nursery!

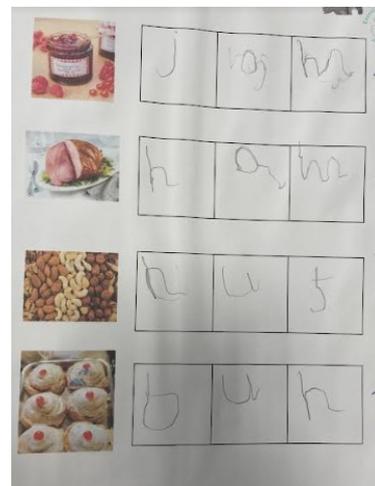
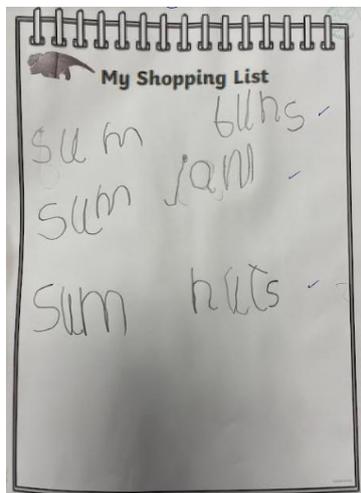
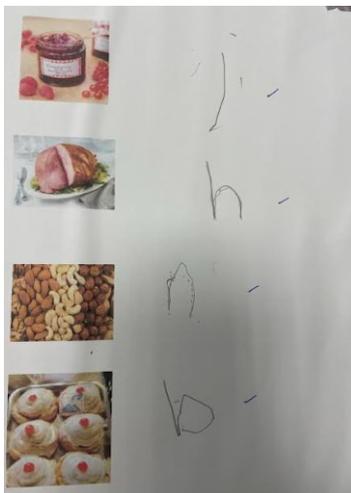


Year R

We have been naming and sorting 2D shapes this week. We have enjoyed creating shape pictures.



Look at our super writing this week!



We have enjoyed exploring the Hindu Festival of Diwali. We created our own Diya lamps using salt dough and decorated them using brightly coloured paints, glitter and sequins. We enjoyed creating rangoli patterns with pasta and rice and designed our own Mehndi patterns too!

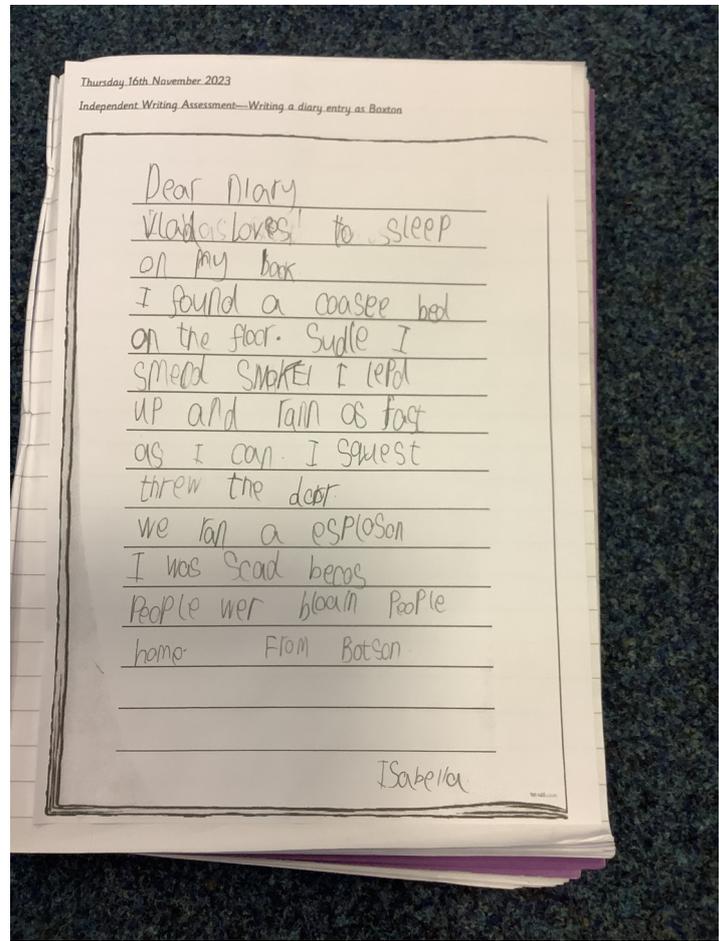
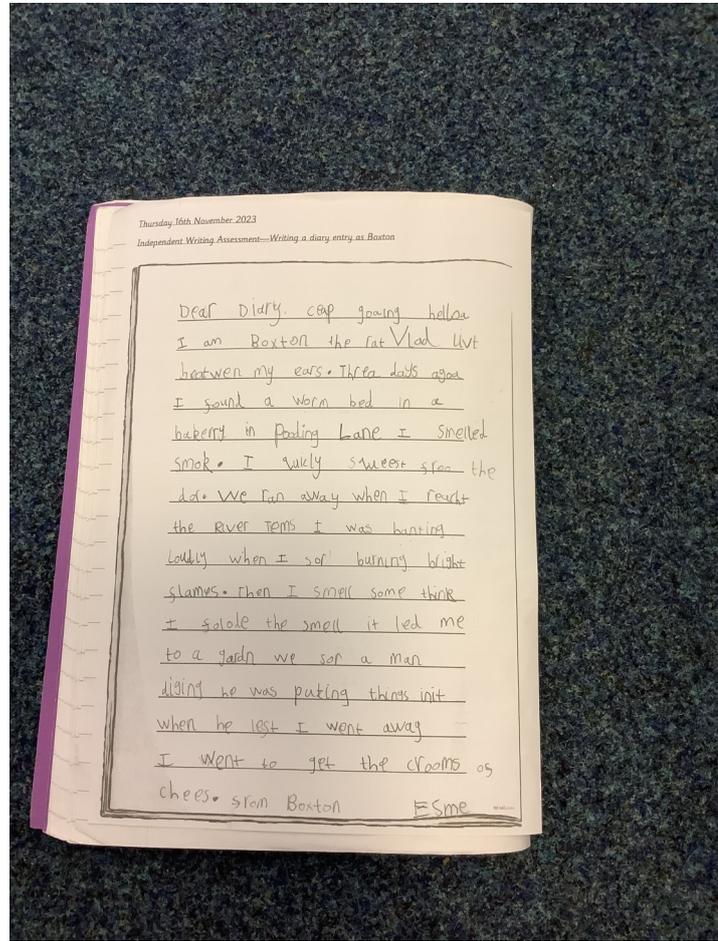


Year 1

In Maths we have been finding addition and subtraction fact families.



In English we have been writing a diary as Boxton the Rat explaining what he saw and how he felt during The Great Fire of London.



Year 2



In RE we have been learning about Diwali which is the Hindu 'festival of light'. We have really loved creating our own Diwali lamps out of clay, now they are ready to paint!

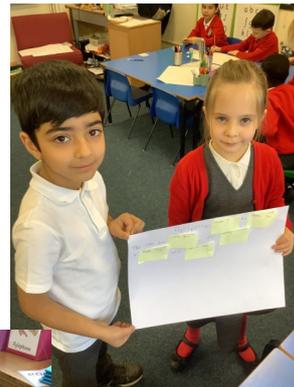
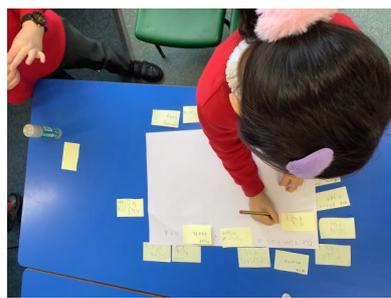


Year 2



In science we have been learning about living things in their habitat, so we used the school grounds to explore the microhabitats and hunt for living things.

In PSHE we thought about what makes us special and unique and made our own cubes displaying these qualities.



Our mastery target in English was to use commas in lists, so we wrote words on post-it notes and created sentences using commas.



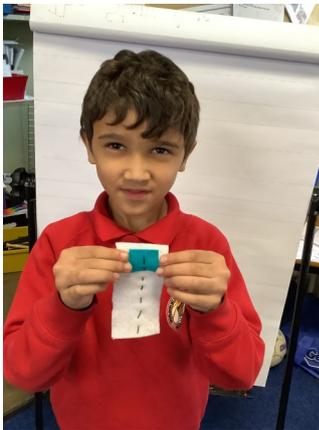
We also made clay Diwali pots in RE.



Year 3



This half term, we have been looking more at soil in Science. We explored the different textures and colours of soils in our school grounds. We found lots of the soils to be dark brown with a clay-like texture.



We have also been keen sewers! We have been practising our joining techniques with the running stitch. Sometimes we got in a muddle but we know that practise makes perfect!

Year 4

In Music, we have been exploring and performing Samba beats. We have looked at different rhythms and practised playing them at different times.



In DT, we have been looking at shell structures. We learnt how scoring the fold lines makes it neater and easier to fold. We then practised making boxes from nets.

Last week, it was anti-bullying week. In Year 4, we designed posters and wrote poems linked to this year's theme - 'Make a Noise About Bullying'.

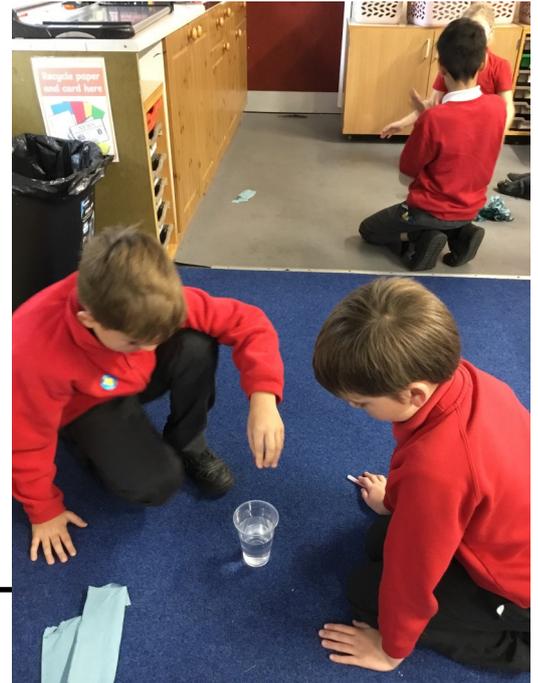


In maths, we've been working on multiplication and division. To strengthen our times-tables understanding, we have been exploring concrete and pictorial methods.

The collage displays several mathematical strategies:

- Concrete Model:** A tree diagram for 3×7 showing 3×7 branching into 2×7 and 1×7 .
- Pictorial Array:** A triangle with a height of 21 and a base of 7, divided into two smaller triangles, with the equation $3 \times 7 = 21$.
- Number Line:** A number line from 0 to 70 with jumps of 7, illustrating $10 \times 7 = 70$.
- Concrete Model:** A row of 10 blocks, each representing 7 , with the equation $10 \times 7 = 70$.
- Concrete Model:** A grid of 35 dots arranged in 7 rows and 5 columns, with the equation $5 \times 7 = 35$ and the label "ARRAY=35".
- Concrete Model:** A tree diagram for 5×7 showing 5×7 branching into 4×7 and 1×7 .

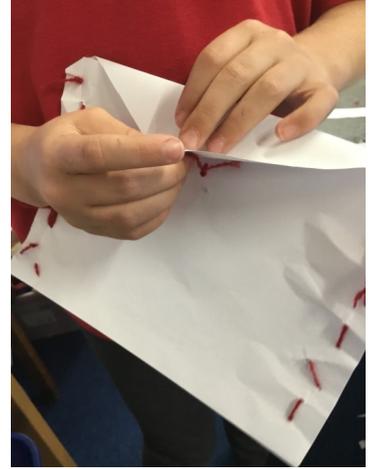
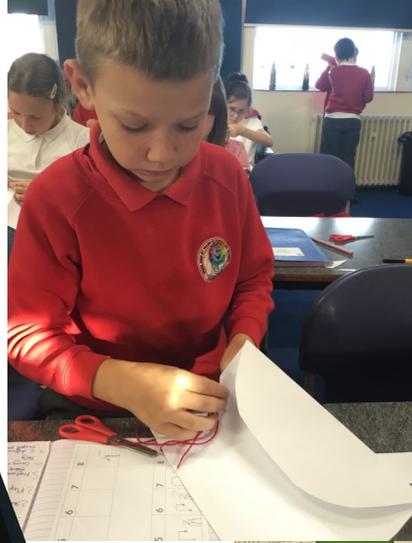
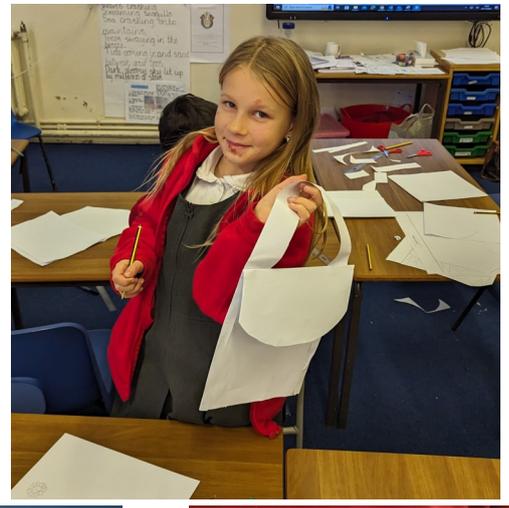
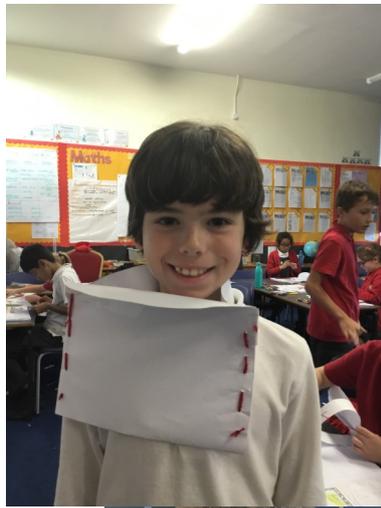
Year 5



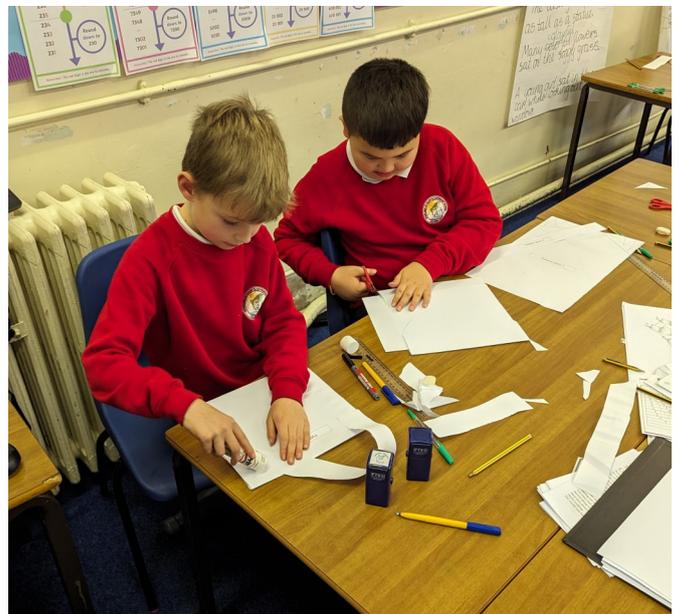
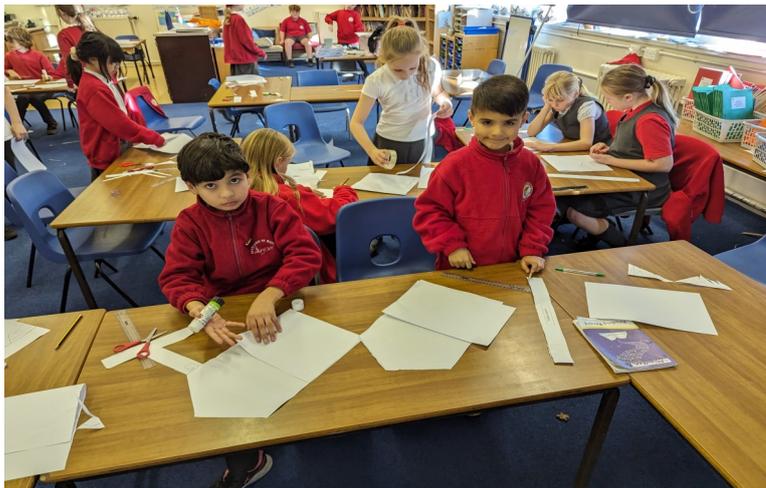
In Science this week, we have been investigating water resistance. The children looked at how the shape of an object changes the amount of water resistance it creates by measuring its splash and the amount of time it took to sink to the bottom of the container.



Year 5



In DT, we have been looking at designing and making bags linked to our work in History on The Maya. The children have been designing and making a prototype bag as well as developing their sewing skills.



Year 6

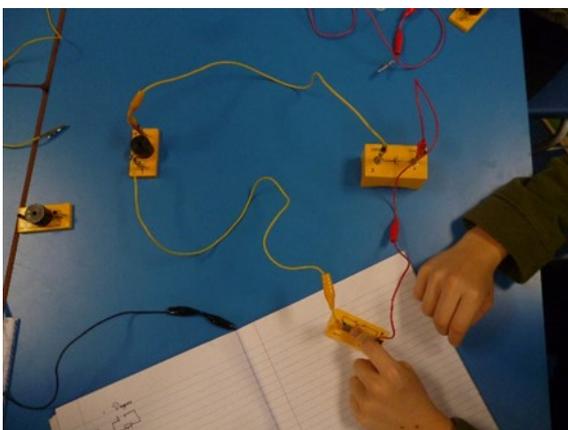
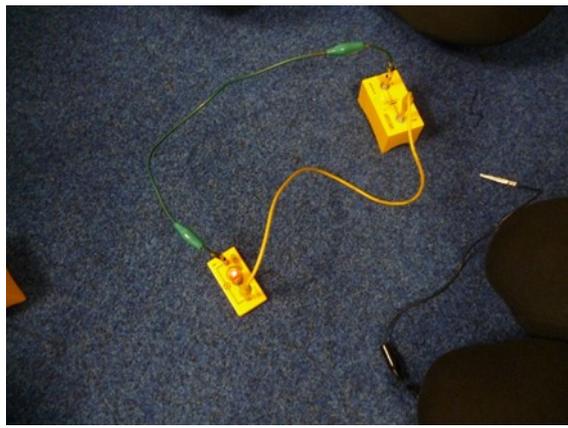
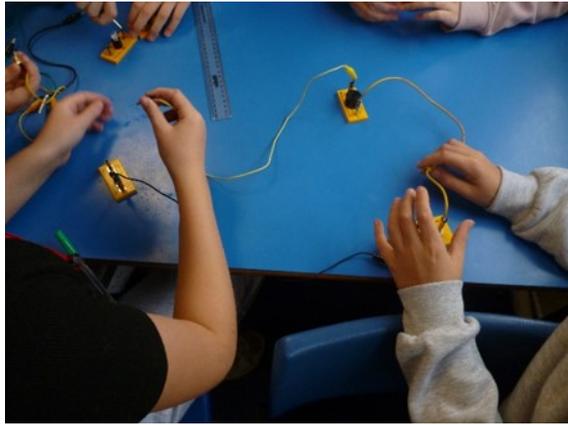
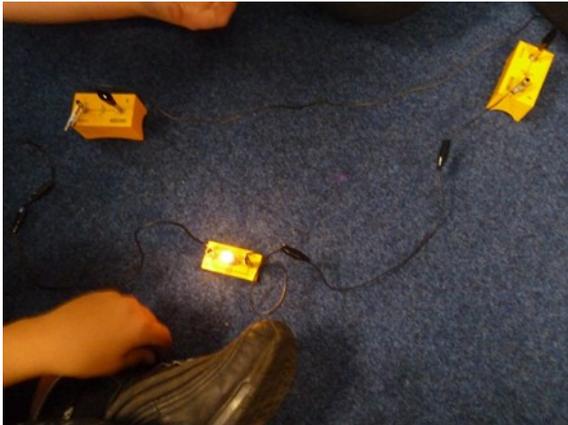
During Anti-Bullying week, we wrote a class rap! We had lots of fun thinking about the beats and lyrics.

Finale's Bullying Rap.

This is a rap
About Antibullying
So listen up
As we teach you a lesson.
Don't throw a chair
Or pull someone's hair
No don't do that!
That's unfair.
Let's not be mean
Keep ya words clean
No, don't be mean.

We have also been enjoying writing our own narratives for The Highwayman. Take a look on the following page of some snippets of our writing!

During science this week, we have been developing our scientific enquiry skills by investigating what happens when we add more of a particular component to a circuit.





We got creative and made our own backgrounds ready for writing our published narratives in English.



In music, we listened to and played different tones on an African drum. We also practised playing a rhythmic ostinato.

