

# Learning Together

## Autumn 2023



Here is some of the fantastic learning that has taken place in the Autumn Term.

Let's share and celebrate our amazing learning journeys....

# Nursery



We have settled really well into Nursery and enjoyed our first term at school!

The children have spent lots of time getting to know their classroom environment, learning the rules and routines and making new friends.

We have completed lots of fine motor activities, including threading and playdough to help with our pencil grip and control.

We really enjoyed learning all about ourselves and our community. We created our face using paper plates, exploring different emotions.

We particularly enjoyed learning about people who help us. We changed our role play corner into a doctors and a vets. We pretended we were doctors, nurses and vets to help our friends and animals feel better. We talked about how to care and look after animals.

We are really looking forward to the Spring term together.

# Reception



We have had a great Autumn term and have settled into Reception so well!

We have loved learning in our environment and exploring all the different activities both inside and outside. We have made new friends this term and have enjoyed learning with our friends across the year group.

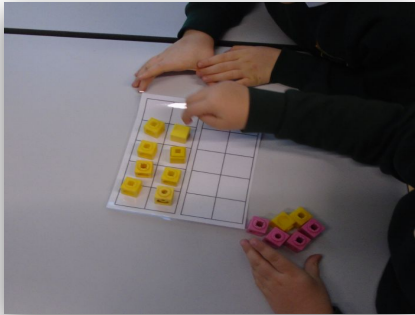
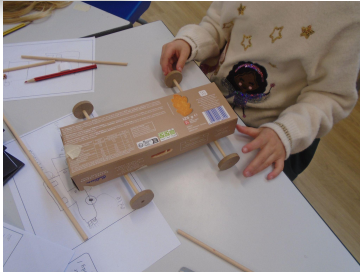
We have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about ourselves and talking about our family. We created self portraits using paint, focusing on the key features of our face. We were excited to see these displayed in our classroom!

We have worked really hard with our phonics and reading skills. We particularly have enjoyed storytimes in class. One of our favourite stories was 'Little Hedgehog's Big Day'.

It was great when we were learning all about 'people who help us'. We particularly enjoyed our police visit to school where we were able to go inside a police van and look at all the different things, including the shields and wear some different hats! We had a great day learning all about the police and how they keep us safe.

We are so proud of all of the children and how they have settled into Reception. We are looking forward to the Spring term.

# Year 1



What a fantastic autumn term we have had together in year 1!

In English, we read lots of texts that related to our topic of toys, such as 'Toys in Space', 'The Paper Dolls' and 'The Lost Property Office'. We sequenced stories, made posters, wrote speech bubbles, created alternative endings for stories and wrote letters. We were very busy writers!

In Maths, we learned about addition and subtraction to 20. As well as consolidating previous learning, we also learned new strategies to help us solve equations where we are crossing a ten. For instance, we learned the 'make 10' strategy to help us find the answer to equations such as  $7 + 6$  or  $14 - 8$ .

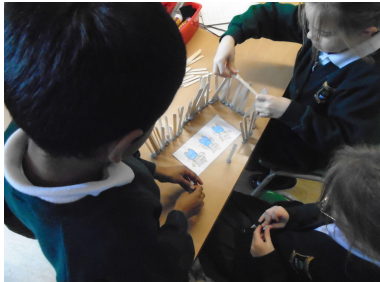
In our other learning, we celebrated Black History Month by finding out about Rosa Parks and the really small thing she did that resulted in a really big change. We created artwork and wrote about why she was so significant. We also had great fun finding out about moving vehicles in Design and Technology. We learned about wheels, axles and axle holders and how we use them to create a vehicle that can actually move!

The highlight of our autumn term had to be our amazing Christmas show. The children did a brilliant job learning all of their lines and they sang beautifully.

Well done for all of your learning so far, Year 1! We are looking forward to another great term.



# Year 2



It has been an amazing term in Year 2. The children started the year in such a positive way, showing great resilience and always working very hard.

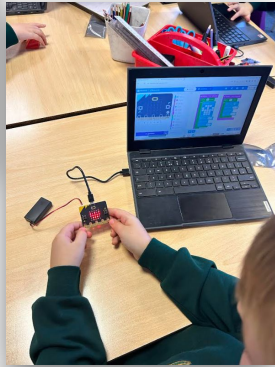
The children have worked exceptionally hard in English. They have enjoyed texts relating to our explorers topic, such as Tom Crean's Rabbit by Meredith Hooper, and texts relating to our Poles Apart topic, such as the wonderful book Poles Apart by Jeanne Willis. The children have loved engaging with the texts, learning new vocabulary and applying these in their writing. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed our end of day stories, a particular favourite being the riveting Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure.

In Maths, we have learned all about place value and numbers within 100. Through this we have explored addition and subtraction questions using a range of different strategies. Also, we have looked at gathering data and displaying it in many different ways. We finished our maths unit by looking at multiplication and division by linking this to what we already learnt in addition and subtraction.

In our other learning we focussed on famous explorers and the polar regions, this linked with our design & technology work, where we designed and made explorer's pouches. The children used their knowledge of the polar regions to inform and create amazing artwork depicting the northern lights and polar scenery. In science we conducted a variety of investigations about materials and their properties and the suitability of materials for different objects. This was a great opportunity to link with our second design & technology unit, where the children collaborated, designed and made chairs made from paper.

Well done for an amazing start to Year 2. We are looking forward to another great term filled with fantastic learning opportunities.

# Year 3



We have had a brilliant autumn term in Year 3!

In English, we read a variety of fantastic texts. We particularly enjoyed 'Voices in the Park' by Anthony Browne. We really enjoyed reading about the different experiences that different characters had in the park. Finally, we really enjoyed writing a short playscript from a scene in the book, using all of the features that we had been learning about.

In Maths, we learnt all about addition and subtraction. We really enjoyed learning all about the column method which really helped us when adding and subtracting larger numbers. We were all much more confident by the end of this unit.

In Geography we carried out a fieldwork study on Welling High Street. We learned all about the history of Welling and even found out how it got its name! We really enjoyed walking to Tesco to carry out a footfall survey to find out how many people visited the store in 10 minutes. Each class did this on a different day and then we analysed the data. Finally we looked at how Welling High Street has changed over time and debated whether the land uses are more efficient now or in the past.

We also really enjoyed our Stone Age day which gave us a fantastic opportunity to develop their understanding before the unit begins in January.

We are so proud of everything the children have achieved so far this year and we know they will continue the hard work as we enter the Spring term!

# Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the year! We are really impressed with how well they have all settled in and are working very hard to improve in all subjects!

In Maths, we started by learning about place value and applied this knowledge to addition and subtraction using the formal written method. We have also been working hard on learning all of our times tables up to 12x12 and have seen the children make huge improvements over the term Keep it up!

Our English lessons have linked to our History topic of the Ancient Egyptians. First, we read 'The Egyptian Cinderella' and were able to rewrite the story from the main character's perspective. After this, we read an adventure novel called the 'The Heart Scarab' where we focused on a setting description. To immerse ourselves, we turned our classrooms into Ancient Egyptian tombs and used our senses to describe it.

Throughout our History lessons this term learnt all about how people lived in the Ancient Egyptian Era. We also learned about the Gods they worshipped and the process of mummification. In addition, we looked at various pharaohs including Rameses II and how he built up the ancient civilisation.

In Science we started the term by learning about sound. We learn that sound is a form of energy that vibrates to travel to the ear. We were able to see this happen when we hit a tuning fork on the table and put it in a jug of water as the water would splash due to the vibrations. After this, we explored state of matter, where we learnt about the properties of solids, liquids and gases. We learnt how to use thermometer to read temperature and then explored the most effective ways to melt chocolate.

The children have worked so hard in the Autumn term and we are so proud of what they have achieved so far. We look forward to seeing them grow more throughout the rest of the year!



# Year 5



We have enjoyed many highlights in the Autumn Term!

We thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Royal Observatory in Greenwich to watch a show in the planetarium called 'Universe on your Doorstep'. Another immersive experience we enjoyed was when The Chocolate Museum came into school to facilitate a workshop about the history of chocolate, which links back to the Maya civilisation. As part of this, we made our own chocolates; they were delicious!

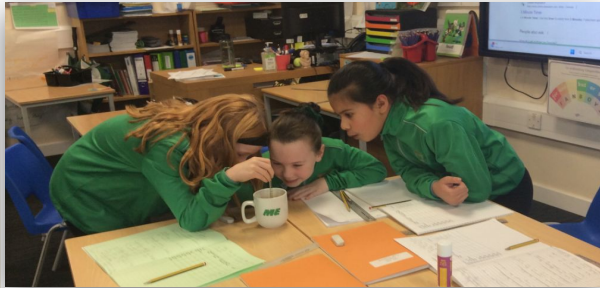
In English, we became experts when learning about aspects of how the Maya lived and wrote a non-chronological report about this advanced civilisation. We also showed our creativity when writing our own Maya folktale that linked to the natural world around us. Our teachers were very impressed when reading so many original pieces of writing!

In Maths, we have developed confidence when working with numbers to 1,000,000. We also learnt different strategies to compare fractions: we primarily found a common denominator for the fractions we worked with, but we also assessed the value of both the numerator and denominator and decided whether the fractions were worth more or less than one half.

In Science, we covered two units in the Autumn - 'Earth and Space' as well as 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. We had great discussions about how different materials could be separated through using different methods such as filtration, sieving and evaporation.

In Geography, we explored fairtrade and sustainability. We learnt about the environmental impact of trading and identified key trading routes the United Kingdom has. We found it interesting learning about the different products that are imported and exported to the UK.

We have worked very hard in the Autumn Term and should be proud of ourselves!





# Year 6



The Autumn term for our Year 6 children has been action packed and filled with learning and of course, fun!

Early into the term, we had our residential trip to PGL where the children enjoyed a fantastic range of activities including climbing, rifle shooting, zip wires and giant swings to name but a few.

Our geography topic for the term was South America. We looked at the features of this amazing continent including physical and human aspects. Much of our lessons were focused on the Amazon Rainforest, why it is important, what threats there are to it and what the impact of deforestation might look like. We also looked at the impact of urbanisation in Brazil and the natural resources available in the country of Chile.

We continued the theme of thinking about sustainability and the impact humans can have on their environment by looking at Danson Park and completing fieldwork linked to the presence of litter in the park.

With Danson Park as our inspiration, during art week, we created our own pieces of art based on the work of David Hockney. We used water colour to create landscape pictures of our own interpretation of the park and we look forward to seeing them in the Danson Art Gallery later in the year.

In Maths we have been consolidating our knowledge of place value, the four operations and fractions in preparation for the SATs tests that will come in May. The children have worked extremely hard and this paid off when we did our first set of mock SATs. We were incredibly proud of them and know they will continue to impress us as the year moves on.

In English, we used the text *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell set in the Amazon Rainforest and we have written setting descriptions, diary entries, a non chronological report on an Amazon animal and a biography on Hiram Bingham, the person who discovered Macchu Picchu.

Our Science topics have involved us first learning all about the classification of plants and animals and later, in Spring 2, we looked at light including learning about how we see objects, the parts of the eye, how and why shadows change and the difference between reflection and refraction.

Although it has been a busy term, we still found time to rehearse and perform a fantastic Christmas Carol concert at St John's Church towards the end of term.

Well done Year 6. Bring on the Spring term!