



Our Resourceful Robin all set for her sponsored walk!



As you may remember from our March newsletter, one of our Year Three Robins was embarking on a 10 mile sponsored walk for school on Easter Saturday. They had set up a JustGiving page for anyone to donate if they wish. They set a target of £100 to raise funds towards the school allotment and an orchard Mrs Sizer is creating for all our children to enjoy and learn in. We are delighted to announce that Isabelle smashed her target and raised £315! Thank you, Natalie.

Our Responsible Robins – School Council Update



Our School Council have met to share a plethora of ideas they collected from their peers aimed at thinking of ways as to how they we can develop our school. From lunchtime menus, after school clubs choices, to enrichment of the curriculum, our Newchurch robins did not disappoint. We are busy collating the children's vision for the school and the next meeting will focus on developing one area. I wonder which one will be first...probably the school lunch menu as they had some great ideas.

Easter Egg-stravaganza

Our annual Easter Egg-stravaganza is always one of our most favourite events of the school year and this year was no exception. As ever, we were impressed with the level of creativity the children displayed in their egg decorations, as well as their sense of humour shining through. It was so hard to pick the winners as all children are winners in our eyes.

The best part of the day was the Easter bonnet parade. We managed to socially distance the classes outside so everyone could enjoy the parade. It was quite an emotional moment for us as it was the first time we had seen the whole school together since March 2020!

Fantastic Forest Schools



We are thrilled with our new Forest School provision which has been a five year adventure in the making. From using the mud kitchen to making dens, learning about problem solving and exploring their surroundings the children are loving every minute of it.



Thank you so much to those parents who gave us information regarding funding bids linked to their work places and to those who have donated tables and logs. We are truly blessed.



Reception

April 2021

Outdoor Learning

This half term the children have thoroughly enjoyed being outside, learning with their friends. They have been using their imagination, building dens, using blocks and creating new and exciting worlds.



Roman: "I like building dens. "

Pandora: "We find lots of mini beasts in our garden."

Art - Printing

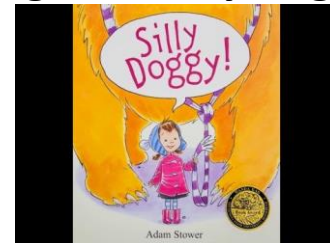
In art this term the children investigated printing using 2d shapes. They have learnt the skill of dipping the 2d shapes in the paint and then pressing the shape onto the card or paper. The children were given a range of shapes and 3d blocks with which they created different patterns involving a range of colours and shapes.



Thomas: "We put the shapes in the paint. "

Jack: "I made lots of different patterns with the shapes."

English – Silly Doggy



In English this half term the children are reading the story of Silly Doggy. Using the text they have been researching facts and writing sentences about different animals that have four legs, a wet nose, a tail and fur.

Tilly: "This book is funny."

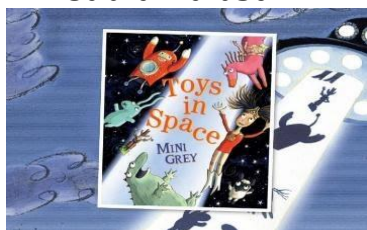
Tommy: "Lilly thinks that she has found a dog."



Year 1

April 2021

Read all about it!



In **English**, Year 1 have started to explore the text **Toys in Space**. The story follows a group of toys who are left abandoned outside by their owner. As night falls, the Wonder Doll tells a story of how the toys are beamed into space by an alien space craft! There they meet an alien who is looking for his own lost toy. Year 1 found their own box of lost toys in the classroom and used their reading skills to work out where the toys had come from.



They identified similarities between the toys they found and the ones in the story and wrote character descriptions. They used their inference skills to write what the toys in the story could see, hear and smell and even went outside and lay in the grass to explore how the toys would be feeling and what they would say at being left outside.

Darcey: The blue rabbit felt terrified and worried.

Hugh: The toys felt unhappy and very scared.

Weaving

In **Art**, Year 1 have been exploring weaving. They looked at the patterns on different weaves and identified types of weaves in clothing items using a microscope.



They then made their own plain and twill weaves and worked collaboratively to make a satin weave on a frame. They also looked at how colours can be linked to mood and emotions and made a weave using colours of their choice.

Outdoor Learning

Year 1 have been enjoying the warmer, brighter weather outdoors. In **science**, as part of their learning on plants, they went on a nature walk to explore what flowers and trees they could see around school. They then made sketches of what they found and identified the names by looking at colours, petals and shapes of leaves.



In **computing** they went on a hunt around school to find and scan QR codes to reveal parts of a computer. They also spent some time outdoors practising taking quality photographs and then had the challenge of uploading and saving them onto the computer!



Year 2

April 2021

Sunshine and Sunflowers



Year 2 took their learning outdoors to plant some lovely sunflowers as part of their new science topic 'Living Things and their Habitats'. They looked at how important it is to provide the right

habitat for the flowers to grow in, and they will make sure to keep on top of looking after them!

They are also going to keep a class diary so they can see how much progress they make.

They each planted their very own sunflower seed, as well as some extra flowers to keep their outdoor area looking beautiful! They are making sure that they give the sunflowers plenty of water and take them outside to give

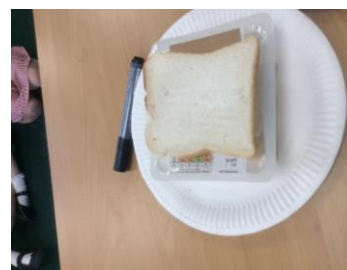


them some sunshine too! The children all enjoyed getting their hands dirty and they look forward to watching them grow.

Olivia – I am going to look at my sunflower every day, I can't wait to watch it grow.

Follow the instructions

Over the last couple of weeks, Year Two have been looking at instructions. First, they followed the instructions to make Angel Delight, and then gave some verbal instructions to Miss Igglesden on how to make a sandwich! It was very important that they gave her very clear instructions because she was silly when they said 'put the ham in between the two slices of bread' and she put on the whole packet!



Year 2 will be writing their instructions over the next couple of lessons – they will be very sure to be precise!

Pretty Printing

Year 2 created some wonderful pieces of art using a range of printing methods in the style of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. First, they experimented with printing using a range of different objects. Then they went on to create their very own printing tools to create some amazing and wonderful patterns.



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Year 3

April 2021

Plant Hunters



This term, Year 3 have taken their learning outdoors. As part of our current science topic 'Plants', the children went on the hunt for different varieties of plants. The children were tasked with identifying as many plants and flowers within the school grounds as possible using the checklists provided. The children had great conversations when identifying each variety and they found all but one type of tree which is very impressive!

Aaliyah – I found daisies and enjoyed being outside.

Jack G – I enjoyed exploring and finding the different plants.

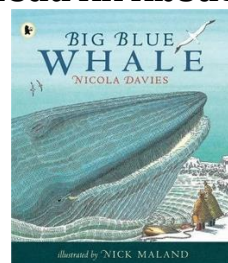
Prefect Printing

Year Three's most recent art focus was printing where they studied the work of Friedensreich Hundertwasser, who became known for designing buildings, stamps and prints. The children focused particularly on his art work of stamps and prints, using his style and ideas to inspire their own art work to create templates to create prints from.



Will – I liked using the roller to print my work.

Read All About It



This half term, Year 3 have become experts on Blue Whales, non-fiction texts and non-chronological reports. They children have worked hard to make their writing exciting to the reader, use the correct punctuation and create visually pleasing reports. From the examples below, I am sure you will agree they have done an amazing job!



Daniel – I enjoyed learning about whales and the different information.

Arda – I liked writing my report.

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Year 4

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Outdoor learning - Food Webs



Year 4 have taken their learning outdoors to create their own food webs, which is linked to their science topic 'Living things and their habitats'.

They had to work in groups to talk about where living things got their energy from and who would be eaten by what.



They also discussed whether they would be producers, consumers, predators or prey and what effect it would have on the food web if something affected it, like a plant or animal becoming extinct.

Alice M - I learnt about which animals eat other animals and where they get their energy from. I liked doing this because it was outside and it was a different way of learning.

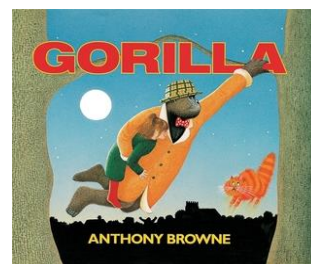
Art - Printing perfection

The children have been recreating city landscapes in the style of Dan Mather. They discussed what aspects they liked and disliked about the artist before they chose a picture of a city to create stencils and print with.



Oscar H - I liked how we cut out stencils of different cities and used different coloured paint to print our own and we learnt which buildings were in the different cities.

English - Gorilla



Years 4's current class text is Gorilla by Anthony Browne, which is a great link to their science and geography topics. The children have made an amazing start looking at one of the characters in the book and trying to work out her lifestyle by thinking of questions that they could ask and making inferences about her by looking at the pictures.

Charlotte C - I like the Gorilla book because it is a really lovely story so far and I'm looking forward to find out what happens next.

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Year 5

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MARKING TIME

Getting outside the classroom is an important part of the learning process and Year Five have embraced the good weather by taking the Mayan studies onto the playground. Some of the children looked at how the Mayan culture came into being and how it ended chronologically tied to other historical empires. The rest of the cohort studied the key events in Mayan history: the



rise of farming, induction of the written word and the ill-timed arrival of the Spanish conquistadors.



POP PRINTS

Year Five's half termly arts week was an exciting one as the children embarked on their printing studies. Investigating the role of artists in shaping the cultures they are part of, the budding printers used gouges, brayers and acrylics to make linocut prints.



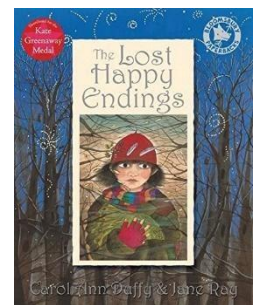
They demonstrated excellent artistic skills, understanding of how to work safely and knowledge of how artists gain inspiration from the world around them.

From soup cans to the natural world – who knows what will inspire Year Five next?

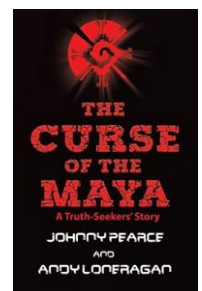


CURSES AND HAPPY ENDINGS

Year Five have left behind the frozen wastes of Antarctica and have headed deep into the woods and forests. Their class text is *The Lost Happy Endings*, by Carol Ann Duffy, the tale of Jub – the guardian of children's dreams. Year Five have already been looking at how they can twist well known tales.



Their reading for pleasure is *The Curse of the Maya* by Johnny Pearce and Andy Loneragan. A tense tale of adventure, mystery and historical intrigue, the text has really grasped the Y5's attention.



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Year 6

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Orienteering



Our Year 6 children have been enjoying spending time in the outdoors recently, using the school's orienteering kit to help aid their learning of geography. By using aerial photography, the children identified the locations of hidden objects and thoroughly enjoyed working collaboratively to share their ideas. They will next be linking the orienteering cards with QR codes to learn more about geographical matters such as 6-figure grid references and contour lines on OS maps.

William: Working outdoors is really enjoyable. I liked using my knowledge of mapping skills to identify hidden objects.

Amazing Art

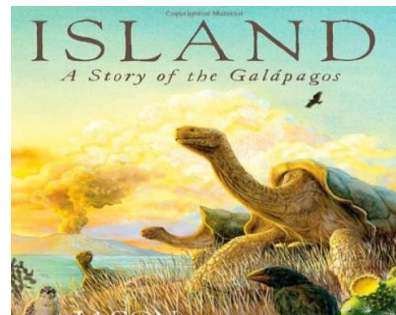


Inspired by the beautiful print-work of the famous artist, Bridget Riley, Year 6 have produced beautifully eye-catching prints.

The children planned out their ideas carefully and used masking tape to help ensure precision and accuracy in their finished piece.

Imogen: I enjoyed trying out different types of art, using techniques which I haven't used before

English



This half term, the children are exploring the text, 'Island' by Jason Chin which is a fascinating biography about the life of the Galapagos Islands. The book details Charles Darwin's voyage to the Galapagos to further understand and progress his ideas of evolution. This also links in perfectly with our science topic, 'Inheritance and Evolution' and has given the children a deeper understanding of what can be a challenging topic to comprehend. Through their learning, the children are building up to creating their own information text about the Galapagos Islands.

Daisy: It's great to learn about some of the endemic species found in the Galapagos Islands as we are unlikely to ever get the chance to see them in person. I look forward to writing my own information text.

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Key Dates and Information

April 2021

Dairy of Dates

Date	Event	Class involved
5.5.2021	TTRockstars Day	All classes dress up as rock stars
10.5.2021	Mental Health Awareness Week	All classes
21.5.2021	Cultural Diversity Day	All classes
27.5.2021	New Starters September 2021 meeting	New Robins for September 2021
28.5.2021	School Closes	
14.6.2021	School Opens	
8.7.2021	Year 6 transition to high school day and move up day for all classes	All classes
9.7.2021	Sports' Day	KS1 pm
12.7.2021	Sportss' Day	Y3/4 am Y5/6 pm
19.7.2021	Year 6 Leavers' Awards Ceremony in church (tentative)	Year 6 and parents
20.7.2021	School Closes	



As the children have returned we have seen a significant improvement in their attendance. The staggered starts to the day seem to be impacting positively on punctuality also. Thanks you for your support in this.

Just a reminder that holidays taken in school time will not be authorised. We appreciate that many of you may have had to cancel holidays that are booked, and like many people, are desperate to get away.

However, from an educational point of view, the children have missed so much schooling and more so than ever we need to ensure they are in school. Many thanks in anticipation of your support with this.

We have an attendance reward system for the whole school, which is based on each class's attendance at the end of the week ([including homelearners](#)). The system works as follows:

100%	Gold award	10 points
Class with the highest attendance of the week	Silver award	5 points

The class with the most points accumulated at the end of the school year gets a very special treat of a trip paid for by school. At the moment **YEAR TWO** are the ones to beat who have 80 points having had six 100% attendance weeks.

Point to note...

Obviously, if your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please **do not** send your child in – this will be classed as an authorised absence anyway on the system.

Current attendance figures to date are:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
98.20	98.23	97.50	97.78	98.10	94.91	98.15

Our school target is 97%.

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newchurch_primary@warrington.gov.uk

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