



Deer Park School

LEARN ENJOY SUCCEED

Dear Parents, Carers & Friends,

Dear Families,

Welcome to the weekend!

Earlier in the week, a range of Year 5 and 6 athletes went forth to the Richmond athletics finals, having topped their pool in the previous week. After a robust cycle of competitions, the team finished third overall in the borough. Congratulations to them, and we are most proud of their exemplary sporting values and the thoughtful respect for others that they are able to combine with healthy competition. On a personal achievement note, one of our children has recently been selected to represent none other than Team GB at the upcoming Dance World Cup; a resounding achievement that comes only from a lot of hard work. Huge congratulations to Esme for being selected to represent Great Britain, and we wish her luck in Prague later this year.

In academic excursions, Year 6 visited the Kingdom of Benin. Well, kind of. They visited the British Museum, attended a workshop on the Kingdom of Benin and perused the many fascinating artefacts that symbolise the cyclic perpetuation of power across the Kingdom's extensive reign in West Africa. On Wednesday, Year 2 and 3 were visited by children's author Sheena Dempsey, who shared her illustrative work with the children. On the same day, our staff received some excellent training on Anxiety in children, and proactive management and support within school, from visiting psychologist Dr Shumka; known also as Ellen and as a member of our school community. A resounding thank you to Ellen from all of our staff team for furthering our knowledge and understanding with her expertise, and for helping us to support our children.

Once more unto the breach, dear friends, or pile up this wall with... recommended reads. For our adults, as promised, a Poe poem. ['Annabel Lee'](#) is a love poem, and a death poem, and a poem where one does not mean the end of the other. Unusually for Poe's work, no one gets entombed in a wall or accosted by supernatural cats, which is nice.

Our KS2 children may be pleased to note that further wolf-themed literature has entered the children's fiction market this year, despite it already being positively saturated with lupine stories ancient and modern. From Romulus and Remus, to the terrifically good 'Wolf Brother', fictional quests accompanied by flinty-eyed apex predators abound on children's bookshelves, which is possibly because wolves are wild and mysterious and cool, and also possibly because having a faithful doggy sidekick is now so tropey as to be unacceptable. Anyway 'Wolf Road' is the new kid (cub?) on the block, and Alice Roberts conjures an expertly detailed prehistoric Europe in which a tween protagonist navigates the wild arm-in-paw with a wolf. So exactly like 'Wolf Brother', essentially, but published this year.

For our youngest readers, Adam Kay (he of 'This is Going to Hurt' fame) has chosen to write a children's book. The book is dedicated to the serious study of the human digestive system, which is to say that it follows the plight of an excitable piece of sweetcorn who is eaten (on a pizza slice, of all things) and then follows the full course of innards before exiting the process via the usual route. It is enjoyably gross, or just enjoyable, depending who's reading it.

Have a fabulous weekend together, and do remember to read.

Yours as ever,

Alex Lee



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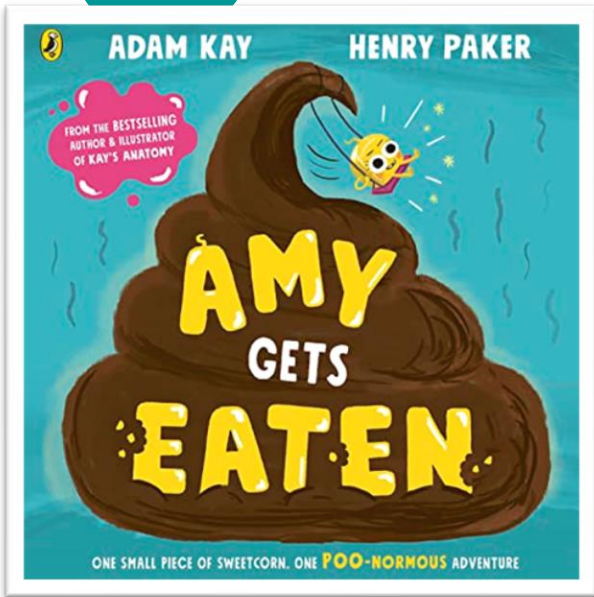
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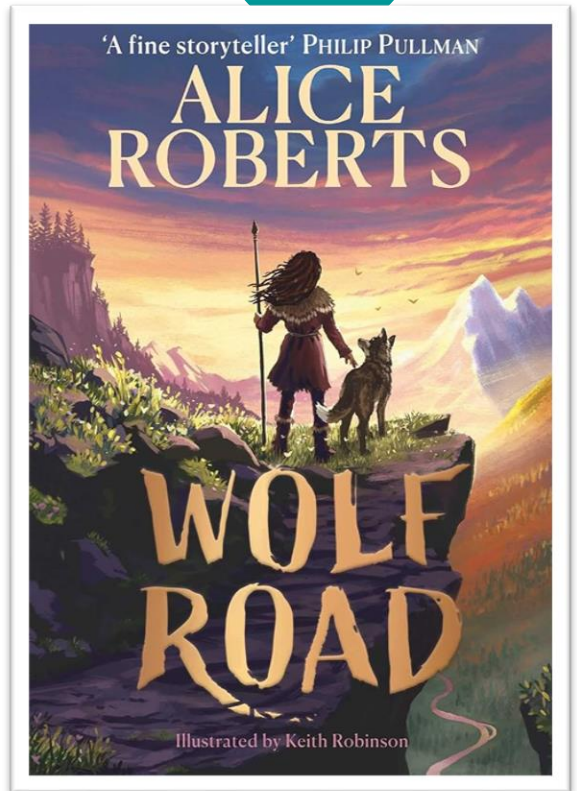
Recommended READS

For Children

KS1



KS2



For Adults

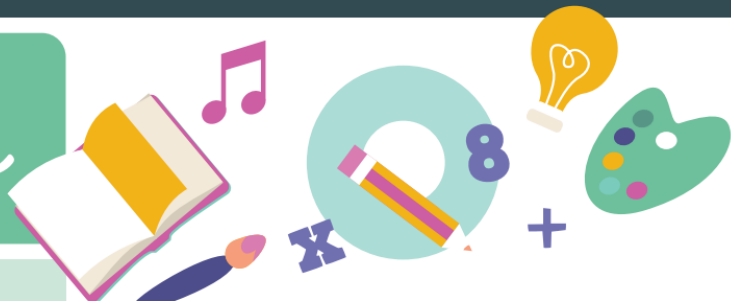


Annabel Lee
by Edgar Allan Poe

<p>It was many and many a year ago, In a kingdom by the sea, That a maiden there lived whom you may know By the name of Annabel Lee; And this maiden she lived with no other thought Than to love and be loved by me.</p> <p>I was a child and she was a child, In this kingdom by the sea; But we loved with a love that was more than love— I and my Annabel Lee; With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven Coveted her and me.</p> <p>And this was the reason that, long ago, In this kingdom by the sea, A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling My beautiful Annabel Lee; So that her highborn kinsman came And bore her away from me, To shut her up in a sepulchre In this kingdom by the sea.</p>	<p>The angels, not half so happy in heaven, Went envying her and me— Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know, in this kingdom by the sea) That the wind came out of the cloud by night, Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.</p> <p>But our love it was stronger by far than the love Of those who were older than we— Of many far wiser than we— And neither the angels in heaven above, Nor the demons down under the sea, Can ever discover my soul from the soul Of the beautiful Annabel Lee:</p> <p>For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams Of the beautiful Annabel Lee; And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes Of the beautiful Annabel Lee; And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride, In her sepulchre there by the sea, In her tomb by the sounding sea.</p>
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Class Updates



Sambar Class



Mrs Blaxland



Ms Philip



Miss Wilkinson



Mrs Lambelin

Our Learning

What have we learned?

- Over the past two weeks, we have been reading the books 'The Colour Monster' and 'The Colour Monster Goes to School'. We have created our own colour monsters and written about them.
- In Maths, we have been learning about mass and capacity.
- We have been learning about the different seasons and thinking about what the weather is like in each season and what clothes we need to wear when it is hot and when it is cold.
- In Music, we have been making up our own songs about the weather and including lots of actions in our performances to the class!

Our highlights:

- We have been delighted to continue our Music sessions with Ms Mel and are becoming very confident singers!
- Drawing Club continues to be very popular and the children love thinking about what their secret password will be to go with their drawing!

In other news

We still have lots of unnamed uniform, particularly PE jumpers, so please do ensure that all clothes and accessories are clearly labelled.

Please make sure that your child brings in their Library book on Thursdays so that they can take a new one home. We are not able to go to the Library at other times, so it is really important that they have it on the correct day. Thank you.

The next two weeks

We will be learning: We will be reading the book 'The Mixed-Up Chameleon' and other books by the author Eric Carle. In Maths, we will be learning about doubling and odd and even numbers.

Trips and events:

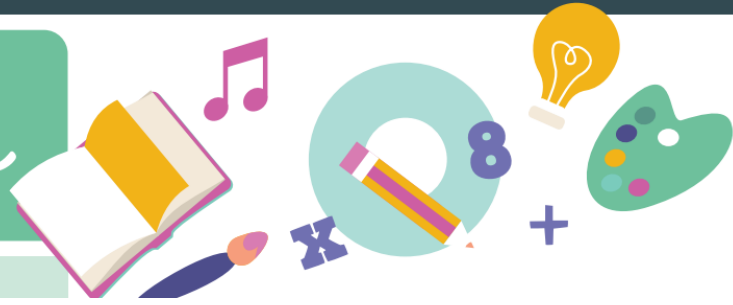
Welly Walk – Tuesday 23rd January

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Beatrix and Tennessee



Class Updates



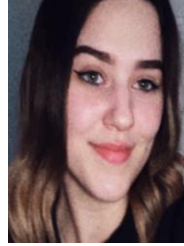
Fawn Class



Miss MacGregor



Mrs Gordon



Miss Cain



Miss Sarah

Our Learning

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Our highlights:

- We have been delighted to continue our Music sessions with Ms Mel and are becoming very confident singers!
- Drawing Club also continues to be very popular and the children love thinking about what their secret password will be to go with their drawing!

In other news

We still have lots of unnamed uniform, particularly PE jumpers, so please do ensure that all clothes and accessories are clearly labelled.

Please make sure that your child brings in their Library book on Fridays so that they can take a new one home. We are not able to go to the Library at other times, so it is really important that they have it on the correct day. Thank you.

The next two weeks

We will be learning: We will be reading the book 'The Mixed-Up Chameleon' and other books by the author Eric Carle. In Maths, we will be learning about doubling and odd and even numbers.

Trips and events:

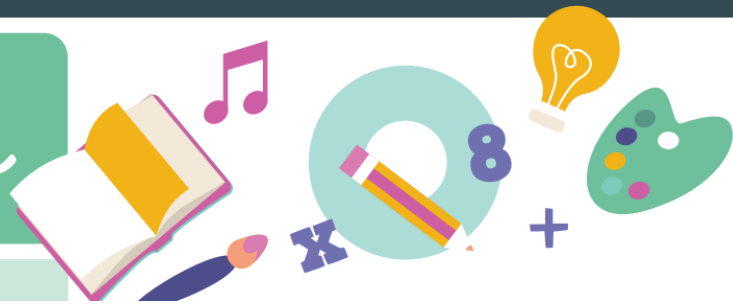
Welly Walk – Tuesday 23rd January

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Aya and Mira



Class Updates



Roe Class



Miss Copeland



Mrs. Amber

Our Learning

What have we learned?

In English we have been writing poetry inspired by Axel Schefflers Flip Flap Ocean book. The children have enjoyed creating their own ocean creatures and using a range of verbs and adjectives to write their own stanza's.

In Art we have begun learning about Martin Bulinya. Roe class have enjoyed using collage to create their own weaving pattern.

This half term we learning about animal habitats, Roe class have been very enthusiastic about this topic and already have a great understanding of this topic.

Our highlights:

We enjoyed going on our Science walk this week, exploring Marble Hill Park as a habitat and observing closely at micro habitats .

In other news

Please bring your library books in on **Monday**.

Thank you to all parent volunteers who joined us on our Science Walk this week.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

We will be learning to identify and use nouns, adjectives and verbs in sentences.

We will be learning to

Trips and events:

Monday 22nd January 2024- Richmond Museum Trip

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Eaknoor

Min-Hao



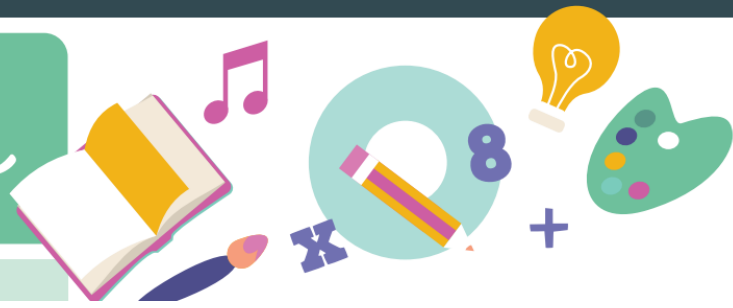
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Class Updates



Brocket Class



Miss Bennett



Miss T

Our Learning

What have we learned?

In English we have been writing poetry inspired by Axel Scheffler's Flip Flap Ocean book. The children have enjoyed creating their own ocean creatures and using a range of verbs and adjectives to write their own stanza's.

In Art we have begun learning about Martin Bulinya. Brocket class have enjoyed using collage to create their own weaving pattern.

This half term we are learning about animal habitats, Brocket class have been very enthusiastic about this topic and already have a great understanding of this topic.

Our highlights:

We enjoyed going on our Science walk this week, exploring Marble Hill Park as a habitat and looking closely at micro habitats.

In other news

Thank you to all parent volunteers who joined us on our Science Walk this week.

We still have lots of unnamed uniform, particularly PE jumpers, so please do ensure that all clothes and accessories are clearly labelled.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

English- identify and use nouns, adjectives and verbs in sentences.

Maths- Making number bonds to 20

Trips and events:

Monday 22nd January 2024-
Richmond Museum Trip

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Noah K

Arina



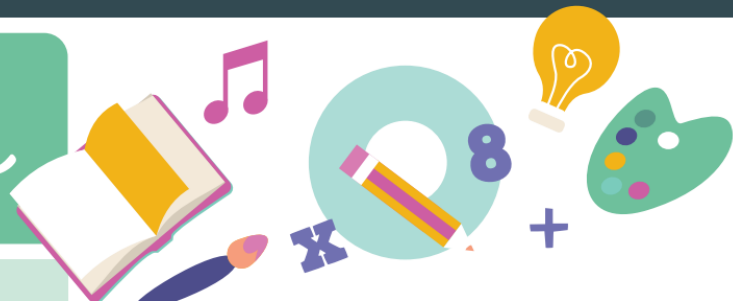
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Class Updates



Marsh Class



Miss Webster



Mr Lloyd



Miss Susie



Miss Tejas



Ms Melissa

Our Learning

Marsh class have really impressed me with their resilience and enthusiasm on their return to school after the holidays. We have been learning to add and subtract 2-digit numbers using pictorial methods and all children have wowed us with how well they've got on with quite a challenging topic. In English, we have been writing letters inspired by "The Day the Crayons Quit". The children have written some very witty and creative letters from their very frustrated and overworked crayons!

Our highlights: The children are really enjoying reading our new book Anna Hibiscus in reading lessons and they brimming with enthusiasm about our new History topic, the Great Fire of London. They have also enjoyed learning to sing the colours of the wind in music.

In other news

Please make sure your child is dressed for the cold weather.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

Length and height in Maths, the effects of exercise on the body in Science and we will be writing about a day in the life of a crayon in English.

Trips and events:

Scooter training – Thurs 8th Feb

Open morning – Fri 9th Feb

DT day - Fri 9th Feb

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Hana and Liv



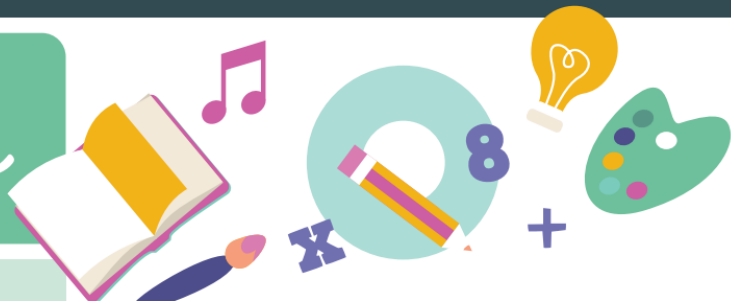
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Class Updates



Fallow Class



Miss Brandvik



Mrs Kisby

Our Learning

Our highlights:

Fallow class have really impressed us with their resilience and enthusiasm on their return to school after the holidays. We have been learning to add and subtract 2-digit numbers using pictorial methods and all the children have wowed us with how well they've got on with quite a challenging topic. In English, we have been writing letters inspired by "The Day the Crayons Quit". The children have written some very witty and creative letters from their very frustrated and overworked crayons!

Our highlights: The children are really enjoying reading our new book Anna Hibiscus in reading lessons and they brimming with enthusiasm about our new History topic, the Great Fire of London. They have also enjoyed learning to sing the colours of the wind in music. We also had a great time hearing from author Sheena Dempsey on how she creates her graphic novels Pablo and Splash.

In other news

Please make sure your child is dressed for the cold weather.

The next two weeks

Length and height in Maths, the effects of exercise on the body in Science and we will be writing about a day in the life of a crayon in English.

Trips and events:

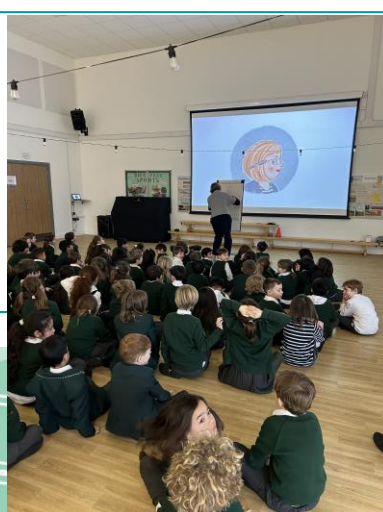
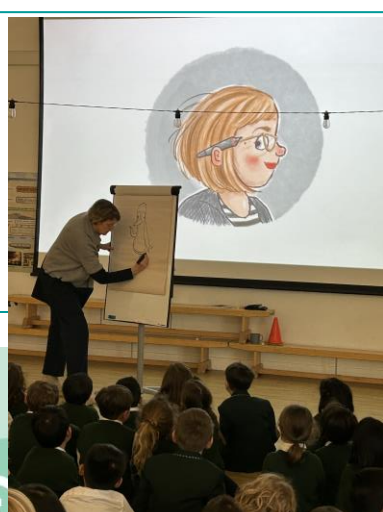
Scooter training – Thurs 8th Feb

Open morning – Fri 9th Feb

DT day - Fri 9th Feb

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Kat and Ryan



Social

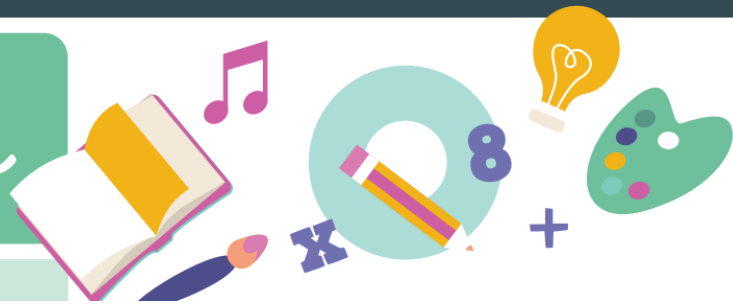


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Class Updates



Muntjac Class



Miss Forshaw



Miss Tejas



Miss Naz

Our Learning

What have we learned?

In English, we have read 'Secrets of Stonehenge' and are writing a persuasive travel brochure. The children have thought about why writers use rhetorical questions, imperative verbs and second person to persuade the reader.

In Maths, we have been using the distributive law to work out challenging multiplication calculations. The children have used known facts to solve these tricky problems.

We have been thinking carefully about our diet in Science, learning the 5 main food groups and their benefits. We have also learnt about food chains, identifying producers, consumers, prey and predators.

Linking with our learning in English, we learnt about the evolution of homo sapiens in History. We identified key features of each group and thought about why they may have died out.

- Our highlights:

We had an author visit from Sheena Dempsey on Wednesday. She read us a teaser from her new graphic novel series 'Pablo and Splash' and demonstrated how she illustrates her books. If the children would like to have a go themselves, please see the attached template. We would love it if you shared any of your creations with the class!

In other news

Please label all hats, scarfs, gloves, jumpers and coats so if they are lost, they can be returned to their rightful owner!

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

- How to divide using distributive law
- We will identify how predators have adapted to become successful in their environments.
- Exploring tessellation and overlapping in Peter Blake's art.

Trips and events:

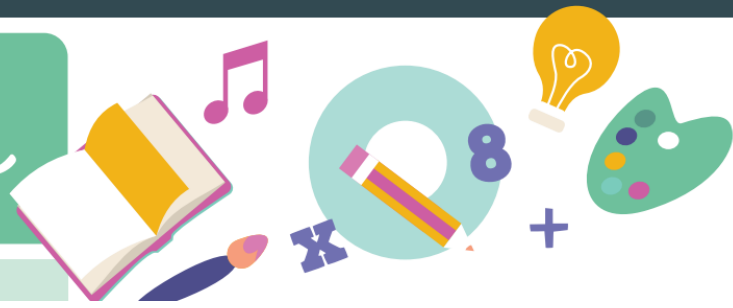
Stonehenge – Thursday 1st February.
Please arrive at school at 7.45am and bring warm clothes!

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Zeynep , Arthur



Class Updates



Kashmir Class



Miss Cutter



Ms Barbara

Our Learning

What have we learned?

In English, we have read 'Secrets of Stonehenge' and are writing a persuasive travel brochure. The children have thought about why writers use rhetorical questions, imperative verbs and second person to persuade the reader.

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Trips and events:

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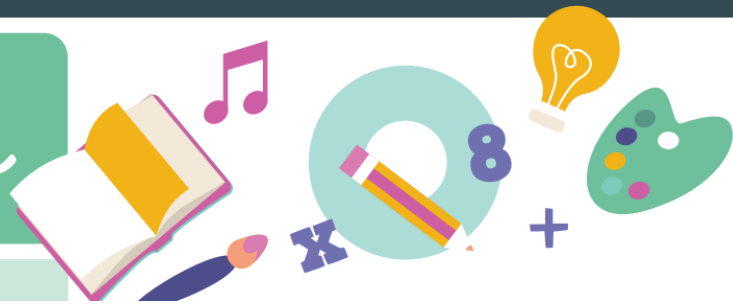
Please arrive at school at 7.45am and bring warm clothes!

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Finn, Kanon



Class Updates



Sika Class



Miss Cowing



Miss Lauren



Miss Mandy

Our Learning

What have we learned?

This has been a fabulous week despite the cold we have made the most of our playtimes with the Lego and dressing up.

We have also been working in explaining our reasons in all lesson sin full sentences with evidence to support them. There have been no one word answers in Sika!

We have used etymology to understand our spelling words and our maths. We now know that "Isosceles triangles" are from the Greek roots "isos" (equal) and "skelos" (leg). Also, most of our prefix 'pro' words are derived from Latin.

Our highlights:

Our highlights have been reading the fabulous 'How to Train Your Dragon' and really understanding how Cressida Cowell brings the characters alive.

Making sure we speak only in French in our French lesson has been rather fun too.



In other news

We have reflected on the work of Miss Lucie with our class, and we shall miss her lessons, her groups and all the one-to-one work she has done with us. The children have expressed their gratitude in many thoughtful ways.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

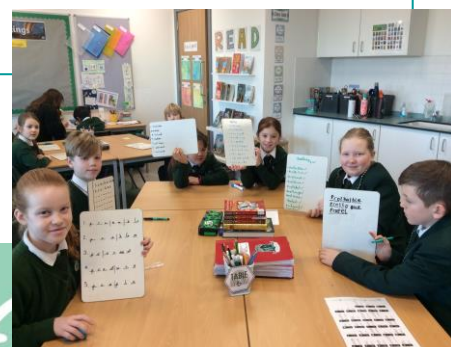
- Describing our main characters for a story opening
- Understanding vibrations in our sound topic
- Quadrilaterals and polygons in maths
- The causes and consequences of the Lindisfarne raids.

Trips and events:

Viking Workshop next Monday 22nd January.

DT Day in Week 5 on Tuesday 6th February. Bring send in an apron if your child has one.

Upcoming Stars of the Week: Betty and Grace

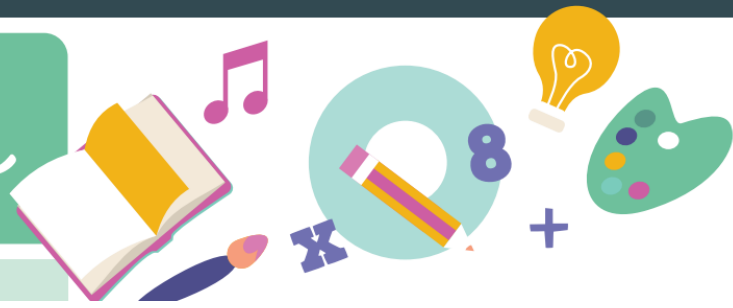


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Class Updates



Taruca Class



Mrs. Bailey



Mrs. Wilson



Mrs Bhatti



Ms Melissa

Our Learning

What have we learned?

What a fabulous start to 2024 Taruca Class have made! In science, we are exploring sound- and a shocking prediction has been made that the Staff Room is noisier than the Hall at Lunch Time...! In English we have been looking at how to write direct speech, whilst exploring the fabulous characters in Cressida Cowell's 'How to Train a Dragon'. Maths is the fascinating topic of geometry- with lots of exploring of the properties of shapes and angles. So much excellent learning has been happening this week, everyone must be very ready for the weekend.

Our highlights:

Would you find it easy to be blindfolded and follow instructions to make a shape? In PE, Taruca showed their communication and listening skills by making circles, squares and even hearts. Watching them work together so beautifully was very enjoyable.

In other news

We had our first singing assembly.

We are very sad to see Miss Lucie go- but we will remember all the wonderful work and ideas she has shared with us.

The next two weeks

: We will be learning:

- Describing our main characters for a story opening
- Understanding vibrations in our sound topic
- Quadrilaterals and polygons in maths
- The causes and consequences of the Lindisfarne raids.

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DT Day in Week 5 on Tuesday 6th February. Bring send in an apron if your child has one

Upcoming Stars of the Week: Scarlett and Romy



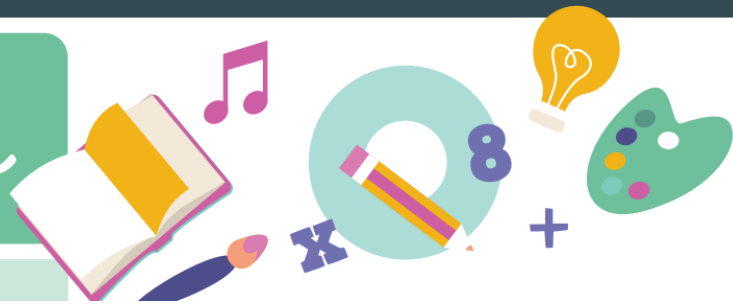
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Class Updates



Elk Class



Miss Thomas



Miss Lucie



Miss Bhatti



Mrs Hazell

Our Learning

What have we learned?

This half term, we have been equally excited and horrified to dive into our history topic of 'Crime and Punishment'! We have identified the main features of crime and looked at how these have changed over time.

Alongside this, we are studying Alfred Noyes's thrilling poem, 'The Highwayman' and have begun using vivid imagery to write our own narrative poetry.

We have continued with our study of collage artists, this time by looking at the work of Mondrian. We are very much looking forward to our visit to the Tate Modern next week, to see Matisse and Mondrian's artwork in the flesh!

Our highlights:

In science, we have enjoyed making predictions and investigating the thermal properties of materials. We have also explored which materials dissolve in water.

When looking at 'The World of Work' in PSHE, we have had some wonderful discussions about our dreams and ambitions for the future.

In other news

We are very sad to say 'goodbye' to Miss Lucie this week. Miss Lucie has been with our class for many years; her unwavering kindness and support will be truly missed. We thank her for everything she has done and wish her all the best for the future.

Donations of any spare sheets of fabric for our upcoming D&T Day would be greatly appreciated.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

- Describe and identify the works of notable collage artists
- Explain how and why have punishments changed over time
- Investigate how some materials can be recovered from a solution
- Multiplying fractions and finding fractions of an amount

Trips and events:

- 22/01/24 - Tate Modern trip
- 05/02/24 - D&T Day
- 09/02/24 - Open Morning
- 09/02/24 - PTA Y5 Bake Sale

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Lara and Margot



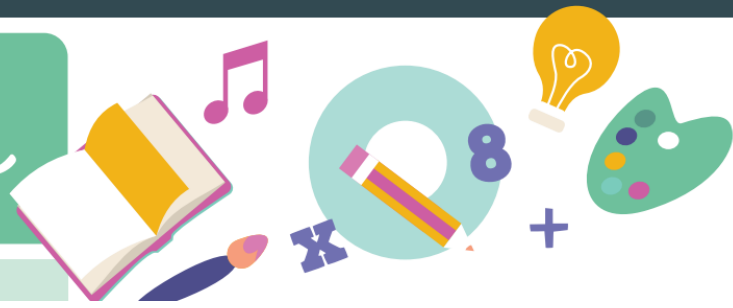
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Class Updates



Red Class



Miss Williams

Our Learning

What have we learned?

Starting new topics at the beginning of the half term is always an exciting time. Our new topic in science of 'Living things' has already had us identifying what makes something living, making our own classification trees, using the Linnaeus system to classify animals with their Latin names, and dissecting a plant to identify the different parts.

In maths, we move on to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages, and Year 6 are already showing that they are confident in converting between these.

Our highlights:

The last two weeks have been a busy few but the highlight has to be this Monday 15th. We had a fantastic trip to the British Museum which included a workshop about the Kingdom of Benin. We learnt about the importance of trade for the kingdom's success and how the Oba (king) of Benin became so powerful. Following this, we visited the African exhibit and completed a trail hunt, looking for Benin artefacts and learning more about their history.

While the majority of us were enjoying the bustling museum in town, 8 of our class were competing in an athletics final which they qualified for only the Friday before. As always, they represented our school with pride, and we are so impressed with how they composed themselves at both competitions. We are delighted to say that they came an amazing 3rd out of the 20 schools who were invited to the final. An amazing achievement and we are so proud of them all – well done!!

In other news

Please remember to bring in shoe-sized boxes for our DT day in the last week of term.

The next two weeks

We will be learning:

- How to calculate percentages of amounts
- How to compare two different kingdoms, including similarities and differences
- To explain, in French, what plants and animals live in different habitats
- To determine whether yeast is a living thing

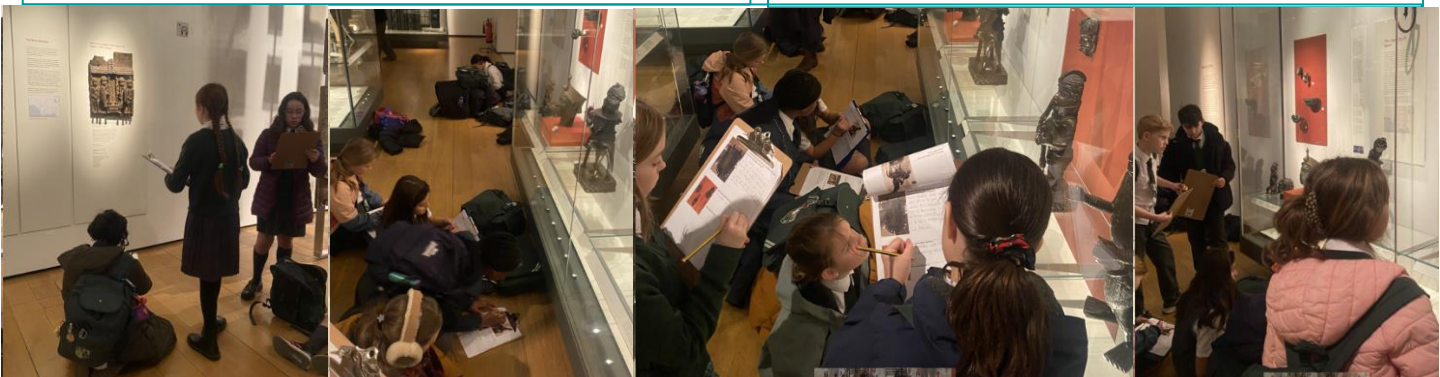
Trips and events:

Monday 5th February – Year 6 DT day

Friday 9th February – Morning Open Classroom

Upcoming Stars of the Week:

Emilia and Lily NB



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