

Year 5&6 News

December 2016

Elsewhere in School...

- We raised £262 for this year's Poppy Appeal through sales of poppies, wrist bands and badges, and a further £334 for Children In Need thanks to our non-uniform day.
- Our Special Needs Coordinator, Mrs Wood, was nominated for a Pride of Stevenage Award, in recognition of her tireless work to secure the best possible support for our children.
- Foundation Stage had a great day out at Herrings Green Farm, where they got to handle owls and watch a great falconry display.
- Year 4 were invited to Barnwell School to watch their Christmas production, while Year 5 headed to Nobel for a special performance of their pantomime.
- Years 2-6 all visited Stevenage Cinema for movie screenings as part of this year's National Film Week.

What we've been doing this term...

Rugby Tournament

Year 5 and 6 took part in the first of our inter-class tournaments of the year earlier in the term, which saw us splitting into mixed teams of four or five and playing in a set of round robin matches within our groups. The victors of each group then progressed into the semi-finals with the winners competing in an all Year 5 final! We were so proud to have beaten the Year 6's and some of us have already been highlighted as being challengers for rugby team selection next year. The morning was great fun, and lots of us who haven't played competitively before came out as victors! Well done to the winning team of Victoria, Owen, Riley and Brandon.



Socks in time for Christmas

As a school we responded to an appeal from a teacher working with Syrian refugee children who are living in the Oinofyta camp in Greece. As the winter draws in, they were in desperate need of socks for the 100 children in their care. Bedwell responded magnificently, with hundreds of pairs of socks, gloves and scarves being donated. These have now been parcelled up and sent to the camp - we hope to have news upon their arrival soon!



Science

Our science work has continued to focus on changing materials. We have separated mixtures using a variety of methods, such as filtering, decanting, sieving and more recently evaporating. We also set up a series of investigations to find out whether the temperature of a room, the amount of liquid, and the type of container would affect the speed of evaporation, allowing us to think like scientists when spotting patterns and interpreting our results.

Stars of the Week - Class 9 -



Owen Wheddon



Ellie Nelson



Lewis Heath



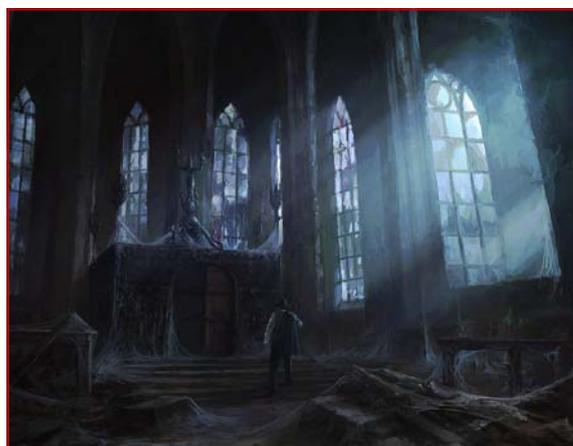
Emmie Batten

English

Our writing this half-term built on our *Talk for Writing* work, which has seen us learning a text by heart (using actions and a story map to help us), so that we can really get to grips with its language and structure, and then use these in our own work later on. After that, we innovated on the original story by adapting it to create our own versions. Finally, we reached the last step, creating a brand new mystery and suspense story, using all the elements that we had worked on throughout the unit, which we wrote completely independently. Here is just one example of the thrilling stories that we created as a result...

The Mission of Dreams

Nine o'clock had passed by now. The torrential rain soaked the boy. Furthermore the hailstones, which were as cold as the arctic, had frozen him to the core. Kane was out in the pitch-black darkness on his way to confess in the church. He shivered. Would the relentless rain ever stop?



At last the teenager approached the ancient dwelling of God. He cautiously unlocked the derelict door. It creaked open! In the blink of an eye, the wind obliterated the window, chairs, as well as blessed water. Out of the blue, an indefinite shape slipped past the shadowy altar. Clutching his precious bag tightly, he anxiously hid in the luxurious vestry...

Kane twitched. All of a sudden Jesus' cross fell down; as a result it smashed on the floor. He felt like he was being followed. The tower bell banged, banged, BANGED! It was as loud as thunder. Suddenly it stopped. Was this the end?

Without thinking, he went out to check. There was no one out there. Out of nowhere, he heard a thunderous knock. Without wasting any time, he switched his hiding place (behind the lectern now). Was the church haunted?

The boy could bear it no longer. Dashing out from his shelter, he searched in his trusty bag. Grabbing a hammer, he smashed the window into dust and ran through the cemetery. Kane knew how much danger he was in. This was his only chance. He rushed to the high fence and leapt over to safety...or was it more danger?

Cristiano Joseph

Big Writing

We have continued working hard to develop our independent writing during Big Writing sessions. Our writing has covered a huge range of topics and genres over the last few weeks, including ghost stories, non-chronological reports (giving feedback on the latest state-of-the-art mobile phone), and an explanation of our own Bush Tucker Trial. Lewis, Jack, Ellie and Keira were our very own Kings and Queens of the Classroom, after taking part in our nerve-wracking trial 'Vile Venture' - eating gruesome grub and searching for hidden treasure in bowls of unknown terrors (actually cold spaghetti and porridge!) You can read two of the brilliant pieces that we wrote below...



Welcome to the perilous Bush Tucker Trial, set in the Australian jungle, this trial will be called 'Horrific Swim'. Despite the fact this is a troublesome task; if you complete it you will win a scrumptious feast for your camp. If you would like to hear more, please read on...

Catapulting through the air, you will suddenly plummet into a murky, malodorous, also arctic water. As a result of this, creatures such as: Water Dragons, crabs as well as piranhas will start to drop into the water. Following on from this, each precious star will be attached to the claws of the animals. Subsequently, you will have to order the glistening gold stars in an underwater box. If you accomplish this, you will win ten meals. Oh! One last thing - don't forget that there is also pudding (chocolate mousse)!

I bet if you agree to the do this tricky trial, you will feel like a million dollars! Without doubt I recommend that you do this gruesome challenge, so eventually your team mates will have a glorious meal. Are you up for the adventure? If not, just shout, "I'm a celebrity...get me out of here!"

Bradley Evans

Welcome to the UNDERGROUND SCARE trial in the Australian jungle! It is our great pleasure to explain the trial to you, if you would like to accept the challenge? Assuming you will complete the trial, you will be rewarded with a scrumptious dinner and also sensational camping equipment. Just imagine when you go back to your camp, as a star.

Firstly, you will need to crawl carefully into the deep, pitch black and intimidating cave. However, you won't be alone, there will be diabolical creepy crawlies, as well as some spiders, maggots, scorpions, beetles and worms. There will also be revolting insects raining down on you.

After that, you will slide your uncontrollably trembling hand into the colossal holes, of course to find the silky stars. Finally, when the time is up, you will hear a deafening alarm. Good Luck!

Amy Randall

Stars of the Week - Class 10 -



Isaac Reeves



Brooke Garrett



Jack Mikiel



Jessica Grylak



Olga Zajackowska

Diary Dates

5th January 2017

Start of Spring
Term

13th-17th February

Half-term

10th March

Inset day - school
closed

31st March

End of term

19th April

Start of Summer
Term

1st May

May Bank Holiday -
school closed

8th-12th May

Year 6 SATs Test
Week

29th May - 2nd June

Half-term

21st July

End of term

The Battle of Britain

We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to grips with our history topic this term, discovering what it was like to live through the Blitz and the reasons why the Battle of Britain took place - something that really came alive when



we realised how many of our grandparents or great-grandparents would have lived through this dramatic period. We have spent a lot of time thinking about the way that children our age would have felt during the Second World War, and used this to help us to write descriptive, emotional diary entries. Here is Devon's diary, written from the point of view of a child in wartime London:

Dear Diary,

When I hear the ear piercing bombs rapidly plummeting, I feel exceedingly distraught, just in case we get hit. If a bomb does drop on my house, hopefully it won't explode! Also, the smell of the destroyed buildings is disgusting; dust fills the air second after second, minute after minute, hour after hour.

Suddenly, when the air raid sirens blare, we have to bolt to the air raid shelter, however some people don't make it. My uncle flew to Germany to hold off the enemy's Messerschmitts. Waiting for the raid to stop, I think about him a lot and hope that he is ok. Sleeping in the shelter is extremely difficult, especially in the hammocks. I hope I get some rest tonight.

Devon Michell

Our topic work also inspired us to write setting descriptions, thinking about what London would have looked like in 1940, just after an air raid had taken place. Here is Joy's description:

Emerging from the sombre, diminutive and claustrophobic shelter, the widespread destruction and ruins were everywhere you looked. Simultaneously, two gargantuan buildings hazardously collided; starting a vigorously roaring fire. The sound of crackling flames spread across the buildings (factories and homes alike), filling the foggy air and the malodorous odour of smoke was all around. Discreetly avoiding the burning rubble, the distraught and despondent citizens sadly dragged their feet, eager to discover the fate of their dilapidated homes.

Joy Musomba