

# Bedwell News

December 2022

## This term's highlights:

- Our Christmas Fayre collected £1525 as a result of your amazing support
- Our KS1 Show was a great success, with 80 children singing and dancing their hearts out across 3 packed performances
- We've run more parent events than ever before, with everything from cookery and crafts sessions to maths workshops
- We hosted the Stevenage Schools FA tournaments, with 250 children from 19 schools playing on our field
- Our Halloween Disco saw over 120 children playing and dancing in some fantastic costumes
- We elected a new set of School Councilors, who have helped to plant a new community orchard
- Early Years have been on two farm trips, Year 5/6 visited Hendon RAF Museum and Hedgehogs loved their trip to the pantomime!

## What we've been doing this term...

### Building home-school links

Our big focus this year is on giving families more opportunities to come into school and see what we've all been doing - and, looking back over the term, this has been a great success! We've had more events than ever before, with parents and carers joining in with Maths Workshops in Year 3/4, Crumble Making in Y1, Stay & Read sessions in Years 2 and 5, World War 2 Day in Year 5/6, Stay & Plays in Early Years and a host of other activities. A big thank you to everyone who's dropped in for one of these sessions - we hope it helped you to better understand what we've been learning about in class, and given a few ideas for things you could try at home.



### Getting together

Within school, we've also had lots of opportunities to get together and celebrate all that we've achieved this term. Key Stage 1's fantastic production of *Baubles* was a big hit in the penultimate week of term (more on that over the page), and we loved getting together to share songs performed by every class on

the last day of term. Earlier in the Autumn, our Halloween Disco was attended by over 120 children and raised more than £500 for School Council funds (and gave us all a fantastic opportunity to get into our scariest costumes!)

### Supporting good causes

Our final set of events has seen us supporting a variety of good causes that are important to us and to our school community. Our Bake Sale for Macmillan Cancer raised £149, our Children in Need non-uniform day collected £230, and we raised £130 for this year's Poppy Appeal. Best of all, our massive Christmas Fayre made £1525 for School Council, who are raising money for a Trim Trail on the field.



## Baubles!

All of Key Stage 1's enthusiastic practice finally paid-off in the penultimate week of school, when they got the chance to perform their brilliant Christmas production. The snow day on Monday meant it was a rush to be performance ready, but they didn't let that put them off or slow them down, acting, singing and dancing with great energy, first to the rest of the school and then to their families over the course of three packed performances.

All of the staff (and big brothers and sisters in Years 3-6) were really impressed by the way we threw ourselves into the show, with almost everyone in Year 2 having a speaking part and everybody from all three classes getting involved in the songs and dances. We hope you will agree that our version of *Baubles!* retold the Christmas story brilliantly!

Can we also say a big thank you all of the Key Stage 1 teachers and TAs for the time and energy they put into making costumes, supporting practices and making sure it was a magical show!





# Christmas at Bedwell

We really got into the Christmas spirit in the last week of term!

On Monday and Tuesday, each class rounded-off the term with a brilliant Christmas party. We came to school in (or got changed into) our finest party clothes and then had great fun playing games together - including all the classic (musical bumps, pass the parcel, musical statues etc), along with a few new contests. After that, it was time to pile into party food and settle down with some relaxing Christmas movies (a big thank you to everyone who sent something to eat in). As you can see from the pictures on these pages, we all had a great time!

The final part of our festive celebrations came on the very last day of term, when we had our Christmas Dinner. After a busy morning preparing food in the kitchen and decorations in the hall, we all sat down to enjoy our meal, complete with crackers and paper hats - and as we were all in our Christmas Jumpers too, it felt very festive!



December 2022 : Bedwell School News



## School Council

One of our first jobs this term was to elect our new team of School Councillors. Everyone was given the chance to run in elections in their class, and we wrote speeches and made presentations to try to convince our classmates that we would be great at this job. Everyone then cast their ballot, with the winning boy and girl in each class elected for the year - you can see some of our winning speeches on the opposite page.

Once the results were in, our new councillors were soon called into action, as they were invited to create a new Community Orchard for the Queen's Green Canopy project. All 18 councillors took part in planting fruit trees in Bedwell Park - you can see us all working hard in the photos on the right.

Our main focus for the year is to raise funds towards a Trim Trail for the field. So far, we have raised over £1,500 through the Halloween Disco and Christmas Fayre. We are determined to keep building on this total with lots more events next term.





## Highlights from our School Council speeches

I think that I am the right person for the job because I am really good at talking to people, so I will find out what everyone would like and represent everyone. If you elect me, I will make sure that people who have problems can get more help around school, so that we can all enjoy coming to school every day.

*Bibi, Rabbits*

Hello everyone! I think that I am the right person for the job because I will make sure that everyone has someone to play with, everyone gets the help they need and there is no litter on the field. I would like us to have more non-uniform days so we can buy more equipment for the school...

*Mason, Badgers*

I think that I am the right person for the job because I am friendly, kind and helpful. If you elect me, I would like to change our timetable so that we can dedicate more time to doing art in class this year. I would also like to have more clubs, so we can keep learning and having fun after school finishes.

*Jaden, Moles*

I really want to be School Councillor this year! If anything is wrong, I hope you all know that you can always come and talk to me, and I will always try to make things better... I will make sure that all of your thoughts and ideas are represented, and will make sure that Year 5 is the best year ever!

*Ella-May, Foxes*

Hello! It's great to be standing here in front of you today, with the chance to try to do something that can make school better for all of us. If you vote for me, I will make sure that we get lots of new resources for privileges and Golden Time, so that we can all have as much fun as possible at school!

*Alfie, Falcons*

## Early Years

This term has been an exciting start to the year as there were many celebrations and religions to learn about. We had a fantastic time learning about Black History Month, Diwali, Halloween and Christmas.

We have loved our Talk for Writing story this term, which was *Owl Babies*. We thought of and wrote new words to describe the owls, created our own owls using different media and materials and even created our own story maps to re-tell and innovate on the story.

We were very lucky to visit two special places this term. Ladybirds enjoyed a day at Church Farm, while Butterflies travelled to Herrings Green Farm.

Ladybirds explored all the farm animals and learnt new facts from the farmer Jill. They also collected eggs, fed the farm animals and helped to plant new seeds. Butterflies saw a variety of owls and even got to hold one. We also watched a flying show and were able to meet other animals such as rabbits, tortoises, goats and snakes!







## Year 1: Fieldmice

In art we have looked at a number of different artists that use natural materials to create their artwork, including Andy Goldsworthy, Lois Ehlert and Guiseppe Arcimboldo. We had lots of fun exploring and creating in these different styles, using natural objects we found in both our forest and in our local park.

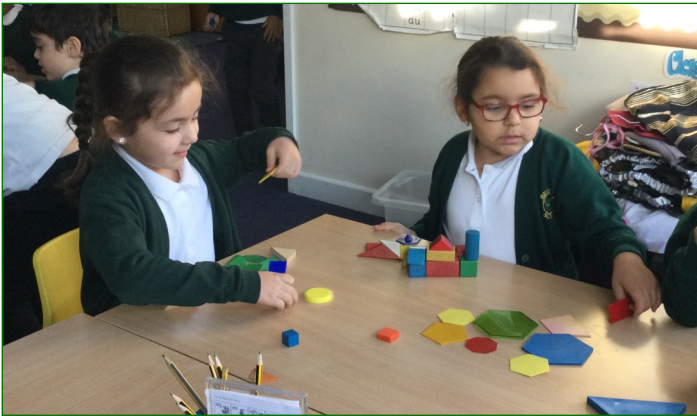
In maths we have been focussing on number. We have used part-part-whole templates and tens frames to help us add and subtract using these numbers. We have also looked at doubling and halving numbers to 20.

Linked to our work on instructions in English we took part in a brilliant crumble making workshop with our families. We worked together to follow instructions, mix ingredients, peel and chop fruit - and then taste our fantastic crumbles!

We finished the term with our Christmas show. We were so proud that so many of you were able to come and watch us, and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



December 2022 : Bedwell School News



## Year 1/2: Dormice

In English this term we began by learning the story of Little Charlie, which led into us creating our own journey stories. Later in the term, we moved onto instructions, learning how to make Grandma's pizza by following a model text carefully, practicing using and giving other instructions and eventually writing our own. Our main focus has been on letter formation and making sure that we are all writing in complete sentences.

We have all enjoyed going to Forest School every Friday. We have used all our superhero powers in a number of activities. We've made group mandalas, log dogs, been on a colour hunt and learnt about the forest environment. We have also made cheese straws, chocolate firework sticks, smores and our favourite hot chocolate on the fire. Excitingly, we will be continuing with Forest School in the Spring term.

We finished off the term with a fantastic class Christmas party, dancing, playing lots of brilliant games and eating far too much!

## English : Instructions

### How to make a pizza

This is a recipe you will love.

### What you will need:

- White sauce, smarties, chocolate, pineapple, pizza base, knife

### What to do:

1. Unwrap the pizza base.
2. Place the base on the tray.
3. Smother white sauce on the pizza.
4. Chop the pineapple into tiny pieces.
5. Sprinkle smarties.
6. Put pizza in the oven.

### BEWARE

Try not to burn yourself.

*by Rubi*

### How to make a pizza

This is how you make a pizza.

### What you will need:

- Yellow sauce, cookies, sausage, apple

### What to do:

1. Unwrap the pizza base.
2. Spread the yellow sauce.
3. Crunch the cookies.
4. Cut the sausage.
5. Chop the apple.
6. Cook in oven.
7. Eat!

*by William DS*

### How to make a sleigh

This is how Santa can make a sleigh.

### What you will need:

- A box, tinsel, lolly sticks, tape, ribbon, bottle tops, pens , scissors

### What to do:

1. Get the box and cut the flaps.
2. Work as a team to decorate.
3. Stick on the buttons.
4. Make the lights.
5. Use tinsel for the seat.
6. Get magic to make it fly.

*by Lacey*

### How to make a pizza

You will love this pizza

### What you will need:

- White sauce, apple, cookies, smarties

### What to do:

1. Unwrap the pizza base.
2. Spread the white sauce.
3. Chop the apple.
4. Put the smarties on the top.
5. Crumble the cookies on top of the pizza.
6. Cook in the hot oven.
7. Eat.

### BEWARE

Make sure pizza has cooled down.

*by Freddie*



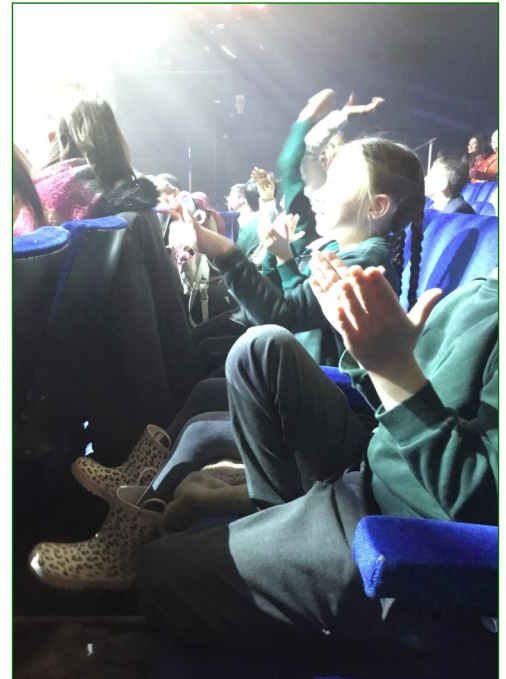


## Year 2: Hedgehogs

It's been a really busy end to the term in Hedgehog Class! In the last week-and-a-bit we performed our Christmas show, visited the theatre, had our class Christmas party, took part in Streetdance performances and still found time to finish off all of our work!

In English we have been learning how to write reports. We started off with a report about fire fighters, learning all about their job - and to help with this we visited Stevenage Fire Station, where we met a group of real fire fighters! We went armed with a huge number of questions, which they happily answered before allowing us to try using a real hose and then climb inside one of their engines!

We had a fantastic trip to see *Treasure Island* at Welwyn Garden City theatre on 15th December. It was a great chance to see a real production, and we loved getting to laugh, clap and (of course) shout 'he's behind you!' We behaved impeccably and all had huge smiles on our faces on the coach home!



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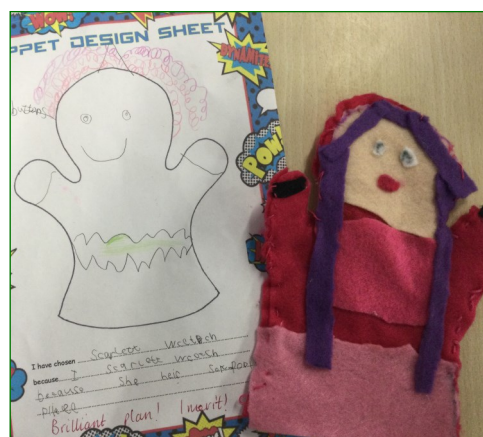
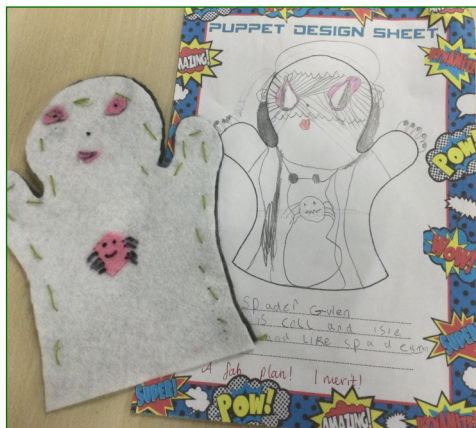


## Year 3: Rabbits

We have undertaken a real challenge this half-term, making our own hand puppets... and they look amazing! We all tried sewing, with some of us needing no help whatsoever! On the right you can see a few of our fantastic examples.

In science, we have been learning all about our digestive system and our teeth. As part of this we set up an investigation, using egg shell as 'teeth' and observing the damage caused by different liquids. We all enjoyed checking on the progress of the different eggs - and were shocked to learn that the liquid that seemed to do the most damage was the sugar free orange squash!

In English, we kicked off our persuasive writing unit with a walk around Fairlands Park, looking for signs of pollution. We found lots - and so we finished our unit by writing a letter to Stevenage Council, highlighting the pollution problem and suggesting lots of ways in which the council could help. You can see two examples on the opposite page.





## Clean Up Fairlands

Do you care about Fairlands Valley? Do you want Stevenage to be an amazing place to be? Then clean up Stevenage! It will be much cleaner than ever and a much better place to live.

### The Problem

Unfortunately there are loads of cans and bottles in Fairlands Valley lakes and it is harming wildlife. It's so bad animals are dying because of this, we have to stop it now! Have you seen how much old, dirty clothes there are in Fairlands? It looks atrocious. There is so much plastic waste on the grounds. Clean it now or little ones could trip over and hurt themselves. Also there are overflowing bins and so much dog waste. Stop this now before it is too late!

### The Solution

Do not worry it is not too late, if we act now we might just make it. To stop this you can provide more bins. In Fairlands café the manager can make paper wrappers and make cardboard cups for ever and ever. Fine dog owners who don't clean up dog waste and empty the bins frequently.

### Conclusion

If we work together we can stop this mess. Come on, let's work together and clean up Fairlands.

*Chance Gradwell*

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## Save Stevenage!

Do you care about Stevenage Park? Have you seen the affect people have had on our park? Everyone loves Fairlands Valley so we should not spoil all of their fun and help to save our wonderful, tranquil wildlife.

### The Problem

Unfortunately, people use too much plastic and they're dumping it into lakes, trees and even in the mud. This is a big problem for all mankind. Clothes are big trouble too as if you dump them people will trip over them and animals can mistake them for food. Next throwing plastic and cardboard things are also dangerous. If you look around you will find lots of things like dummies, crisp packets, and even sweet wrappers. The last thing is dog owners don't look after their dogs. Not only is it smelly, it will harm wildlife and not be a safe place for kids to play. It can attract flies and rats. We should stop this madness before this nightmare comes to life!

### The Solution

Although it is a big mess we can still help Stevenage. It's not too late. Here are some things that can help. Providing more bins could help and cleaning the old ones more often. After that we could stop using too much packaging in Stevenage cafes. Start using cardboard café mugs and no more plastic straws. The third thing is to charge dog owners who don't clean up their mess and provide them with plastic bags to clean up the mess with. After that we can get nets and hire someone to get a boat and clean up the rubbish.

### Conclusion

So whatever you think is best we need to stop this madness. If you like Stevenage then we should help Fairlands together forever!

*Zeinab Ahmed*

## Year 3/4: Badgers

It's been a super-busy term in Badger Class! We have had several new children join our class family, and they have all fitted in perfectly, making lots of new friends. We have had a great morning out at the cinema, have taken part in lots of different sports activities, and we rounded-off the term with some fantastic singing in front of the rest of the school on the last day of term.

In our lessons, we have learnt about persuasive writing in English, teeth and sound in science and Kandinsky in art.

In our geography lessons we have been exploring a range of natural disasters. We investigated the effect that they can have on local communities, the reasons why they occur and some of the things that people are doing to try to limit their effects. To conclude the project we worked in teams to create posters, packed full of facts, photos and explanations of one particular type of disaster. You can see a few examples on the opposite page.

## English : Persuasive writing

*As part of our persuasive writing unit we explored the use of techniques including exaggeration, rhetorical questions, emotive language and personal pronouns to engage the reader whilst getting our points across. We were then asked to think about things we would like to change around school, and then produce a persuasive piece of writing to kick-start our campaign. Check out Elyse's excellent argument below:*

### **Why we should all walk to school**

Do you worry about travelling to school and making pollution? Do you want a better way to get to Bedwell every morning? Do you care about your health and how much time you spend in the car? Here's your chance to make a change!



It takes only 20 minutes to walk to school, even faster if you come by bike, but too many people are still using their cars.

#### The problem

Sadly, more children than ever are being taken to school by car. This has devastating effects. There are many reasons for this:

- It takes too much time for us to get to school, because we get stuck in traffic.
- There is too much traffic for us to be able to walk to school on our own, because it is too dangerous.

#### The solution

We need to stop using our cars to come to school if we can. To do this, we could try:

- Ask our parents to choose other ways to travel to school like walking, scootering or riding a bike.
- Encourage parents to share cars, so there are not so many car journeys happening.
- Have more bike racks and scooter parks at school to get more people to use them.
- Making roads and crossings safer with more traffic lights and lollipop people.

#### The conclusion

We need to stop using cars and give children the choice of how they get to school. This needs to stop NOW!!!

By Andrei

**HURRICANE**

What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a large storm that can cause a lot of damage.

It is called a hurricane because it is very dangerous.

It is called a hurricane because it is very dangerous.

It is called a hurricane because it is very dangerous.

**Wildfires**

Wildfires are fires that burn out of control.

They can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

They can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

They can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

**Tsunami**

A tsunami is a big wave that happens when the ocean floor moves.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

**VOLCANO**

A volcano is a mountain that has a hole in the top.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

It can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage.

**FOREMILAK**

Foremilak is a type of food that is made from milk.

It is very healthy and good for you.

It is very healthy and good for you.

It is very healthy and good for you.

## Year 4: Moles

We can't quite believe a whole term has passed here in Year 4 - and what a term it has been! We have been busy with so many lessons and projects, getting to know each other, playing sports and visiting the cinema; you name it, we've done it. This term's highlights have been art and DT, where we have been creating Kandinsky style paintings and hand-sewing superhero puppets. In English we have just finished a unit on persuasive writing, where we wrote our own texts on cleaning up Stevenage - you can see Kevin's fab piece on the opposite page.

Superhero Puppets  
Back on transition day in July we drew ourselves as learning super heroes and, continuing that theme, this term we have designed and made our very own puppets. We learnt a running stitch and blanket stitch, using a mixture of the two on our final piece. We had enormous fun, but getting the thread through the needles was by the far the trickiest part. Check out some of our handy work on the right.



# CLEAN UP STEVENAGE

Do you care about our local environment? Have you had enough of seeing rubbish everywhere? Rubbish, including plastic is all over the place. More plastic has been produced in the last ten years than in the last one hundred years.

## THE PROBLEM

Unfortunately most of us use more plastic than we need and we don't care about what happens to it. Here are some worrying problems we are facing in Stevenage.

- Sadly our rubbish is being blown out of bins and into our beautiful lakes because the bins are not emptied enough. This is causing harm to our precious wildlife, birds can get tangled in it.
- On a daily basis our play and water parks are being littered with dangerous objects which can then be picked up by children.
- All this rubbish is making our town unsightly and it's a disgrace. This will put people off coming to our town.



## THE SOLUTION

But here's the good news... by understanding the problem we can make simple changes.

- Firstly, the local council must start to empty bins more frequently.
- We must install more bins so we can deposit our rubbish easily.
- Another ideas we could try is to install vending machines that pay you money or rewards for putting plastic bottles in.
- We should design posters up put them around the town to encourage people to recycle more.



We are all in this together. By taking action and working as a team, we can change the future of Stevenage for the better.

Please make sure you do all you can to help our town!

Written by Kevin

## Year 5: Foxes

We've worked really hard this term to pack in as much as possible to every day at school. We've learnt loads about the Battle of Britain, supported by our trip to Hendon and fantastic World War 2 Day. We've explored the way our heart, blood and circulation system work. We've investigated different fiction genres, reading a huge range of books, acting out scenes and writing stories independently (check out two fab examples on the opposite page). We've been swimming every week, developing a range of strokes, growing in confidence and getting into deeper and deeper water. We've learnt to code using Scratch and speak a bit of French (with the help of Mr Lester). And, in between all of that, many of us have represented the school in a variety of sports, stood for election to School Council, sung and danced in front of the rest of the school, improved our handwriting, learnt about fractions, made new friends and generally done all we can to make the most of every minute!



## LAUREN THE WARRIOR

One sunny day a ten year old girl called Lauren was walking home. She had just arrived on Mulberry Lane and was thinking about what she would say to her older brother, Mum and Dad when she got in. She decided that she would cuddle up with Salt (her dog) and watch a movie. As she got to her door, she searched her glittery bag for her house keys...

But, when Lauren opened the door she gasped in shock. Mum's favourite vase was shattered. Salt was barking and there were slimy green footprints leading across the floor. There was also a blood trail leading towards the bathroom. Lauren looked around in horror!

As she opened the door, Lauren tripped and fell through a glowing purple portal. As she was falling, pieces of glistening, stainless steel, unbreakable armour appeared on her and a silver sword materialised in her hand. Eventually, Lauren saw the ground... She landed with a thud. She looked up and saw a mysterious jungle filled with strange animals and dragons. One dragon was guarding the portal home. The dragon had marvellous claws, huge yellow spikes and it was green all over. "Aaaaaaaagghhhh!" screamed Lauren in shock! The dragon awoke...



Lauren tried to run to the portal, but the dragon shot a fireball and disintegrated a huge rock. She jumped to safety just in time. Lauren saw that, behind a tree, a fireball had formed a cave. She dived underground and realised that she needed to stab the creature's heart to kill it.

Lauren dodged the fireball, jumped and launched her glistening sword into the dragon's heart. It let out a horrifying wail. A few minutes later, Lauren walked up to the purple glowing portal and jumped in. Suddenly her armour and her sword disappeared. Her Dad ran over. "Let me explain!" he said in a hurry, "The experiment went wrong... Are you OK?"

By Holly

## The Best Friends



Jessica the fairy and her best friend Violet the unicorn were out for a walk, when they found a portal. As they went through, the portal disappeared. Looking around Jessica asked Violet "Where are we?" but there was no answer because Violet had vanished.

Jessica felt sad and alone. She flew through the air to try and find her friend. She saw a trail of flashing sparkles that she knew were from Violet, so she followed them.

Jessica finally found a door and tiptoed through it. She could see Violet tied up in the middle of the room. She felt sorry for her friend. There was a monster in the corner of the room. It jumped out in front of Jessica. He had green hair, green feet and a huge nose.

Jessica made a plan in her head. She made a trapping bubble after she looked in her spell book. The monster was stuck in a star shape and could not move. Violet and Jessica went out for a drink to celebrate Violet's return.

By Alice

## Year 5/6: Eagles

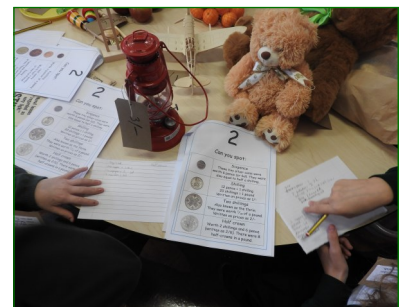
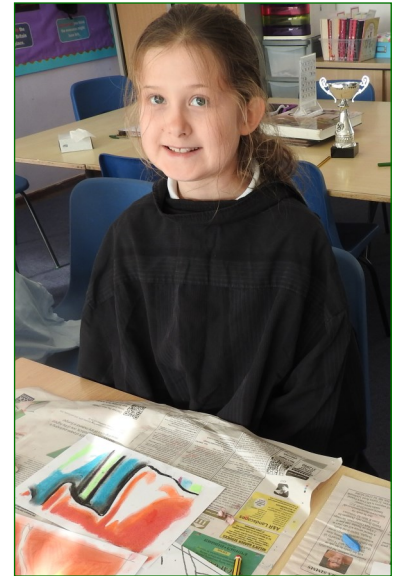
In class, we have packed in loads of learning about fiction genres, explanations, World War 2, our heart and blood, arithmetic and fractions. Our class, we have been involved in various inter-school sporting events, which have included rowing, football and netball, bringing lots of fun and success. Our Sports Ambassadors attended a training day at Barnwell School and look forward to putting their skills to good use around school.

### Writing day

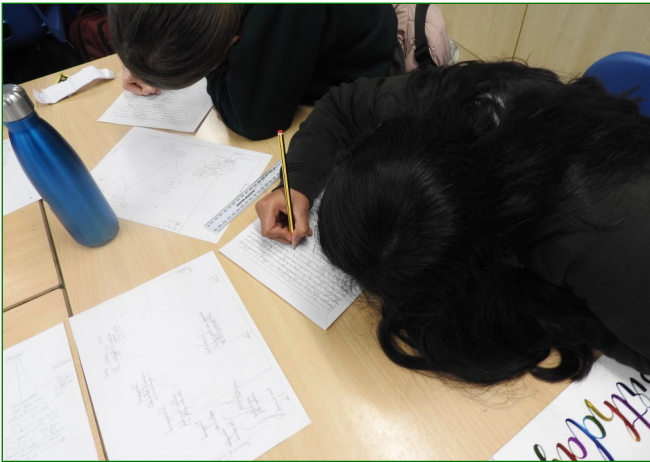
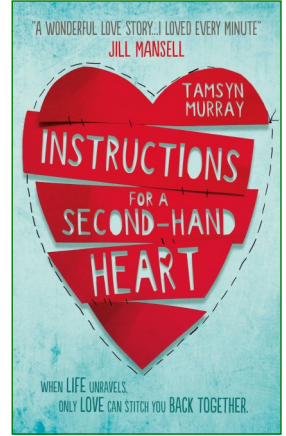
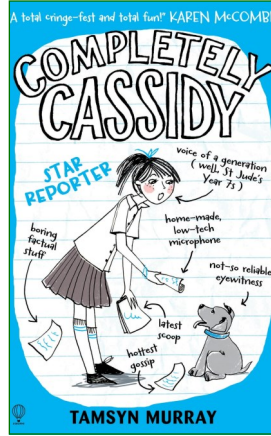
A group of our most talented writers visited Moss Bury School to meet the author Tamsyn Murray and participated in an inspirational workshop to build on their great writing skills. They had a fantastic day and were talking about her books throughout the week that followed! You can see a few photos from their day on the opposite page.

### WW2 Day

Along with the rest of Y5/6, we took part in a fab World War 2 Day in November. Check out a few pictures of our day!







## Year 5/6: Falcons

We have had a very busy term, packed full of learning and fun. It seems a while ago since we went to the RAF Museum at Hendon, where we all had a great time exploring the planes and equipment used during the Second World War. This linked with not only our work in History, but our English writing too. We learned all about the Battle of Britain, what it meant to be an evacuee and how the battle became a turning point in the Allies defence and subsequent attack.

Following this, we thoroughly enjoyed our World War Two Day, when we experienced different activities such as: ration cooking, building air raid protection, Make Do and Mend, singing 'Run Rabbit Run', using war-time coinage, creating a remembrance mural, code-breaking and making gas masks. At the end of the day, we were excited to show our parent guests what we had been up to - and we were delighted that so many of you were able to attend and hear about our day!

## English : Mixed Genre Stories

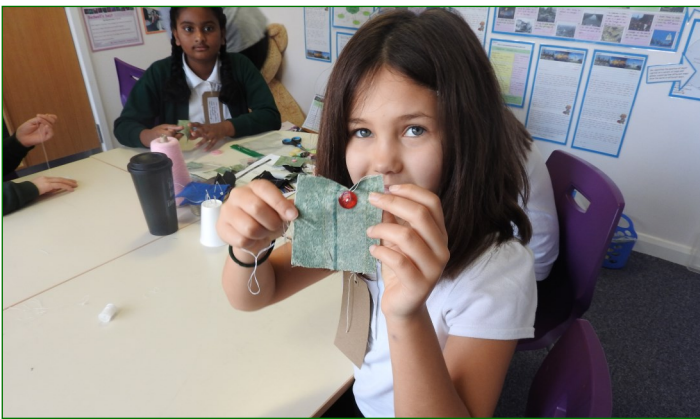
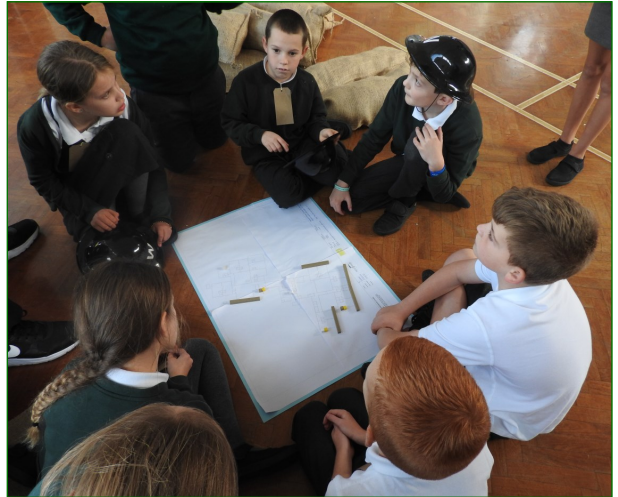
*In our English lessons, we have written both fiction and non-fiction texts. This has focussed on time travel, working with contrasting settings/time periods and using the features of different genres. Then, we created a time travel machine, and explained to the reader how it works. Here's Aleena's description of when her character encountered a mysterious beast, learning how to build suspense and create atmosphere.*

Keep going, keep going I told myself. Had it gone?

I stopped. I had to catch my breath. I was engulfed with panic and drowned by sweat. My chest was heavy and I was blinded by the darkness. The crisp air bit at my ankles. I searched frantically to ensure my safety. Nothing. For now anyway. Lurking in the shadows, its silhouette was hunting me down and advancing purposefully towards me. I was an easy target. All because I was alone - alone and defenceless. It wasn't long before I could feel its bloodthirsty presence and its bloodshot eyes glaring at me. Its guttural growl echoed through the empty street. I could feel footsteps pacing towards me. Coming closer and closer. Every nerve in my body ordered me to run immediately, but I couldn't. My body failed me.

*Aleena*





## Diary Dates

### 5th - 6th January

Inset days (staff training) - no school

### 9th January

Start of Spring term

### 11th January

SATs meeting for Year 2 parents

### 27th January

Foundation Stage Stay & Play session

### 8th February

Parents' Evening

### 13 - 17th February

Half-term

### 2nd March

World Book Day

### 13th March

Big Talk sessions throughout the school

### 17th March

Foundation Stage Stay & Play session

### 30th March

Easter Disco (Years 1-6)

### 31st March

End of term 2pm

### 17th April

Start of Summer term

### 1st May

May Bank Holiday - school closed

### 8th May

Bank Holiday for the Coronation

### 9th - 12th May

Year 6 SATs Week

## Sports Update

### Football

Our Football season kicked-off with the Stevenage Schools FA Autumn Tournaments, which we hosted at Bedwell. Our girls were in action first, taking on teams from 11 other schools. With many of the team playing their first competitive game, they performed really strongly, with Ebonie particularly impressing in defence as they secured two draws and two losses in their group, which wasn't quite enough to make it through to the knock-out stage. A week later, it was the turn of the boys. They played some excellent football, with Riley excelling in goal and Jacob putting in strong performances in midfield, but they struggled to score and went out in the group stage. Since then, the boys have worked hard in training and have really come together as a group, winning in the first round of the Stevenage Cup and securing their first win in the league as well. Finally, our Year 3/4 team kicked-off their season with a friendly against Ashtree School. Again, this was the first competitive game that more than half of the team had played - so it was great to see the confidence and determination with which they kept on driving forwards, resulting in great goals from Chance and Toby. All three teams are really keen to get playing again as soon as the field defrosts and the grass reappears in the spring!

### Netball

Both our Girls and Mixed Netball squads have been in action this term, with tough league games against Ashtree, Codicote and St Ippolyts. It was brilliant to see the grit and determination with which both teams have approached every game, doubling their efforts when the going got tough and even battling on when the early nights meant that they had to finish some of their matches in near-darkness! As a result of all of that, they have had great success, winning two and losing one of their games and showing some impressive form that will put them in contention for medals at the end of the season!

### ...and everything else!

We've taken part in a host of other events across the course of the term. Our Year 3/4 tennis squad collected silver medals after finishing second in the



Stevenage Tennis Tournament. 21 children from Year 5 and 6 took part in the Stevenage Cross Country Festival, with the Year 5 boys team placing 4th overall. We have also been in action in Rowing and Dodgeball events organised by Stevenage Sporting Futures. Finally, our clubs have been running throughout the term, offering free opportunities to play football, netball, dodgeball, cricket and a variety of other sports after school every day. Our Streetdance Club has continued to be particularly popular, and in the last week of term they performed in front of the rest of the school, wowing us with their energy, enthusiasm and confidence!