

Bedwell News

February 2021

What's inside:

Each class has been given two pages to share what they've been doing and learning about this half-term, and to share a few examples of their work.

At the moment, we have 4 classes in school, made up of vulnerable children and the children of key workers: Caterpillars, Frogs, Otters and Bears. These classes have included writing, artwork and photos to show what they've been learning about this term.

The rest of the school is learning remotely. In Nursery, Reception and Year 1, we are using Tapestry to share ideas, learning activities and recorded lessons. In Years 2-6, we are using Google Classroom for daily live lessons, recorded teaching and other activities. On the pages for these classes, you'll see examples of the work we have produced - and will hopefully be impressed by how hard lots of us have been working!

What we've been doing this term...

What an extraordinary half term! It has been action packed both at home and in school. Those families working from home have been so motivated and have produced some fabulous pieces of work. From maths to art to cooking to street dance ...you have done it all. In Reception we've made binoculars and bird feeders as part of the Big Garden Bird Watch. In Year 2, there's been some fantastic writing linked to the story *The Day the Crayons Quit*. Year 3/4 have created maps, gadget designs and pop art, have found 3d shapes around the home and have done a lot of yummy-looking cooking! Finally, Year 5/6 have worked hard to produce excellent writing about everything from squid to Spitfires to imaginary monsters! Meanwhile, those of you in school have been so kind and supportive of each other forming new bubbles with new friends.

To all the parents and carers, your support to keep your children learning has been invaluable. Let's hope that we will soon all be back together, learning and have having fun with our friends and teachers.

Miss Shaw

'Wear what makes you happy' day

On the last Friday before half-term, everyone was invited to wear whatever makes us happy for the day. Both at school and at home, we wore football kits, favourite jumpers, superhero costumes, princess dresses and lots and lots and lots of pyjamas!



Bumblebees Nursery

*Learning at home
with Mrs Steiner*

Despite everything that's going on, we've managed to keep ourselves really busy this term in nursery - and as a result, we've learnt loads! Those of us who are learning at home have been really enthusiastic about our Tapestry challenges and activities - and our mums, dads, grandparents and carers have been absolutely brilliant at helping us with our learning and recording what we've done to share our teachers.

Our focus story has been *The Gingerbread Man*, and linked to this we have made our own gingerbread, coloured, counted, written, drawn and read - a few examples of which you can see on these pages. We also got involved in the Big Garden Bird Watch, spotting and counting birds in our gardens and making bird feeders to encourage more birds to come and visit us. As well as all that, we have done lots of art, maths and storytelling activities, have practised our pencil control and have been on some great back-garden adventures!



Deivis playing a dice game to practice counting



Albi made binoculars



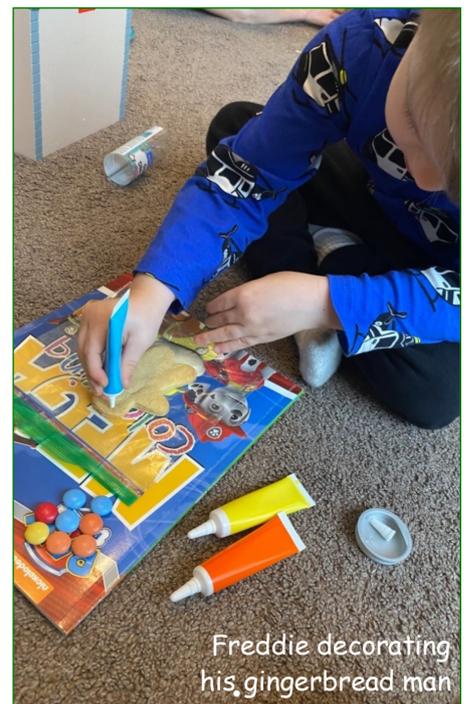
Frankie making a bird feeder



Buddy colouring using pencil control



Teddy making a bird feeder



Freddie decorating his gingerbread man

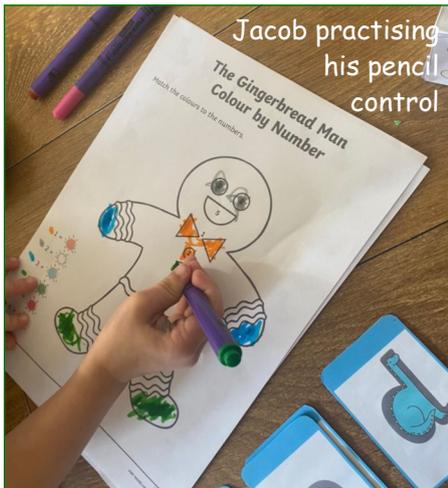
Stars of the Week



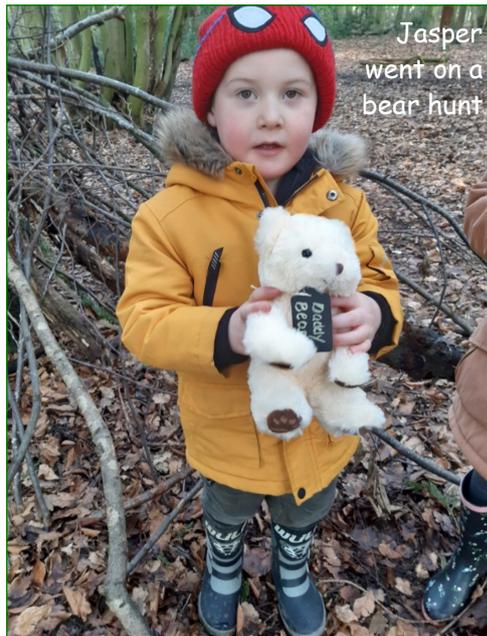
Ralph practising his pencil control



William baked a gingerbread man



Jacob practising his pencil control



Jasper went on a bear hunt



Lacey made a boat for the gingerbread man



Patrick practising pencil control

Faith

For settling so well into full-time school!

Freddie

For working so hard and trying lots of different activities

Jacob

For engaging in so many activities this week

Butterflies Reception

Learning at home with Mrs Eddison

It's been amazing to see how hard everyone at home has worked this half term (grown-ups too - thank you for your amazing support!) There has been a great response to the activities that have gone home, and loads of fantastic outcomes have been shared on Tapestry, from muddy walks, bike rides and dancing to science experiments and ice decorations! Our work on the story of The Gingerbread Man has also inspired some fantastic creativity, writing and storytelling, from disguises to traps and innovated story maps. We have all enjoyed sharing everything that we've been up to during our Friday Zoom meetings. During the week, Mrs Hill has enjoyed hearing those children who are at home read and practise their phonics too. Each Monday, Mrs Prosho loves seeing everyone wave as she delivers the packs, while in school Miss Davies has really enjoyed recording lots of fantastic stories for us to listen to and watch at home.



Abbie trying out the Gingerbread Man swimming experiment



Alex making fantastic gingerbread people



Aubree retelling The Gingerbread Man



Elsie enjoying a muddy walk!



Carey's delicious gingerbread people



Mason working hard on number formation and ordering

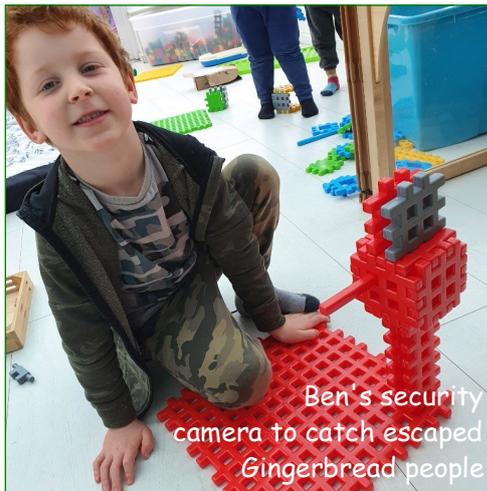


Joseph beating Mummy at Connect 4!

Stars of the Week



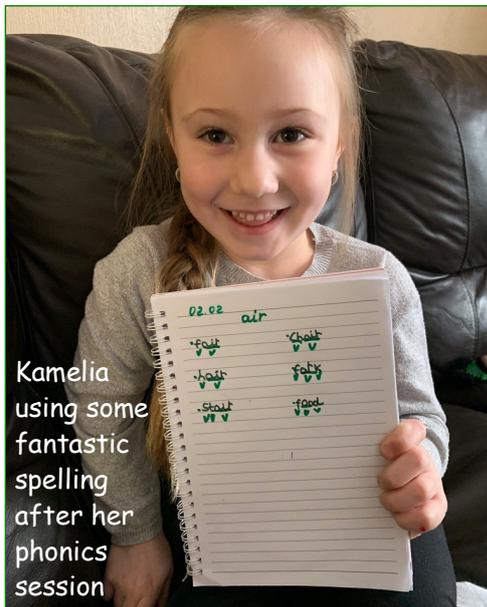
Elsie working hard during her phonics session online



Ben's security camera to catch escaped Gingerbread people



Joseph made a footballer disguise for his gingerbread man



Kamelia using some fantastic spelling after her phonics session



Tahlia creating fruit and berry ice decorations



Nicole made a bird feeder for the Big Garden Birdwatch



Mason receiving his Chinese New Year Chocolate coins

Kamelia

For all the beautifully presented work she is completing at home

Tahlia

For persevering with some challenging reading books

Ben

For great enthusiasm with all of his gingerbread man work

Caterpillars EYFS

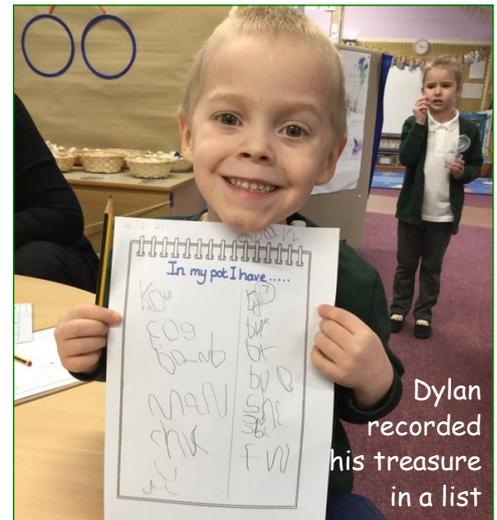
Learning in school
with Mrs Eddison
and Mrs Steiner

Those of us in nursery and reception who are in school every day have come together in Caterpillar class. We have tried to keep to our normal routine as much as possible and everyone has been super-keen to try all of the new activities!

Our focus at the beginning of term was winter and we learnt all about the Big Garden Bird Watch where we made lots of bird feeders. We even made our own binoculars to see which birds visited our garden. We've also enjoyed reading our focus book, *The Gingerbread Man*. We started off by making our own gingerbread people - luckily they didn't run away! We have enjoyed acting out and retelling the story, and have begun innovating the story to make it our own. In maths we have been doing lots of counting, matching and playing games which involve turn taking. We have also spent lots of time outdoors, building, painting, drawing, role playing, cutting, sticking, reading, dancing and exploring.



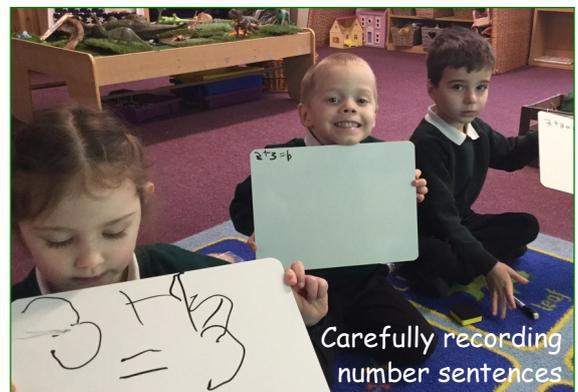
Deivis retold the story of The Gingerbread Man with his playdough creations



Dylan recorded his treasure in a list



Faith carefully cutting out her characters



Carefully recording number sentences



Lacey worked hard recording number sentences



Gingerbread Man counting and matching



Jasper making bird feeders



Emily concentrating on her Gingerbread Man design

Stars of the Week

Lily working hard on her mixing skills



Lottie's brilliant Gingerbread Man

Lottie

For giving her absolute best in all that she does!

Dylan

For giving 100% effort to every task and activity

Emily

For great turn-taking, clapping and cheering for her friends



Noah choosing his Gingerbread decorations



Emily working on the treasure pot challenge



Snack time for Caterpillar Class!

Ladybirds Year 1

Learning at home
with Mrs Devenish
and Mrs Humber

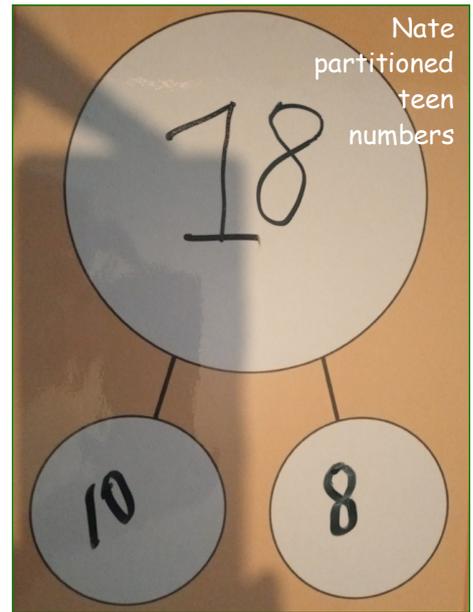
A huge well done to everyone who has been taking part in, supporting and getting involved in our home learning this term! So many families have been posting pictures or returning fantastic work from the home learning packs. In particular, our *Pippety Skycap* topic led to some great work, especially all of the creative writing about a pixie or a giant's pocket, and the lovely 'If I had wings' poems.

In Ladybirds, we have also been working really hard on our number skills, especially doubling and halving - well done for keeping up with these key skills. It has been great to see the craft activities that everyone has been trying, too - it looked like they were great fun!

Lastly we have started holding weekly Zoom calls, so that we can catch-up with our teachers and each other. It's lovely to see so many smiling faces every week, and we hope more of you will be able to join us after half-term.



Bibi exploring place value



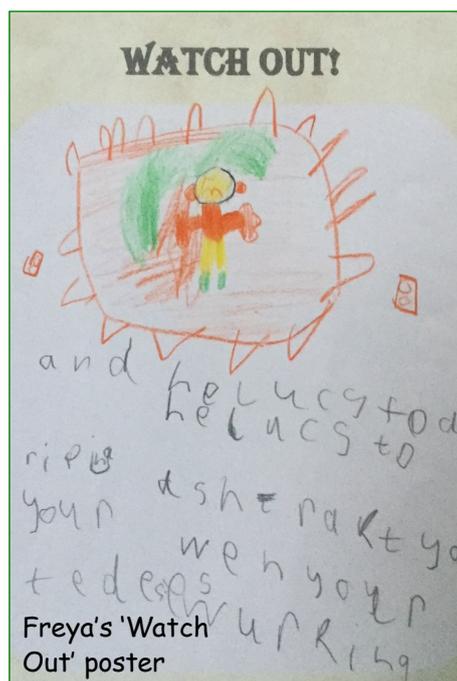
Nate partitioned teen numbers



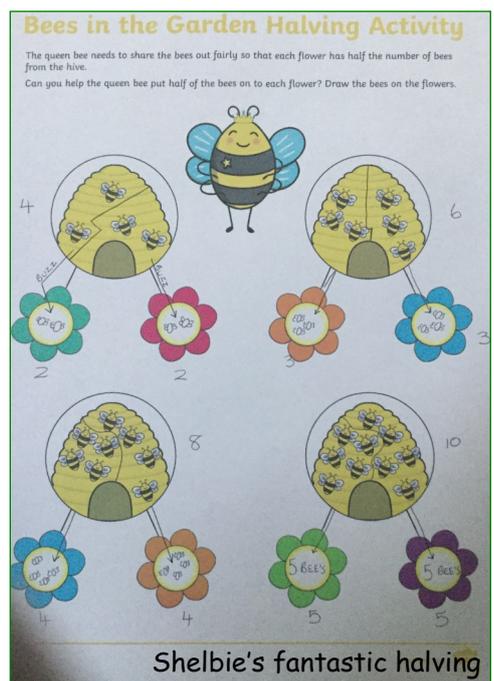
Lexi's Sidney Spider



Chance enjoying the snow!



Freya's 'Watch Out' poster



Shelbie's fantastic halving

Isla making bird food



Bibi's Pippety Puppet



Frankie's bear headband



Porchia's Pixie House



Getting involved in our Friday Zoom meetings!

Stars of the Week

Nate

For working like a total superstar all week!

Lexi

For a fantastic pixie house, which she worked on all week

Chance

For working really hard at home this week

Aurora

For writing lovely sentences about the Rainbow Hunt

Hedgehogs Year 2

*Learning at home
with Mrs Jackson*

In English, we have chosen a book a week to look at each week, which has enabled us to read new stories we hadn't read before. One of our favourites was 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. We imagined being a crayon and why we wouldn't want to colour anymore, we wrote letters to the main character Duncan and explored the use of these colours in our art work, producing some lovely pieces in the style of Mondrian. In maths, we have named 2D and 3D shapes as well as developing our money skills. We love to watch #DrawwithRob an author and illustrator called Rob Biddulph, who shows us how to draw his characters, step by step.

We have learnt about the explorer Christopher Columbus and why he is famous. We have also become enthralled with David Walliams' audio books and listen to one each day, giving us lots to talk about in our live sessions. Obviously, our favourite was Windy Mindy... you can probably guess why!

Art : Kandinsky



We investigated the work of the famous artist Kandinsky, who filled his paintings with shapes and patterns. We then had a go at making our own Kandinsky-inspired artworks. Here, you can see how Amela has cut out and coloured circles of different sizes to make her picture.

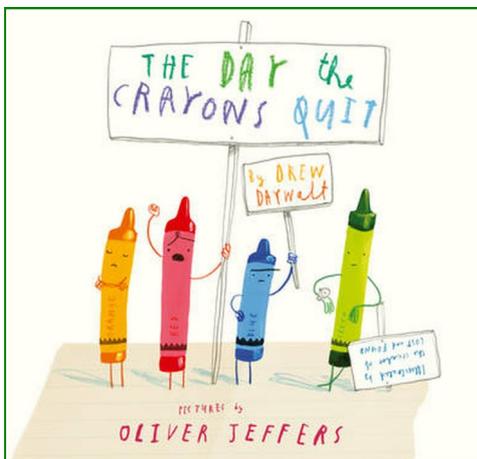
PHSE : Smile!

We were asked by 1Decision (the people behind our PSHE lessons) to join in with a 'Smile' initiative they have been running, which aimed to encourage people to be happy in this challenging time. They asked us to submit videos, pictures or drawings of anything that had made us smile. Lots of us sent our ideas in - and this picture of Kevin was one of our favourites!



The Day the Crayons Quit

One of the stories we have focussed on this half-term is the fantastic *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt. In the story, all of Duncan's crayons decide they've had enough and leave him on the same day. We read it, talked about the story, answered questions on it - and then used it to inspire our own writing. In the examples below, you can see different ways we have used the story to create something new of our own:



Multi-coloured crayon

Once upon a time there was a little girl that had lots of multi-coloured crayons that she made. She made the crayons with rainbow crayons by mashing them up and when she put them in the moulds, she put them in the oven. Then she mixed the colours together and made a multi-coloured crayon. Once she made them she used them so much that they quit!

She drew a rainbow, some butterflies and a sunset. It looked like a unicorn land but there were no unicorns. So she drew the unicorns and the next day she woke up, and saw that outside was the same unicorns as she drew. The unicorns, the rainbow and the sunset. But when her brother ripped her piece of paper it wasn't beautiful anymore. So she drew something else and hid it in a really good hiding spot

By the next day she had drawn every princess and unicorn she could think of! Her drawings were safe and her brother didn't rip the paper anymore.

By Lacie

The day the rabbits quit

Once upon a time there was a magical crown made for a rabbit. If the rabbit put the crown on, the crystals made them have crystal magic. The crown was kept in a magical place safe from any animal.

One day a little rabbit named Floppsie Moppsie decided to quit his job and go and find the magical crown. She hunted long and fair until she found the magical cave entrance. It was dark but she found a lost crystal that glowed that she used for a light. Into the cave she went until finally she found the crown and put it on. Then she ran out of the cave and the sunlight gave the crown crystal magic and Floppsie Moppsie felt magic in her hands and in her head.

Floppsie Moppsie ran back home and used the magic to make all of the rabbits happy so none of them ever had to quit again.

By Faith

Stars of the Week

Toby

For his enthusiasm and contributions during live lessons

Kevin

For giving his all to every activity and always doing his best

Theo

For engaging in live lessons and his great Runaway Socks' story

Raymond

For superb effort in his independent work and live lessons

Frogs Year 1/2

*Learning in school
with Mrs Devenish
and Mrs Humber*

Our small class, drawn from Year 1 and 2, has been busy at work this term! We have tried to make it feel as 'normal' as possible, and everyone has been keen to engage with every activity and learning opportunity.

We have been starting off each day with a bit of fresh air and exercise by walking a mile. In English, we had a lot of fun with the *Pippety Skycap* topic, and some of our highlights have been planning new naughty tricks for the pixie to play and writing lovely 'If I had wings' poems. We have also been working really hard on our number skills, especially doubling and halving. We've also enjoyed looking at and talking about toys from the past, so thank you if you have helped support this at home by talking about your own toys. We have tried some fun craft activities especially building our own Pixie houses!

Take care, and have a good half term - from all of the Frogs!



Practising our measuring skills



Painting Pixie's house

Riley's Pippety Skycap poem

Of course, I'm lucky because I already have wings! What would you do if you had wings?

If I Had Wings

If I had wings, I would touch a golden castle far away.

If I had wings, I would taste a magical horse at disneyland.

If I had wings, I would listen to the moon shaking.

If I had wings, I would smell a penguin at the zoo.

If I had wings, I would gaze at the moon till it goes down in the moor.

If I had wings, I would dream about a lion in the jungle fighting.

Some lovely ideas for you if you had wings

Well done Riley



Retelling the story of Sidney

Stars of the Week



Completing our Google Classroom activities

Riley

For working really hard on blending his sounds in phonics

Bonnie

For working hard in maths, learning about tricky teen numbers



marnie
Mis bran is swopin her shed.

In Computing, Marnie drew Mrs Brown's shed



Completing our daily mile!

Keeon

For making great progress in his reading and writing

Avik

For always working hard and thinking through every task



Making Pixie's house

Moles Year 3

*Learning at home
with Mrs Draper,
Mrs Thomas and
Mr Lester*

With Miss Smith busy teaching the Year 3/4 group who are in school, Mrs Draper, Mrs Thomas and Mr Lester have taken charge of remote learning with Moles this term.

In English, we have been on a spy mission in our *Mission Possible* unit, writing some fantastic adventure stories. We then moved on to look at persuasive writing with our *Gadgets and Gizmos* topic. In maths, meanwhile, we have learnt about Roman numerals, practiced our number bonds and improved our ability to tell the time. Daily live lessons with our teachers have helped us to stay in contact with each other, and have also made the work much easier to understand! We've also enjoyed our live PE and French sessions with Mr Butler and Mr Lester, and have learnt about sight in science and Anglo Saxons in history - plus we've loved Mr Lester's audiobook retelling of *Danny Champion of the World!*

Persuasive writing

In our *Gadgets and Gizmos* topic in English, we've been learning all about persuasive writing. We have designed our own gadgets, and have written super-convincing adverts for them. Below, you can see Cristina's fab introduction, and Najah's detailed planning:

FUNtastik Dream Watch Gadget 2,000

Would you like to be able to reverse time? How about being able to fly like Superman? Also, would you like to be able to teleport yourself anywhere you want? If yes is the answer to all of my questions then you should get the perfect spy gadget, the FUNtastik Dream Watch 2,000! This spy gadget has all these three features. As an extra the FUNtastik Dream Watch 2,000 has a hidden button which activates a hidden camera. There is no point to let this magnificent watch get away! This gadget is going to change your life forever!

By Cristina

Punchy/catchy title	Multi-Coloured Glasses
Opening hook - to make reader feel must have this item	Why do you just sit down and watch TV? These Multi-Coloured Glasses are the most amazing invention every created!
List main features in a persuasive manner	Come and buy these amazing Multi-Coloured glasses that can speak. These glasses can move by themselves! They can fly and be invisible!
Extra features or bonuses	These Multi-Coloured glasses have a secret, tiny button. You press that tiny button and say a question and someone will give you the answer.
Key reason for purchasing gadget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You can read everybody's minds whenever you see someone and you can see what people can't see. ➤ You can see through walls, you can see everything perfectly. ➤ You can look 19 miles further. ➤ The glasses helps you see in the dark
Supporting quotation from a well-known person/expert	Colie Cosire, salesperson at the UK's top spy shop says, "These glasses are amazing. They can do everything I had wished for... My eyes just love the glasses. Buy now they're ready for you!"
Website, phone number, price.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The website is: https://spy.shop.com/buy-online/mcg ➤ Phone number: 6893902648 ➤ Price: £200

By Najah

Mission : Possible

In English, we began the term by exploring adventure stories. To round-off the unit, we wrote amazing adventures of our own - just like this fantastic piece of fantasy fiction from James:

Max and Molly's Space Adventure

Max lived next door to his cousin Molly. They were also best friends, and went to the same primary school. They looked very ordinary. However secretly, they were incredible crime fighters!

It all started when they decided to go to the Science Museum. They were curiously looking at a spaceship. One of the security guards encouraged them to go inside it. It was bright red and as big as an elephant! With no doubt, they went inside. It was full of bright buttons and shiny gizmos. Max pressed a giant button and they rapidly blasted off!

Max screamed at Molly "We're flying!" They floated on and on until they landed on a planet covered in gold! They were shocked and scared but they opened the door. They couldn't breathe, so Max quickly slammed the door shut again. A few minutes later, there was a knock at the door. To their utter surprise, there was a man in a space suit holding two more space suits, a rucksack and a huge hammer.

"Hello, my name is Roger Stealer. Here, have these suits" he said in a gentle voice.

After they put them on and stepped out of the big red rocket, they quickly realised that they had been tricked...they were floating away into space! How will they get back?

Meanwhile, back in the spaceship, Roger was trying to escape with his rucksack full of gold that he'd smashed from the beautiful planet. But little did he know, Bob Job (the museum's security guard) was controlling the spaceship from his computer back at the museum. He steered it to save Max and Molly, then he set it to return to Earth. Once inside the spaceship, Max and Molly tied Roger up with some rope Molly had found onboard. Roger now knew his greedy plan had failed.

The doors opened widely, and Max gave Roger to the police that were waiting in the museum. Bob Job came over to them and said, "You did it, you stopped Roger Stealer. Do you want to become my secret crime fighting team?" " Yes please!" they squealed happily. Bob handed them a watch and a badge each, and then thanked them for helping.

The friends went home and fell straight to sleep, after a long day. But that night their watches lit up. It was time for their next mission...

By James

Stars of the Week

James

For his enthusiasm and engagement in live lessons

Ella-Mae

For offering lots of imaginative ideas in live lessons

Amber

For showing great Polly Perseverance in her learning

Cristina

For showing great maturity towards her learning

Badgers Year 3/4

*Learning at home
with Mrs Draper*

There has been so much brilliant work done by Badger Class this term! Over the weeks, we have found new ways of learning and producing work, and everyone has shown great perseverance, determination and patience.

We have completed two units of English work (called *Mission Possible* and *Gadgets and Gizmos*), and have also produced a huge range of maths work including: time, shape, data handling, Roman numerals and of course practised our times tables.

In PSHE, we have thought about our feelings and learned strategies to manage them, whilst in Science Mr Lester has kept us entertained with his amazing experiments. We've also been creative, baking shortbread, creating videos to make us smile, and even drawing maps of our local area. All in all, we've been very busy and have produced some amazing work.

Well done Year 3/4!

Maps of our local area

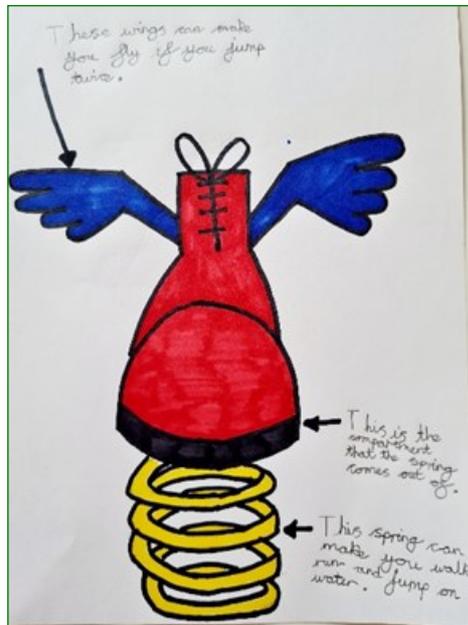


In Geography, we explored maps and learnt about the way they are created and the types of things that they show us. Then, we had a go at drawing-up our own maps of the local area. On the left you can see Rudran's (complete with compass points) and on the right is Noah's detailed plan of our locality.

Cooking Mr Humber's recipes



Gadget designs



We produced these ingenious designs as part of our *Gadgets and Gizmos* topic, which saw us investigating persuasive writing. On the left, you can see Aleena's amazing super suit design, while on the right is Demi's clever plan for go-anywhere boots, complete with wings and springs!

Art : Roy Lichtenstein

We explored the Pop art designs of Roy Lichtenstein, and had a go at mimicking his style at home. Here you can see Madhumitha's great artwork:



Stars of the Week

Noah

For his outstanding work on Google Classroom

Rachel

For joining-in enthusiastically with every session

Tolu

For starting every day with a positive, can-do attitude!

Aleena

For her confidence, enthusiasm and dedication to learning!

Rabbits Year 4

*Learning at home
with Mrs Thomas
and Mr Lester*

Considering that we had hardly ever used Google Classroom until January, it has been amazing to see how quickly we have all got to grips with it, and how much fantastic work we have been able to produce!

We have had a really wide range of activities on offer every day. In English, we have crafted our own adventure stories and developed our persuasive writing (a few examples of which you can see on these pages). In maths, we have explored 2d and 3d shape, learnt to recognise different types of angles and discovered how to calculate perimeter and area. In science, we began by learning about sound, and have now moved on to light and sight. We have had regular PE lessons with Mr Butler, where we have been taking part in the Stevenage Sporting Futures virtual tournaments. Plus, there's been guided reading, PHSE, a bit of geography and history, a Pop Art project and lots more that won't fit here!

Cooking!

Inspired by Mr Humber's *Recipe of the Week* suggestions, Reece and Tianna have been busy baking in the kitchen, creating some well-made marble cake and shortbread.



English : Persuasion

In English we have been Estate Agents, writing positive, persuasive adverts to sell houses - or, in this case, an absolutely hideous, run down caravan! Logan used the writing frame and added pushy, persuasive language to produce this fantastic advert:



For Sale!

Here is an amazing opportunity to buy this astonishing house. This great building is perfect for people who like camping. It is brilliantly placed near the park and railway. The gorgeous garden and giant car park are an added bonus. It comes complete with a jacuzzi that money just can't buy. Don't miss out on the opportunity of a lifetime!

By Logan

Otters Year 3/4

*Learning in school
with Miss Smith*

Our brand new class has brought together everyone who's in school from Moles, Badgers and Rabbits. We haven't spent much time together before, so it has been great to see how well we've all got along and how supportive we have been of each other's learning.

This term, we have done loads! In maths, we've learnt about graphs, 3d shapes, different types of triangles and quadrilaterals, and have started exploring coordinates. In Science, we've done lots of work on planets and space travel. In PHSE, we've been learning about healthy eating and healthy lifestyles - and we've also been doing weekly PE sessions with Mr Butler to help keep our bodies fit and healthy.

In English, we began by writing about monsters (you can see examples of our reports and instructions on the opposite page), and we're now working on a spy-themed topic, *Mission Possible*.

Mission : Possible

We began our *Mission : Possible* unit in English by exploring the two main characters, super-spy twins Pete and Polly Powers. We collected vocabulary and similes to describe them, then wrote these fab character descriptions:



Pete Powers

Pete Powers clothes are pristine and black to blend in the with the dark. His voice is clear and when he is on a mission it turns quiet but is still clear. Pete trained really well and hard to be a spy. He will never back down on a mission because he is not shy to do anything. His hair is short and spiky.

By Lucas

Pete Powers is dependable, co-operative and creative. He is calm boy and everyone thinks that he is kind. He hair is a wild as a lion's mane and is as spiky as a porcupine's spikes! He moves like the wind and is almost impossible to catch. His clothes are as black as a bat's skin.

By Jahrell

Polly Powers

Polly Powers is a clever and honest girl, who loves going on adventures. She is careful and likes to help people of any age - she is little hero any time! She is brave every day, and you can rely on Polly! She will always help when you are in danger. If you call on her, she will be there in a flash! In the night, she wears black so no one can see her, and in the day she looks like a kid but she never wears her superhero clothes. She can sort out all of your problems and save the day, so rely on Polly every time!

By Maddie



Polly Powers is an adventurous and intelligent girl. She can be cheeky, but only because of her love for adventure. She is a fantastic spy, because she is hardworking and intelligent. Polly wears clothes as black as midnight, allowing her to move around discretely. She has straight hair that hangs on her shoulders and is a muddy brown colour. Polly stands very tall and straight, showing her confidence.

By Olivia

Polly Powers is brave and hardworking, because she loves her job. She is an active girl and she is brilliant at what she does. She could not work harder! Her face is round, her hair is straight and her clothes are as black as the night sky Her voice is clear and her body is muscular.

By Summer

The Air Monster

Do you ever feel like someone is breathing on you? If you are unlucky enough it could be the Air Monster. This is the most indistinguishable monster ever, the scariest and the most appalling! This is what we have discovered about this fascinating monster.

The Air Monster can only be found in the most remote and most majestic mountain. Mount Mystica! This mountain is the most enchanting, magical, amazing, breath taking mountain in the valleys of mountains. This valley is so lethal, that it has had no visitors or tourists for centuries... This monster spends most of its life in Mount Mystica, however he sleeps in monster cave.

This monster is vile and hideous. He can be seen from a mile away. Its breath smells like a goblins foot. He hasn't even got any hair! He is the most hideous thing you will ever see. He has two venomous haunting eyes. If you look into these eyes he will haunt you forever. Unfortunately, Dr Roberts has been haunted by these eyes. His last words were, "Help, I feel dizzy!" before he sadly died.

Have you ever wondered what an Air Monster eats? He's a carnivore. So he eats humans and human flesh. However he does sometimes leave Mount Mystica to catch some tornados and even storms. Whenever he feels tired, he gobbles up some air to keep him energetic.

It is strongly recommended that you avoid the Air Monster. This monster is so dangerous but surprisingly friendly. So when you see this monster, run towards it so it gets confused and blanks out!

By Jayse

The Lake Monster

Did you know that Lake Monsters are living? If you don't know when they are going to pounce, just follow these instructions.

What you will need:

- 3 heavy metal bars so the beast can't escape, a shove, a button and some sand, so the monster doesn't see the trap

Method

1. First you need to collect a plastic button, really strong metal bars and a net made out of heavy string.
2. After that, set up the string so it is attached to the button.
3. Then the monster is supposed to step on the button and should sink through the sand.
4. Finally the metal come bars down and the monster can't escape.

By Ruby

Stars of the Week

Millie-Rose

For her hard work and great enthusiasm in her new class

Jayse

For writing a fantastic information text about a monster

Kelsey

For amazing everyone with her knowledge of the planets!

Tyler

For participating in every lesson and some great maths work

Foxes Year 5

Learning at home with Mr Hollingsworth

In Fox Class, we have been working really hard on Google Classroom.

For English we have written reports about elves, describing their appearance, habitats and diets. We had a variety of excellent ideas from fire elves to crystal elves and everything else in between.

In maths, we have been learning how to carry out core operations with fractions, as well as identifying angles and calculating the area and perimeter of 2D shapes.

Our learning has tried to cover several of the subjects we would learn at school including science, history (WW2), art and PE.

We have also really enjoyed our Friday afternoon live lessons from The National aquarium. So far we have learned about underwater volcanoes, how to navigate the oceans and a focus on squids. For example, a squid has a beak!!!
Who knew?

Spitfire facts

1. The Spitfire had elliptical wings. This unique design made it the most agile in the sky.
2. It was 29ft 11in long and had a wingspan of 36ft 10in.
3. Its top speed was 405mph, making it the fastest around.
4. Most of the Spitfires were built at Castle Bromwich Aerodrome in the West Midlands (they produced 12,129 by the end of the war).
5. Some Spitfires were fitted with cameras to take photos of enemy sites.
6. Spitfires played an important part in the biggest invasion in history.
7. By the end of the Battle of Britain, the RAF Spitfires had shot down 1887 German planes.



By Noah

The Devil Elf Habitat

The Devil elf lives deep, deep down underneath the ground. They have learnt to live away from sunlight in the dark as they find sunlight unbearable and it hurts their eyes. They have made lots of little tunnels so they can come out at night time to hunt and collect their food. They are very evil and naughty elves so all the other elves know to lock their doors at night as devil elves have been known to steal things and go into their houses.

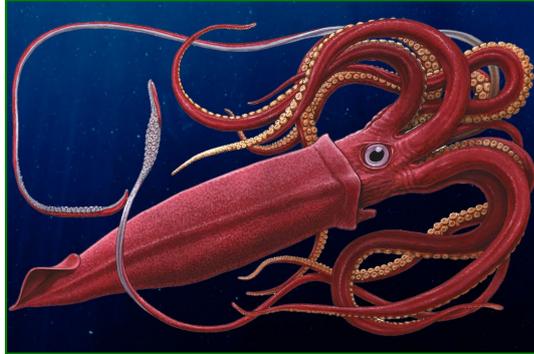
By Samuel



Squid Fact File

Appearance:

- Squid have smooth skin and colourful bodies
- Squid have tough beaks that they use to kill and eat their prey
- Most squid have 8 arms and two longer tentacles, but some squid have 10 arms.



Habitat:

- Squid tend to live in cooler and temperate waters.

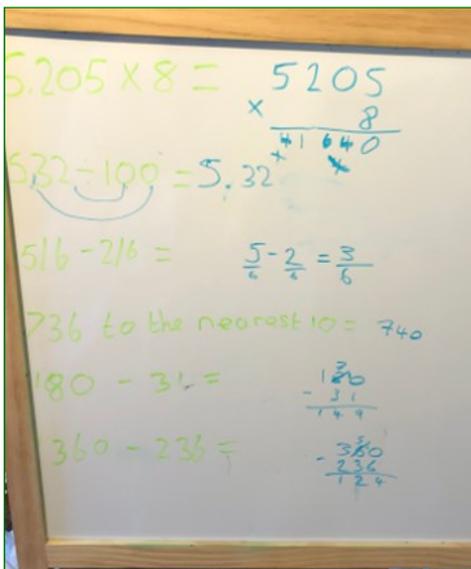
Diet:

- They are carnivores. They eat fish, crab and shrimps

Any other facts:

- Some squid have special cells in their skin that allows them to change colours.
- Squid have 10 tentacles lined with suckers. The tentacles grip prey that has been caught and pass it to the squid's mouth.
- Squid also use their tentacles to swim through the water.

By Devarni



Harry worked out the answers to his arithmetic questions on his home whiteboard. It was great to see all the careful working out he used, which led to precise answers.



Having been inspired by our live science lessons, Noah made this fantastic tissue-paper volcano and sent in a photo to share with us.

Stars of the Week

Noah

For his hard work and great enthusiasm on Google Classroom

Devarni

For the brilliant extended writing he's produced at home

Maria

For contributing to each and every live lesson

Kye

For the commitment he shows to every single online task

Bears Year 5/6

*Learning in school
with Mr Humber*

It's been a term of ups and downs in Bear class. Many of us are missing our friends and getting used to new staff and a new way of doing things which has been a challenge. On the other hand we are working hard and producing work to a high standard and learning lots of new and exciting things.

Every morning begins with our maths lesson, where we have covered statistics, 2d and 3d shape, co-ordinates, reflection and translation. After break we have literacy, our first topic was to write information texts on Monsters and currently we are writing intriguing spy stories which we hope to complete after half term. The afternoons are filled with all the other subjects from art to RE and we are also lucky enough to have PE lessons with Mr Butler twice a week.

Everyone in Bear Class misses the rest of the school and we hope to see you all again soon.

The Slither Centaur

Do you ever wonder what might be lurking beneath the ground or hiding in the shadows of our world? Once you have read this guide I promise you, your dreams will never be the same again.

Many monsterologists believe that this nightmarish creature lives on the Island of Death. Its home can be found at the foot of the Misty Mountains in the dark terrifying caves. It is said that the caves are covered in bones and blood and that the Slither Centaur sleeps in its lair all day before coming out at night. However this is only speculation.



The world has gone crazy over Slither Centaur. The only person to see this beast is the explorer Kye Randall. He said it was the most horrifying thing he has ever seen before. It is said to have horns, two on the back of its head and one on its nose. It has a spike on the end of its back and on the tail. The feature that really struck fear into the explorer were its terrifying titanium teeth that looked like they could tear flesh with ease.

After the terrible discovery, the explorer spent a further two weeks trying to find out what the monster ate. After a long search he found bones in its underground cave. It is believed that these bones belonged to bears and horses, but there was also a half-eaten Dragon Fruit bush nearby and some dried juice on the floor which tells us it probably eats Dragon Fruit too. This would make the monster an omnivore, but this is difficult to confirm.

This monster is highly dangerous so be warned. Do not go near it in any circumstance. If you find yourself in a situation with this monster, puff out your chest to make yourself look big. If you do not do this you will end up dead!

By Asher



The Poison Acid Monster

Have you ever heard of the Poisonous Acid monster? This monster is like no other you have seen.

Many monster experts believe that the poisonous acid monster lives in a volcano. Volcano land is the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. This island is the hottest on the planet. Red smoke surrounds the island and can be seen from space.

World renowned monsterologist Professor Rainbow Grey is the only surviving human to have spotted this secretive creature. While on an expedition to Volcano Land he caught a glimpse of the Poisonous Acid Monster.

The Professor thought the monster was about 2ft tall. He had eight arms and an acid orange tongue. The monster's body was covered with a turquoise bumpy skin. In its his mouth there were sharp fangs with metal tips. The monster's body had foul smelling, decaying spots on its skin. The creature had one eye that was golden, yellow, bronze, red, crimson, copper and brown with scarlet.

After several days of trotting through Volcano Land the professor found the monster's lair at the bottom of a giant towering volcano. The professor entered the cave to find the remains of horses, bugs and animals skulls. There were spiders crawling down the sides of the cave walls.

This monster is Dangerous so stay away OR YOU WILL WAKE UP DEAD!

By Shaun

Pop Art Explosions!



Stars of the Week

Theo

For adapting to all the changes and working hard in every lesson

Asher

For writing an excellent information text on a monster

Ruby

For being determined, conscientious and a pleasure to teach!

Tayla

For being helpful, kind and a great example to the whole class

Eagles Year 5/6

Learning at home with Mr Roberts

While Mr Humber has been teaching the Year 5/6 group in school, Mr Roberts has been looking after our home learning, We've covered a huge range of topics over the course of the term, from evolution and life in the tundra to World War 2, Sikhism and 3d computer modelling! Mr Lester and Mr Butler have also been running weekly live lessons in French and PE to make sure our brains are kept busy!

In English, our *Monsterology* topic has given us the chance to write in a huge range of genres. We've written reports, instructions, diary entries (just like Amelia's on the opposite page) and discussions - you can see more examples of our fab work over the next few pages.

In maths, meanwhile, we started the term exploring pie charts and data handling. We then moved on to learn about percentages (and solve lots of percentage problems) before shifting on to 2d and 3d shape.

Evacuees

In History, we have been learning about World War 2. We explored the countries involved in the War and the reasons why it began, and then started investigating what happened to children during the conflict. We learnt what it meant to be an evacuee (with the help of some great interviews and archive films on the BBC website), and then imagined what it would have been like to be an evacuee. You can see some of the fantastic diary entries we wrote below:



Dear Diary,

Today has been a scary day. I would have never thought that my parents would actually be serious about me being evacuated. I know that it's best for me but.. I don't want to leave my parents!!! They are still back there waiting for the bombs to rain. I'm waiting in wherever I am waiting for some stranger to take me to their home.

Everybody gathered at the station earlier today. My best friends Timothy and Winston were also there but the station was too cramped for me to reach them. I don't know where everybody else was taken but definitely not here. This town is really small and is mainly just a farm. Everybody is sat in this hall waiting to be taken...

By Missy

Dear Diary,

Today has been a sad day I've been evacuated. I hate the girl I now call a room mate. She is infuriating, irritating and obnoxious; she also has no sense of humour! I miss home. I hate Germany, at least I know where to go when I want to punish myself.

I am very worried about Mum, Dad and Calum. They sent us here to be safe but they aren't - let's hope Germany gives in. At least Great Britain was prepared. I should probably give KC (the girl who is annoying) a chance. I think I will be here a long time.

By Marissa

Dear Diary,

Today has been really tough and mad. Mum and Dad have gone crazy. They said that Me and my sister needed to be evacuated. I mean what on earth are they talking about? They were actually serious when they said this. Nothing will be better or worse if we are sent away

Me and my sister were standing on the platform waiting for the train to arrive when I saw Georgia. She was finding her way to get out of the crowd of children to come over to me. I wish I knew what stranger would pick me up?

By Rishmi

Diary of a monster hunter

Tuesday 26th October 2032

After seven whole weeks of searching, this has by far been the toughest day. Though it is the evening, I still don't really feel that tired. Maybe all of the work has given me energy! Still, I cannot wait for tomorrow. Today was somewhat normal with (like every other day) no success for locating the actual monster... Wait, maybe we have discovered the Venom Spiked Snake after all. Yes, the memories are all flooding in now! It was around 3:30am when I awoke, startled, from the thought of hearing a growling sound in the distance, my tired eyes darted around the moonlit horizon desperately trying to spot something. However I saw nothing, so I thought nothing of it pretending it was a dream or my imagination. So, perhaps it wasn't a dream after all...

Wednesday 10th November 2032

These past 2 weeks have definitely been the hardest; emotionally and physically. The strain that living in the desert has put on my body is unreal! Priya Arnaad and Hans Becker (my crew) seemed pretty happy about my life-changing conclusion that was discovered only 2 weeks ago. Today is my birthday, however it is probably going to be the worst one yet. On a positive note, we are going to attempt to set up our trap and catch the monster once and for all. Hours and hours of our time has been used, designing and creating this beast of a mechanism. Maybe this birthday can be salvaged. Oh, I have to go, I'll come back when we have hopefully captured the Venom Spiked Snake!

When I woke up this morning I wasn't feeling too hopeful, I got my hopes up but now I really wish I hadn't. The trap actually failed... I just felt such a need to write again, so here it is. The creature didn't even show up! All we attracted was an angry camel! As it charged powerfully toward us I snatched the old, battered rope from my back-pack and whipped the camel straight across its nose! Priya hid cautiously behind Hans' immense figure, as he got out his binoculars and started to scan the scene, checking thoroughly if the coast was clear. When, eventually the surroundings were safe, we rushed to a nearby cave, Priya close behind. If we are fortunate it will give us enough shelter for the night.

Friday 12th November 2032

For most of yesterday, me, Priya, and Hans, started to create a new trap design (as the other one didn't go as successfully as he had hoped), and we have come up with a contraption that'll work a little like this. Firstly we collected materials from the failed trap-such as glass and wood panels - before piecing them together, to create a container with a hinged flap for the monster's entrance. Next we laid out a trail of bait to lure it in, placed some inside the container to keep them there, set up a camera and waited. We waited for an extremely long amount of time, almost 16 hours I believe! However, all of the preparations and time-consuming planning definitely paid off, because...

By Amelia

Stars of the Week

Marissa

For her unlimited enthusiasm and 'can do' attitude to work

Amelia

Consistently amazing everyone with her clever, funny writing

James

For giving every task a go and wowing with his maths knowledge!

Tyler

For being super-enthusiastic about everything!

Falcons Year 6

Learning at home with Mr Roberts

Well, when we talked to Mr Roberts about what class would be like when he took over Falcons in January, this is not what any of us were expecting... It's been very strange, but what was good was the speed with which we all found a new pattern to school days - online for live teaching, working our way through recorded lessons and completing lots of activities each day. We've all found different things we like the most as well - some of us love French with Mr Lester, some of us are big fans of Mr Butler's PE, while for others history, science, English and maths might be our favourite... And the good thing about Google Classroom is that we can do things in the order we prefer at the times we like! Anyway, as you'll hopefully be able to see over the next few pages, we've learnt loads this half-term, covering everything from evolution to Sikhism to quadrilaterals - and even the French name for a saxophone!

Evolution and extinction

In science, we have been learning about adaptation and evolution this term. We explored the way that fossils can be used to discover how living things have changed over time and found out how Darwin used observations of birds in the Galapagos islands to create his Theory of Evolution. Our last lesson looked at the impact that humans have had on other species, which led to us investigating some of the animals that have become extinct over the last hundred years, including the great reports below:

Name of animal:

- The Bali Tiger

Where it lived:

- The small island of Bali in the Indian Ocean.

Description of the animal and its habitat:

- Their fur was dark orange with only a few stripes and they had white fur on their stomach.
- Bali tigers lived in the forests. They were carnivores and ate meat.
- Some of their favourite island snacks were deer, wild boar (like a pig), monkeys, monitor lizards and red jungle fowl (like a chicken).

How it became extinct - what did humans do to cause it to die out:

- When humans began to inhabit the island, they chopped down all the forests and destroyed the tiger's natural habitat.
- Hunting also played a large role in their extinction.
- The last individual was shot by a hunter sometime in 1937.

By Erik

Name of animal:

- The Passenger Pigeon

Where it lived:

- Eastern forests of North America

Description of the animal and its habitat:

- They lived in hardwood forests. The birds depended on the huge forests for their nests, for food and for safety.
- They mostly ate nuts, acorns, seeds and berries found in the forests.
- They flew in huge flocks. Before humans started killing them, there were over 3 billion passenger pigeons in North America, but now there are none left.

How it became extinct - what did humans do to cause it to die out:

- People ate passenger pigeons in vast amounts.
- As Europeans moved across North America, they cut down the forests that the pigeons lived in.
- Passenger pigeons were also killed because farmers thought that they would eat all of their seeds

By Tristan

The Swamp Walker

Introduction

Have you ever come across the Swamp Walker in your dreams? It is so real, it is like you are awake but have been teleported into the mysterious rain forest. Only a few people have ever experienced this dream and scientists are starting to believe this is happening to make us aware of its existence! Would you dare go into the forest to find out the truth?

Where it lives

It is believed that the Swamp Walker is lurking somewhere in the hot and humid forest. The dense trees hide him really well so he is able to stalk through the rainforest hunting for his prey. His jelly body and ability to change colour allows him to survive here in the forest, he is either floating along in the Ucayali or Marañon, one of the two Andean rivers, camouflaged in the rippling water. The redness from the leaves on the Poinsettia plants also provide a good location to hide from his prey.

What it eats

I bet you would like to know what the Swamp Walker likes to feast on! It is a known fact, that by the amount of bones that have been found scattered all over the amazon rainforest floor by scientists, it likes to eat meat! Depending on the size of his victim he would normally feast twice a day, with maybe the occasional snack on a baby orangutan. To keep himself topped-up with nutrients he munches on handfuls of juicy red acai berries.

How it moves

It is very hard to guess where the Swamp Walker might be waiting to pounce. He can get you from anywhere in the forest, nowhere is safe! When he is on land he can walk slowly between the trees, changing from forest green to chocolate brown as he passes the leaves and tree trunks. The only real way to spot him is his four dazzling red eyes, but Professor Michael Burden from Oxford University has said that, "You are not to look into his eyes as you become so mesmerised that you are frozen on the spot and this is how he catches you best!"

What it likes to do

Although the Swamp Walker is known to prowl through the forest during the day, it is believed that he sleeps all through the night. Nobody knows where he sleeps as he tends to change his location, sometimes sleeping at the bottom of a stinky swamp or curling himself around a tree trunk like a python, camouflaging himself like the woody bark. During the day he hunts for food, he will eat anything that crosses his path.

Conclusion

If you are still keen to try and find the Swamp Walker, you really should think again! He is not a creature to take pity on you, he will destroy you and rip you apart. If you were to survive, you would be traumatised for life, which is why only experts should tackle the Swamp Walker.

By Reece

Stars of the Week

Reece

For his consistent hard work and determination

Tristan

For doing each and every task to the best of his ability

Erik

For his enthusiasm, attitude to learning - and amazing French!

Andrew

For completing every assignment to a very high standard

A bit more Year 5/6

*Learning at home
with Mr Roberts*

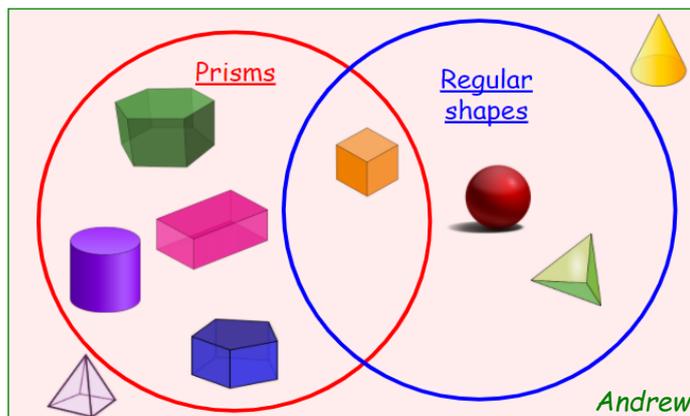
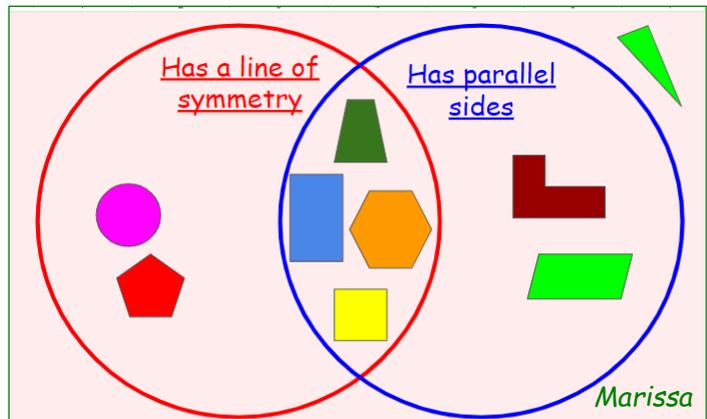
We had so much work that we wanted to share that Eagles and Falcons have managed to squeeze in a couple of extra pages of our work!

Our 'Monsterology' English unit has been a thread that's run right through the term. We started by reading and writing reports on imaginary monsters from around the world (like Reece's description of The Swamp Walker on the previous page). We then explored instructions, writing 'How to' guides for catching our mythical creatures (like Adrian's on the opposite page). Next, it was diary entries, and we wrote a three part 'Diary of a Monster Hunter' (you can see Amelia's example a few pages back). Finally, we've finished off the half-term with discussions, arguing whether or not monsters should be trapped and held in captivity.

On these pages you'll also see examples of our maths and RE, as well as Rishmitha's very sensible rules for online behaviour.

Maths : Shape sorting

In maths we spent the middle part of the term revising and developing our shape knowledge. We looked at different types of 2d and 3d shapes, including quadrilaterals, pyramids, prisms and regular shapes,



identifying and talking about their properties. We then used these properties to sort and group our shapes. From this, we created our own Venn diagrams, like the ones you can see here.

RE : The life of Guru Nanak

In RE, we have begun learning about Sikhism. We began by finding out more about the life of the man who founded Sikhism, Guru Nanak:

When Guru Nanak was young, people in his village were always arguing what god was like and whose ideas were right. Nanak spent lots of time talking to local religious leaders, but his dad sent him to the market to trade.

On the way to the market he saw poor people and realised that and realised they needed the money more than he did so he gave it away. One day, Nanak fell asleep in the middle of the day. A cobra slithered towards him and instead of biting Nanak it flared itself and provided shade for him.

One day something happened that would change his life forever. He went to the river to bathe and he didn't reappear, villagers searched for Nanak everywhere, but there was no sign of him. When he reappeared, he said that, while he was underwater he had seen a vision of God and had a message for everyone: God loves everyone no matter if you're poor or rich, a boy or a girl, old or young - and God wants everyone to live in harmony.

By Tyler



How to catch a monster

Have you always wanted the opportunity to trap a hideous monster? Do you want to enslave an infuriating beast? Would you like to be a hero? Well now you can! Just follow these instructions and you will have the ability to make the world's most horrifying monsters into no more than a prisoner!

You will need:

- A deer (a big one is best)
- A room made of steel which is 2 metres thick
- A ruby (a small one will do)
- Cameras which cannot be broken

Method

1. Firstly, you will need to find prey for the monster. It can be anything, but a deer would work best. You can lead the deer to the trap by leading it with berries or apples. Now wait for the monster to come to the trap.
2. Once the monster has come, the deer will run into the room. The creature will follow it. You should now close the door behind it. The deer will get killed however you will save many more lives after the final 2 steps. The hard part is done.
3. Now that the monster is trapped in the room, take a deep breath, be brave, go into the room and put a ruby inside. You may think this will do nothing, however it limits the monster's powers greatly. Within seconds, the monster will go into a deep sleep for four hours. Do NOT wake it up from its slumber or you will get devoured.
4. While the monster is asleep, set cameras in the room to check on it when you have spare time. Also don't forget to close the door after going out. You have now completed all of the steps.

After following these instructions, you are now ready to become a hero and in days you could be following the steps of Hercules. You will now be able to enslave any monster which is a threat to humanity!

By Adrian

Staying safe online

With all of us spending so much time online at the moment, we thought it was a good idea to revisit safety and internet bullying in PHSE. We all came up with our own rules for good behaviour online - these are Rishmitha's:

Things we should do:

Only say things you'd say to someone's face - just because you can't see someone, it doesn't mean it won't make them feel bad

Only talk to friends who you know in the real world

Be kind, polite and uplifting. Try to encourage and support other people.

Things we should not do:

Never share your address or other personal details with people you don't know

Think before you type or send - especially if you're sending pictures. You can't 'unsubscribe' once something is online

Make sure you know who you're talking to - not everyone is who they seem

Don't judge or be mean to people if they get something wrong.

Diary Dates

15th-19th February
Half-term

4th March
World Book Day

26th March
End of Spring Term

12th April
Staff training day
(school closed)

13th April
Start of Summer
Term

3rd May
Bank Holiday
(school closed)

31st May - 4th June
Half-term

25th June
Occasional Day
(school closed)

21st July
End of Summer Term

22nd July
Staff training day
(school closed)

Making the most of the snow!

When it snowed a few weeks ago, those of us at school couldn't resist the opportunity to get out on the field and build some (socially distanced) snowmen! You can see a bit of what we got up to in the photos below:

