

Bedwell News

June 2021

This term's highlights:

- Since we all came back to school in March, we've been working really hard to make-up for lost time and get back into the swing of learning. On these pages, you'll see loads of examples of our fantastic work, from pattern-making in Reception to finding about life in Ancient Egypt in Y3 to building a Viking Longship in Year 5/6!
- We held a non-uniform day to support the Alzheimer Society's *Denim for Dementia* campaign, which raised £200.
- As part of Mental Health Week, we all visited Fairlands Park, which inspired us to explore nature and learn more about plants, local habitats and our environment.
- Year 5/6 have been asked to produce artwork to go on display in a new gallery space in the underpass on Fairlands Way.

What we've been doing this term...

Mental Health Week

As part of our Mental Health Week, every class visited Fairlands Park over the last two weeks of term. We built dens, created art from nature, hugged trees, carried out surveys and went on the hunt for different mini-beasts, plants, leaves, trees and animals. It was lovely to get out into our environment and gave us plenty of opportunities to talk about what we can do to relax, deal with life's stresses and look after our own mental health.



Bumblebees Nursery

We had a lovely start to the term in Nursery. We spent lots of time reading our focus story, *Jasper's Beanstalk* and talking about things that grow. We looked at lots of different types of plants, and had a go at planting our own seeds. To learn more about the way that different things grow, we also kept our own tadpoles in a tank in class and were very excited to see how they changed into frogs. We also observed snails and other mini-beasts we could find in our environment.

During Mental Health Week we took part in lots of activities to explore the way that we feel and times when we have different feelings. We made sensory glitter bottles and went on a lovely nature walk to Fairlands Park..

Following our own interests, we made castles and rockets, as well as coming-up with lots of different ways to enjoy our garden centre role-play area. Finally, in maths we have been exploring patterns and sequences.



Stars of the Week

Albie

For impressing all the staff in Nursery in everything he does

Jasper

For trying so hard with his writing and making great progress

Samuel

For listening carefully and joining in well all week

Patrick

For being a fantastic friend and always co-operating

Ralph

For his fantastic listening, sitting and co-operation

Noah

For trying so hard to concentrate well in carpet sessions

Deivis

For taking great care in model making using recycled materials



Butterflies Reception

As always, throughout the term we have had the chance to try out a huge range of activities linked to learning, our own individual interests and our focus story - Jasper's Beanstalk. As a result, we have continued to develop our use of language, which has enabled us to engage with our environment, make friends and improve our speaking and listening skills. We also really enjoyed our trip to Fairlands Park for Mental Health Week. We collected wild flowers, rolled down hills, hugged trees, explored the sensory garden and imagined what images we could see in the clouds - all of which helped us to understand how calming the natural world can be. Back at school, we explored and planted seeds so we could make more links with nature, as well as learning more about the way that living things grow.

We've had a lot of fun (and have done lots of great learning), so we have picked out a few of our favourite moments from the last half-term to share with you here.



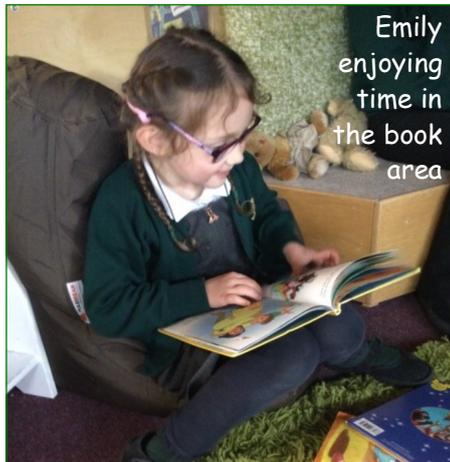
Michael planting his sunflower seed



Joseph making repeating patterns with natural objects



George working on his upper body strength



Emily enjoying time in the book area



Elsie and Savannah sharing a story



Ayaan enjoying the sensory garden



Ella on a minibeast hunt



Elsie exploring sunflower seeds



Lottie making a beanstalk with foam and pool noodles



Dylan having fun rolling down the hill



Carey hugging a tree!



Abbie and Aubree making soup in the mud kitchen



Alfie collecting wild flowers at Fairlands Park



Ben counting seeds for the weekly challenge



Alfie, Nicole, Lottie and Dylan making flower castles

Stars of the Week

Elsie

For being kind to her friends by sharing after our egg hunt

Edward

For being a fantastic helper and looking after all our plants!

Tyler

For working hard on sounding out in our phonics sessions

Michael

For a great first week, settling into our school really well

Alfie

For fantastic concentration and listening in phonics

Phoebe

For having a 'can do' attitude and getting engrossed in learning!

Nicole

For fantastic use of phonics to blend words when reading

Ladybirds Year 1

It's been great to have had the chance to settle back properly into our school routines and to have had an uninterrupted half-term of learning!

Over the last few weeks we have enjoyed learning the story of *Pirate Tom* and his adventures to the Island of Rockerbilly. We have changed the story to write our own version, and were really proud of the stories that we created as a result. We have also enjoyed using our computing skills to direct BeeBots around the pirate island and search for hidden treasure!

In science, we have learnt about plants and can now name the different parts of a tree and plant and even grown some seeds. We can't wait to watch our vegetables grow into something we can eat! Finally, in art we have been working on a project themed around Claude Monet's *Water Lilies*. We have tried different styles of printing to make a class display and we are sure you will agree it looks very impressive!



Making a mandala with natural materials



Problem solving



Pirate Tom's adventures



Leaf identification



Stars of the Week

Marcin

For settling back into school and getting involved in everything

Jimmy

For a brilliant first week, getting involved in every lesson

April

For working hard in art, looking carefully and adding detail

Bibi

For sharing her wealth of knowledge about plants!

Pollyanna

For growing in confidence in her reading

Ryley

For his great maths work, solving problems independently

Porchia

For being a really good friend to her classmates



Adding colour to our painting using corn on the cob



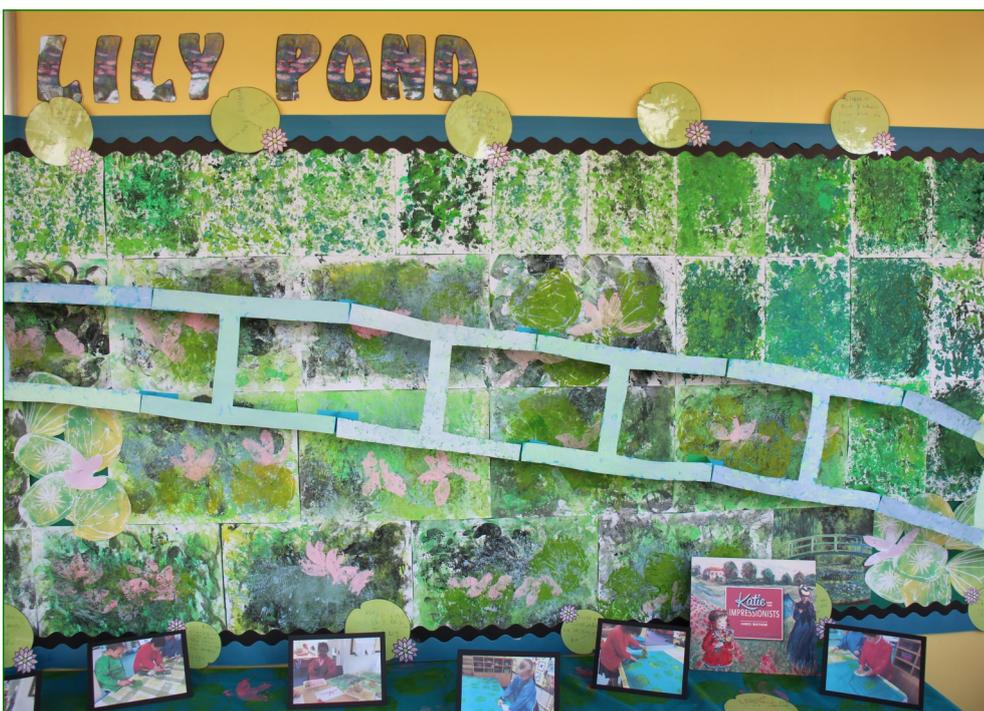
Finding different ways to balance a number.



Tile printing



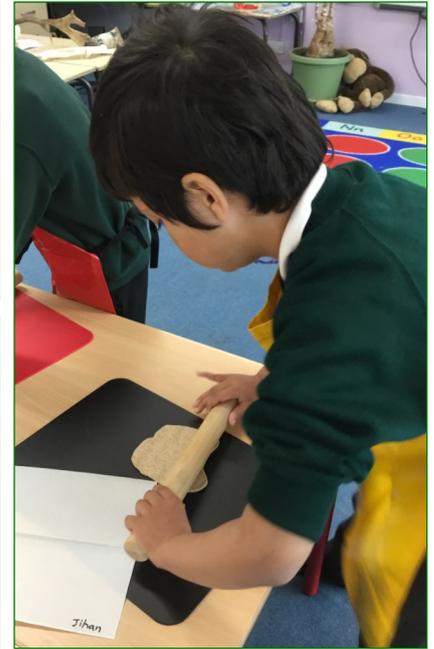
Printing using broccoli



Hedgehogs Year 2

Our new English topic started when we had an emergency message to go to the woods as something strange had happened. When we arrived, we found a pile of bones, a crown, an old key and a cape. This really made us use our imagination about what could of happened and set the scene for our story 'The Paper Bag Princess'. We only had the beginning of the story, which gave us the opportunity to explore dragons before creating our endings of what we thought happened. We then finished off with our own defeating the monster tales.

In geography, we have been learning all about the country India. We have explored the country in different ways, learning about clothes, weather, languages and food. We particularly enjoyed trying out some Indian cooking, making our own chapattis and trying out new types of food. Finally, in science, we have created our own garden area, planting a range of seeds, fruits and vegetables so we can water them and watch them grow.





Stars of the Week

Brooklyn-Mai

For listening carefully and showing a great attitude to learning

Charlie

For a fantastic attitude to learning, working really hard

Mahnoor

For trying really hard to sound out independently

Mason

For his fantastic maths work, working with great care

Kamila

For always listening and working well as a team in PE

Max W

For his beautifully presented innovation story

Katie

For writing a really interesting, imaginative story

Moles Year 3

In Mole Class we have been walking a mile every morning. We are aiming to walk all the way to Japan (or at least the equivalent distance), which is 4700km, and we'd like to complete our journey before the beginning of the Tokyo Paralympics. So far, if you added up how far we have each walked, you could make it all the way to Turkey!

We all really enjoy the mile walks, they get us ready for the day, waking us up and getting our brains in to gear. We have become a lot more efficient with it too - we can now complete our mile in under 20 minutes, and some of us even run the last lap of the field!

In class, meanwhile, we have been writing adventure stories in English - you can see a few fantastic examples opposite. In science, we have been learning about sound, designing and carrying out our own investigations into pitch and volume. Our history topic on the Egyptians has been lots of fun as well and we have learnt a lot about what life was like in Ancient Egypt.

The Pyramids

Why were the pyramids built?

- The pyramids were built as tombs for the pharaohs when they died. They were buried with everything that they needed for the afterlife, like treasure, jewellery and objects like plates.



How were the pyramids built?

- They were built by thousands of men using giant pieces of stone. They moved them using wooden sleds and wet sand.

Where were pyramids built?

- Pyramids were built on the west side of the Nile. Egyptians believed that the place where the sun set was the realm of the dead.

Pyramid facts:

- Imhotep was the first person to build in a pyramid shape. His pyramid is the oldest structure in the world.

By Maya

Daily life in Ancient Egypt

Food:

- All Egyptians had the same healthy diet of bread, vegetables, fruit, dairy, fish and a little bit of meat from pigs and sheep.
- Wheat and barley were used to make more than 30 different types of bread, cakes and biscuits.
- Onions were very popular. They were often eaten with bread and beer.
- Other vegetables that the Egyptians ate were leeks, garlic, radish and cucumbers.

Education:

- We do know that literacy and a good education were very important to the Ancient Egyptians. Between the ages of 4 and 14, rich boys and girls attended school together.
- At school, they were learning to read, write and do mathematics. Students had to copy out stories and religious writing.
- The children also played games, wrestled and learned to swim.

Farming:

- Farmers grew wheat and made bread and ale. They also grew flax that was woven into clothes, and other fruit and vegetables.
- Egyptian fishermen worked as a team. They cast large nets to catch fish and birds.

By Mia-Marie

Ice Age Adventures

In the evening, a gentle herd of woolly mammoths went past the trees swaying in the breeze. Vast mountains were high up in the sky. The distant waterfall splashed as it's water fell into the flowing river. The mammoth heard stomping couldn't hide the warning buzz from the many hidden insects.

All around there was the beautiful scent of flowers as they drifted in the fresh running water. In the forest, the giant mammoth steps sounded like drums as the flowers filled the air with perfume. The trees swayed like a gentle wave making the leaves rustle.

By Bella

Trapped By The Thing

Emily watched bravely as the thing pounced from rooftop to rooftop. She dashed forward and followed the thing as it ran past villages, trees and people. As she bolted past at speed, all of these things were a blur.

It dashed towards a village, went into one of the houses and locked the door, so Emily couldn't get in. She searched for something to climb up to the windows, as she couldn't go through the main door. Luckily, Emily found an old, brown ladder in a bush. She quickly grabbed it and climbed up. Suddenly, a loud thump came from the room. Emily fell down. All of a sudden, she realised that she was trapped.

She had to escape. The room was empty, but there was only a lamp and a heavy cupboard in front of the door. She wondered if she should get the lamp and put it on the cupboard, so the light might melt through. It was the only thing she could think of, so she did it. She dragged everything that was left out of the way. Emily could finally escape...

By Najah

Lucy and the Stranger

Lucy decided to chase the black dressed figure. Lucy started quickly chasing the mysterious figure. She ended-up running into her house, which made her dramatically fall.

Lucy woke up in a dark, messy alleyway. She saw the stranger and then immediately knew it was the stranger's home. Lucy really wanted to get out, but she didn't know how.

Lucy was terrified! She was looking around and then she saw that the stranger was playing music. She knew this was her best chance to escape, so she quickly and quietly crawled out of the alleyway. Lucy was free! She ran away from the alleyway as quickly as she could and called for help.

By Millie-Rose

Stars of the Week

Mason

For his continued hard work, showing great determination

Lily

For her enthusiastic attitude, pushing herself in maths

Leiarna

For her determination and positive attitude to learning

Sudharsanan

For his impressive quick recall of times table facts

James

For settling back into school life and being a pleasure to teach

Sami

For using interesting and ambitious verbs in his writing

Charlotte

For writing a lovely setting description, full of clever similes

Badgers Year 3/4

We started the term by learning how to make flat bread and some Egyptian dips. This meant that we could practise how to measure, mix, knead, roll out, chop, slice and grate the ingredients. After the flat breads had been cooked, we all tried them and agreed that they tasted delicious!

Following on from this, in English we learned our Egyptian Adventure model text. We found out that the main character had spotted a suspicious character just after the royal amulet had been stolen. The story was set up for a chase scene, so we practised writing our own, full of action, damage and danger - you can see Aleena's fantastic adventure on the opposite page.

In science we have been learning about how sounds are made, how they travel and how we can change pitch and volume. We designed tests to investigate how we can influence the volume of a sound, making sure we only changed one variable and using data loggers to make sure our results were reliable.



Adventure in the Amazon

Spying on the mysterious woman from a high tree top, Fathima awkwardly made eye contact with Azizah. She immediately knew something was wrong. Fathima told herself she had to be courageous, fearless and sly.

All of a sudden, Azizah vanished! In the distance, she could see her quarry sprinting frantically towards the vine infested jungle. She made her move! Swivelling wildly on thick thorned vines, Fathima eased her way towards her target. Out of the blue, dozens of monstrous lemurs pounced on her. Eventually, she broke free. She continued the chase.

Finally, she caught up with her opponent. Azizah could see that Fathima was tracking her down, so the enemy fired daggers violently at her predator! Fathima dodged them vigilantly. The hero crawled up a thick mossy tree cautiously. Azizah looked around in confusion, suddenly Fathima appeared out of nowhere! "What?" Azizah screamed in shock. Then the almighty Fathima smashed two coconuts over her head. Job done.

By Aleena



Stars of the Week

Aleena

For always being a super role model and brilliant Badger!

Summer

For her exceptional effort with her Eater homework

Reggie

For impressing everyone with his knowledge and ideas

Madhumitha

For really challenging herself in maths every day

Kelsey

For showing great Polly Perseverance with her handwriting!

Tolu

For impressive improvements in his spelling

Lewis

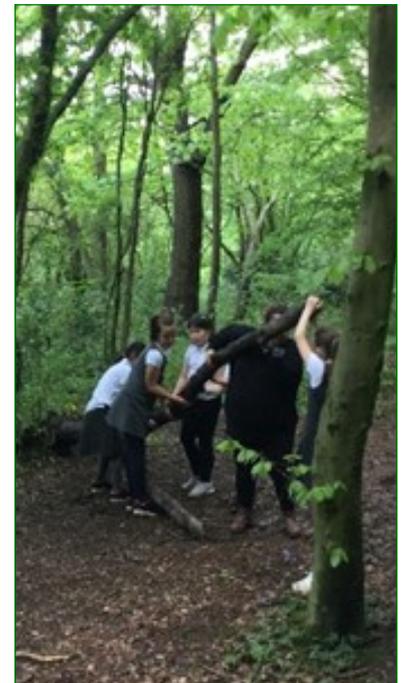
For his imaginative story opening, full of creativity and energy

Rabbits Year 4

The highlight of our term so far was our trip to Fairlands Park as part of our Mental Health Awareness, Thankfully, the weather was on our side, which allowed us to get out our picnic blankets and have lunch in the park, overlooking the lake. We thoroughly enjoyed the fresh air, sounds of nature and being able to relax amongst our friends. After lunch, we headed into the local woodland area to build our dens.

We were incredibly excited and took the task seriously, wanting to build the finest den we could in the given time. We searched the ground for strong branches to help make a good framework and then collected sticks and branches to fill in the smaller gaps. Different pieces were taken back to the team base, where we began to construct the den itself.

We used all of our learning powers - especially Chloe Co-Operation, Ralph Reflectiveness and Polly Perseverance - to build our dens and were really proud of what we achieved!





Stars of the Week

Milena

For challenging herself in our English activities

Nadira

For her exceptional work on our Egyptian project

Jacob

For fantastic listening in maths and being a wonderful classmate!

Romy

For her curiosity, brilliant ideas and all around helpfulness

Olivia

For her determination to improve her handwriting this term

Lenny

For his exceptional writing of a chase scene in English

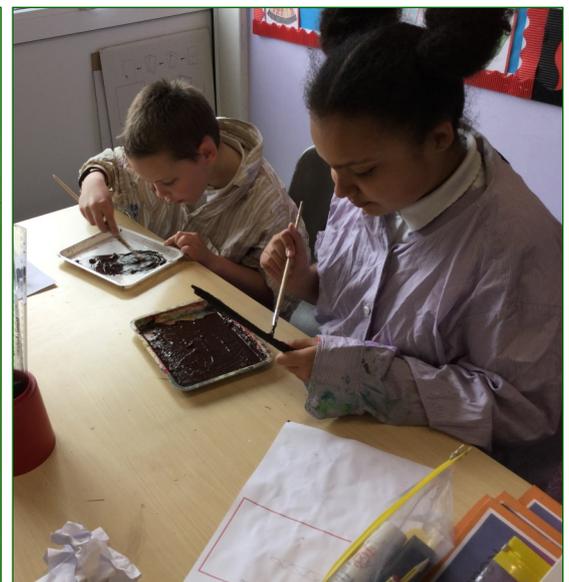
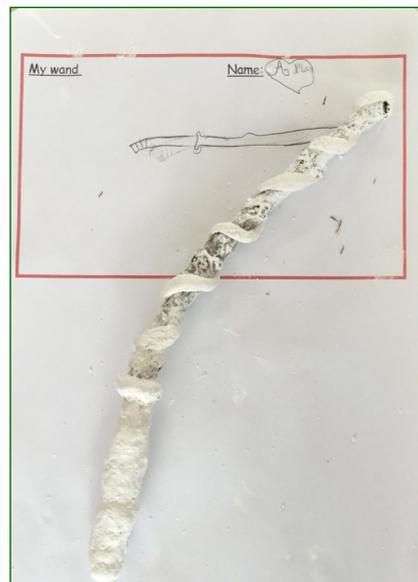
Ebonie

For showing superb leadership skills on our class trip

Foxes Year 5

Our English topic last half-term was based around a 'rags to riches' story inspired by Harry Potter - so to get us in the right frame of mind, we organised a fantastic *Wizards Day*.

To prepare for the day, we were first sorted into houses using the sorting hat, and then came into school in our house colours (red for Gryffindor, blue for Ravenclaw etc.) During our *Wizards Day* itself, we all took part in a wide range of fun and magical activities. These included making our own wands and potions, as well as joining forces to make an impressive cape. Our potions class also gave us the chance to practice some of our core cooking skills, peeling, grating, slicing, simmering and boiling to make fruit-based concoctions. In the afternoon, we rounded-off our day with a fantastic (muggle friendly) game of Quidditch! We had a great time, and it inspired us to produce some fantastic writing last half-term - as well as encouraging lots of us to read some of the Harry Potter stories.





Stars of the Week

Leah

For her fantastic writing, producing a fab recount letter

Carson

For the fantastic example he sets to others at all times

Maria

For all of her hard work and beautiful presentation



Maizie

For her fantastic writing and improved handwriting

Vinuthan

For his hard work and concentration in every lesson



Asher

For sharing his impressive scientific knowledge in class

Shania

For really impressing with her independent writing and spelling

Eagles Year 5/6

We've had a busy half-term in Eagles, packing in lots of learning, sport, art and fun - but the highlight was definitely our Viking Longship Day. The aim of the day was to learn about the construction of longships and have lots of fun at the same time. We spent the day working in groups of four with Mr Humber to build a wooden replica of a ship. We began by building a frame that needed to be sanded and painted. Next we cut pieces of wood, and using a drill and screw drivers we constructed the frame. Finally, the last group cut out strips of thick material which we stapled on to simulate the sides of the ship. On Friday we handed the longship on to Falcons, who completed the project by adding a sail, dragon's head and shields. During the day we were also tasked with building a small boat out of paper, card and whatever else we could find. We tested them out in a water tank - some ships sank within seconds, whereas a few stayed afloat for hours!



Expert sanding by Mitchell and Aziz



Aliyah giving the pieces a coat of paint before beginning assembly



A brave Flo holding the wooden pieces whilst Aliyah screws them together



George and Adrian showing off their sawing skills, whilst Rishmi patiently waits for the missing piece



Sienna and Tayla measuring material to cover the ship



Hazel adds support braces to the hull of the boat



Patience sitting back and admiring her and Mitchell's handiwork



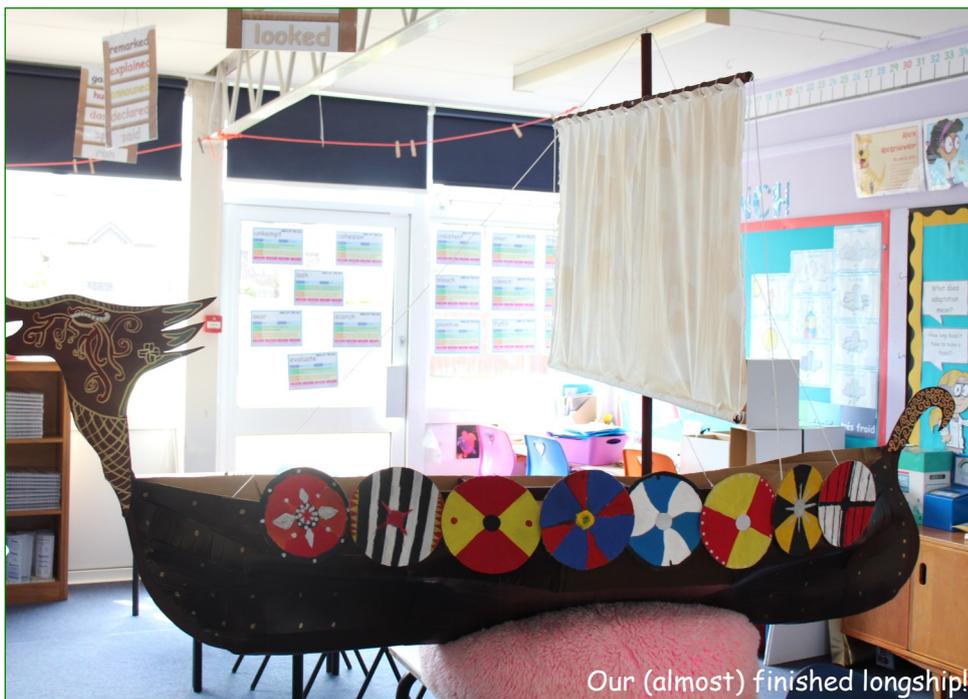
Amelia and Elin's beautifully designed boat



The winning team in our boat-building contest



Everyone busy at work, designing, creating and having fun



Our (almost) finished longship!

Stars of the Week

Amelia

For her inventive ideas in shared and independent writing

Tayla

For an outstanding week in maths, solving complex problems

Meryem

For her outstanding English work, writing a gripping portal story

Hazel

For having a positive and successful first week at Bedwell

Preston

For writing an intriguing story from a bear's viewpoint!

Eagle Class

For their joint contribution to our Viking longship

James

For an outstanding week in maths, solving problems confidently

Falcons Year 6

In English, we spent the last half-term investigating fiction genres, identifying the difference between fantasy, science fiction, comedy, horror, realistic and historical stories. We looked at the characters, setting and plot that we'd expect to find in each, and read sections of lots of great books (including stories by Anthony Horowitz, JRR Tolkien, Philip Pullman and Eoin Colfer).

At the end of the unit, we drew together everything we'd worked on to produce our final stories for the unit. Our aim was to shift genres across the first 3 paragraphs, starting out in a 'historical' style before moving somewhere much more surprising - using the features of mystery (crime, clues, trails to follow), and then shifting into science fiction or fantasy. We used model texts, shared writing and lots of editing to develop our final pieces, and were really pleased with the results - we'd love to share them all, but there's only space for a few of them here.

The Castle In The Basement

Creeping off the train, Alex looked around in confusion at his new surroundings. To his right, he saw a line of children wriggling their way to the town hall. To his left, he saw some shops opening up, since it was morning. His side of town had lots of hills around it, and as Alex clutched his suitcase he started to venture out to find his new home. A few hours passed and he finally found his new address, exhausted after the long walk. A grumpy, 60ish, old man came out of the door. His name was Mr Jones, and he briskly pushed Alex inside. As Alex lay down on his bed, he thought to himself... Why had his mum sent him here alone? How long would he have to stay? With these thoughts flying around his head he fell asleep...

A few weeks later, Alex started to settle into town life. He had made a few friends at his new school (they were a lot kinder than at his old school). He also got to know some of the local market people and, best of all, some of the locals helped Alex if he was stuck (even Mr Jones himself). Over the next few days, he noticed some torn cloth (on the floor inside his house), and it looked like it led downstairs to the basement. Alex was curious and scared. Further on he heard weird noises, so he decided to go to the mysterious basement, where he saw a strange hatch. Worried, Alex shook in dread as he opened the hatch.

Falling through the hatch, Alex was amazed by what he saw! It was like he had been sent back to the medieval ages. Far in the distance, he saw a gargantuan castle, protected by cannons, and near him was a towering stone bridge that crossed over a river with unlit torches leading into the castle. As Alex was admiring the area, a guttural roar disrupted him. Alex quickly turned around and saw a creature that was soaring towards him. A creature with jagged teeth that could snap his head off in one bite. A creature that was rushing in for the kill. Alex's body was paralysed with fear...

Nerves shook him free as the dragon started shooting fire at Alex, trying to turn him to ashes. Sprinting in the opposite direction, Alex screamed loudly. "AHHHHH!" he shouted, almost tripping over on his wobbly legs. The dragon seemed to take no notice and swooped down towards him. At the last moment, Alex flopped onto the ground. Dodging the dragon, he kept running, looking for a weapon of some sort - but he couldn't find anything. He thought that it was the end of him. As he got nearer to the bridge, he thought he was losing the dragon, but suddenly he found himself at a cliff edge and he felt sure that this must be the end of his journey... Suddenly, however, the dragon fell to the ground like a dead mouse. Alex was relieved, but then he heard rustling from the bushes and was once again filled with fear.

As the bush rustled intensely, Alex was worried that he might get pounced on and taken away, but Mr Jones came out of the bush with goggles on his head and wearing some highly futuristic clothes. "I'm sorry that I haven't told you what's happening - and I'm even sorrier for nearly letting you die. Let's go back to the house so I can explain," he said, putting his arm around Alex and guiding him back through the portal...

By Erik

Travelling Off-Limits

Part 3 - evacuee Steven has followed a trail of bloodstains to a doorway in an area of the village that's been declared 'off limits'...

Slowly creeping through the entrance, Steven was amazed by what he saw. There were huge blue pterodactyls flying in the clear blue sky. Long grass covered the ground to the right, and to the left he saw a green scaly raptor. He heard a guttural roar and slowly stared down towards the noise... A colossal purple dinosaur stared back at him. Steven was frozen in fear because it had three heads, each with a pair of pure red eyes and hundreds of razor-sharp teeth.

"Must... Be... Quiet..." he mumbled under his breath. However, what he didn't know was that dinosaurs have incredible hearing like owls. Instantly the dinosaur charged towards him. He dodged to the left as it lashed at him. Sprinting into a thick, bushy pine tree, he desperately searched for somewhere to hide. Leaping forward he missed a step and fell. The dinosaur's gigantic foot slammed down towards him. He felt the air on his face as it narrowly missed him, flattening the tree stumps next to him instead. Springing to his feet, Steven was determined to get up that tree...

By TJ

Will and the Witch

Part 3 - city boy Will has been evacuated to the countryside, where he has been billeted with Miss Amelia. After people go missing, Will follows a trail of mysterious goo to the shed and steps through the door

Slowly, Will walked into the shed and saw a completely different room. The walls were made of metal and every shelf was covered with bottles of strangely coloured poisons. Will was frozen in fear. What was Miss Amelia up to? As this question rattled through his head, he could only think of one thing: "It's a witch's hut!" In the far corner there was a table, and on it was the dead body of Mr David. Next to him was Miss Amelia, who was pulling the brain from his lifeless body. As she held it up in front of herself, she let out an evil laugh.. A second later she dropped it into her black-as-coal cauldron. After minutes of fizzing and bubbling, a huge, terrifying monster dripping with blood and with yellow, glaring eyes started to form. Miss Amelia shouted out, "Beautiful!" - but then she spotted Will for the first time. "How DARE you come here! KILL HIM!" she yelled to the monster, which immediately turned towards Will and began to charge.

As Will edged backwards, he looked around. He hit the wall with his back. He spotted a sword in the far corner of the room. To get it would be hard, but it was the only option if he wanted to live. As he looked back towards the monster, he shouted, "Get away from me!" Bolting towards the sword, he somehow dodged the monster's claws and grabbed hold of the weapon. With all his strength he swung the sword towards the creature...

By Amelia

Stars of the Week

Mitchell

For being super-keen and an absolute delight to teach!

TJ

For thoroughly impressing in maths lessons all week

Biyadin

For his fantastic writing, telling an exciting story

Max

For showing great determination to improve handwriting

Vincent

For confidently explaining division strategies to others

Daniel

For amazing Mr Butler and Mrs Moore with his hockey skills!

Rean

For coming to every live lesson and giving 100% to every task

Y6 Home Learning

In Falcon Class, we unfortunately had to spend the last ten days before half-term self-isolating - so we fired Google Classroom back up and got back to some home learning.

We took the opportunity to make a start on lots of new topics, and you can see a few examples of what we got up to on these pages. In history, we started work on our Vikings topic, learning about Norse myths, gods and goddesses and discovering what made Alfred the Great so... well, Great. In science, we investigated different sources of light, reflection and refraction, and even tried-out some simple home experiments. In English, as you can see on the right hand page, we focussed on explanation texts, and spent a few lessons thinking about the way in which we adapt our writing to suit different audiences. We got lots of good learning done and it was great to see how keen everyone was to join in with our live lessons... But we're also hoping that we've finished with Home Learning for the year!

Viking gods and goddesses

Image	Name	God of...?	Role
	Odin	He was the leader of the gods, and represented war, courage and wisdom among other things	Vikings believed that Odin created Midgard, the home of humans, and Asgard the home of the gods
	Thor	Vikings believed that Thor was the god of thunder and he carried a hammer which possessed magical powers	He also was the god of protection. He provided protection from: cold; hunger; giants and other dangers
	Freyr	The Vikings believed that he was the god of peace, fertility, rain and sunshine	Vikings worshipped Freyr throughout the year, as they believed he would protect harvests
	Loki	Loki was the god of mischief and fire. He could change his shape and even his gender.	He was a mischievous trickster and the main character in many Norse myths

By Lexleigh

King Alfred the Great

- In 871 AD there were a series of battles between the armies of the Vikings and the kingdom of Wessex, under Ethelred and his brother Alfred. Ethelred died during the battle, and Alfred became King.
- By 874 AD the Vikings had conquered all the kingdoms except Wessex.
- In January 878 AD, the Vikings succeeded in taking Wessex. Alfred and his family were at Chippenham celebrating Christmas when an attack was launched. Alfred and his family fled and took refuge in the marshes of Athelney Somerset.
- In the marshes of Athelney, Alfred built a fort, which he used as a base while building up his forces. In May 878 AD, he fought the Vikings at Edington. The battle of Edington forced King Guthrum to withdraw from Wessex and agree to the division of England.
- Over time Alfred brought the English kingdoms together. He then translated Latin books (which only a few people could understand), into English, Alfred then became known as Alfred the great!

By Tristan

Explanations : Writing for different audiences

Our challenge was to explain an everyday object (like a kettle or the fridge) to a variety of different people, changing grammar and language each time.

Audience : 5 year olds	Audience : your friends	Audience : a teacher	Audience : adult engineers
A kettle is dangerous, so be careful. When the button is pressed, the inside starts to get hot. When it is too hot it turns itself off.	So basically, when you flick the switch then there is some metal inside that gets really hot. That is what boils the water. But when it reaches a certain temperature it turns itself off.	There is a button located in the far side of the kettle, Once this has been pressed, there is a metallic plate below the water which will begin to heat up. There also is a thermometer at the top, so when the water is hot enough, the kettle will turn itself off.	When you press the switch on the kettle, the metallic surface will become boiling hot and will boil the water. However, there is also a thermometer located on the interior, and when this identifies that boiling has been completed, it will automatically

By Daniel

Explanations : Formal and Informal

This time, we had to try to explain how a car engine worked in two different styles - chatty and informal on one side, smart and formal on the other:

INFORMAL	FORMAL
So the engine is full of pistons, right, and they are like banging up and down! So when they drop down, some petrol goes in, and then loads of air gets sucked in as well. There are valves, and they open and close so the stuff can't get out again.	Inside the engine you will find a bank of pistons, which travel upwards and downwards to generate power. When they descend, petrol gets inserted, along with a corresponding quantity of air. This is controlled by valves.
After all this complicated nonsense, yeah, the piston goes up to squeeze the fuel and air! Once the piston reaches the top, some spark plug makes a spark which makes the petrol start a tiny fire! The massive boom makes the piston go whacking down again.	Following on from this, the piston then travels back up to compress this mixture of fuel and air. Once the piston has reached the top of its stroke, the spark plug emits a spark which ignites the petrol. The subsequent explosion drives the piston down again.

By Andrew

Staying safe online

We've all spent a lot more time online over the last year, so here's a quick recap of Childline's top tips for staying safe:

Think before you post - don't upload or share anything you wouldn't want your parents, carers or teachers seeing. Once you post something, you lose control of it, especially if someone else screenshots or shares it.

Don't share personal details - keep things like your address, phone number, full name, school and date of birth private, and check what people can see in your privacy settings.

Think about who you're talking to - there are lots of ways that people try to trick you into trusting them online. Even if you like and trust someone you've met online, never share personal information with them.

Keep your device secure - make sure that you're keeping your information and device secure and up-to-date, and never give out your password.

Diary Dates 2021-2022

25th June 2021

Occasional Day
(school closed)

21st July 2021

End of Summer Term

2nd September 2021

Start of Autumn
Term

25th - 29th
October 2021

Autumn half-term

21st December 2021

End of Autumn Term

6th January 2022

Start of Spring Term

14th - 18th
February 2022

Spring half-term

1st April 2022

End of Spring Term

20th April 2022

Start of Summer
Term

30th May - 3rd
June 2022

Summer half-term

24th June 2022

Occasional Day
(school closed)

27th June 2022

Staff training day
(school closed)

21st July 2022

End of Summer Term

Dancing!

We rounded-off our Mental Health Week by coming together (in socially distance class bubbles) to perform a whole-school dance. Each class learnt the Juraselma dance, which is made up of simple repetitive moves which has allowed everyone to learn the sequence. The song itself is very positive and uplifting, and we thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of learning the dance and performing together on the field.

