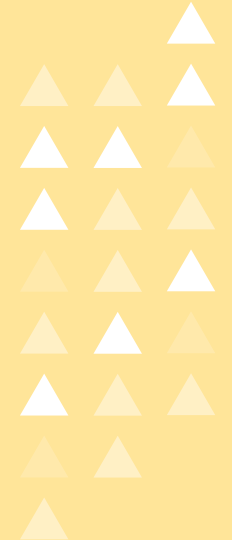
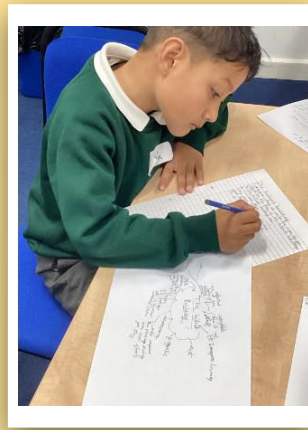


# Learning Together

## Autumn 2024



Here is some of the fantastic learning that has taken place in the Autumn Term.

Let's share and celebrate our amazing learning journeys....



# Reception



What an amazing term we have had in Reception. Children have made friendships and shown a lot of confidence in themselves and their learning.

Visitors came in to enhance our understanding of our topic about People Who Help Us. Some firefighters, police officers and a midwife came to visit us. We asked lots of questions and learned so much from them!

In maths, we have worked on our numbers to 10, 1 more and 1 fewer, and different ways to measure. We used bead strings, counting objects and tens frames to help support our learning. To challenge ourselves we then used a part whole model to add two numbers together. We then looked at sequencing our daily routine.

In literacy, we have worked very hard on our letter formation, initial sounds and have started to write CVC words. We have read so many different books from different authors and books linking to our topics. We spoke about different parts of the book and what it means.

During Autumn 2, we had so much Christmas fun! We even had a visit from Santa because our class elves told Santa how much learning we have been doing and how good we were in our rehearsals. Our Nativity was fantastic! Our actions and singing were out of this world! For our class Christmas party we made our own hats which we then wore for our Christmas dinner.

We look forward to our topic next half term which is **Animals**.



# Year 1



The children had a great start to the year in Year 1. We spent a lot of time using the outdoor spaces of the school before the weather got too cold, and even when it did, we continued to take our science and PE learning outside. In PE lessons, the children were introduced to orienteering and learned about the school grounds using map symbols and lots of games. We tied this in with our geography learning where the children made messy maps of the classroom and then used aerial photos and maps to explore our school. Even the texts we read were linked to life in a school. The children played a lot, both inside and outside, and without even realising it, they were learning all the time!

After half term, we began learning about the history of toys and thought about how toys have changed since the children's parents and grandparents were young. We had a workshop provided by Freshwater Theatre where the children visited a magical toy museum. We learned about the history of teddy bears and how they got their name, and we thought about the materials that have been used and continue to be used to make dolls. Thank you to the parents who sent in photos of your child with their favourite toy or created videos and answered questions about toys when you were little.

As we moved into December, our rehearsals for our nativity performance fully took hold. We performed to some of the school and to parents and carers last week - and what a wonderful performance it was! The children sang, acted and spoke brilliantly to tell the story of the birth of Jesus.

We have ended the term by designing and making hand puppets - the children will be bringing home their finished puppets to enjoy at home.

Well done to all of the children on a fun and busy term.

# Year 2

It has been an amazing term in Year 2. The children started the year in such a positive way, showing great resilience and always working very hard.

The children have worked exceptionally hard in English. They have enjoyed texts relating to our explorers topic, such as Tom Crean's Rabbit by Meredith Hooper, and texts relating to our Poles Apart topic, such as the wonderful book Poles Apart by Jeanne Willis. The children have loved engaging with the texts, learning new vocabulary and applying these in their writing. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed our end of day stories, a particular favourite being the riveting Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure.

In Maths, we have learned all about place value and numbers within 100. Through this we have explored addition and subtraction questions using a range of different strategies. We finished our maths unit by looking at multiplication and division by linking this to what we already learnt in addition and subtraction.

In our other learning we focused on famous explorers and the polar regions, this linked with our design & technology work, where we designed and made explorer's pouches. In science we conducted a variety of investigations about materials and their properties and the suitability of materials for different objects. This was a great opportunity to link with our second design & technology unit, where the children collaborated, designed and made chairs made from paper.

Well done for an amazing start to Year 2. We are looking forward to another great term filled with fantastic learning opportunities.





# Year 3



We have had a brilliant start to Year 3. We have been learning lots and working very hard. Here are just a few things that we have been doing this term.

In English, we read the text 'Coming to England' by Baroness Floella Benjamin. We were amazed to learn about everything that she has experienced. We wrote a letter from Floella to her family in London describing her emotions at the thought of being reunited with them after so long.

In maths, we started by learning about the place value of all the digits in three-digit numbers before developing our confidence in using the column method to add and subtract three digit numbers. We ended up so confident that we were even able to solve tricky missing word problems!

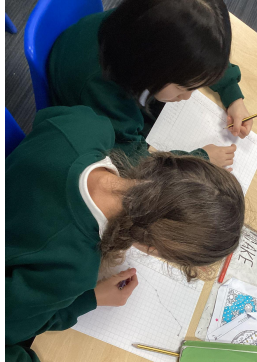
In science, we have been learning all about forces and magnets. We particularly enjoyed learning about friction and how it can affect the speed and distance that an object can move along different surfaces. In our unit on rocks and soils, we were fascinated that some rocks are formed by cooling lava after a volcanic eruption!

In geography, we started learning all about the United Kingdom before focusing on our local area, Welling. We even carried out some fieldwork by applying our mapwork skills to navigate a local walk along Welling High Street, discussing different examples of shops that could be seen.

Finally, in DT we have loved learning all about cross-stitch and using it to create our own Christmas cushions. We were delighted with the finished pieces.

We are now ready for a well-earned rest and cannot wait to come back in January with lots of energy!

# Year 4



We have had a fantastic start to Year 4! It has been a busy term with lots of fantastic learning!

In English, we started by reading the Egyptian Cinderella and we wrote diary entries from the viewpoint of the Egyptian Cinderella considering her feelings throughout the events in the story. After this we read The Heart Scarab, a story where two boys steal a precious artefact from a tomb. We built a tomb in our classroom and used our sense to explore this location before writing fantastic detailed setting descriptions.

In Maths, we begun by looking at the place value of 4 digit numbers before learning to master adding and subtracting using the column method. After this we have been developing the skill of multiplying using our understanding of times table and using the short multiplication method. We have finished the term reading and drawing a range of bar and time graphs!

We have been exploring different states of matter in our science lessons, where we investigated how solids, liquids and gases change state. We completed a range of exciting investigations where we could observe how different materials change state over time depending on their temperature. After this we have been learning about sound, where we found out that sound is a vibration that travels in soundwaves to the ear. We explored the difference between pitch and volume by making and playing with different instruments.

Throughout our History lessons this term learnt all about how people lived in the Ancient Egyptian Era. We also learned about the many Gods they worshipped and then explored the process of mummification. In addition, we looked at various pharaohs including Rameses II and how he built up the ancient civilisation in his extremely long reign!

DT has been a highlight for us all this term! We have been baking some delicious biscuits. For this, we decided on a target audience and consider what additional ingredients would be suitable. We had to stick to a budget of £1.99 and had to think about how much the additional ingredients would cost. After we baked the biscuits, we asked someone from our target audience to taste them and give us feedback, before trying them ourselves. We enjoyed making them and enjoyed eating them even more!

It has been a fun-filled term full of amazing learning and we look forward to even more great experience next term!

# Year 5



The Year 5 children have thoroughly enjoyed their start to the year. We have had a term filled with learning. Throughout the term, Year 5 have produced various genres of writing such as poems, letters, narratives and non-chronological reports. These texts were linked to our history topic of the Maya and our geography topic of fairtrade.

In maths, we have explored multiplication and division, addition and subtraction, line graphs, place value, timetables and Roman numerals. The children also enjoyed maths week, controlling and buying from the maths shop and dressing up.

In history, we have enjoyed learning about the Maya and their way of life. The children specifically enjoyed the chocolate workshop where they made chocolate truffles!

The children have learnt about various materials and their properties for our science topic in Autumn 1. They learnt how to separate materials and plenty of vocabulary to help describe and explain scientific words. They have also extremely enjoyed looking at Earth and space and how the Earth, moon and sun are relative to each other. Many of the children seem super excited to attend the trip to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich in January to watch a show about the Universe.

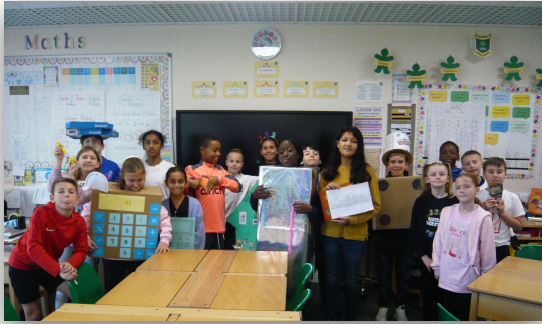
In Geography, the classes have started looking at fairtrade and why it is important to workers. We have located many countries that use fair trade and have also learnt about minimum spend to allow workers to receive pay for their basic needs like education, food and shelter. Each class took a trip to the local Co-operative to identify fair trade products and compare their prices to non-fairtrade products.

Design Technology has been an extremely exciting topic for Year 5 and they are always eager to carry out a new learning experience. In Autumn 1, the children made doodlers with a cup and pens and explored how a circuit and motor works. All of the teachers were very impressed with their designs and the circuits that were made.

In PE, each class has enjoyed orienteering as we worked around the school's orienteering equipment. The children navigated using a map and key words as well as looking at a compass. Year 5 have also taken part in health related exercise where they have worked super hard to increase their heart rates doing activities like sprinting, lunges, squats and relay racing. The children also enjoyed showing all their parents and carers their learning in their class assemblies at the start of the year as well as showcasing their beautiful singing in the Christmas carol concert.



# Year 6



What a busy but fantastic start to the year we have had in Year 6. The children have worked so hard and displayed the Danson Values whilst doing so and we are all very proud of them.

Our geography topic has been South America and we have really enjoyed learning all about this continent and in particular, focusing in on the Amazon Rainforest and the current threats to it and what that might mean for us as global citizens.

In English, we have been reading the text, *The Explorer*, by Katherine Rundell which is set in the Amazon Rainforest and supported our geographical understanding. We have written setting descriptions, diary entries, non-chronological reports and a biography using the text as our stimulus. Later in the term, we read another text, *Ada's Violin*, which tells the true story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay. We then went on to retell the story from a first person perspective.

Following this, we undertook some geographical fieldwork linked to sustainability. We visited Danson Park and surveyed the amount of litter there was, the location of the litter we found and the availability of bins for the public to use.

In Science our topics have been Living Things and their Habitats where we learnt about how all living things can be classified and how we can use classification keys to support this. We have also been working on our topic of Light and completed an investigation which proved that light travels in straight lines. We learnt about how the eye works in conjunction with the brain and how a periscope can help us see around corners.

We have also worked hard in Maths. Maths week was a particular favourite and the shops proved extremely popular. We discovered that we have some budding entrepreneurs in the year group and all the classes were very successful at generating large profits.

We should also mention the fantastic DT project in which the children worked so hard to design and create a playground on a footprint to meet a design brief.

The term has culminated in our Christmas activities. We enjoyed performing at St John's Church for our last ever Christmas performance and were also very honoured to sing at the Community Carol Concert.

The children have earned a well deserved rest and we look forward to welcoming them back in the Spring term for more fun and learning.

