



Oldbury Observer Spring 2025 Edition

7

Mr Irving's Comment

We are proud to be able to offer many enrichment opportunities to underpin and add to learning across the school. Some enrichment activities are off-site and high profile, others are woven into our day-to-day school experience. Just today, children in Key Stage 1 were handling samples from the moon! Having looked at the calendar for the coming weeks, there are lots of exciting trips and events coming up including educational visits, World Book Day, Comic Relief, sports fixtures and our Key Stage 1 Easter Bonnet Parade. A lot of time and energy goes into organising our enrichment offer - please support our efforts by keeping an eye out for letters and the dates section of the observer, completing consent forms promptly and returning your contributions for the cost of trips wherever possible.

Have a lovely weekend.

Term Dates

2024-2025 Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

STAFF TRAINING DAY (Trust)	Monday 6th January 2025
TERM STARTS	Tuesday 7th January 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 17th February 2025 – Friday 21st February 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 11th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

TERM STARTS	Monday 28th April 2025
STAFF TRAINING DAY	Friday 23rd May 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 26th May 2025 – Friday 30th May 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 18th July 2025
STAFF TRAINING DAY	Monday 21st July 2025

Notes:

The 2024/25 Staff Training Days may be subject to change.

School Dates

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day! (option to dress up as a favourite book character and/or make a wooden spoon book character - see below for more details)

Thursday 13th March - Year 3 visit to Nature in Art (Gloucestershire).

Week commencing 17th March - Science Week

Thursday 20th March - Year 4 History trip to Compton Verney

Friday 21st March: Comic relief: wear red for a donation

17th - 21st March - Year 5 Bikeability Week 1 (more details to follow)

24th - 28th March - Year 5 Bikeability Week 2 (more details to follow)

3rd April - Year 5 University Visit for DT & Art day (more details to follow)

7th April - Year 5 University Visit for Drama Workshop/Performance (more details to follow)

8th April - 2.45pm Easter Parade - Reception, Y1 and Y2 (details to follow)

Week commencing 12th May - Year 6 SATs Week

Wednesday 21st May - PROVISIONAL date for class photos and Leavers' photos.

Weekly Internet Safety Update

According to Ofcom's most recent Media Use and Attitudes Report, roughly 55% of 3-17-year-olds in the UK are using WhatsApp as their primary messaging service. Not only does that make WhatsApp the most popular messaging platform among children and young people in the UK; it also means that of the app's approximately three billion users, over

seven million of them are British youngsters – keeping in touch with friends and family, but also being exposed to its various risks.

As parents and educators, it's our responsibility to stay up-to-date on the safety concerns around this highly popular app, and know how to protect children and young people who are on the platform. Attached is an expert-led free guide, breaking down WhatsApp's most prominent risks and advising you on how best to safeguard the app's younger users.



Karate Success

Congratulations to Noah in Year 6 who recently took part in a karate competition. We are proud of your achievement Noah. Here is the very well written report he wrote about his experience:

Last weekend I flew to Belfast to take part in the Northern Irish Open Karate Championships. I felt nervous competing against some of the best competitors in Ireland.

After breakfast at the hotel, we arrived in a wet and windy leisure centre complex to start warming up. I was first to compete for the day and was against a 14 year old in the first final of the day. I came second against a much higher-rated competitor.

I had a short break before I was back on for my team category. I was in a team with two black belted 15 year olds and we had only been practising for 2 weeks to get our katas in time. A kata is a series of fighting moves which have to be done very specifically and with precision, balance, strength and power. We got through to the final and were against

another team from our club. As we went onto the mat my legs felt shaky but we had worked hard and were ready.. We won 3-0 and came away with gold.

In my final event I was competing with children age 10-11 and the current Northern Ireland champion. I went through several rounds never losing a flag (point) and even knocked out the current champion. In the final I was really hoping I could win and was feeling confident after watching the other children that I could do it. I won all three flags again and won the gold.

Competing can be scary but also feels amazing when your hard work pays off. I felt really proud of myself and the whole team. As a tiny squad of 7 we won 22 medals and were the top team of the day.

Comic relief 21st March

Comic relief is on Friday 21st March this year. This year celebrates 40 years of comic relief!

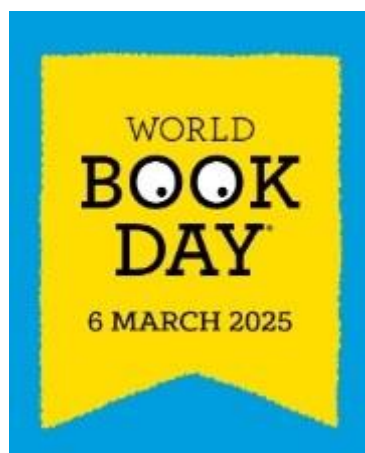
Please come to school on this day wearing something red, or this could be a red accessory, red socks, maybe even red hair!

We would ask that you please bring in a small donation if possible to support comic relief.

Thank you.

Mrs Pritchard

World Book Day 2025!



We will be celebrating our love of Reading and books in school on World Book Day, Thursday 6th March. All children are invited to dress up as a favourite book character for the day. If

your child would prefer not to dress up, they are welcome to come in school uniform but make a wooden spoon book character to bring in for the day. If your child would like to dress up and make a wooden spoon character that would also be fantastic. During World Book Day the children will get chance to talk about their characters as part of the reading activities planned. We will also be taking part in a Trust wide competition in school on World Book Day designing bookmarks or creating characters.

During this week we will also be inviting children to take part in a sponsored read event in collaboration with our local Usborne rep, Books by Becky. It will be a fun challenge for the children to take part in, with prizes for children who read the most minutes across the week. The funds raised from this will further enhance our banded reading books across the school. All the information has been sent home, so please ask at the office if there are any further questions. Happy Reading!

Historical Heroes House Competition

Following from the success of last term's Art Competition, our Historical Heroes Competition will promote our History Curriculum and celebrate significant people and historical heroes, across the world or in our local community.

Every child will be sent home with a blank post card. On the 'stamp side' of the postcard, a photo or drawing of the chosen significant person can be placed along with a quick snapshot under the stamp mark of why they are important in History. On the reverse, more detail or images can be added to further explain that person's achievements, challenges or strengths they used to achieve their success.

A significant person can be anyone who our children see as important or someone who has achieved success by overcoming challenges. They may be a role model in the child's life or someone they aspire to be like. This person doesn't have to be a famous significant person, it may be someone the children know well in their local community, a family member, or a family friend.

The deadline for our Historical Heroes Competition is **Friday 14th March**. Children can bring their names postcards into school and give them to their class teachers. After this date, the postcards will be on display in school for classes to enjoy during school hours and will be available to look at during parents evening too.

Below you can see the PowerPoint we showed to the children in assembly and some examples of similar work by other children. Please use these as a guide but also use the opportunity to make your postcard fit with the significant person it is about.

I have attached some photos of some of the many postcards we have already received in school! It's been wonderful to see hothead research and care that has been taken to find out about a historical hero. Thank you to the many of you who have sent yours in already.



Noah Vennard

• 1934 Joined



the Royal

Engineers

• Trained as electronic searchlight operator

• 1936 volunteered to go to the far East

• Set up Change Yacht club

Jack G. Wilson Born 1911



My Great Grandfather

- Became an Olympic class sailor
- He was caught by the Japanese and held captive for 3 1/2 years.
- He was shipped with many others to Korea.
- He wrote a book about his life when he was 78 as you can see on the right.
- He lived till he was 90.



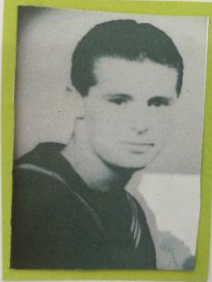
Rosa made change by refusing to give up her seat for a white person on the bus. This led to her being arrested. Others then decided to boycott buses. A year later, the laws were removed there was no segregation.







My historical hero is Rosa Parks, because she stood up for the equality of black people, which resulted in a changed society.

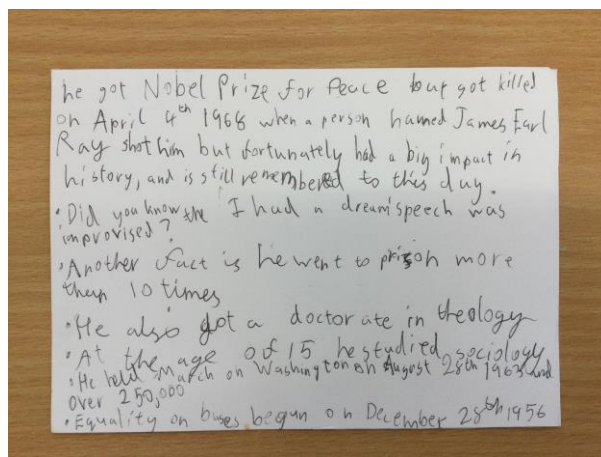
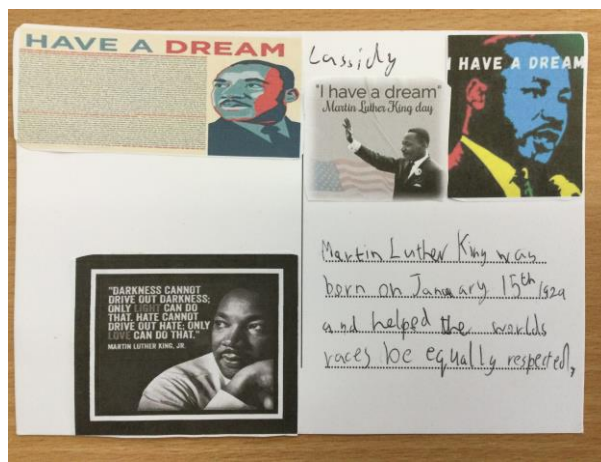
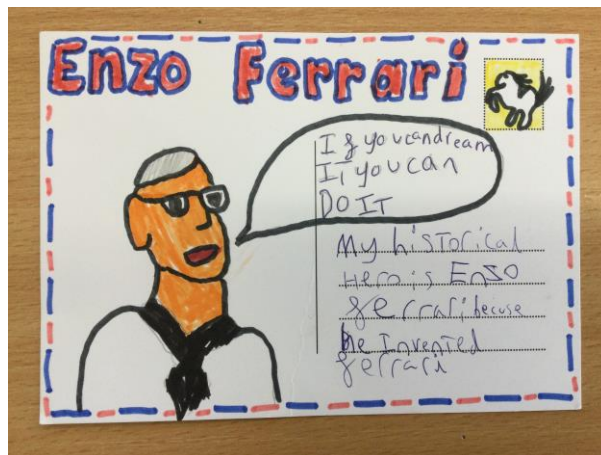
By Joey Brierley Emerald - maddala

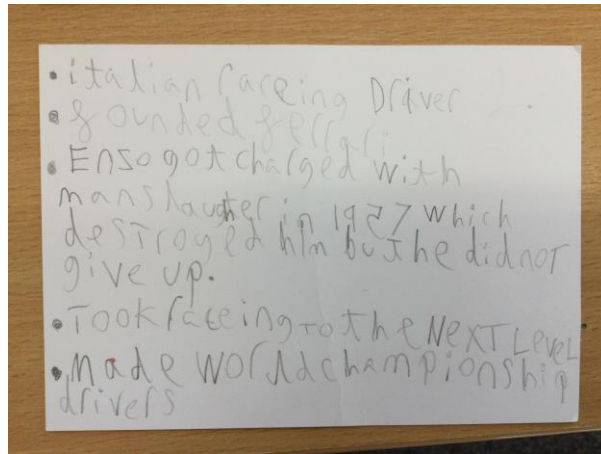


My great granddad Alvie Hodge's Royal Navy Aircraft carrier HMS Indefatigable Born 6/1/1924 Died 16/7/1991



Alvie served on the Aircraft carrier during WW2. His job was to develop films and print photos from the cameras attached to the planes. In April 1945, Japanese Kamikaze planes crashed into their ship, 800 people died but my great granddad Alvie survived.





History Heroes - House Competition



A significant person:

- Important
- Influential – had the power to make change.
- Their achievements in life have been important or recognised. • They are a good role model
- People aspire to be like them.
- They have shown determination or bravery, even when things are tough.

Barack Obama
44th U.S. President

Amelia Earhart
Born: 24 July 1897, Atchiso...

Emmeline Pankhurst

Isaac Newton

Neil Armstrong
American astronaut and aeronautical engineer

William I the Conqueror
Former King of England

Your Historical Hero might be someone famous, or it might be someone you know.

- Parents
- Grandparents
- Neighbours


Part of learning about the past is asking questions.

Historical enquiry

Ask your Historical hero questions about their lives.

Conduct research to find out when and why they achieved what they did.

How did your Historical Hero overcome challenges?

	<div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 30px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <p>My Historical Hero is — Emmeline Pankhurst because she was brave to fight for what she believed in.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">PHOTO</p>	<div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 30px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <p>This is my great- grandad _____. He is my Historical Hero because he fought in World War 2 as a fighter pilot.</p>
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<p>Why are they significant to you?</p> <p>What did they achieve?</p> <p>How did they do it?</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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- 3 house points per entry
- There will be a winning house.

Friday 14th March 2025

'How to be safe indoors' drill

As you may know we carry out half termly fire drills in school to ensure the children practice what to do in the event of a fire in school. Alongside this we are going to be carrying out a "how to be safe indoors" drill. This will prepare the children for an event that means they need to remain inside, and in their classroom, for example a loose dog within the school site. We will be practicing this drill on Friday 7th March, during the drill itself we will close the windows and doors, the children will remain seated at their desks or on the carpet and we will read their class novel to the children. We will be talking about this with the children on Thursday 6th March. If you have any questions about the drill please contact your child's class teacher using the phase emails.

Thank you

Reception

We were very excited to find an egg in our classrooms on Tuesday. We made predictions about what we thought might be inside.

"Maybe there's a dinosaur inside." Eduard

"It's a unicorn egg." Lyra

We then thought about how we could keep our egg safe.

"We could get a heater to warm it." Keegan

"Make a nest." Olive

"We should make a nest to keep it warm." Callie

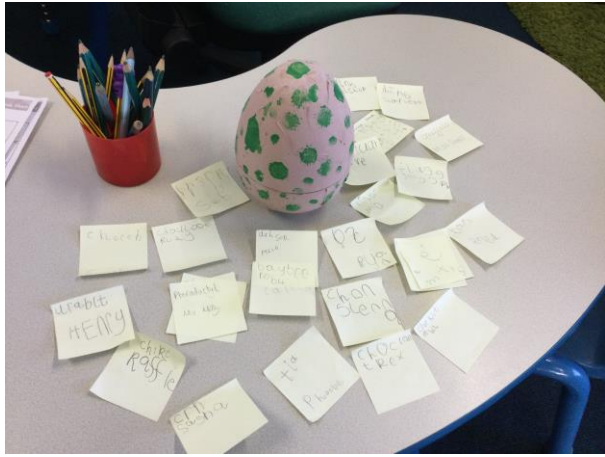
"A Blanket." Kylo

"Put it on top of something to keep it safe." Josie

We then went looking for signs of who/what could have left the egg. We found a number of clues, such as feathers, bird poo and footprints in the ground. We read the book the Odd Egg and discovered our egg looked very similar. Since then, we have patiently waited for the egg to hatch, creating a safe space for it. We also made notes so the egg knew we cared for it. Excitingly, the egg had hatched overnight when we arrived on Friday. We saw footprints and some assumed it must be a duck, so we went out to the pond. Unfortunately, we were unable to find one! We then went on Google to compare the footprints we saw, and found they matched a crocodile's footprints! We also found out saltwater crocodile's are about 5 metres long. We measured ourselves against this length and found it's longer than 4 of us!

Spare clothes

Please be aware, we have no spare pants, trousers or socks left for instances such as getting wet/having accidents. Please return any school spares if you have them at home. If not, we would welcome donations. It would also really help if your child has spare clothes in their bag. Thank you.



















Carriage Class Forest School next week:

There will be no Forest School for Carriage class on Thursday 6th March. We will be joining Monarch class for Forest School on Friday 7th March instead.

Please can children wear their Forest School clothes to school on Friday 7th March.

Thank you.

Borrow the Moon

We enjoyed looking at lunar samples and handling meteorites this week!





Year 1

Our photos this week show our exciting dinosaur Monday. We found dinosaur skeletons in Forest School, excavated dinosaurs out of hard material, learnt about Mary Anning and made salt dough dinosaur fossils. We were all enthusiastic, keen to share the facts that we already know and ask questions that can lead our next learning.



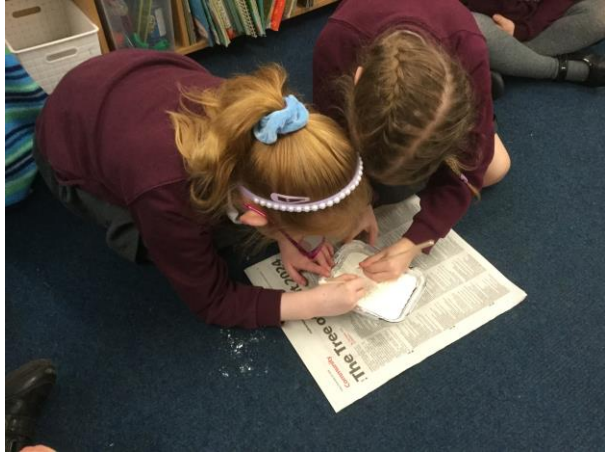


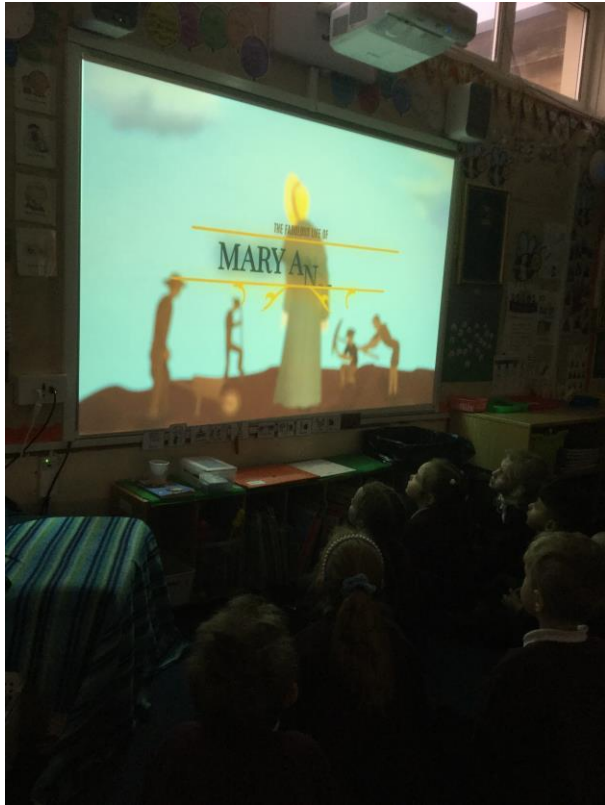


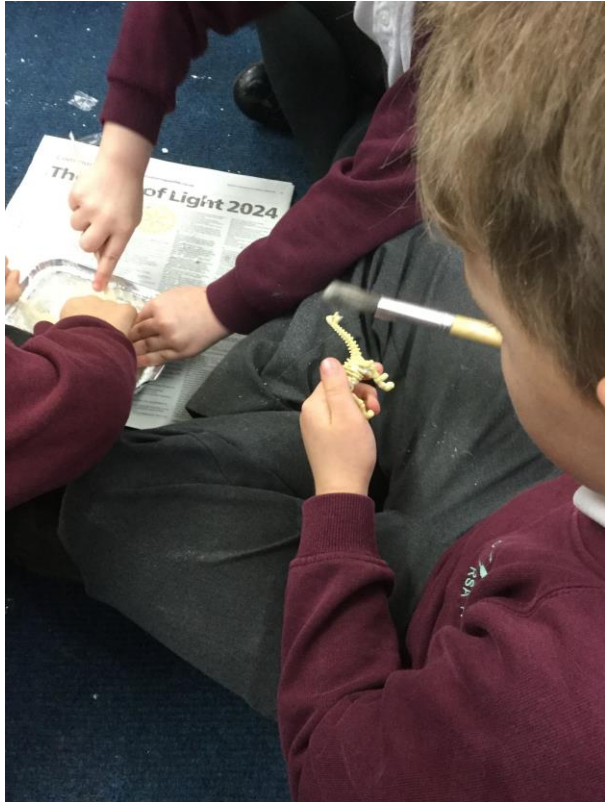




















Year 2

What an exciting week in Year 2, we have 'Borrowed the Moon!'

We have handled the lunar samples that are in discs that can be handled carefully, the lunar samples were so exciting to look at for everyone. Our loan box also contained different examples of meteorites, put together by STFC and the National Space Academy. Every loan box included larger pieces of meteorite that can be handled and every loan box also included a meteorite hunter activity featuring both Earth rocks and meteorites. This is what

we did, this was a bonus opportunity of working scientifically for Year 2- we classified our samples into Earth and Space Rocks. As you can see we really enjoyed handling The Moon.

In PE we have begun our invasion games unit of learning. We had lots of fun learning about keeping possession of the ball. We took turns being a defender playing piggy in the middle and had to try to intercept the ball

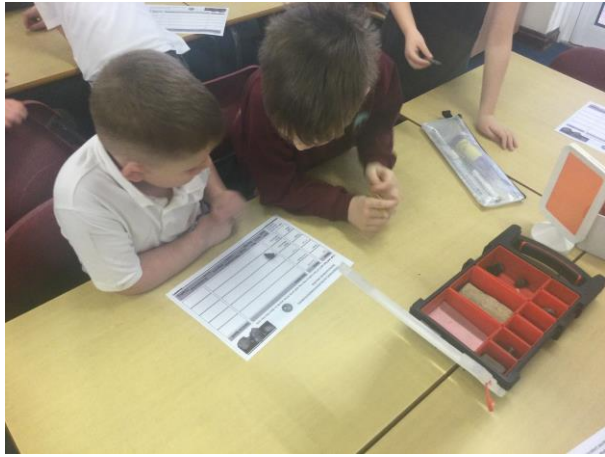
















Year 3

We hope you all had a lovely half term.

We had another lovely, albeit damp, start to the week when we were outside for OAA/forest school on Monday. Although, when the sun shone, it really began to feel like spring! We had looked for signs of spring around us and had another team building game.

This week we also borrowed the moon! Our Science lessons have involved recapping our previous learning surrounding rocks, so the moon tied in really well! During this session we have been classifying rocks but have also been introduced to a new type of rock, a meteorite from outer space!

In Maths, we have continued our Fractions sequence of learning and have looked at comparing and ordering both unit and non-unit fractions. This is a tricky concept but the children have grasped this well!

Our Computing sequence had come to an eventful conclusion this week, where the children had used Scratch to create their own piano! They planned and programmed the sprites using events and sound and changed the costume of each button. They then used the keyboard to play a "tune."

Some children from both Year 3 classes went to a cricket festival at the University, where they practised the skills needed for the game. It was a well organised event and involved a rotation of five different activities. The first activity involved fielding and catching, the second and third were different versions of hitting the stumps, the fourth was a mini cricket game and the final activity was designed to improve reaction speed with a competitive game of heads, shoulders, knees and cone! All of the children participated fully into this event and showed great effort, stamina and determination in the various activities. The children that remained at school had an Arrowsmith vs Hampton PE game called "Strategicki" which was very fun! They then created their own sketchbooks, which they designed and put together.

Reminder: PE days are now Monday and Wednesday. Outdoor clothes on Monday and school PE kit on Wednesday please.

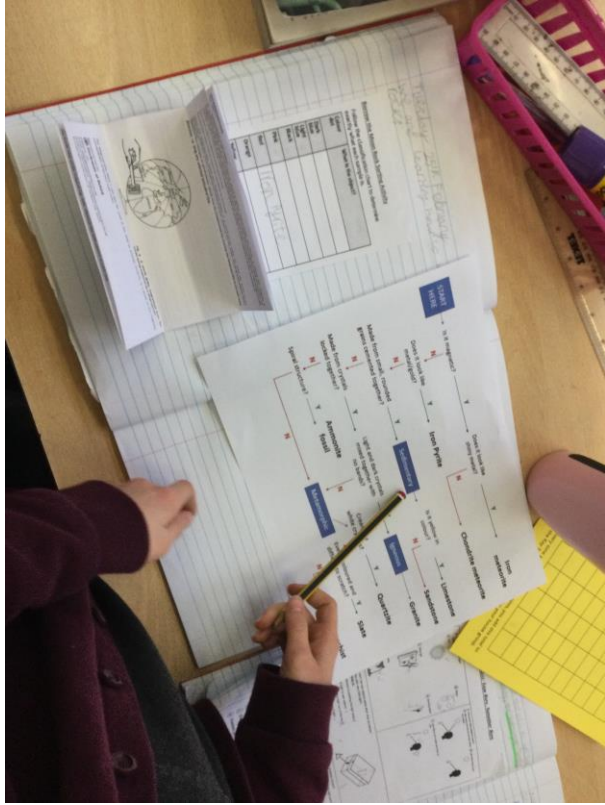




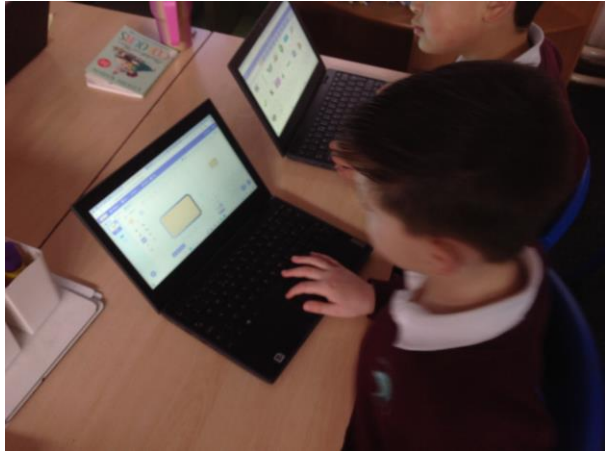


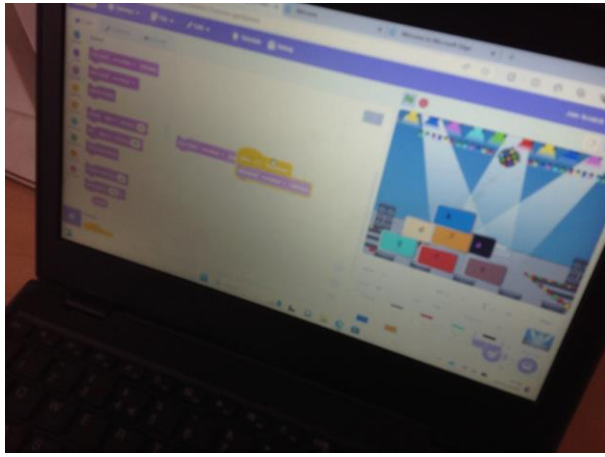
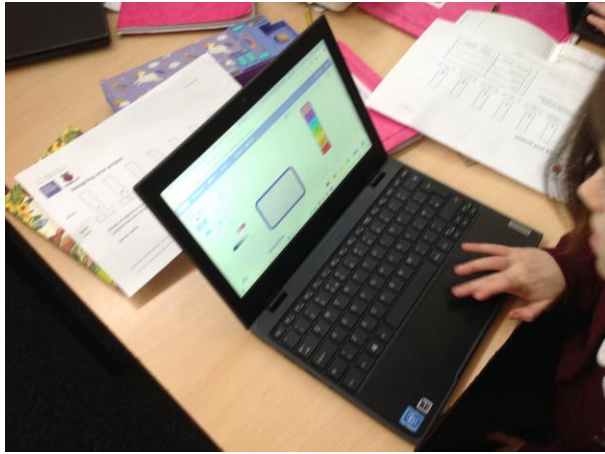
















Year 4

This week, our Year 4 Scientists have been busy investigating meteorites from NASA!

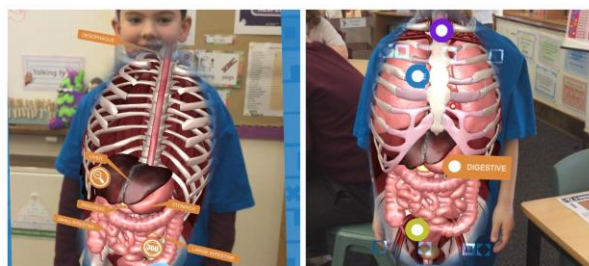
Mrs Screen has been able to borrow different rocks, meteorites and samples from the moon, from NASA. Our job for the afternoon was to investigate what makes a meteorite and then identifying out of the samples which ones were meteorites. The children investigated whether they were magnetic, what type of surface it had and other features and then used a classification flow chart to determine what type of rock, fossil or meteorite it was.

The children also had the chance to look at rock and soil samples that were collected on the moon.

Also this week, we have been exploring our digestive system by using an iPad and special t-shirts that show us how it works inside our bodies. The app also allowed us to see other systems working in our bodies such as the respiratory system and the circulatory system.

You can see some photos below.

Reminder - Please send in return slips and make payments on ParentPay for our History trip to Compton Verney.



We took a closer look at our insides and where our digestive system is in our bodies.



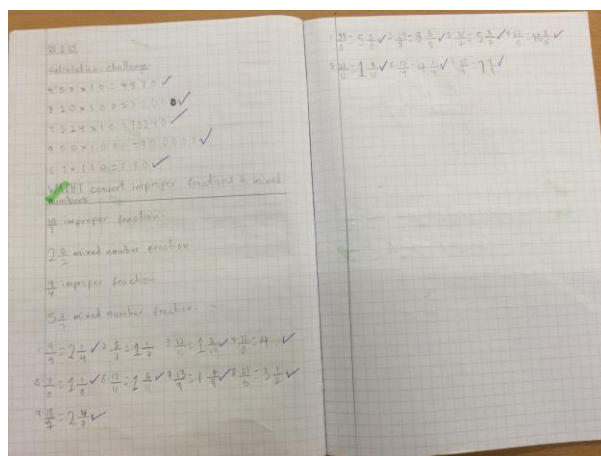
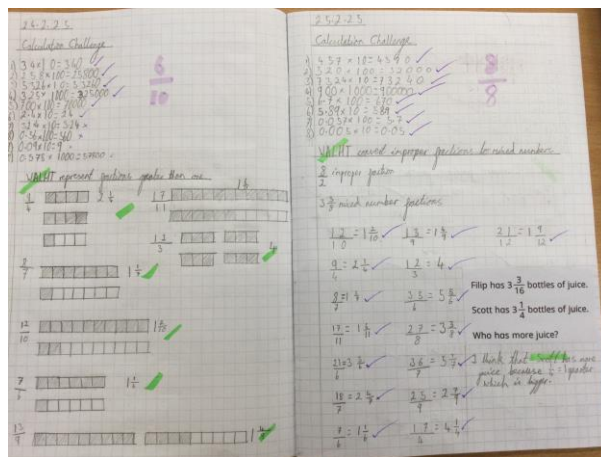
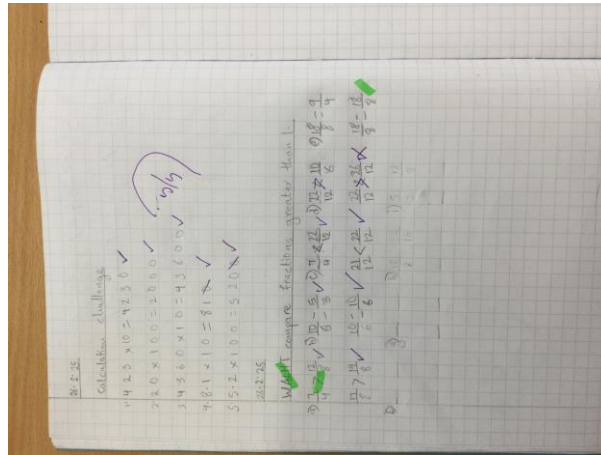
Investigate meteorites.



Meteorites are magnetic and very dense

Year 5

The children in Year 5 have been working very hard on their maths skills this week as we have been learning more about fractions. We have looked at what improper and mixed number fractions look like and how these might be represented visually using bar models and diagrams. We have also been learning about how to convert improper fractions into mixed number fractions as well as comparing two improper fractions by finding the lowest common denominator. The children have also been working hard on their presentation skills in their books and should be very proud of the work they are producing!



26.2.25
 Calculation Challenge

- $423 \times 10 = 4230$ ✓
- $20 \times 100 = 2000$ ✓
- $4360 \times 10 = 43600$ ✓
- $81 \times 10 = 810$ ✓
- $5.2 \times 100 = 520$ ✓
- $5.4 \times 10 = 54$ ✓
- $56.3 \times 10 = 563$ ✓
- $0.67 \times 100 = 67$ ✓
- $0.078 \times 10 = 0.78$ ✓
- $32.45 \times 100 = 3245$ ✓

VAHT compare fractions greater than 1.

a) $\frac{7}{4} > \frac{12}{8}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{14}{8} - \frac{12}{8} \right)$

e) $\frac{10}{6} < \frac{5}{2}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{10}{6} - \frac{15}{6} \right) \times 3$

f) $\frac{9}{4} < \frac{18}{2}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{9}{4} - \frac{36}{4} \right) \times 2$

h) $\frac{7}{4} < \frac{22}{12}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{21}{12} - \frac{22}{12} \right) \times 3$

f) $\frac{5}{2} > \frac{18}{8}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{20}{8} - \frac{18}{8} \right) \times 8$

c) $\frac{22}{12} > \frac{10}{6}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{22}{12} - \frac{20}{12} \right) \times 2$

g) $\frac{18}{8} > \frac{32}{16}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{36}{16} - \frac{32}{16} \right) \times 2$

d) $\frac{10}{6} = \frac{5}{3}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{10}{6} - \frac{10}{6} \right) \times 2$

h) $\frac{18}{8} = \frac{9}{4}$ ✓
 $\left(\frac{18}{8} - \frac{18}{8} \right) \times 2$

26.2.25
 Calculation Challenge

- $136 \times 10 = 1360$
- $258 \times 100 = 25800$
- $532 \times 10 = 5320$
- $325 \times 1000 = 325000$
- $700 \times 100 = 70000$
- $1.026 \times 10 = 10.26$
- $32.6 \times 10 = 326$
- $556 \times 100 = 55600$
- $0.04 \times 10 = 0.4$
- $0.578 \times 1000 = 578$

VAHT represent fractions greater than 1.

$\frac{9}{4}$ or $2\frac{1}{4}$ ✓

$\frac{17}{10}$ ✓

$1\frac{1}{2}$ ✓

$\frac{12}{5}$ or $2\frac{2}{5}$ ✓

$2\frac{1}{6}$ ✓

26.2.25
 Calculation Challenge

- $54 \times 10 = 540$ ✓
- $258 \times 100 = 25800$ ✓
- $032 \times 10 = 320$ ✓
- $200 \times 1000 = 200000$ ✓
- $100 \times 100 = 10000$ ✓

VAHT represent fractions greater than one.

$\frac{9}{4}$ or $2\frac{1}{4}$ ✓

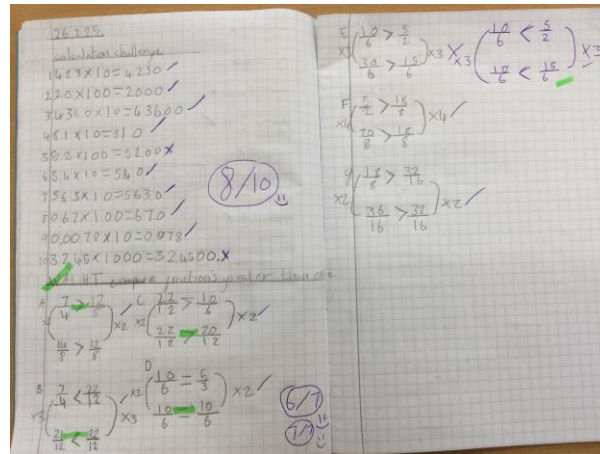
$2\frac{1}{6}$ ✓

$\frac{0}{10}$ or $1\frac{2}{10}$ ✓

$2\frac{1}{4}$ ✓

$2\frac{1}{6}$ ✓

$2\frac{1}{4}$ ✓



Year 6

It has been a busy but fantastic first week in year 6 after half term. In maths the children have continued their work around the perimeter, area and volume of shapes. The last few lessons have been working with volume. The children have applied themselves brilliantly leading to some really outstanding pieces of work through the week.

In geography the children have explored South American and the countries that sit within. We gave them the task of locating the capital cities while also drawing the flags of each country, again producing some great end results.




In art the children have been studying the artist Terry Gilecki who is famous for sketching and painting Koi. The children learnt about him and have had a go at reproducing some of his work.

The children have been working hard on their presentation skills in their books and should be very proud of the work they are producing! In preparation for next week, year 6 will be conducting a mock SATs week where the children will be completing each of the papers as they would in the summer term.



Tuesday 25th February 2025
 As geographer VIKHT teach what in South America
 South America

- + 12 countries
- + Brazil is the largest country
- + largest city in South America is São Paulo
- + Brazil is the largest city
- + Suriname is the smallest country
- + 453 million people live there
- + Spanish is the main language
- + the Andes: range of mountains

 = Caracas	 = Lima
 = Georgetown	 = Paramaribo
 = Santiago	 = Montevideo
 = Brasília	 = Buenos Aires
 = Cayenne	 = Santiago
 = Buenos Aires	
 = Buenos Aires	





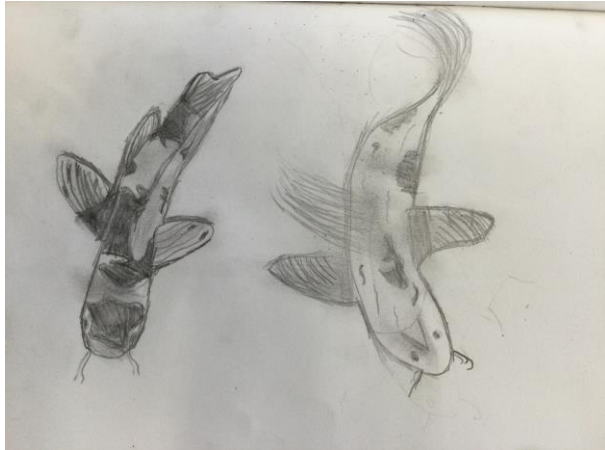
A smaller hand-drawn map of South America, similar to the one above, with country names and flags labeled. The labels include: Caracas, Lima, Santiago, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and Brazil.



Wednesday 26th February 2025
 artist: WAHIT use shape and shade effectively

Terry Gibecki



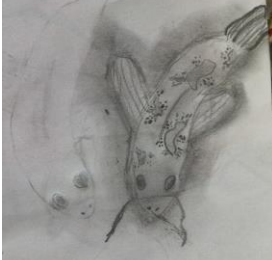
Born in 1954, British Columbia
 Working as a fish artist since 1974
 Known for painting using different techniques
 He has always been interested in the fish and
 enjoys their beauty, form, beauty and colour

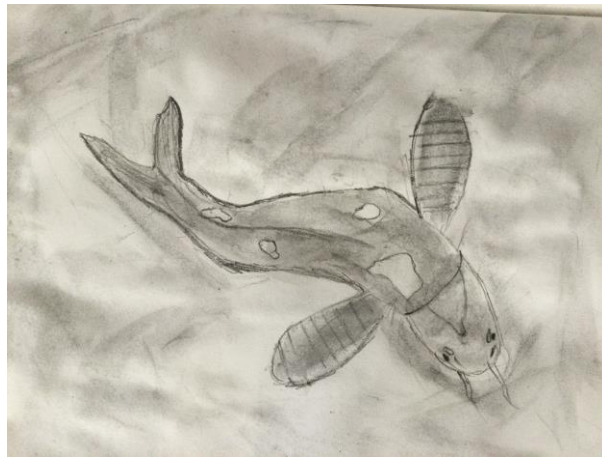
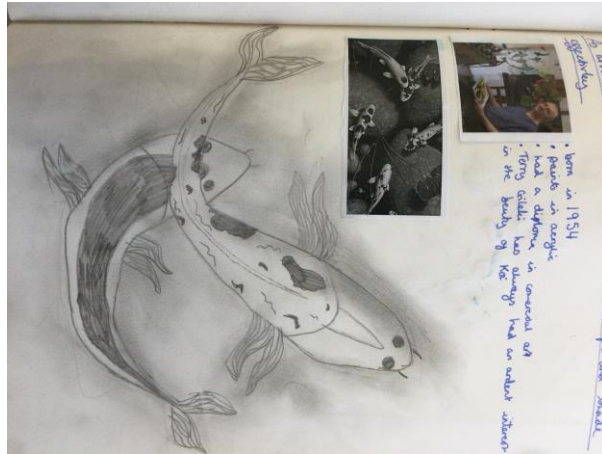




Wednesday 26th February 2025
 artist: WAHIT use shape and shade effectively

TERRY GIBECKI

- Born in 1954, British Columbia.
- Working as a fish artist since 1974.
- Known for painting using different techniques.
- He has always been interested in the fish and enjoys their beauty and colour.



Contact Us



If you wish to get in touch with the school, please use the following details:

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Oldbury Road Worcester WR2 6AA

01905 424878

office@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk <http://www.oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk/>

Phase email addresses:

For ALL parents, we have set up a new way of contacting Phase Leaders. These email addresses are SOLELY for classroom, pastoral and academic enquiries and NOT for general enquiries which should still come through the office@ email address.

Children in Reception eyfsparents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk (Miss Molloy)

Children in Years 1 & 2 KS1parents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk (Mrs Marks)

Children in Years 3 & 4 LKS2parents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk (Mrs Davies)

Children in Years 5 & 6 UKS2parents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk (Mr Williams)

SENDco Enquiries SENDCO@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk (Miss Miller)