



# Oldbury Observer Spring 2025 Edition 10

## Mr Irving's Comment

Our week ended with plenty to celebrate: World Book Day prizes were awarded along with certificates for our swimming gala team and our usual Believe in Best and Reader of the Week certificates. It is important that we also celebrate the positive attitudes to our children show towards participation and the efforts that our staff invest to make this possible: bikeability in Year 5, the Year 4 trip to Compton Verney and dressing in red for Comic Relief are all evidence of this.

As part of the Central Region Schools Trust, we often welcome external experts to help us review our provision. This is part and parcel of being a reflective school, committed to continuous improvement. I believe that it is important to share that recent (separate) reviews of our approaches to Safeguarding, Attendance, SEND and Early Years each described high quality provision, underpinned by clear processes led by knowledgeable and dedicated staff.

Miss Moule and some colleagues met after school today to start displaying the entries to the History Heroes house competition - we are really impressed by the thoughtful entries that we have received. Next week we will share which house group had the largest number of entries and the display will be up for you to see at Parents' Evening.

We look forward to welcoming you to Parents' Evening next week; to help with the efficient running of this event please arrive promptly and help staff to stick their busy schedule. All visitors are asked to arrive and leave via the main/office entrance/

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

24th - 28th March - Year 5 Bikeability Week 2 (Nelson)

**Thursday 27th March Y1 PE at the university** (letter being sent home Fri 21st March)

**Friday 28th - Year 2 Visit to The Commandery**

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 (a letter was sent home Friday 7th March)

11th April - Year 5 Bishops Wood Trip

Week commencing 12th May - Year 6 SATs Week

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

## NEW NHS DENTIST!

Exciting news!

St Johns Dental Practice (11 Malvern Road, St Johns) is taking on new NHS patients.

If you are looking for an NHS dentist for your family please ring them on 01905 428261 or email them on [stjohnsdental11@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsdental11@gmail.com)

## Comic relief



Thank you to everyone who has supported Comic relief today by wearing red and bringing in a donation.

We will let you know the amount raised once we have counted it!

Thank you



## Weekly Internet Safety Update

You may already know that livestreaming plays a major role in children's entertainment, with a wide range of personalities influencing young viewers in both positive and negative ways. While watching streamers can be fun, it also comes with significant risks, including misinformation, financial harms, and inappropriate content. Popular streaming platform Twitch has over 2.5 million viewers at any given time, which is why it's more important than ever to stay informed.



### Updates

#### New TikTok Features

During the 2nd week of March TikTok released some new features which will help with supervision. These new features include Time Away, a feature to decide when it's time for children to take a break and a reoccurring schedule. There's also a feature which allows parents to see who their children are following on TikTok.

More information about these new features can be found [HERE](#) and the full range of TikTok Family Pairing features can be found [HERE](#).

#### TikTok, Teens, Social Media and You

MediaSmart have released a wonderful new resource for parents whose children are using TikTok. Designed for 13+ (as you have to be 13 to use TikTok), the resources will help parents

better understand their young person's online world and support them through conversation and participation.

There's a campaign film, downloadable guide with practical tips, a school to parent letter and more. Full details can be found [HERE](#).

## Online Safety Parental Questionnaire

In order to gather information to further support you to navigate the online world for your child, please can you spend a few moments filling in the Online Safety questionnaire by clicking the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UTeH7weljkS2mO4DGypXksZPR3gGPRB1st0CW-yWY2NURVU2VUw0VjZLWVBPS044WDdXMUpQSjNFQy4u>

Thank you

## Getting in touch with the Pastoral Team



Mrs Davies, Mr Williams, Mrs McFee, Miss Davis, Miss Matthews and Mrs Ricketts are all members of the pastoral team. Alongside your child's class teacher we support the wellbeing and mental health of our pupils.

If you wish to contact the pastoral team directly please use the email below. We will then read this and respond to you directly, or we may share your email with an adult in school who can help.

[pastoral@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk)

## Adult services - Mental Health signposting



### **SHOUT text service**

By texting the word **'SHOUT'** to **85258**, you can access a free, confidential, 24/7 service and have a text conversation with a trained volunteer. The volunteers offer real time support to people who are anxious, stressed, depressed, suicidal or overwhelmed. Some people may prefer this to speaking on the phone. If appropriate, users will be signposted to other local services

### The Book Fair is Back!

During parents evening next week, on Monday 24th and Wednesday 26th, the Usborne book fair will be here. Becky will be running this in the entrance as you come into school. Please feel free to browse the selection before or after your child's meeting. All money spent will support us in purchasing more books to further enhance our reference library. Thank you for your support.

## Mothers' Day Gifts Sale



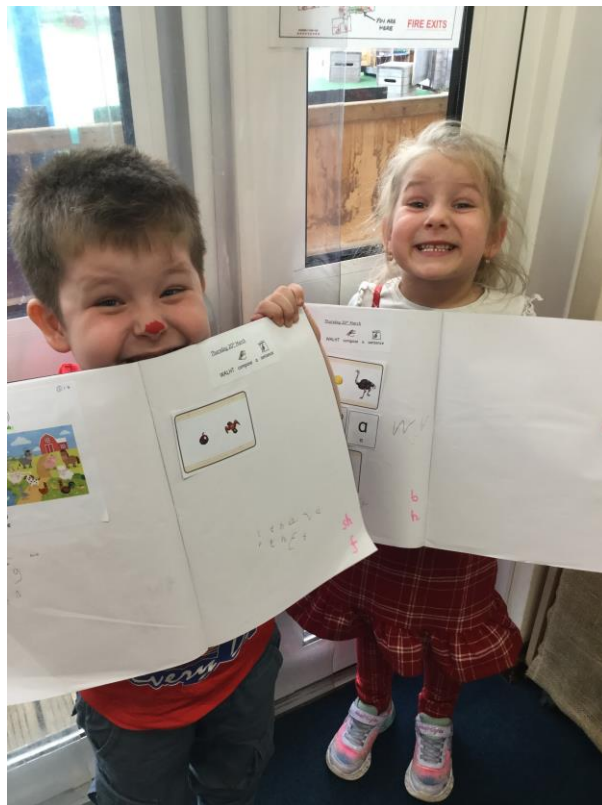
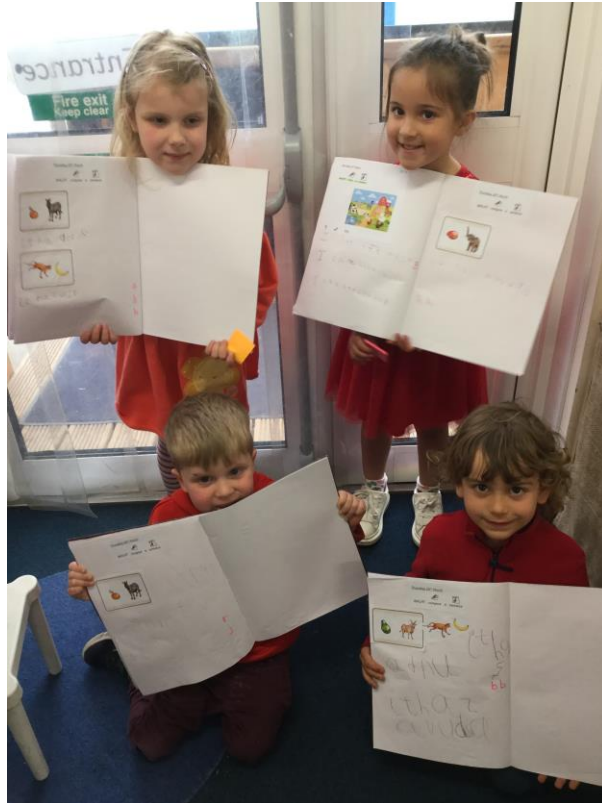
After the success of their Valentine Gift Stall, Initium (Enterprise Club), have been busy making a selection of handmade gifts for Mothers' Day. These will be on sale at lunchtime on Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th and Friday 28th with prices ranging from 50p to £3.50 (whilst stocks last).

## Reception

We would like to share some of our writing with you this week! We have been composing simple sentences about the story, *Handa's Surprise*, and the different fruits that the animals take from Handa's basket. (There were a few fruits that were new to us!)

We practised saying the sentence first, before using our phonics and 'Fred Talk' to help us write each of the words.





Monarch have been busy chitting potato seeds, and this week it was time to plant them. We chose to do it on the first day of Spring, as the weather was so lovely. It was tiring work, but hopefully we can reap the rewards of our efforts in June!









## Year 1



In art this term Y1 have been looking at 3D form and this week we explored clay. It was cold, heavy and sticky. The children were challenged to make a variety of patterned pebbles that we can use next week to make our own cairns and inuksuks.













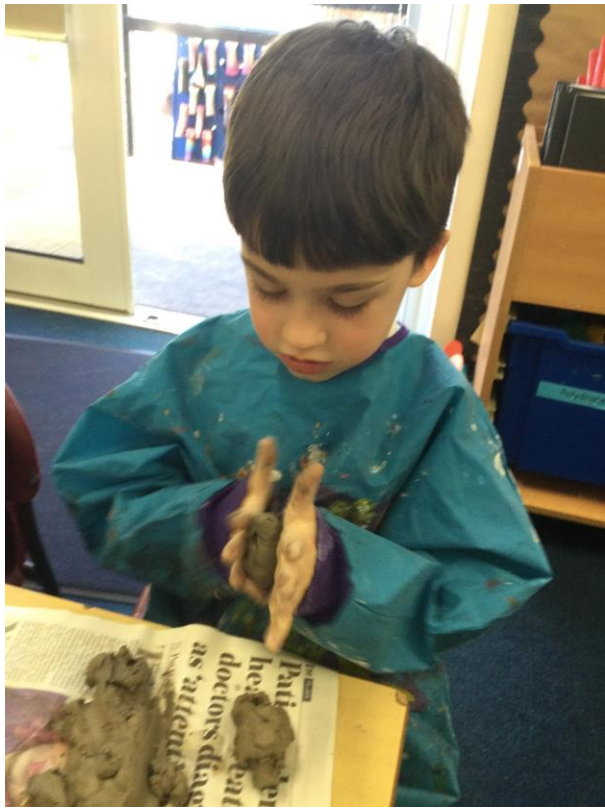






























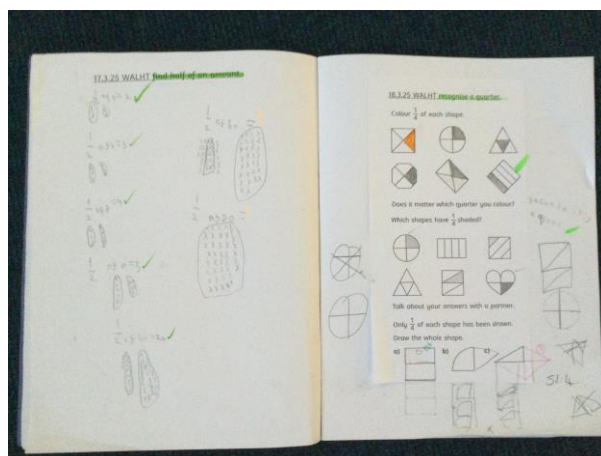




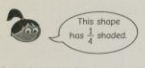
## Year 2

We have been busy in maths recognising fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We have used fractions for equal sharing and grouping, and numbers when they can be calculated.

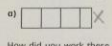
In science we have begun to look at seeds and what they need to grow. We have planted our own broad bean seeds and are keeping a diary until the end of term to plot its progress, our science experiment is to observe and record seeds germinating over time.




This shape has  $\frac{1}{4}$  shaded.



Do the shapes show  $\frac{1}{2}$ ?

a)  X

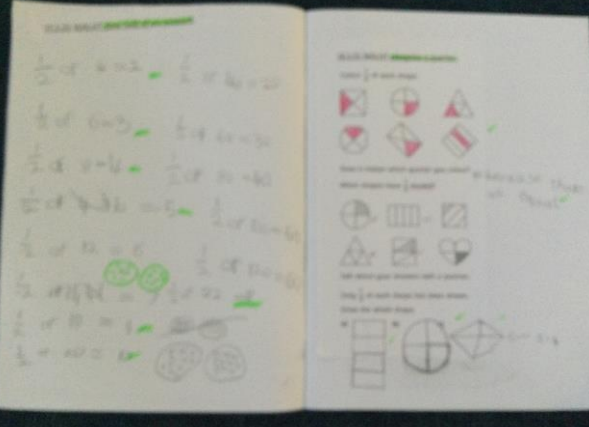
b)  ✓

Do you agree with Sam? *no because it has 4 parts*

How did you work these out? *a) is not equal because it has one of 4 smaller than the others. b) is does show a  $\frac{1}{2}$  because they are all equal.*

13.1.21 WHAT? *1/2 of each shape*

Colour  $\frac{1}{2}$  of each shape.

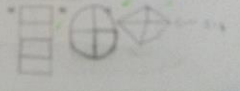


Does it matter which quarter you colour? *no because they are equal*

Which shapes have  $\frac{1}{2}$  shaded?

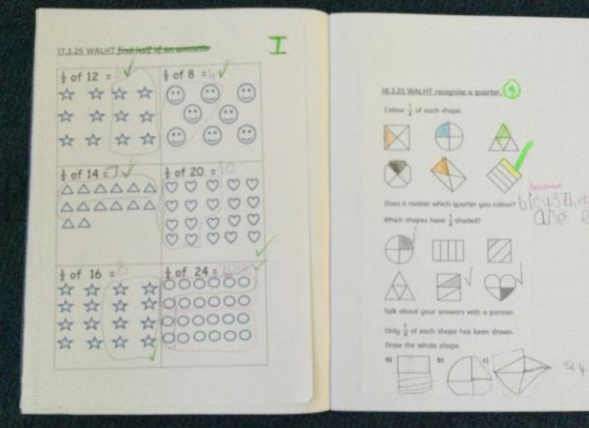
Talk about your answers with a partner.

Only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of each shape has been drawn. Draw the whole shape.



13.1.21 WHAT? *1/4 of each shape*

Colour  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each shape.

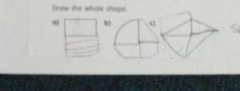


Does it matter which quarter you colour? *because they are equal*

Which shapes have  $\frac{1}{4}$  shaded?

Talk about your answers with a partner.

Only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each shape has been drawn. Draw the whole shape.





14.3.25 WALHT recognise a half.

- Which shapes show a half?
- Colour half of each shape.

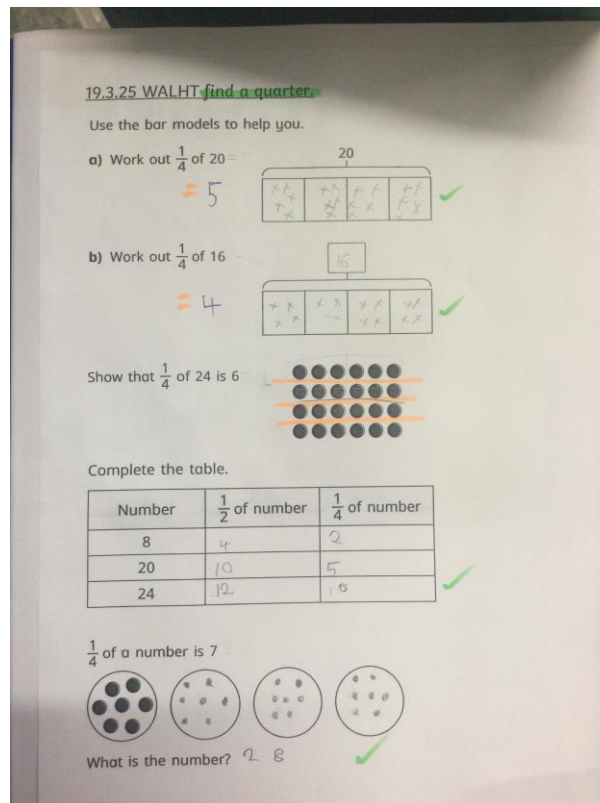
Is there more than one way to show a half?

- Which pictures show  $\frac{1}{2}$ ?

Only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of each shape has been drawn.  
Draw the missing half to make the whole.

a) c)

b) d)



## Year 3

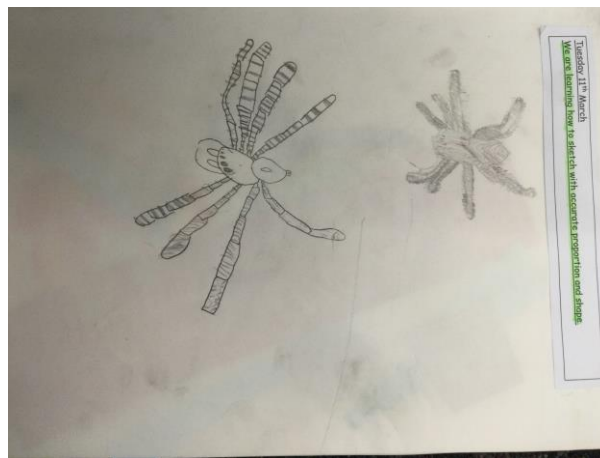
Last Thursday, the children in Year 3 were lucky to visit Nature in Art - an art gallery just outside Gloucester. Prior to our visit, the children learnt what a sculpture was and looked at some famous examples of sculptures, including Mamon by Louise Bourgeois. They then looked at the anatomy of insects and how these could be sketched to create lifelike representations. Using scientific drawings, the children firstly sketched an insect, and then with feedback from their partner they thought about how these could be improved.

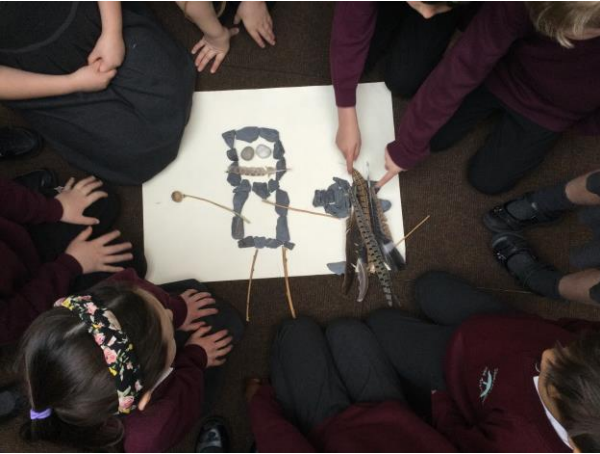
On our visit to Nature in Art, the children took part in two workshops. The first workshop was based on Andy Goldsworthy and involved using natural materials to create pictures and patterns. Working in groups, the children collaborated on different designs and then presented their work to the class. The final task was to create a picture from The Wild Robot - you can see some brilliant work below.

The second workshop was tied in to our learning in school, where the children had to create a sculpture of an insect using wire. The children had to firstly bend and shape the wire to create wings, before dipping them in special paint. Once the paint was dry, the children then joined their wings to a wire body and added beads for antenna.

Finally, the children spent some time looking around the art gallery and sculpture garden. They were treated to an array of nature themed art work in many different mediums: paint, print, clay, metal and photography. In addition, the children got to meet two artists in residence, and were shown different techniques used by them to create monoprints and designs in their work.

It was a lovely and productive day, and we were impressed with the sensible and thoughtful way in which they explored the art gallery.









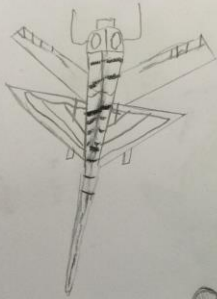


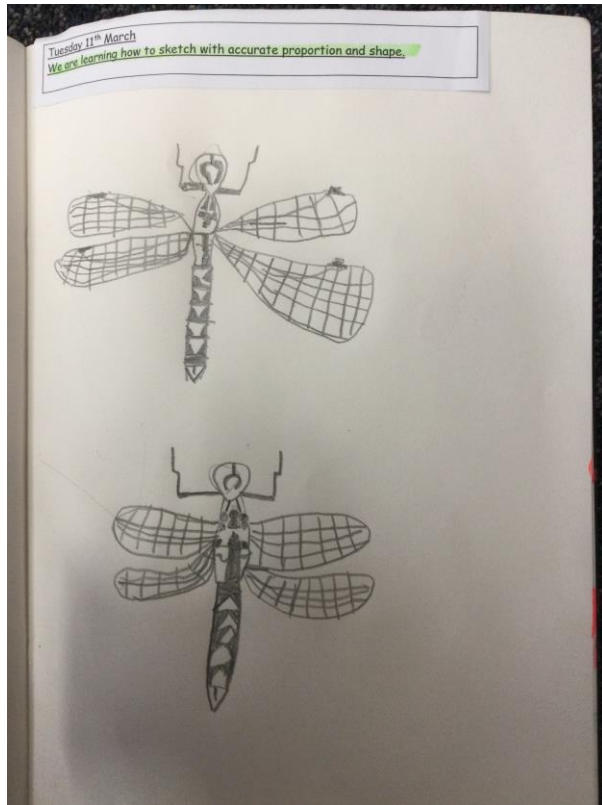


Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
We are learning how to sketch with accurate proportion and shape.



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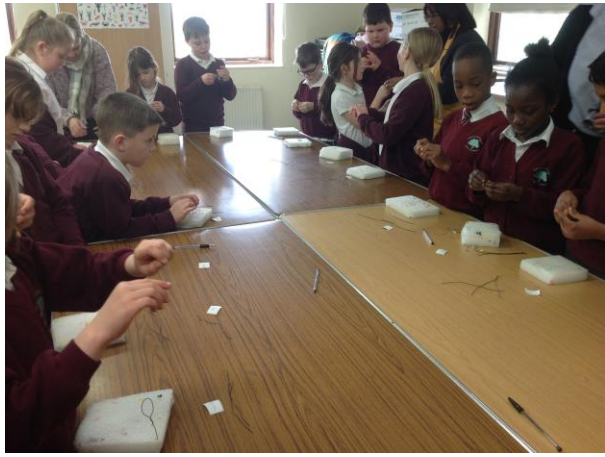


















**Deciding** ↔ **Proving**

Decide which statement is true and which is false.

1. Monasteries were often targeted because monks had no weapons to defend themselves.

2. The first abbeyes and monasteries that Vikings targeted were inland.

Justify your answer and correct the false statement.

I think 1 is ~~True~~ **False** because monks were defenceless and had no weapons.

And number 2 is false because monasteries were not inland.

Thursday 17th October 2025

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**6. Which city was attacked by the Danish Vikings?** CHOOSE 1  
1 POINT

A. Rome ✓

B. London ✓

C. Belfast.

4/4

**7. Why were the Vikings so feared?** CHOOSE 3  
3 POINTS

A. They had sharp and fast swords.

B. They sailed their way into the churches and monasteries.

C. They could be violent and brutal to get what they wanted.

D. Word spread - monks wrote about their views of the Viking raids.

E. News reports warned the Anglo-Saxons about the raids.

**Hypothesising**

After Alfred the Great defeated King Guthrum, he made him convert to Christianity. Why do you think he did this? Provide two reasons.

Because he was losing many more men and he thinks thought he had to give the Anglo-Saxons some of their more land with the Vikings.

Thursday 27th February 2025

Why did the Vikings invade Britain?

1. Vikings were skilled at... CHOOSE 3  
3 POINTS

A. Farming ✓

B. Fishing ✓

C. Writing manuscripts ✓

D. Fighting ✓

E. Trading ✓

F. Repeating ✓

5/5


2. Vikings mostly lived in large towns and cities. CHOOSE 1  
1 POINT

A. True ✓

B. False ✓


1/1

**Vikings attacked Britain 793 CE**



I think the Vikings attacked Britain in 793 CE because it was summer and they needed food because their crops were eaten in the winter and got more power and countries.

I think they chose to attack Lindisfarne because they had lots of power and they were small villages and they targeted monasteries.



Because it was warmer and north-western was drier and had more hills also Britain was closer.

- 1 fertile Britain land
- 2 Britain was a short distance by using long boat
- 3 religion

I think fertile Britain land is the most important reason. I think this because they needed food because they had lots of swords so their crops could...

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

WAL: where the Vikings attacked and settled.

3. When did the Vikings begin to raid Britain at Lindisfarne?

1 POINT

- A) 793 CE ✓
- B) 795 CE ✗
- C) 797 CE ✗

4. Why did the Vikings invade Britain?

(CHOOSE 3)

3 POINTS

- A) Their gods told them to. ✗
- B) Britain had better land. ✗
- C) Britain had more resources, like gold and silver. ✓
- D) Churches and monasteries were easy to plunder for riches. ✓

### Map of Viking Homelands and Settlements

Key

- Viking settlements
- homelands.



3. When did the Vikings begin to raid Britain at Lindisfarne?

1 POINT

- A) 793 CE ✓
- B) 795 CE ✗
- C) 797 CE ✗

4. Why did the Vikings invade Britain?

(CHOOSE 3)

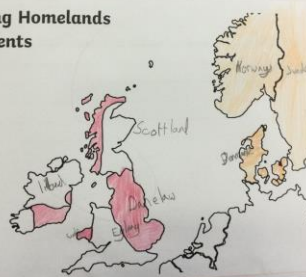
3 POINTS

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- D) Churches and monasteries were easy to plunder for riches. ✓

### Map of Viking Homelands and Settlements

Key

- homelands
- settlements



Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

WALH Danes created peace

6. Which city was attacked by the Danish Vikings?

- 1 POINT
- A) Lindisfarne.
  - B) London ✓
  - C) Belfast.

7. Why were the Vikings so feared?

- (CHOOSE 3) 3 POINTS
- A) They led daring and fast raids ✓
  - B) They talked their way into the churches and monasteries.
  - C) They could be violent and brutal to get what they wanted ✓
  - D) Word spread - monks wrote about their views of the Viking raids ✓
  - E) News reports warned the Anglo-Saxons about the raids.

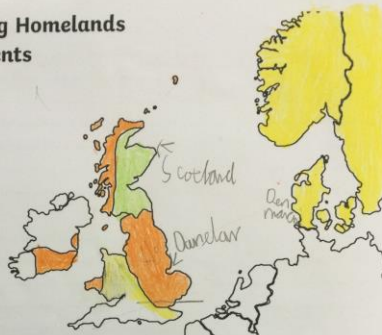
### Hypothesising

After Alfred the Great defeated King Guthrum, he made him convert to Christianity.  
Why do you think he did this? Provide two reasons.

One reason is that they did it to show power  
Another reason is that he didn't choose to be a Christian because there would be lots of bloodshed ✓

### Map of Viking Homelands and Settlements

#### Key



### Deciding Proving

Decide which statement is true and which is false.

- 1. Monasteries were often targeted because monks had no weapons to defend themselves. ✓
- 2. The first abbies and monasteries that Vikings targeted were inland. ✗

Justify your answer and correct the false statement. ✓

I think 1 is true type because they would normally look for land and they would probably target somewhere weak. The 2nd statement is wrong because they used boats to travel and it would be quite hard to travel inland.

**Ranking** **Justifying**

Rank reasons for the Viking Invasion from most important to least important.

1. religion
2. Britain was a short distance by Viking long boat
3. fertile British land

Justify your answers.

1. Fertile British land

2. Britain was a short distance by Viking long boat.

3. religion

I think Fertile British land is the most important because I think this because it is cold in their country and it is hard to grow.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2026.

WAL When the Vikings attacked and settled

**3. When did the Vikings begin to raid Britain at Lindisfarne?** (1 POINT)

A 793 CE ✓

B 795 CE

C 797 CE

**4. Why did the Vikings invade Britain?** (CHOOSE 3) (3 POINTS)

A Their gods told them to.

B Britain had better land ✓

C Britain had more resources, like gold and silver ✓

D Churches and monasteries were easy to plunder for riches ✓

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2015

WAL When the Vikings raided Britain

**1. Vikings were skilled at...** (CHOOSE 3) (3 POINTS)

A Farming ✓

B Fishing ✓

C writing manuscripts ✓

D Fighting ✓

E Trading ✓

F Writing ✓

**2. Vikings mostly lived in large towns and cities.** (1 POINT)


T True

F False ✓


I think the Vikings attacked Britain in 793 CE because they might need more power. I think they chose to raid Britain because they were strong but they were easy to attack.

**Vikings attacked Britain**

793 CE



One reason might be that it will take lots of time to go to North America then it is to go to Britain



Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

### Danelaw & created peace

6. Which city was attacked by the Danish Vikings?

- 1 POINT  
(CHOOSE 1)  
 A Lindisfarne  
 B London  
 C Belfast

7. Why were the Vikings so feared?

- 3 POINTS  
 A They led daring and fast raids.  
 B They talked their way into the churches and monasteries.  
 C They could be violent and brutal to get what they wanted.  
 D Word spread - monks wrote about their views of the Viking raids.  
 E News reports warned the Anglo-Saxons about the raids.

### Hypothesising

After Alfred the Great defeated King Guthrum, he made him convert to Christianity.

Why do you think he did this? Provide two reasons.

As they turned into Christians they would

have peace and a bigger army for capturing the loot and goods and not having their children die, and by they turned the king was a Christian they would have more power

lots of great ideas today!

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### WAL when the Vikings invaded Britain

1. Vikings were skilled at...

(CHOOSE 3)  
3 POINTS

- A farming ✓  
 B hunting ✓  
 C writing manuscripts ✓  
 D singing ✓  
 E trading ✓  
 F exploring ✓

2. Vikings mostly lived in large towns and cities.

1 POINT

- T True ✓  
 F False ✓

I think the Vikings attacked Britain in 793 CE because of gladding in Scandinavia. So they went to Britain.


Vikings attacked Britain  
793 CE



I think they chose to attack and raid Britain because it's in the middle of the temperate climate zone. One reason might be cause Britain is close and less dangerous plus easier.



Your task:




**Infer**  
To form an opinion or conclusion of something based on the information and evidence you have.  
I can see...this means that...  
This tells me that...  
The evidence strongly suggests that...  
I know this because...  
It could be suggested that...

*It could be suggested that they lived near fjords for fresh air and drink, the writing strongly suggests that they were sailors because their bottom left corner.*

**Listing** **Analysing**

Analyse this image of a Fjord.  
List two ways that Fjords were used by the Vikings.  
Did the Fjords create any challenges to Viking life? List as many as you can think of.



① One way the fjords were used was sailing.  
② Secondly, they used them to use the fjords to sail.  
One challenge created by the fjords was isolation and since it flooded the people had no bearing they had nothing to eat.

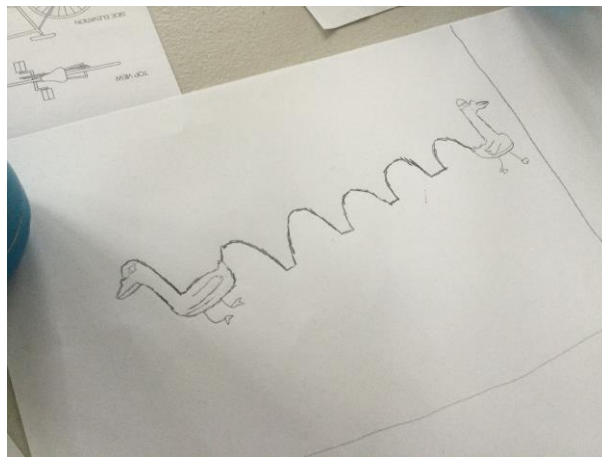
## Year 5

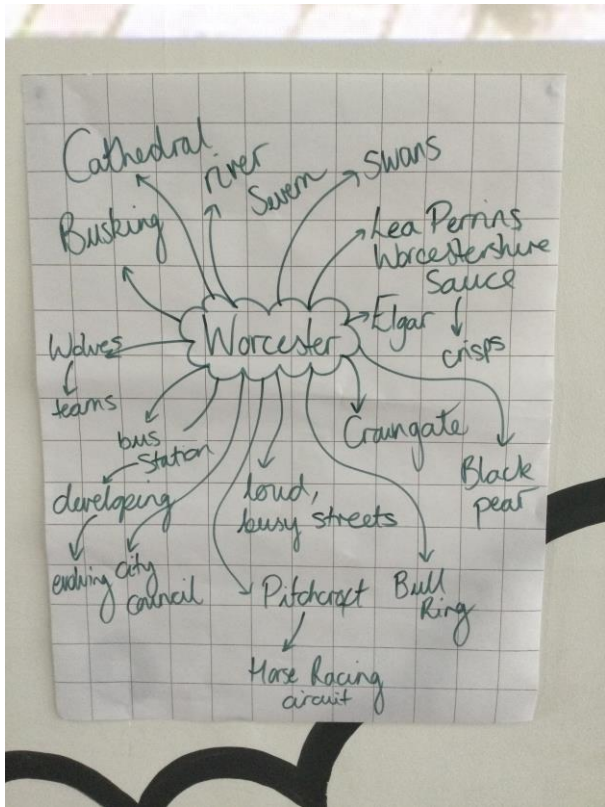
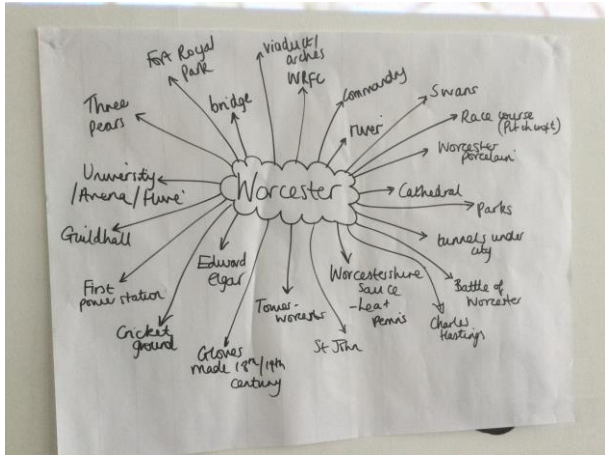
On Friday last week, Year 5 were joined by Bike Bus volunteer and architect Anthony Clerici for a design workshop in aid of designing a bike shelter around the theme of Worcester. The children began by thinking about all of the things that Worcester is famous for and makes the city a wonderful place to live. The children then used these ideas to inspire their bike shelter designs with many of the children choosing to use the theme of swans, three pears, Lea and Perrins Worcester sauce, or cricket at the base for their designs.

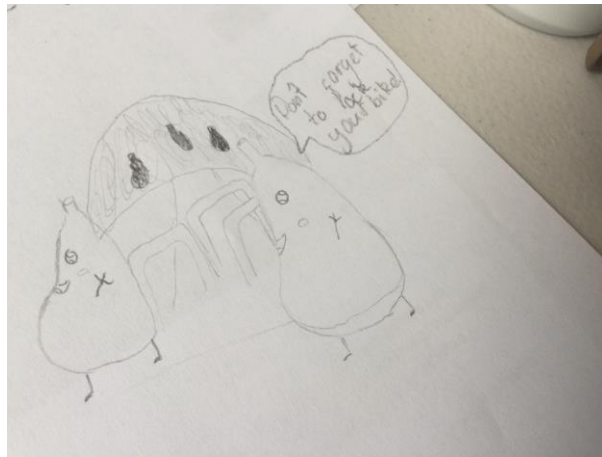
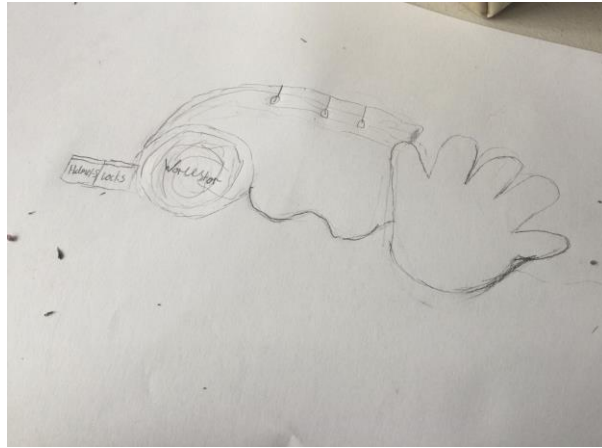
The children also needed to think carefully about the extra that their shelter might need such as how to keep people dry when locking up their bikes, how to keep bikes safe with locks, and some even chose to add lighting to their shelters to make it easier for cyclists to see in the dark when parking their bikes.

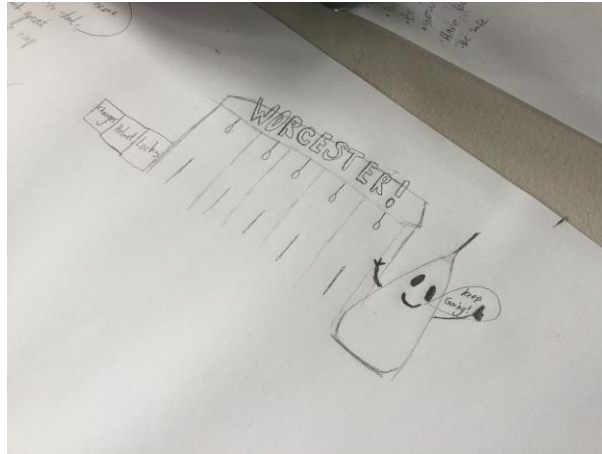
The children showed excellent design and creative skills and used their imagination to create bike shelters that are both appealing to use and tell a story about the city of Worcester. You can see some of their

The completed designs will be judged by different groups within school and there will be three winning designs chosen with prizes to be won! We are excited to see what the winning designs will look like!





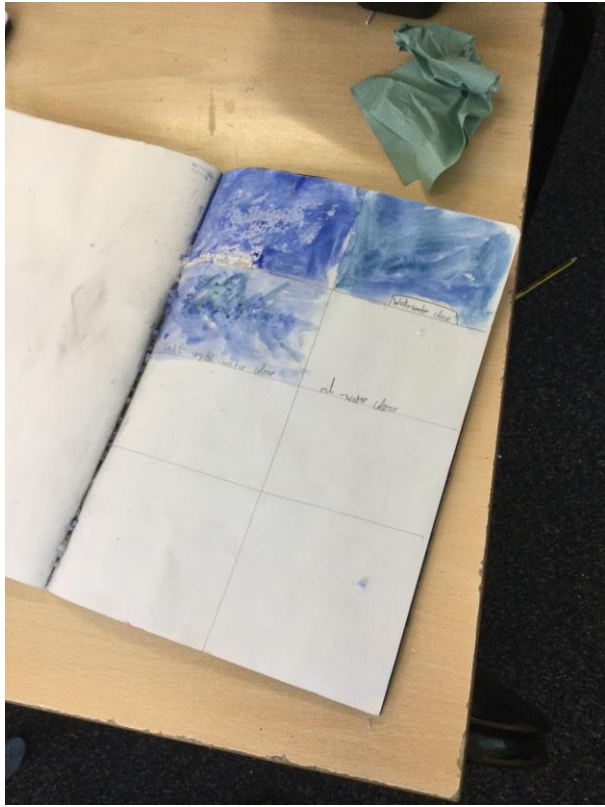




## Year 6

This week the children have been busy working hard the curriculum. In English the children have built up to an adventure story through the Amazon Rainforest. The book *Journey to the River Sea* as support context and interest in producing some fantastic pieces of work. In maths the children have been exploring ratio and its links to other related maths topics including fractions and percentages.

In art this week we have used different substances including oil, wax and salt to create effects with water coloured paint. The artist Terry Gilecki has continued to inspire the children as to how different effects can be created. In geography the children have been researching into the features of a rainforest, creating a presentation answering the question, why are rainforests so important? We have been really impressed this week by the output of work and its quality as you can see below by some of our examples.





Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

As geographers ~~WILL~~ explain why a rainforest is important.

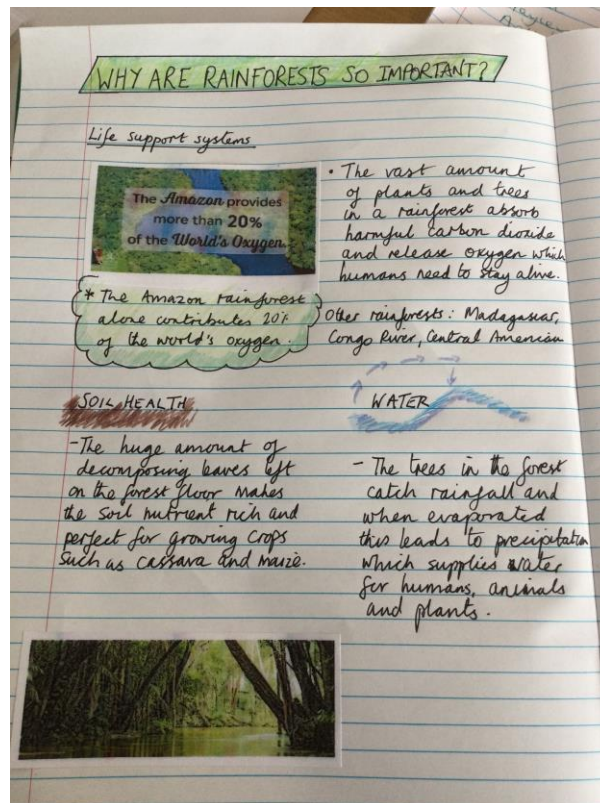
## Why is the Rainforest important?

The Amazon river is 4,000 miles long it holds the most water. It used to be called the river sea there are piranhas, crocodiles, alligators and bull shark.

The Amazon provides 20% of the world oxygen because the trees suck up the water and make oxygen.

The Amazon provides more than 20% of the World's Oxygen.

There is a lot of food in the Rainforest especially veg and fruits because there is a lot of trees and water so they grow faster than normal.



Contact Us



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

**Oldbury Park Primary School**

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 [eyfparents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:eyfparents@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk) (Miss Molloy)

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

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

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

SENDco Enquiries [SENDCO@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:SENDCO@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk) (Miss Miller)