



Oldbury Observer Spring Term Edition 5

Mr Irving's Comment

To finish the week, we were able to celebrate the efforts those children who have managed 25 occasions of home reading supported by an adult – plenty of certificates were awarded to some very proud children in assembly on Friday morning. As part of our recent focus on home reading, members of our Student Council led some insightful ‘pupil voice’ sessions with children across the school. During these sessions the children described the following positive aspects of their home reading experience:-

- Spending special time with parents/grandparents-
- Enjoying being able to get better at reading-
- Enjoying reading somewhere quiet and comfortable

Please continue to support home reading; your efforts are essential in helping our children to become confident readers and in promoting a lifelong love of reading. This week is National Story Telling Week – we hope you can enjoy sharing stories over the weekend, you can find ideas at [National Storytelling Week 2026 Activities, Events And Resources | National Literacy Trust](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 10th February- Year 2 Go Green visit to University

Tuesday 10th February- Year 3 Carbon Monoxide workshop provided by Cadent- home letter to follow

Wednesday 11th February - Y4 Go Green visit to University

Wednesday 11th February - Reception Parent Workshop (junk modelling)

Wednesday 11th February- Year 6 Carbon Monoxide workshop provided by Cadent- home letter to follow

Thursday 12th February - Year 3 assembly to parents (2.45pm in Main Hall)

Friday 13th February - Year 2 assembly to parents (2:45pm in the Small Hall - please enter at office)

School Dates

Tuesday 10th February- Year 2 Go Green visit to University

Thursday 26th February - Year 5 visit to Bishops Wood

Thursday 26th February - Year 4 Times table Event (more to follow)

Monday 23rd February - Year 4 PE at the University of Worcester (during school day)

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day! Children will be invited to dress up as a book character for the day and/or make a potato book character! (More information to follow next week)

Thursday 12th March - Year 4 History Trip (Please see letter)

Term Dates

Academic Year 2025 to 2026		
Term dates Academic Year 2025 to 2026		
Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not Applicable	Monday 1 September 2025
Autumn mid-term	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday 3 November 2025
Christmas	Friday 19 December 2025	Monday 5 January 2026
Spring mid-term	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter	Friday 27 March 2026	Monday 13 April 2026
Summer mid-term	Friday 22 May 2026	Monday 1 June 2026
End of summer term	Monday 20 July 2026	Not Applicable

Academic Year 2026 to 2027

Term Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the academic year 2026 to 2027.

Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not applicable	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Autumn mid-term	Friday 23 October 2026	Monday 2 November 2026
Christmas	Friday 18 December 2026	Monday 4 January 2027
Spring mid-term	Friday 12 February 2027	Monday 22 February 2027
Easter	Thursday 25 March 2027	Monday 12 April 2027
Summer mid-term	Friday 28 May 2027	Monday 7 June 2027
End of summer term	Wednesday 21 July 2027	Not applicable

Attendance Update - **IMPORTANT for ALL FAMILIES**

For the first time this year, our whole school attendance is dropping below what it was at the same time last year. There has undoubtedly been some nasty colds and sickness bugs going around and this accounts for much of the absence.

However, I thought it may be useful to remind you of the guidance for being off school.

If your child has a **cough or sore throat** but is otherwise well in themselves, we would expect them to be in school.

Having a **headache or feeling tired** are things which generally pass quickly when the children get to school and are around their friends. These are NOT reasons we would authorise absence for.

We cannot authorise occasional days off for birthdays or travel days following a trip.

If your child is reluctant to come into school, for whatever reason, we would still expect them to be in and any problems they may be having can be supported in school. e.g. friendship concerns or issues with work.

If your child is absent for any of these reasons, you can expect to be contacted by school in the form of a phone call from office staff, class teacher or from the Attendance Team or by letter. As a Trust, we have a series of letters which are triggered by different levels of absence.

If your child has a number of unauthorised absences, you can expect to be contacted by school and asked to attend a meeting. If there is no improvement, and no obvious good reason for the absences, the situation can escalate and even involve the local authority's legal team.

Finally, a reminder that in almost all cases, holiday requests will be unauthorised (except in exceptional circumstances) and if the absence is 5 days (10 sessions) or longer, this may lead

to the local authority issuing a penalty notice (fine). For clarity, the school does not benefit financially at all when fines are issued.

Hopefully, we will shortly see an improvement in the weather which will help the children to stay fit and healthy and able to attend school.

If you have any questions regarding attendance or attendance processes, please do not hesitate to contact me, via the Upper Key Stage 2 email address which is at the bottom of the page.

Mr Williams

Assistant Vice Principal

[Great Local Family Day Out- See Below- Chinese New Year!](#)



Press Release

Chinese New Year 2026: Award-winning artists announced for Year of the Horse celebrations in Worcester

Organisers of Worcestershire's Chinese New Year event on Sunday 22 February 2026, have announced two award-winning musicians will be performing. All ages are invited to enjoy a vibrant day of Chinese-inspired cultural activities as part of Year of the Horse celebrations. The event takes place across the Royal Porcelain Works site and Museum of Royal Worcester, from 11am to 3pm (with a Quiet Hour 10am to 11am).

Worcestershire Chinese Association has once again teamed up with educational charity Engage with China, Museum of Royal Worcester, Royal Porcelain Works and GoodRoots café to put on the celebrations. Last year, more than 2,000 people attended – the celebrations have become a much-loved fixture in the city's cultural calendar.

The spectacular traditional Lion Dance will take place at 12.30pm on Severn Street. The road will be closed during the performance to safely accommodate spectators. Performed by Worcester's Kui de Tang school, the Lion Dance is a dynamic and colourful tradition enacted to scare away evil spirits and to bring good luck, prosperity and protection for the year ahead.

The Museum of Royal Worcester has introduced a discounted entry fee of £3.50 per person towards the event costs. Visitors can take part in Chinese tea-tasting featuring teas such as Double Happiness, as well as a traditional Chinese tea ceremony. Family-friendly arts and crafts inspired by traditional and contemporary Chinese New Year traditions will be on offer throughout the day, hosted by Mandarin teacher Abbie Lu and students from Christopher Whitehead Language College as well as Worcestershire Litfest. Engage with China will guide visitors in trying their hand at Chinese calligraphy, one of the most popular activities with families.

In the Museum's Paint-Your-Own-Pottery studio, visitors can paint ceramic horses, lions and pandas as a keepsake to symbolise good fortune and renewal. These sessions are chargeable and must be booked in advance. For the first time this year, food will be on offer from Birmingham's Bao Bun sensation, Tiger Bites Pig.

For the full programme and booking information for Museum entry and Paint-Your-Own-Pottery, visit www.museumofroyalworcester.org/whats-on or follow TheMoRW on Facebook and Instagram.

Half Term Fun at St Clements Church

PANCAKE PARTY

Tuesday 17th February 3pm

St Clements Church - Henwick Road

Family fun, pancake races and refreshments

£2.00 per person or £5.00 per family group

Ogden Trust Celebration



1 - Big news — Oldbury Park Primary is still an Ogden Trust member! This partnership will help us deliver more hands-on physics investigations, staff CPD and enrichment for pupils. We can't wait to share exciting events and photos — science learning just got even more fun. Our certificate is proudly on display in the atrium.

Mrs Screen- Science Lead

Ogden Partnership



Enterprise Club Valentine Gift Stall



The directors of Peanut Pandas (the company name for Enterprise Club's social enterprise company) have been busily creating logos, posters and making valentine themed gifts such as candles, chocolates, small bears, key rings and hand-made cards.

Their stall will be open to pupils at **lunchtime** on **Thursday 12th** and **Friday 13th** February. Gifts will cost between 50p and £2 (coins would be appreciated, purchases will be restricted to a maximum of three items per child).

Peanut Pandas hope to run an Easter themed sale later in next half term with the profits from both going to their chosen charity of Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Reception

Reception had a great visit to St. John's Library on Friday! We put on our wellies, put up our hoods and braved the soggy weather.

On our walk, we looked out for the different shops, buildings and other landmarks that we had seen on the map of our local area. We spotted shops, churches, a doctor's surgery and the railway crossing. Monarch were lucky enough to see a train go past. Carriage class didn't, but we did see a grand total of 8 buses!

When we arrived at the Library, we met Sam and Caroline, the Librarians. They talked to us about the type of books that are available at the library and some of the services and events that they offer. Did you know that the library is free to visit and that you can borrow up to 12 books on a library card? They also have Lego club on a Saturday morning that sounds like lots of fun! We had time to explore the children's library and share a book or two with our friends before listening to Sam and Caroline read us a story.

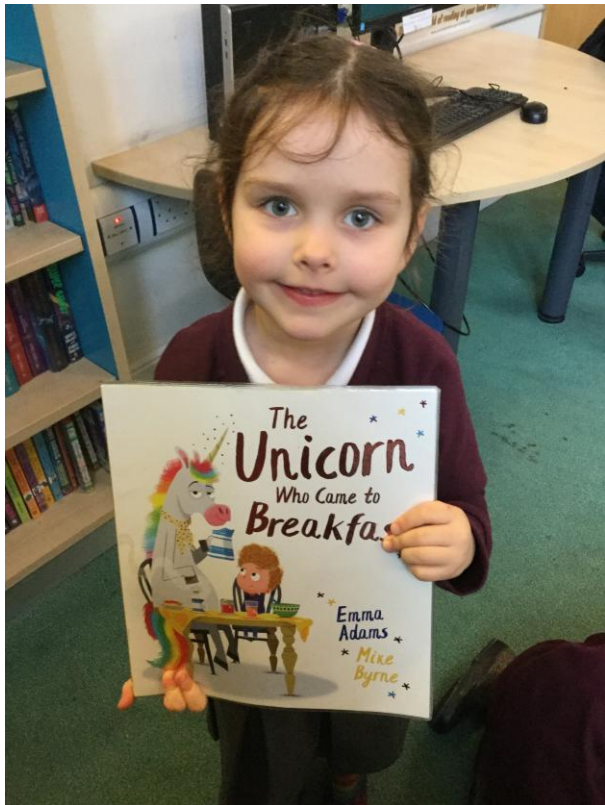
We are really proud of both classes for walking sensibly and safely to the Library and for behaving respectfully whilst we were there. Thank you to St. John's Library for having us!















Year 1

Over the last few weeks the children have loved the mud at forest school! We have taken some lovely photos of the children and we wanted to share them with you this week.

Please remember to send extra layers while the weather is colder, especially gloves. You may also want to send spare socks to get changed into after forest school if they do get muddy and possibly other clothes too.

Thank you!



























Year 2

NEWS- There is no Forest School for Emerald on Monday 9th Feb due to the rain fall making the area very muddy and slippy - it needs a rest until after half term (no classes will be accessing the area), therefore Emerald will attend : Monday 23rd Feb

Sapphire- Monday 2nd March

Emerald- Monday 9th March

Sapphire- Monday 16th March

Emerald- Monday 23rd March

A great time was had by both classes in Forest School- we have been having some interesting exploring around our site- we have great fun tipping the logs and finding the creepy crawlies underneath, there have been plenty of worms, spiders, woodlice and centipedes. Some of us have learnt to do back flips on the handle swings- well done. We have some great bakers in our midst and have been brought some delicious chocolate cakes and buns.

















Year 3

Reminder: Parent Assembly Thursday 12th February 2.45pm. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

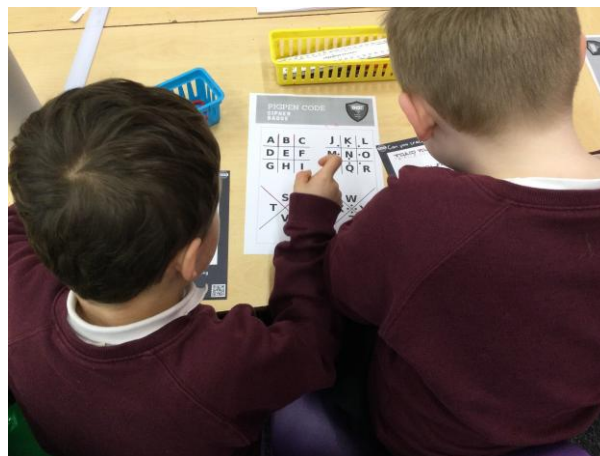
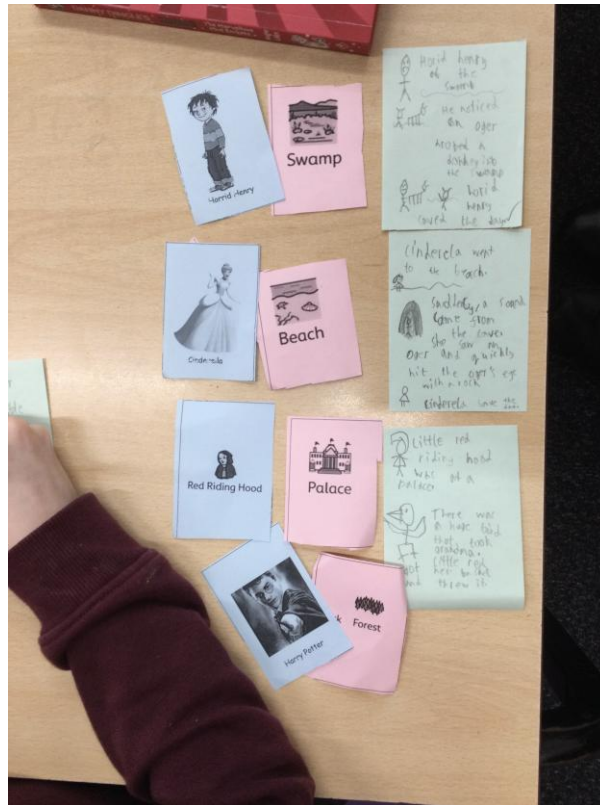
Arrowsmith parents: we will have no forest school next week but will still be doing Outdoor Adventurous Activities, so please ensure your child is wearing suitable outdoor clothes, with spare wellies and coat, as normal, please.

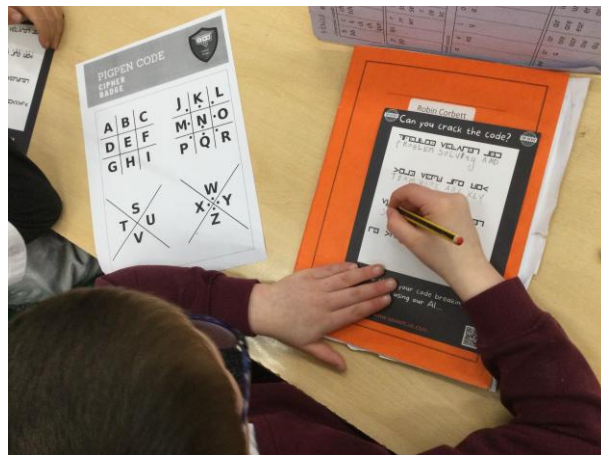
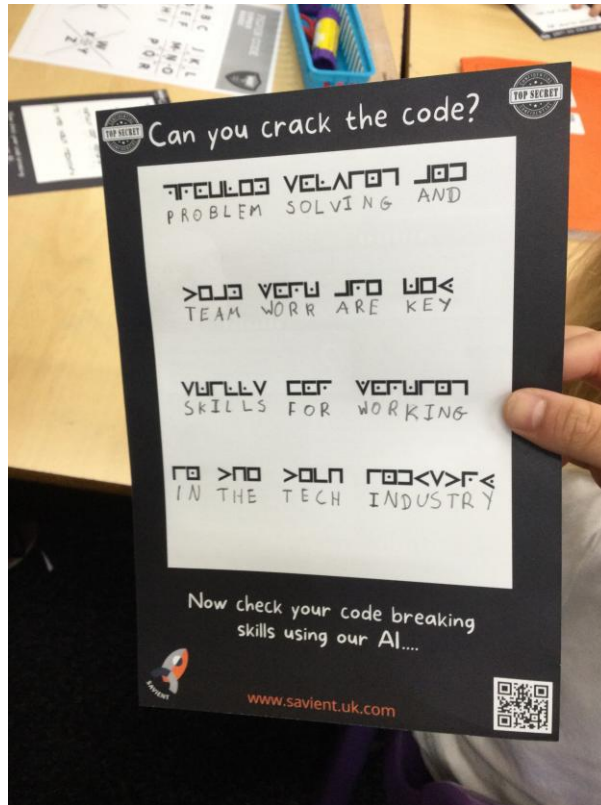
A major highlight of the week was the visit to the mosque, which offered pupils a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of Islam through first-hand experience. During the visit, pupils explored the prayer rooms, observing their layout and learning about how they are used for daily prayers. They also visited the wudu area, where the Imam explained the importance of ritual washing before prayer and what each step symbolises. The children were highly engaged throughout the visit and demonstrated curiosity and respect by asking thoughtful questions to the Imam, who took time to explain key beliefs, practices, and daily life within the mosque.

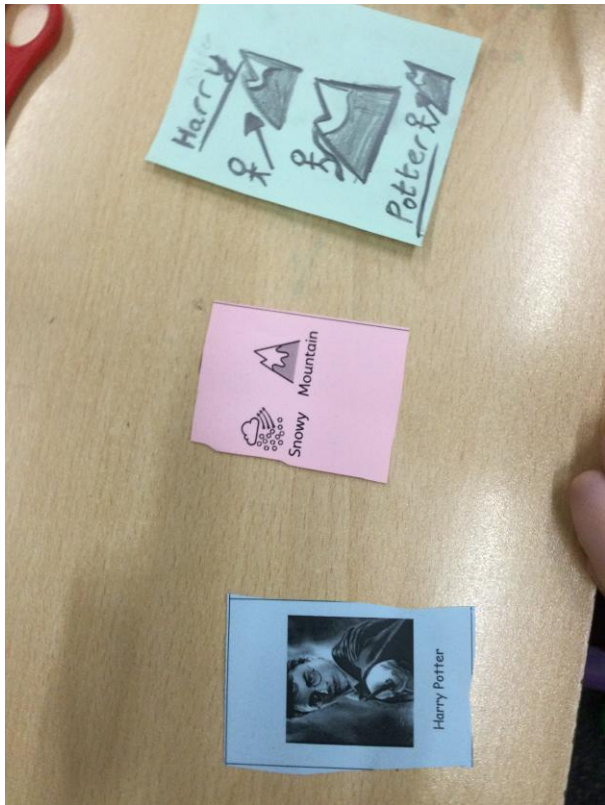
In English, the children worked more on *The Wild Robot*. Lessons included practical story writing (who, what, where), plotting a chapter build-up to a problem, summarising plots, creating story maps, writing speech, and producing a first draft. It was also National Storytelling Week, and we engaged in lots of storytelling and story writing!

Maths focused on developing an understanding of non-unit fractions, including comparing, ordering, and recognising numerators. We have also been practising our 3x tables so that we can aim towards that instant recall that helps with fluency.




A significant enrichment moment was the STEM assembly and employee encounter. This supported pupils' understanding of real-world STEM links and careers. The children were very engaged and it appears we have lots of budding technicians amongst our year group!

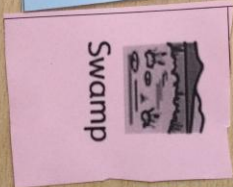









 worked in the middle of term

 got a letter under the door

 called the robot and he



Horrid Henry
 at the swamp
 He noticed an oger
 who had a rock in his hand
 the swamp
 Horrid Henry
 saved the day









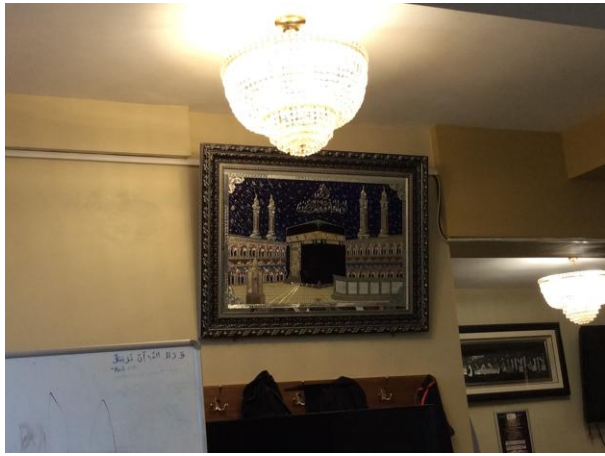














































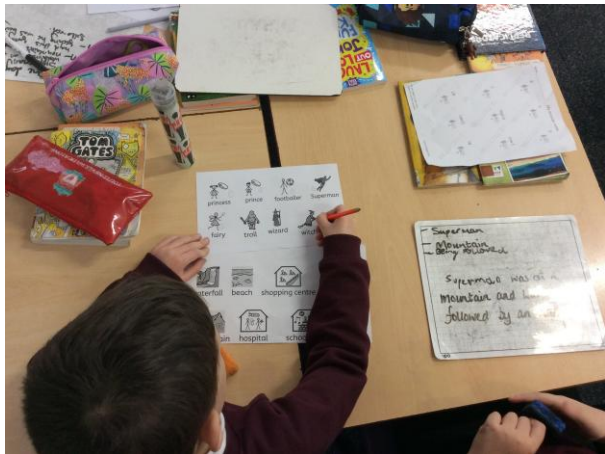
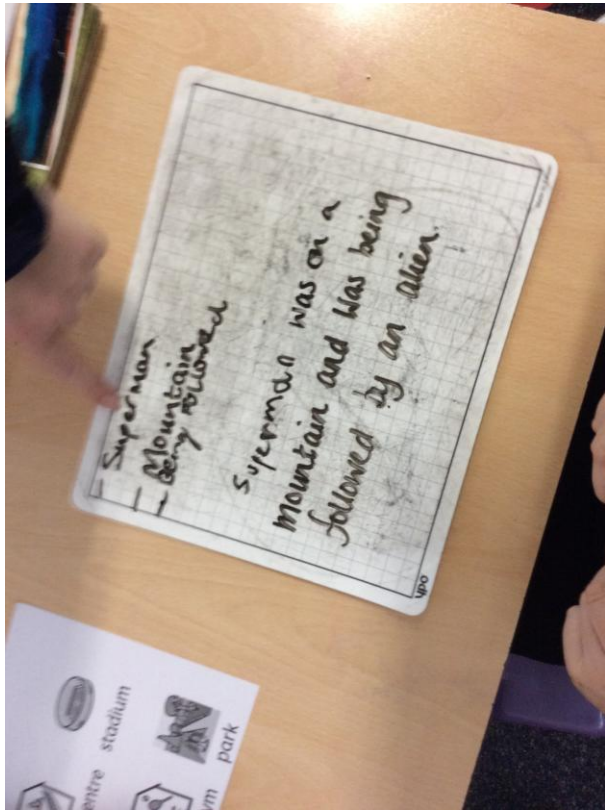


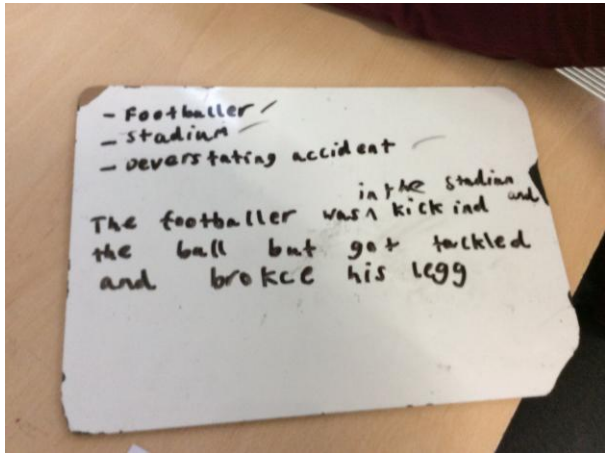


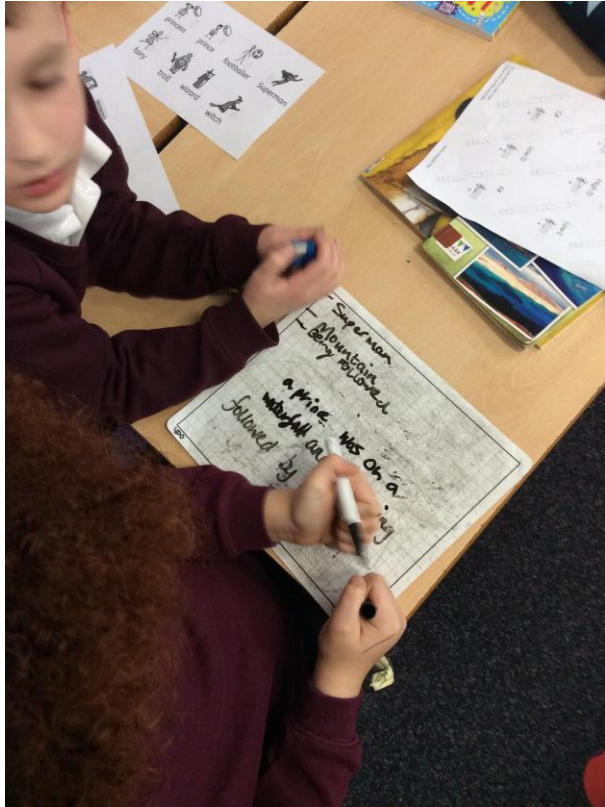


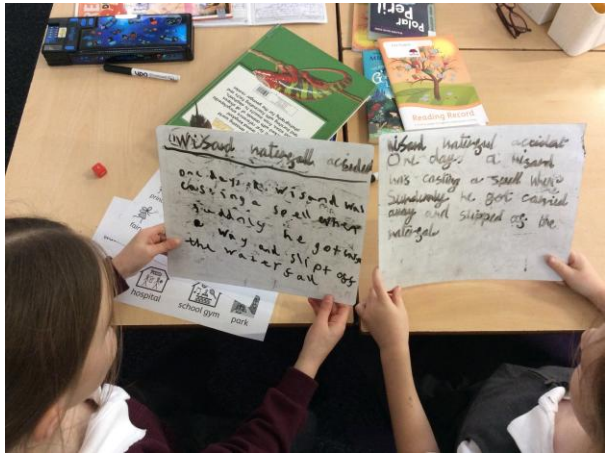


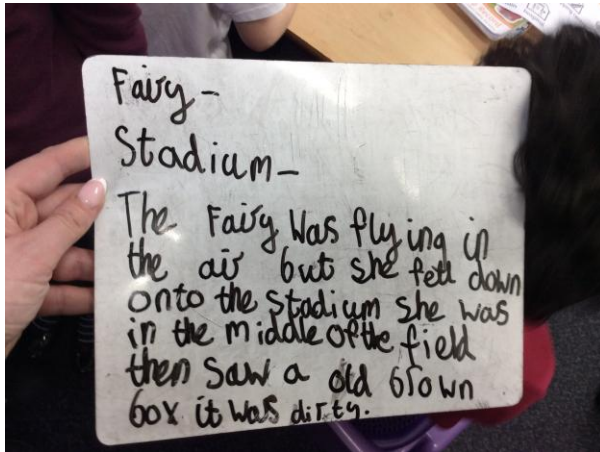
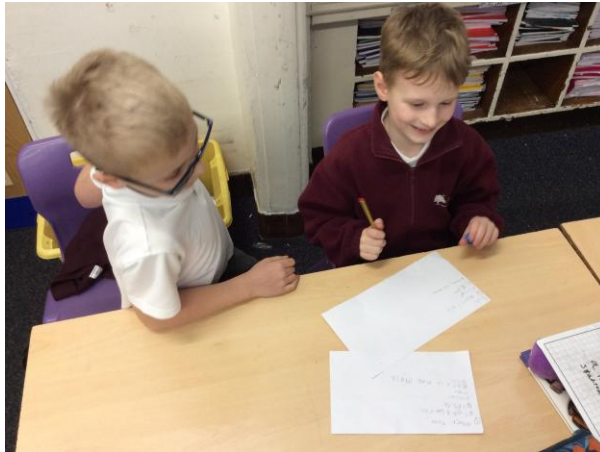














one day, a prince was visiting
the beach when he sees a mystery
box. when he opens it he finds
a crown covered with gold, sin
dirt.



Year 4

Employee Encounter – STEM Challenge

This week, we took part in the Primary STEM Challenge, a competition we have taken part in at Oldbury Park for many years. This is run by Careers Worcester – creating Worcestershire's future workforce, run by Worcester County Council.

We began our day by talking about STEM and what jobs in this sector might look like.

This year, the client needing our help was West Midlands Safari Park. At first we wondered how Engineers played a part in the running of the Safari Park but we soon found out they are imperative in designing parts of the safari park. Types of engineers involved in the running of the safari park are Genetic, Robotic, mechanical and design. This showed us so many ways in which engineering plays a part.

Our challenge this year is to design, build and test a model for the fun park side of West Midlands Safari Park. We looked at the types of fun rides there now and noticed that all rides are themed around an animal or their habitats.

Our ride needed a name, a moving part, a link to animals and have room for at least 8 passengers.

The winners of the competition were judged on: Model, Teamwork, Communication when presenting and Problem Solving.

Congratulations to Felicity and Ophelia who came up with a ride experience to allow visitors to be at the same level as the giraffes. Our winners will take part in a wider competition later on in the year.

Without engineers, there are so many parts of our lives that would be more challenging – Thursday's competition was an excellent opportunity to encourage children to take an interest in engineering jobs.

Hopefully you will enjoy looking at the photos as much as we had making them!

PE:

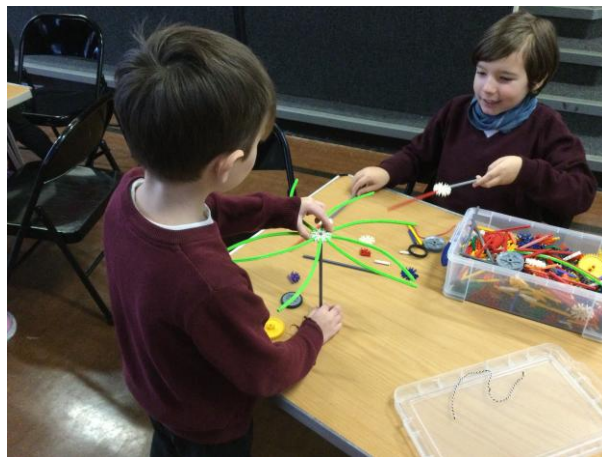
On the following dates, we will be going to the University for our PE sessions. The children should come into school in their PE kit as normal. They will need a bottle of water.

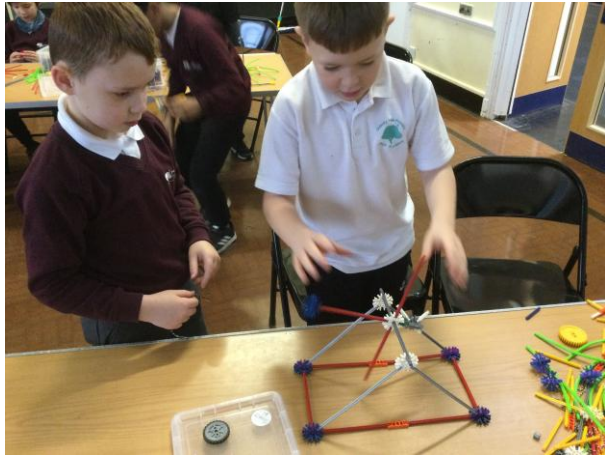
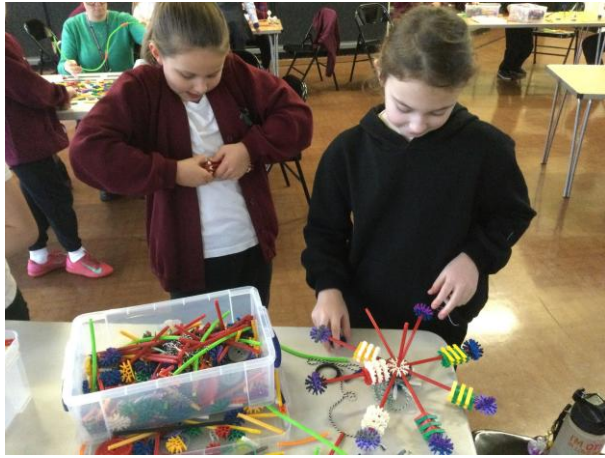
Monday 23rd February

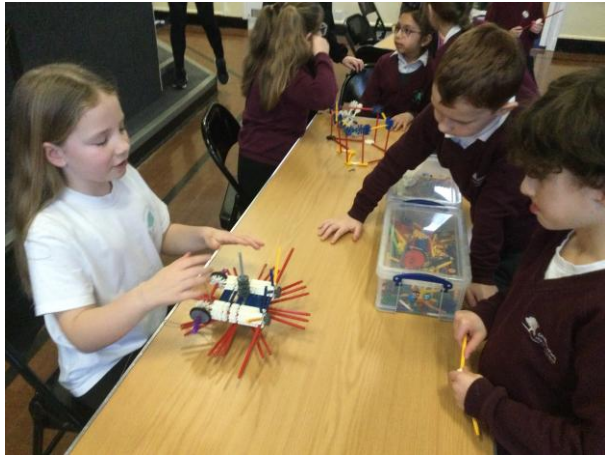
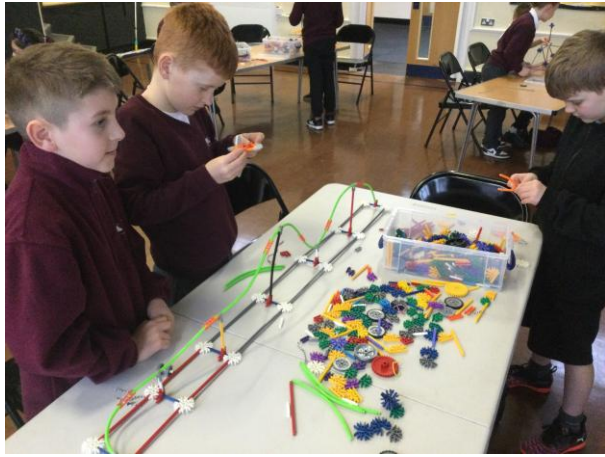
Monday 2nd March

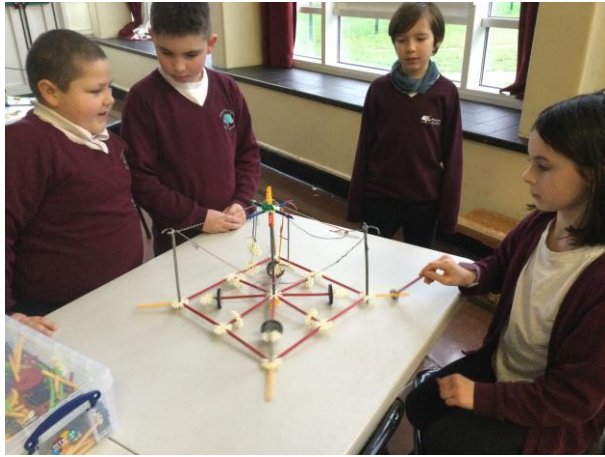
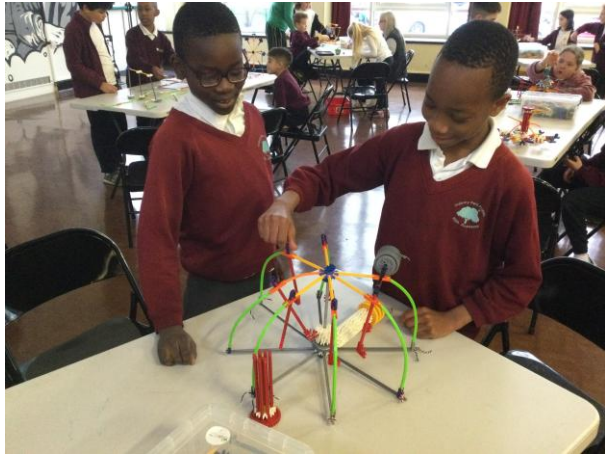
Monday 9th March

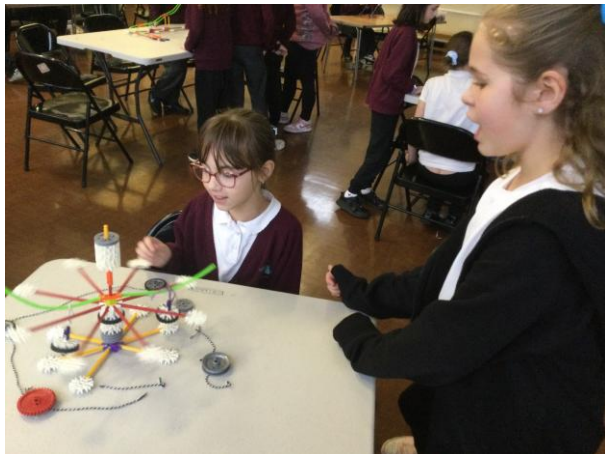
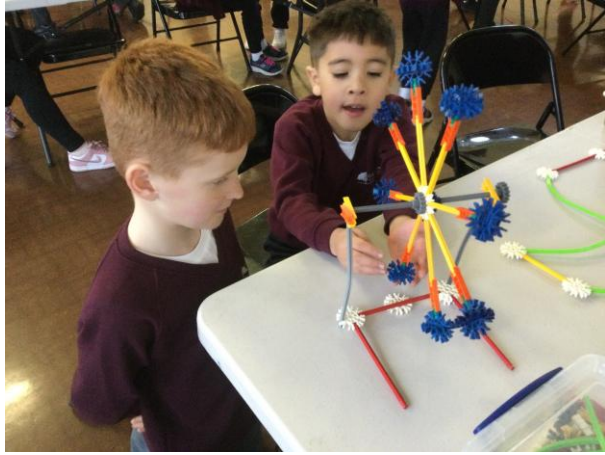
Monday 16th March

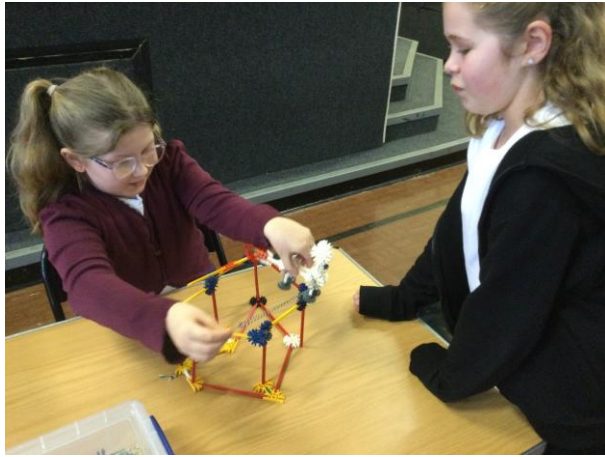
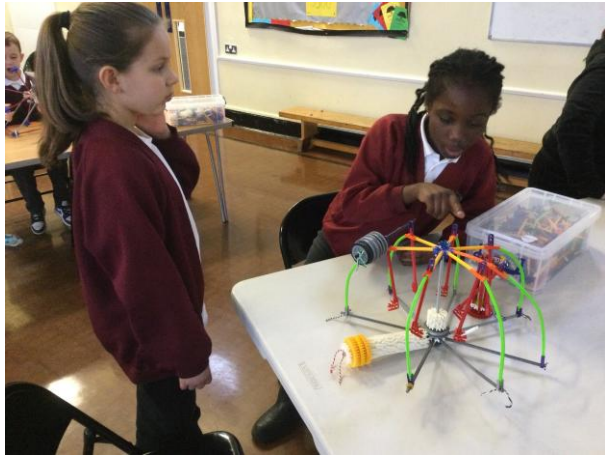


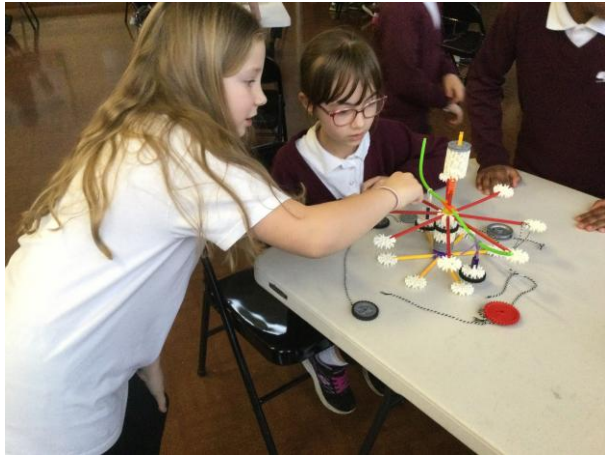
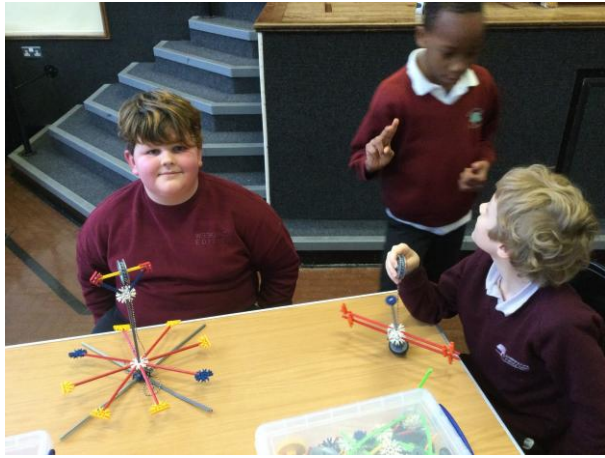


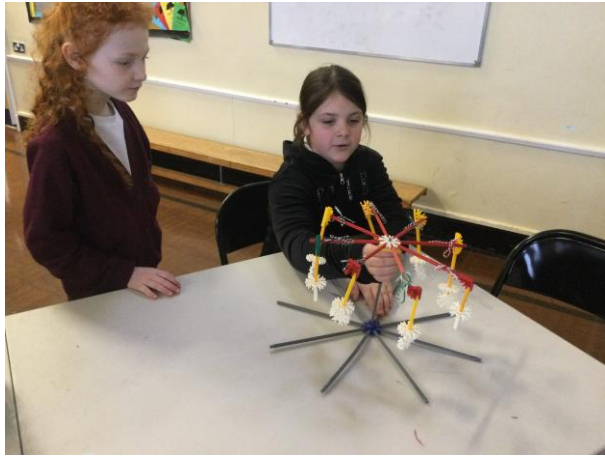
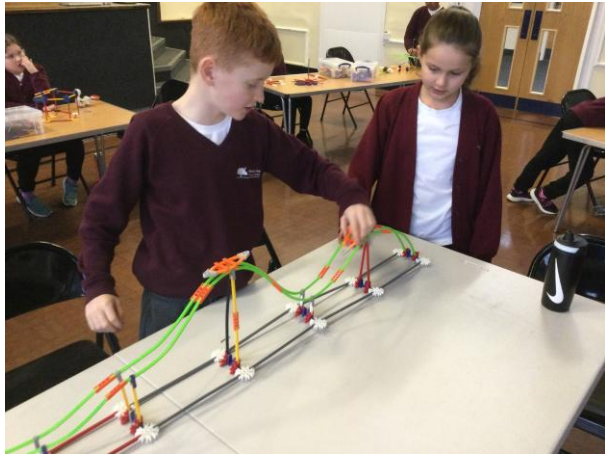


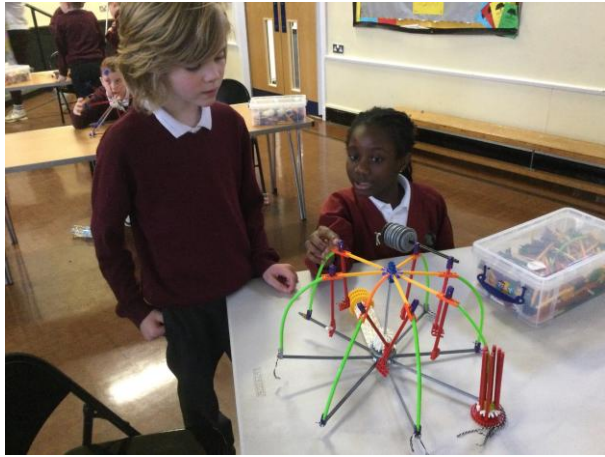
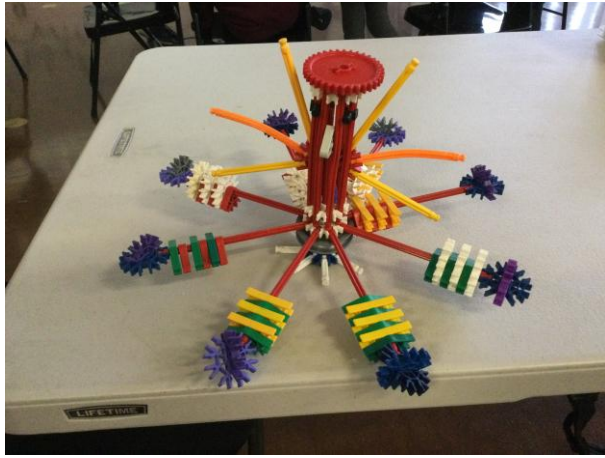
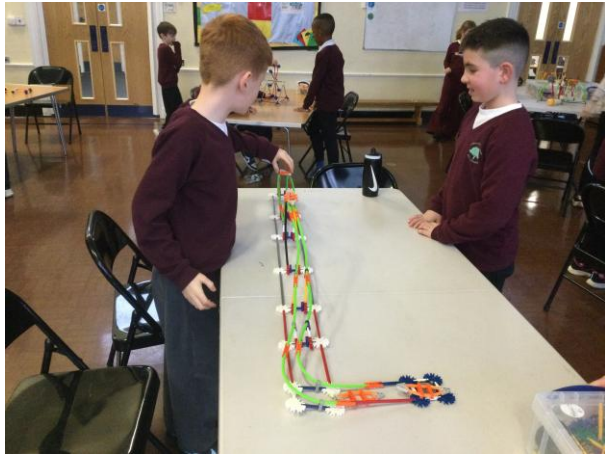


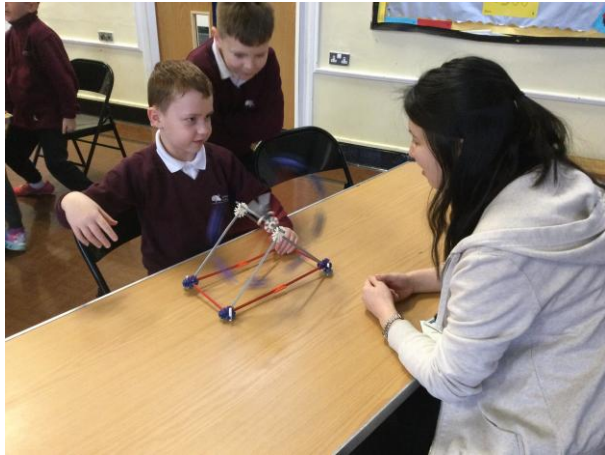


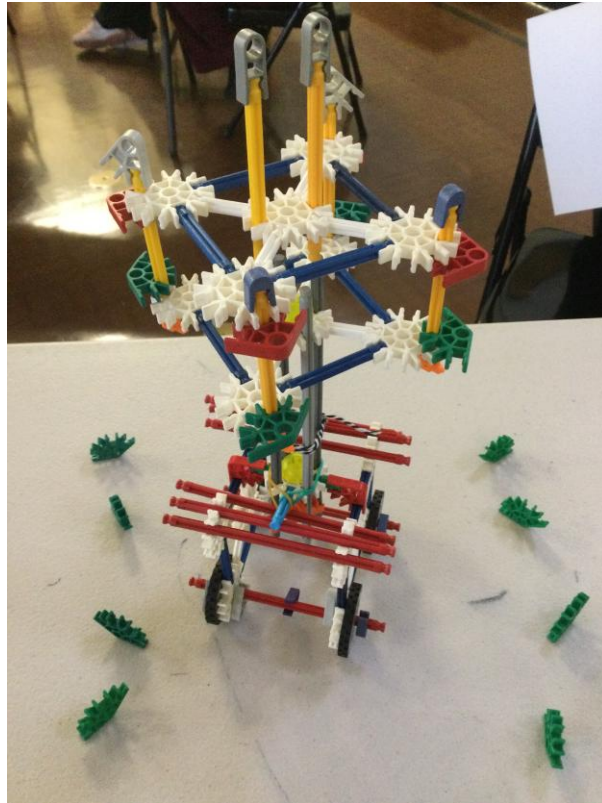












Year 5

We've had a fantastic Science Afternoon this week, full of curiosity and hands-on learning! The children explored forces through investigation, testing ideas and discussing how pushes and pulls affect the world around us. They also worked brilliantly as young scientists, researching their own scientific questions and sharing what they discovered with confidence. A real highlight was investigating how a plasma ball works. The children were fascinated to see the electricity follow their fingertips and loved learning the science behind what they could see. It was a brilliant afternoon of excitement, enquiry and teamwork, and we're so proud of their enthusiasm and thoughtful questioning!





Year 6

Year 6 at Oldbury Park Primary have had a truly inspirational week! We were lucky enough to welcome the brilliant Giovanni Esposito, better known as 'Spoz', for a day of dynamic poetry workshops. The children absolutely loved crafting their own RAP-based pieces, showcasing some incredible lyrical talent. Meanwhile, in Maths, we've been diving deep into the world of 2D shapes, exploring their characteristics and building our knowledge. And in English, our young authors have been busy crafting fractured tales of Little Red Riding Hood, putting their own imaginative twists on this classic story. It's been a really good week all round, filled with creativity and learning. We're looking forward to seeing what the last week brings.







MAB

We have had a lovely week. Our Year 4s attended a STEM workshop with the rest of Year 4, where the children designed and built their own theme park ride for WMSP and loved taking on the role of engineers.

As part of National Storytelling Week, we watched a special storytelling session, explored how stories can be brought to life through words, rhythm, and imagination, and created our own storyboards.

We finished the week with a lovely Friday enjoying a nature walk around the school grounds, visiting the school pond and exploring the environment while looking for signs of spring.

We ended the day with a celebration to say goodbye to Mrs L, who has made such a positive impact on the children and staff and will be greatly missed. We would like to say a special thank you to her and wish her the very best of luck in her exciting new venture.





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.crst.org.uk (Miss Molloy)

Children in Years 1 & 2 KS1parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mrs Marks)

Children in Years 3 & 4 LKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Miss Moule)

Children in Years 5 & 6 UKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mr Williams)

SENDco Enquiries office@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (FAO: Miss Miller)