



All Saints Church School

Ladies Walk, Montacute, Somerset, TA15 6XG

Tel: 01935 826626 Fax: 01935 825788

e-mail: office@allsaints.bwmat.org

www.allsaintsprimaryschoolmontacute.com

Head Teacher: Mrs S Bowditch BA QTS

Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Autumn term has begun with gusto! Classes are abuzz with learning and the sound of singing from the school hall has been such a treat to hear. The children and staff have settled back into their routines quickly. It has been super to see children working hard and eager to learn and have fun.

We began the term by talking about how we can try to be the best versions of ourselves throughout our school day. During our collective worships we have been thinking about how our school values can help us to show respect, tolerance and compassion towards each other, helping to support the smooth running of our time in school.

Yesterday we had a visit from Rachel Morgan, the Assistant Director of Education from the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust. Rachel was very impressed by the school ethos and could feel that this was firmly embedded. Our children were a credit to us and, as always, were polite and welcoming as well as being fully engaged in their learning. We were all very proud!

School photographs

Tempest Photography will be visiting school on Wednesday 6th October to take individual photographs as well as 'in school' siblings. Please ensure children have their school jumpers or cardigans with them on this day.

DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service checks)

If you would like to support our children by hearing readers or perhaps are available to support a class when going on a trip, please contact the school office for further details in order to obtain a DBS.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Bowditch

ACORN CLASS

Acorn class has been very busy learning new routines and settling into being full-time at school. We have enjoyed using our new role-play area with 'real' objects such as our metal teapot and china cups and saucers. The children have shown how careful and respectful they can be with these fragile objects, whilst creating fantastic stories with one another.



We have also enjoyed making and tasting our very own tea and toast after learning about 'The tiger who came to tea'. The children developed their fine motor skills as well as their independence through using knives (with supervision!) to spread their own butter and cut their toast in half.



More recently, we have been learning about 2D shapes in our maths. We looked at several pieces of artwork painted by the artist Kandinsky and have used various media and materials to create our own shape art.



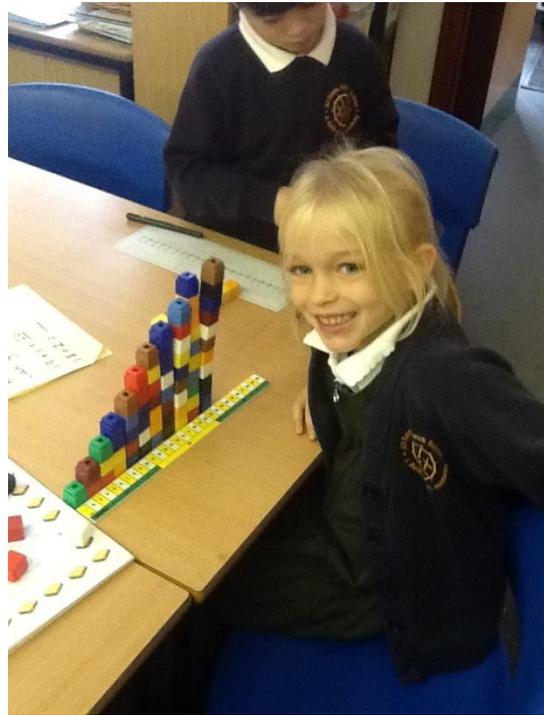
CLASS 1

Class 1 have settled back into school really well and they have worked hard to make the tricky transition from Acorns to Year 1.

In R.E we have been studying the Creation story, and we took the opportunity to use our wonderful outdoor area to gather natural resources so that we could create something that God created when he created the world we live in.



In Maths we have also been learning about ordinal numbers and the positions of numbers on a number line. Class 1 enjoy using a range of maths manipulatives to help with their learning.



CLASS 2

We have had a very busy few weeks in Class 2. Our topic for this term is called "Through the keyhole" and we are starting by looking in depth at life cycles. We have five painted lady caterpillars in our room. We have watched as they have eaten and grown over the last week. Hopefully in the next few days they will begin to form a chrysalis in which to complete their metamorphosis into butterflies. We are watching with awe and wonder at this amazing transformation.

We have had several STEAM challenges. The first was to create a moving symmetrical butterfly using any resources in the classroom.



In our DT work we learnt a variety of ways to join materials together. We discovered that we can use a range of items such as treasury tags, split pins, wool, paper clips and staples to join things. Our next STEAM challenge was to make a moving caterpillar which moves in at least five different places. There was an amazing range of caterpillars created and we were all very proud with our caterpillars.



We have spent time tasting a range of fruit juices in order to design and then make our own fruit smoothies. There were lots of brave children who tasted things they had never tried before. We are looking forward to next week when we make the real things!

Continuing to think about healthy foods and what is needed for life, we made a fruit salad. Whilst we made it, we were thinking about the bossy verbs which told us how to do all the tasks such as 'cut' 'slice' 'chop' and 'eat'. We wrote and sequenced instructions and then in our ICT session we learnt how to move images around a document as well as being able to add text to the document. Part of Edwin's document is below.



We peeled the bananas then we sliced it in thin pieces and then we put it in the bowl.

For the pears we cut the stork off then we cut the pears in half then we got the segments

but then we sliced the pear a



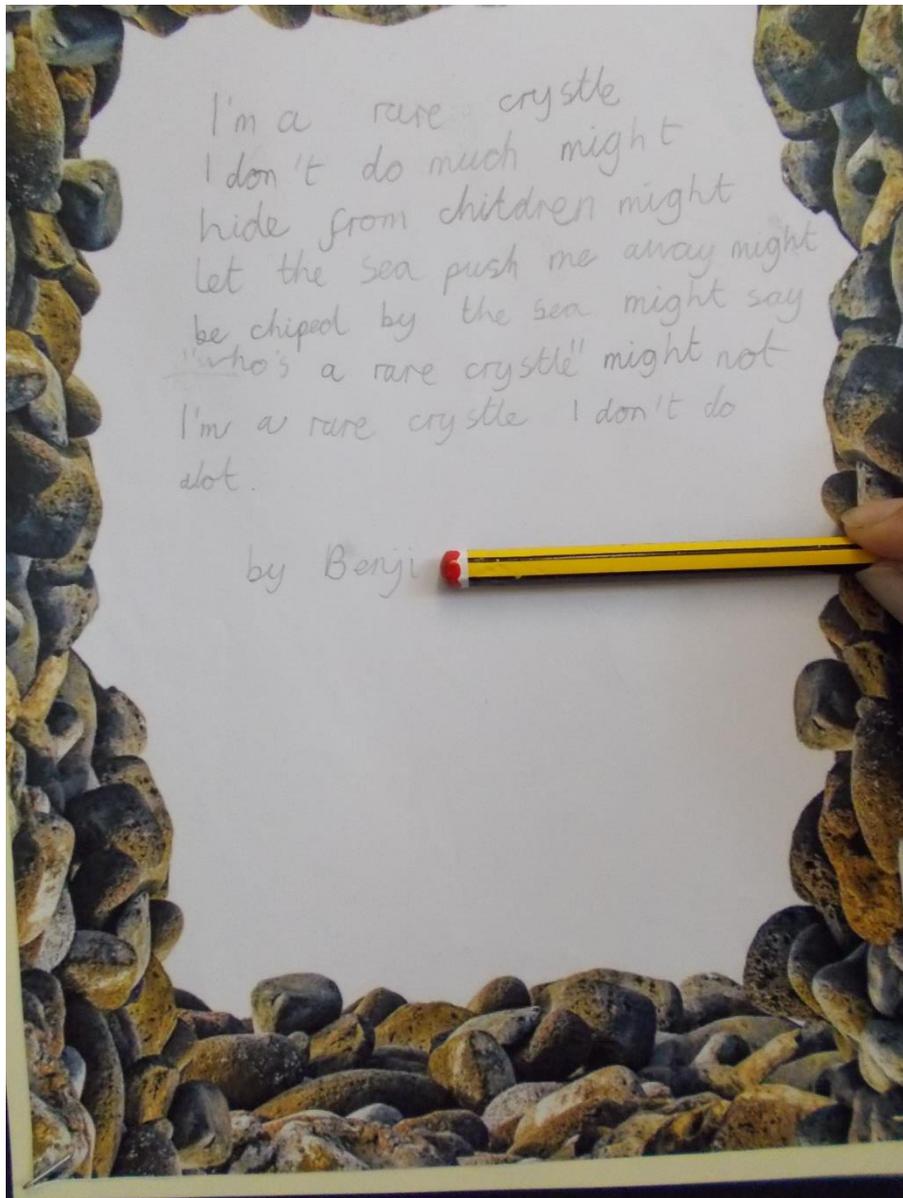
We are looking forward to our school trip to Magdalen Farm later this week when we will be learning more about food and harvest time.

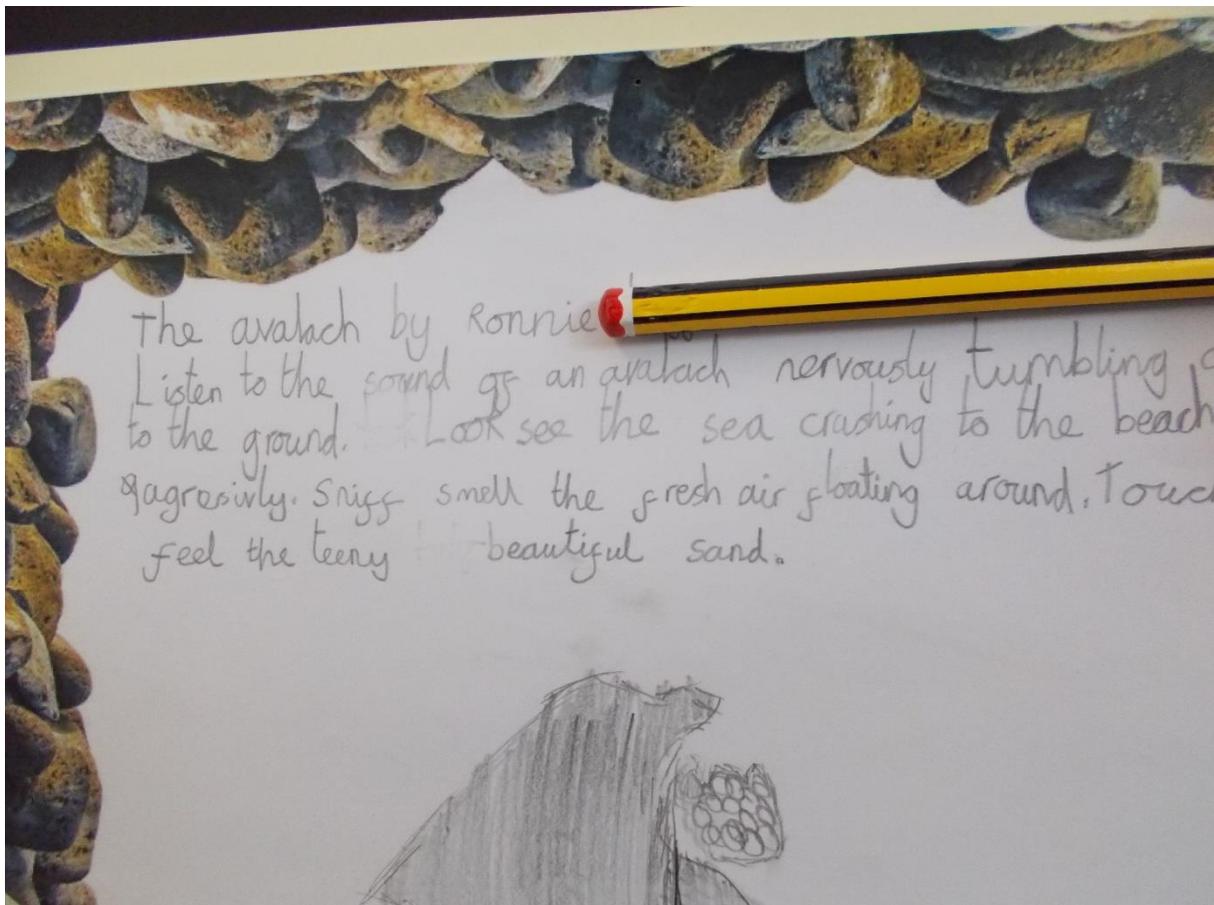
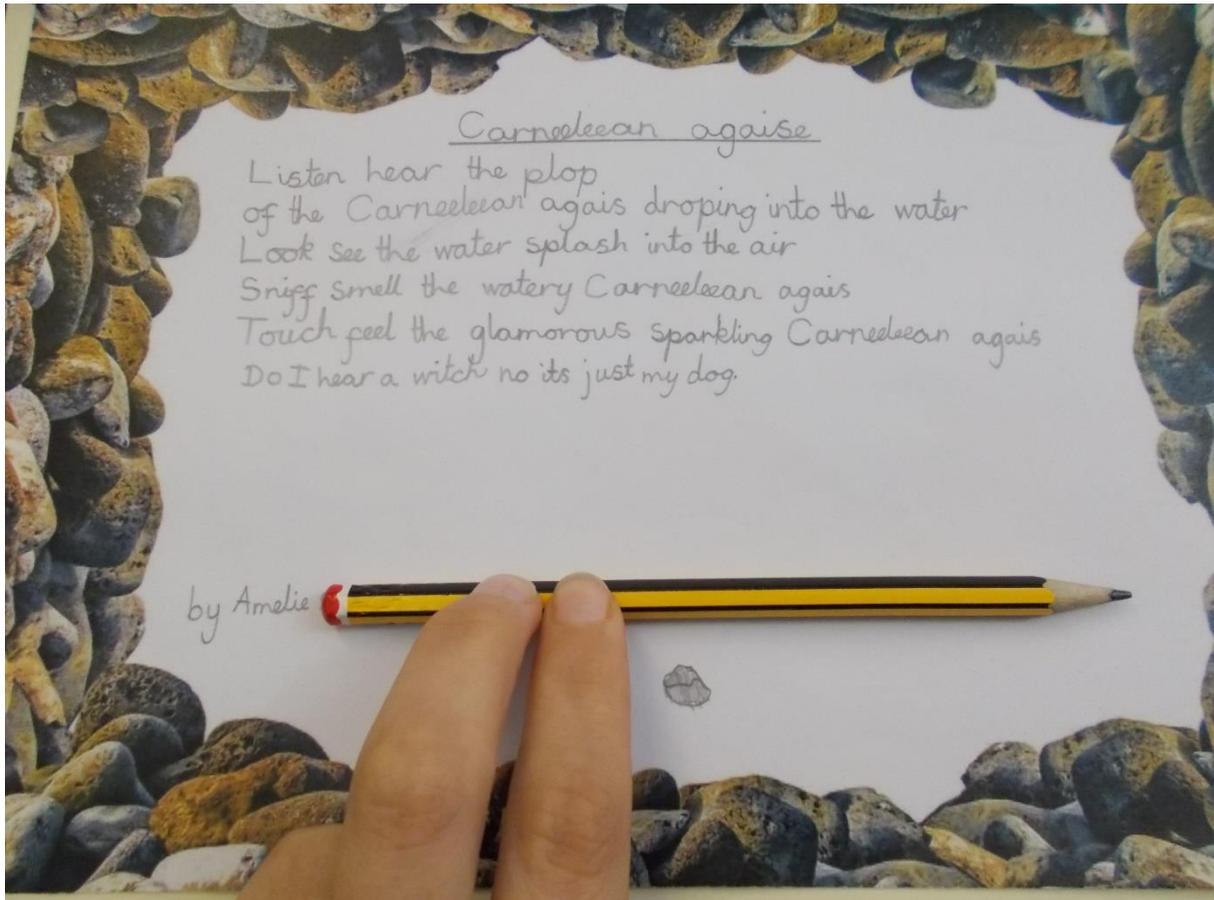
CLASS 3

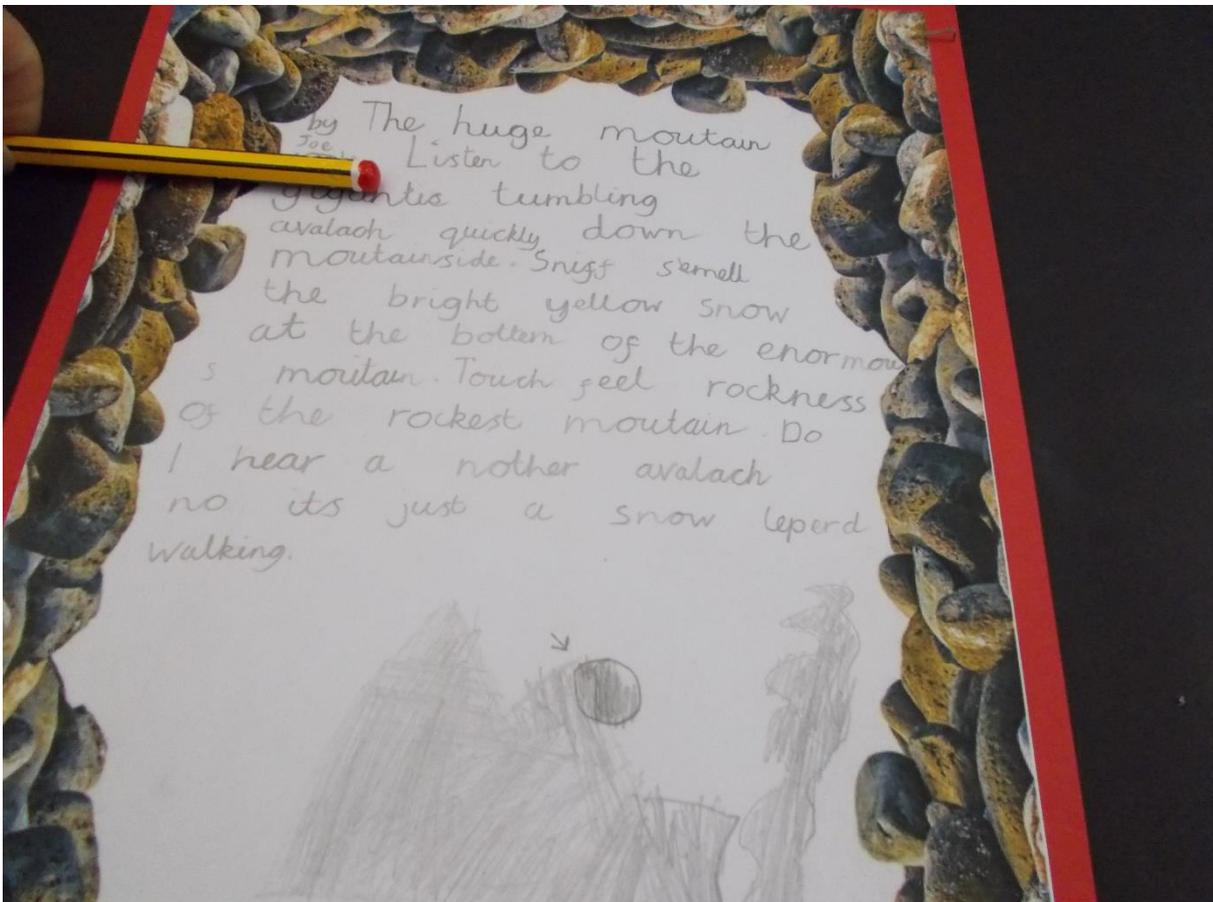
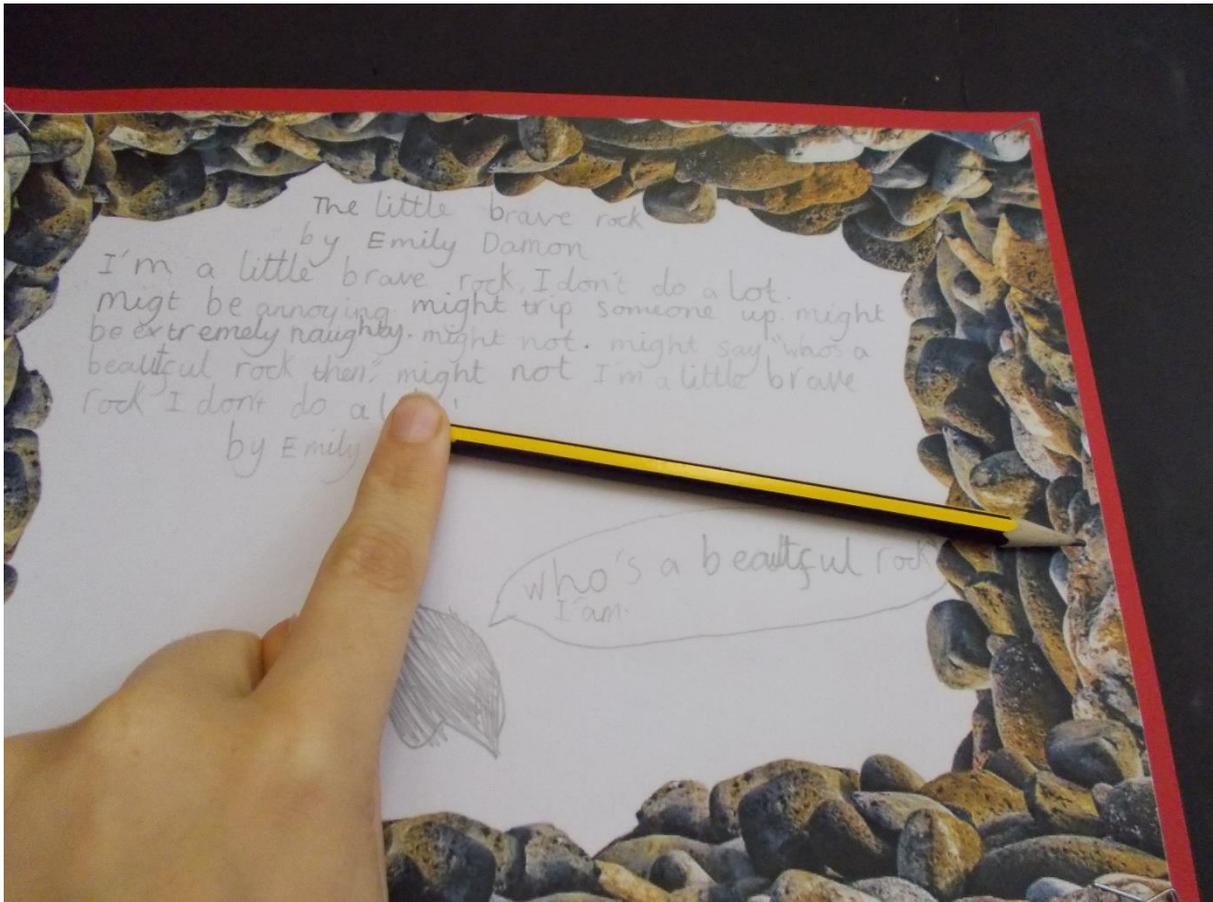
Class 3 have made a fantastic start to life in KS2. Children's attitude has been brilliant, lots of enthusiasm for subjects and children who are working to show their best every day.

In science we have been learning to group rocks by their properties, particularly looking at igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. Later this week we will be carrying out a scientific experiment to prove or disprove a hypothesis.

We have also been learning a story about a pebble and are moving on to non-fiction writing now (biographies). In handwriting sessions, we have been using poetry as a hook for our daily practise. Children have applied our English learning to write some fantastic poetry using interesting adjectives, verbs, and adverbs. We hope you enjoy reading Class 3's poetry as much as we enjoyed writing it!







CLASS 4

Class 4 have had a busy and enjoyable start to the new academic year. We have enjoyed getting to know our new classroom, welcoming new members and being able to join together with other classes a little more at break time and collective worship.

We have been developing our reflection area in our classroom and have been learning more about the Jewish faith, including making our own Mezuzah to take home and creating our own prayer to keep by the door in our classroom. Egbert Owl has been helping us along the way and the children have been asking him some very thoughtful questions.



In English, we have been reading The Green Book by Jill Paton-Walsh. It is a fantastic, imaginative story about leaving planet Earth in search of a new planet to inhabit. We have been using hot seating and drama activities to enhance our experience of the book and think deeply about how it would feel to have to leave planet Earth. We have been working on improving our sentence structure and will soon be writing our own stories.



In Art, we have been studying the work of Paul Cezanne, exploring light and shade in still life representations of fruit, vegetables and flowers. The children have been able to create some beautiful pieces, which will be displayed on our Autumn display board in the hall.



We have also begun to study the work of Italian artist Guiseppe Arcimboldo, who created comical faces using fruit, vegetables and flowers. We will be exploring his style using different techniques.

Science and DT

We have started finding out how food is digested and what an important and complex organ the digestive system is. We will be preparing and cooking some tasty dishes and learning about sustainable food and a healthy diet.

CLASS 5

I am really pleased with how well Class 5 have settled into the new year and they are definitely ready for the challenges of upper key stage 2.

This term, the children have been blasted off into space! We started the topic by learning some of the skills an astronaut would need by being part of Astronaut Training School! The children carried out experiments on space soil, practiced their reaction times using coloured cones, controlled a Mars explorer and built Lego models using thick gloves. Mrs Higgins also brought in some dehydrated food for the children to try, which they loved!



In science, they used data handling to help us create a database to help classify the different planets in the solar system. They also used information about the size and distance of the planets to make their own presentation or model to demonstrate this.

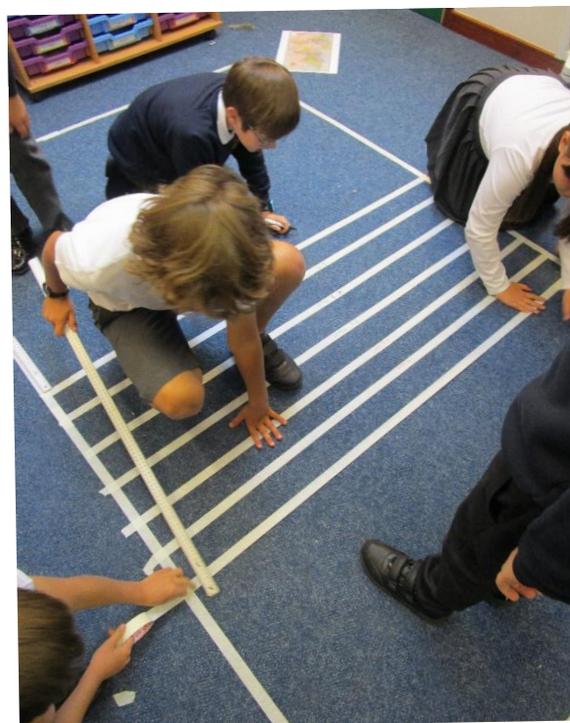


The children have been taking part in a 'Reading for Pleasure' session each week and are really enjoying being able to go into the library and choose a book. It has been so lovely to see them sprawled out in the library sharing a book with a friend, sharing a reading book or researching our new topic.



In hockey, they have been learning how to dribble a ball around cones and intercept another pupil. I am very impressed how well they are doing and am looking forward to seeing how they use these skills in a game situation.

During Geography with Mrs Ross, the children have been learning about time zones and using masking tape and rulers to create them on the floor.



CLASS 6

Class 6 have had a busy start to the new year as they adapt to their new classroom and the roles and responsibilities of being the eldest in the school. In the first week, every child wrote and presented a speech as to why they should be house captain and as a result we have been able to successfully appoint a boy and a girl for each team. Some children have also applied to be librarians and school councillors. The children have also been very excited to be allocated buddies in Acorn class and they can't wait to support and nurture them over the year.

Our first topic in Year 6 is 'Run for Shelter!' which focusses on WW2. The children have considered the question: If the First World War was so horrific, why did Britain go to war again just 20 years later? We have discussed Neville Chamberlain's policy of appeasement towards Germany and some of the steps which led to WW2. The children loved debating as if they were in The House of Commons as to whether we should go to war and backed their opinions up with some good justifications!

The children are now learning about the evacuation of children from the cities and have been reading short extracts from related texts in guided reading. They even took part in some role-play to help them write as an evacuee!

In our science we are learning about light. So far, we have learnt that light travels in straight lines and we have been investigating how light reflects off objects. We created a mirror maze so we could look at the angles of reflection and then we used our knowledge to make a periscope.

