

March 2023

NEWSLETTER

Life in all its fullness



Dear Parents & Carers

Warmer temperatures and lighter evenings are on the way as we start to see the early signs of spring arriving. It has been a wonderful half-term with so much learning happening in school – the pupils, and staff, have certainly earned the Easter break!

We have started to align when subjects are being taught across the school so that we broadly learning about the same subjects at the same time. This has helped staff plan together, ensure there is a clear progression between year groups and helped subject leaders to monitor their subject closer. It

also helps our children to share their learning, remembering what previous year groups have learnt and what they will be learning about in the future.

This half-term, the pupils have had key experiences in science and history. Science learning has ranged from magnets and forces, evolution and life cycles and pupils have unpicked their year group's objectives of being and working like a scientist. In history, pupils have been exploring key events and people from the past and the impact it has on life today. Significant people and events include Florence Nightingale, the Great Fire of London and the Ancient Greeks. Year 6 have been finding out about the wonderful history of Brixham and the key events that contributed to its heritage today. After Easter, most of the school will move into a geography experience, following by a narrative unit around story writing.

After Easter, we look forward to getting into the school allotment and growing fresh produce for the school kitchen.

Thank you to everyone in the school community for your support towards the school and the children's learning. I hope you have a relaxing Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone when we return on

Ben Nelson-Smith

Headteacher



PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-School have been exploring the Character Education Gateway, Expression through the story, The Little Red Hen this half term. We discussed how The Little Red Hen shows confidence to reflect her values in an honest and insightful way by telling her friends they cannot eat her bread as they did not help to make it. The children enjoyed retelling the story using puppets, story mapping and role play activities. They also planted their own seeds and baked their own bread just like, The Little Red Hen.



Year R

Science Learning Experience

We have had fun in Reception learning about the 4 seasons of the year.

We have learnt that Spring is the season which is synonymous with new life and new growth. We each planted sunflower seeds and cress seeds and are enjoying observing their growth so far.

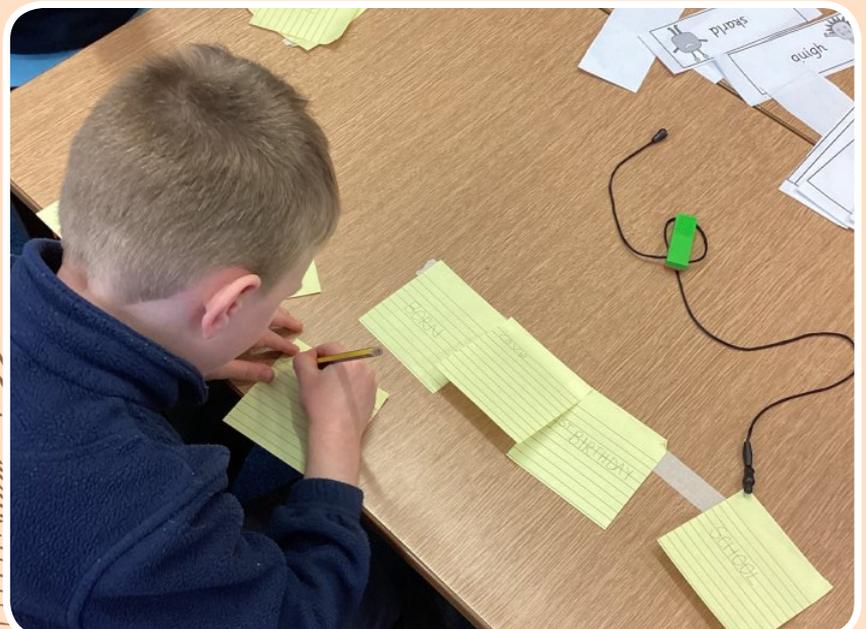
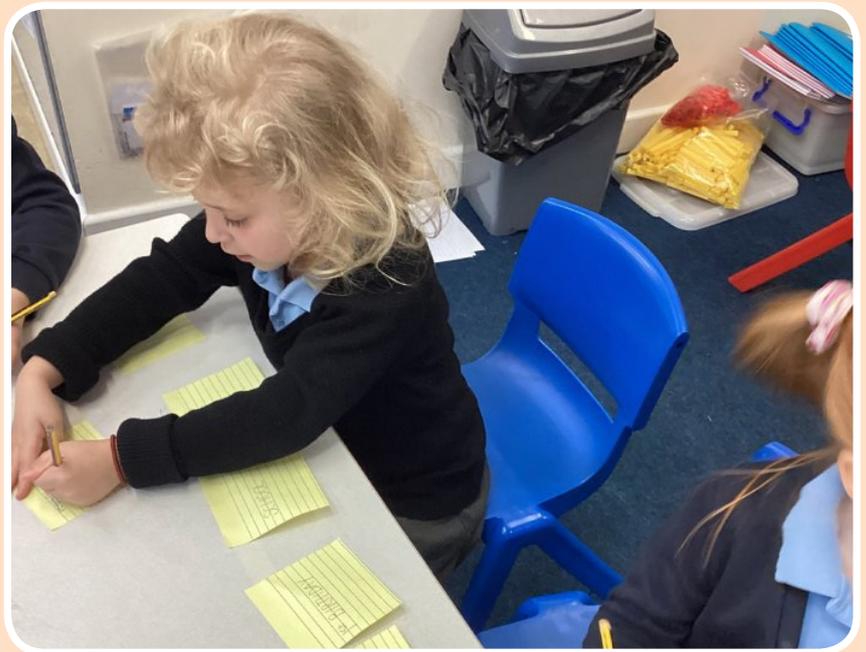
History Learning Experience

We have been busy learning about the word 'chronology' and have been learning about the chronology of our own lives so far.



Year 1

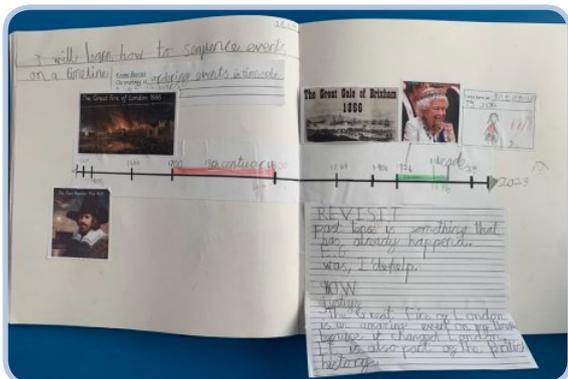
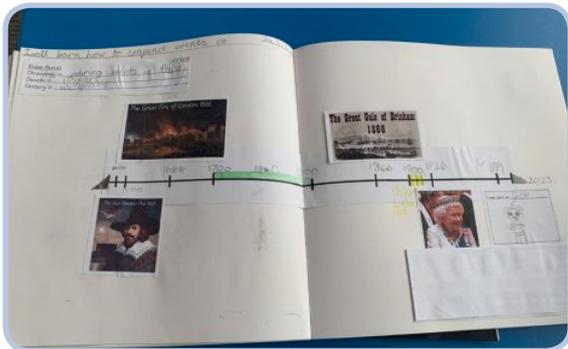
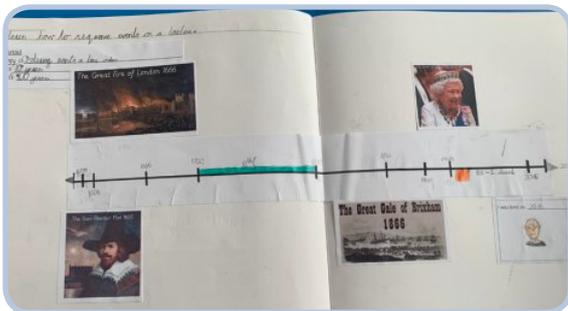
In Year 1 we have been learning about Florence Nightingale. We have learnt about the importance of using a time-line to help us sequence events. We have learnt that a time-line helps to understand what has happened in the past.



Year 2 X ÷ X ÷

In Year 2, we have been exploring multiplication and division. We have learnt how to multiply and divide by 10, 5 and 2 as well as identify odd and even numbers. In Science, we looked at the animal kingdom and how classification of animals works. Following this, we have started our history learning experience on the Great Fire of London. We are going to find out whether this significant event in our history left London a better or worse place. In music,

we have really enjoyed learning to play the recorder and have collaborated brilliantly to learn new notes. Our RWE learning has been based around Easter and why Easter matters to Christians. We have sequenced the Easter Story and looked at how the emotions of the disciples changed throughout the time. Our gateway has been expression, which has allowed us to develop honesty and confidence in and out of the classroom.



This half term Year 3 have been learning about the Stone Age. To start their learning journey, they visited Kents Cavern. During this trip they were able to find out more about prehistoric Britain. They explored the caves and learnt about how William Pengelly excavated them over a 15-year period. They have also been visiting forest school each week. At forest school they have built Stone Age houses, created nature self-portraits and enjoyed toasted marshmallows.



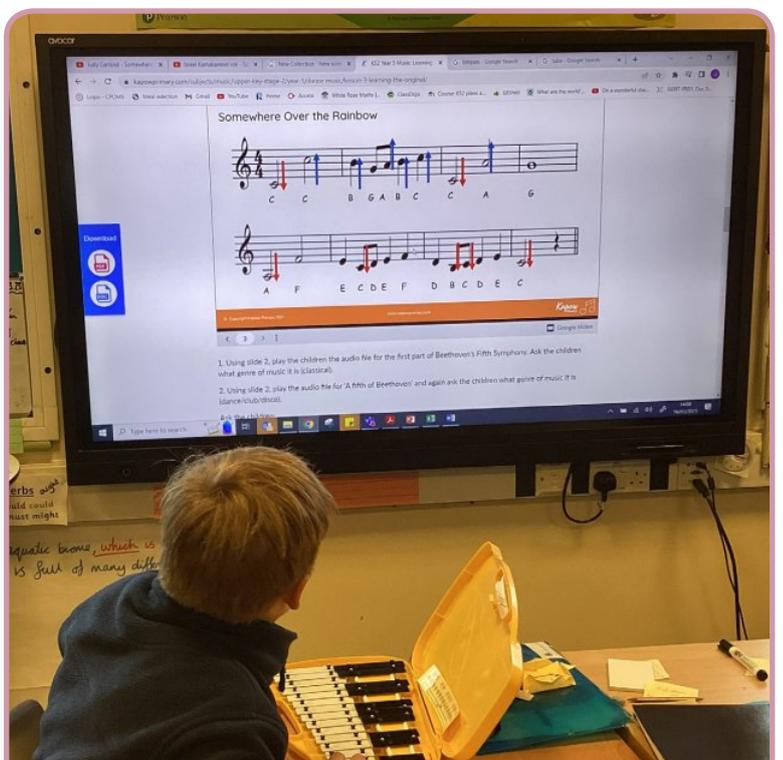
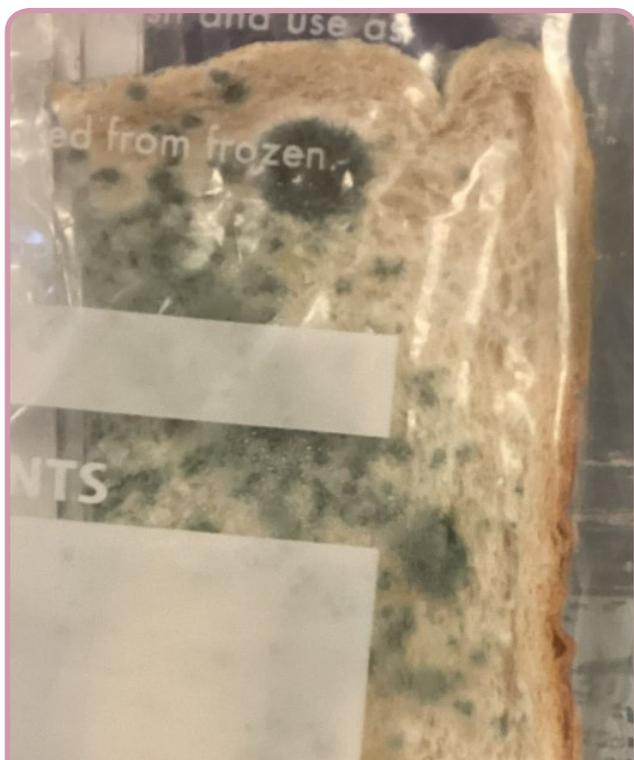
Year 4

This half-term Year 4 have been focusing on science. We began looking at forces and magnets, and why magnets attract to one another. In pairs we made our own magnets maze using drink bottles. We were able to see how magnetic objects were attracted even when they were not in contact. We recently began our new learning journey looking at 'Animals Including Humans'. Our class have really enjoyed grouping animals and looking more in depth at what they eat. We even created our own digestive system using bananas, bread and orange juice! More recently, we began looking at the different types of teeth and what their importance is for animals and humans and what they eat.



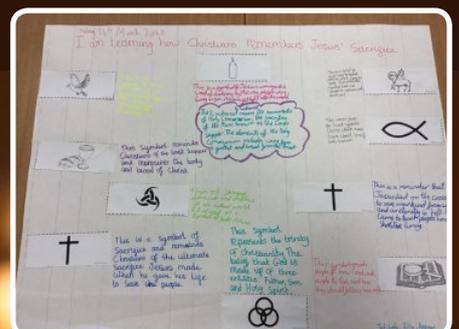
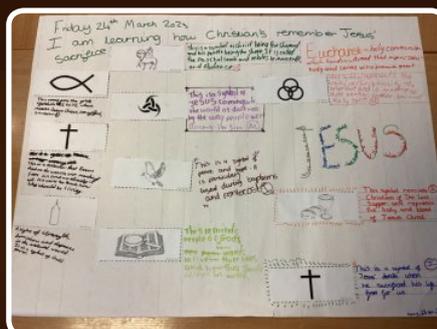
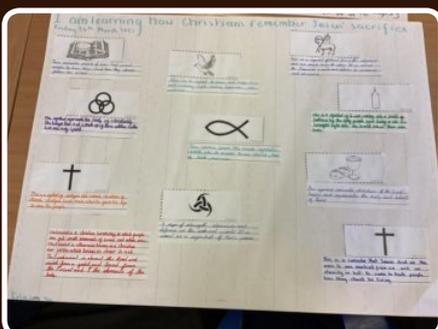
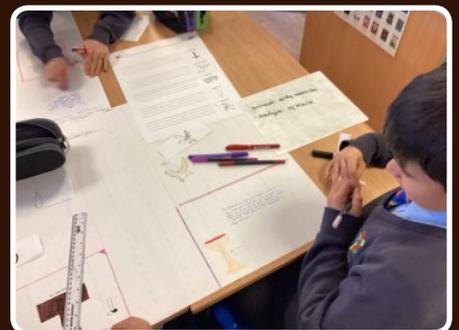
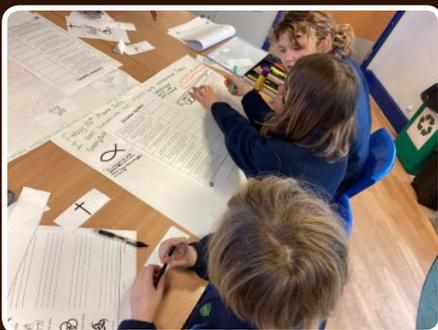
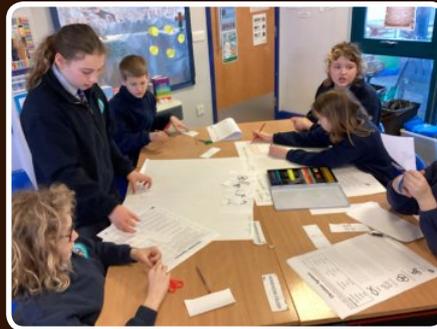
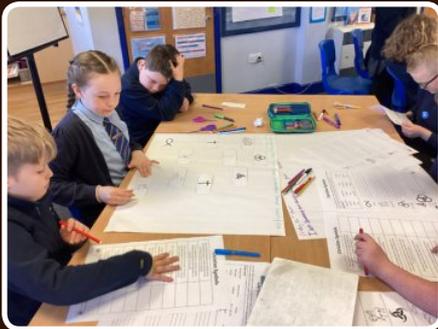
Year 5

Class 5 have done a lot of investigating over Spring 2 Term. We began the term with a great trip to the zoo to initiate our Science looking at life cycles. As part of the Science, we grew some mould and learnt how it reproduces and the conditions it needs to thrive. We also look at all the parts of a flower and how the reproduction of flowers is helped by the process of pollination. In History, the children have learnt about the reliability of different sources of evidence and have questioned this as they've explored evidence for what life was like in ancient Sparta and Athens and the impact this has had on us today. Our Music has also been very exciting as we've looked at creating music digitally and we are in the process of trying to create a dance remix of Somewhere Over the Rainbow. Maths has taken us through written methods for multiplication and division and our fractions has now led us to understanding decimals and percentages.



Year 6

This half term in Religion and Worldview Education, Year 6 have been investigating the idea of sacrifice in the run-up to Easter. They have looked at how The Gospels give accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection; The New Testament says that Jesus' death was somehow 'for us' and that Christians interpret this in a variety of ways; Christians remember Jesus' sacrifice through the service of Holy Communion (also called the Eucharist). They worked collaboratively to identify the meaning of key Christian symbols and apply these to Christian view of sacrifice.



Safeguarding

What to do if you have a concern about a child

Safeguarding is a term used to ensure that children are safe and happy. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that children are safe from abuse – including parents and members of the community. The following strategies can be used if you have a concern about a child:

- If your concern is urgent and you feel someone might be at risk of significant harm, you should call '999' to share your concerns.
- School staff can provide advice if you have a concern regarding a pupil. Mr Nelson-Smith and Mrs Matthews (safeguarding leads) can support and give advice.
- Contact MASH. MASH stand for Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub aims to protect children and families. You can contact them for advice or raise your concerns. They can be contacted on 01803 208100.

For other safeguarding training or awareness, we have a wealth of information on the school's website under the 'Safeguarding' tab.

Attendance Matters

School attendance is pivotal to a child's developments – academically, emotionally and socially. The past few years of pandemic interruptions and has caused huge disruptions in routines and it is essential for pupils to get back into this routine so they can flourish and thrive with the support of their teachers and friends.

We have seen an increase in requests for holidays during term time resulting in children missing learning time. Although absence requests will be considered on an individual basis, requests without an extenuating circumstance will result in absences being unauthorised, which may result in fines and involved of an Education Welfare Officer.

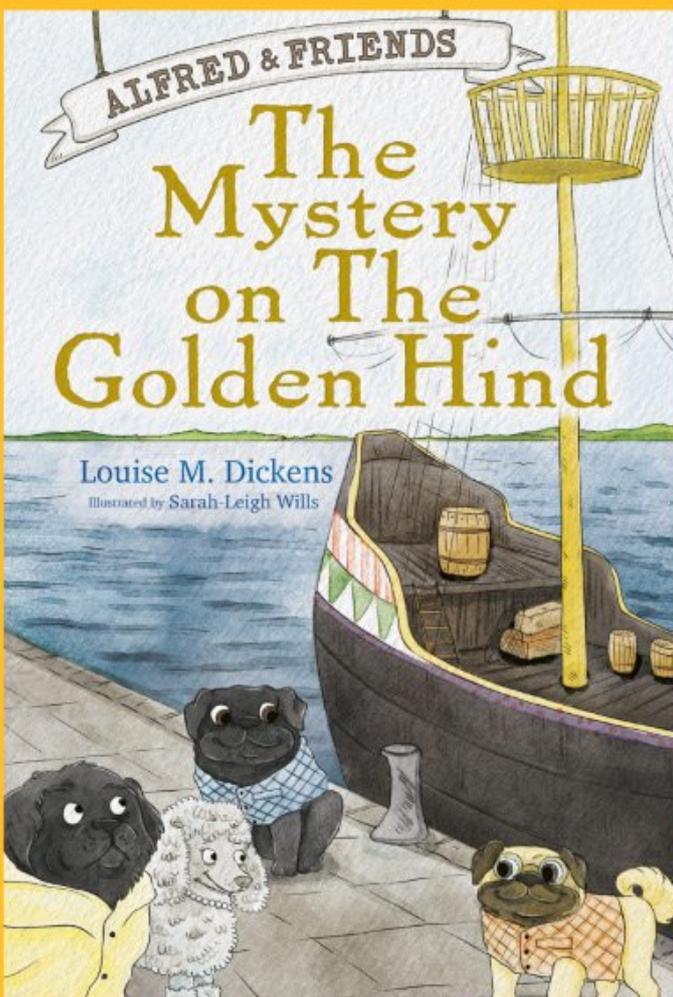
If your child's attendance is something you have a worry about, please do not hesitate to contact the school where we can offer support and work with you to create a plan.

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