Weekly Learning Update

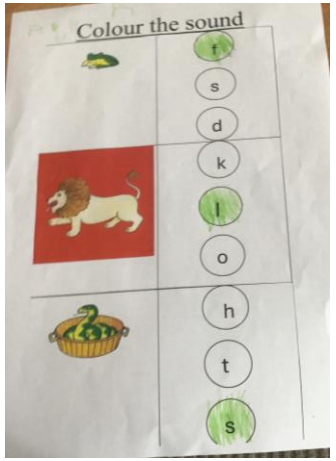
4th July 2025

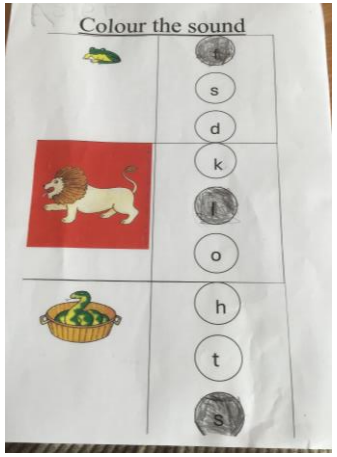
Nursery

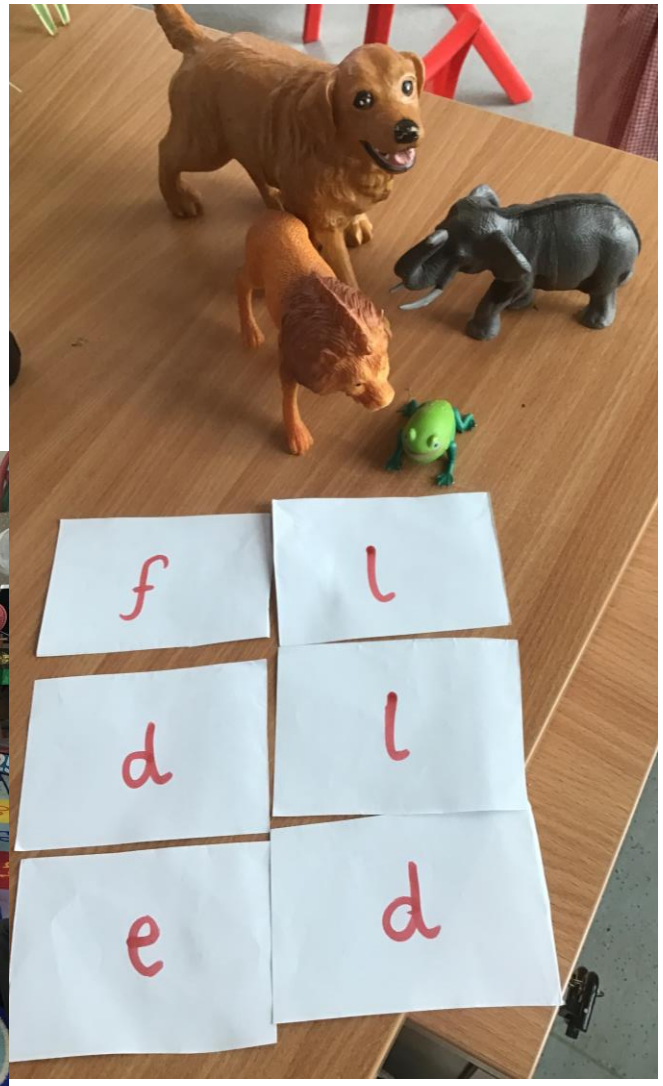
This week in English we have focused on the animals and produced an action for each animal from our key text: Dear Zoo.

We have continued our learning and focused on practising their initial sounds within our English sessions; the children have been able to recognise and even write the initial sounds independently!

We have also had a visit from Warwickshire Road Safety Education - they have completed a session with the children and shared the importance of road safety; they have even each been given a teddy and story to take home!



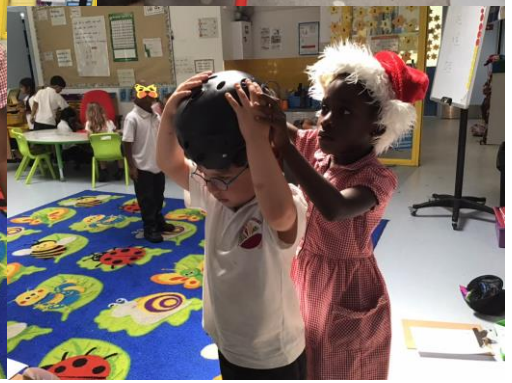




Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

It has been another wonderful week in Reception! The children have been working so hard and showing amazing growth in their learning.

We have started having conversations about feelings and emotions linked with the transition into Year 1 in September and begun supporting this with adapting the Roleplay Area into a Year 1 inspired classroom. So, we have a classroom within a classroom!



English:

To promote independent sentence generation, with the use adjectives, a range of different landscapes have been explored this week. Initially, we thought about the landscape within Handa's Surprise and then we explored different images of different landscapes. The children generated their own ideas and thought about the use of adjectives to add detail and interest within their writing.

Maths:

We have been reflecting on the year's learning and thought about consolidating our knowledge. The children have focused on the skills linked to addition and subtraction as well as number bonds to 5 and 10. We have also explored the concepts of doubling and halving.

Phonics:

In our Phase 4 phonics, we have been exploring multi-syllabic words and building fluency with blending for reading. There has also been an opportunity to recall Phase 3 phonemes.

Continuous Provision:

The children have enjoyed accessing a range of different challenges within the classrooms. The children have been able to dress up as a range of different characters and then write about their character.

There has also been an out of this world, small world challenge! The children have blended for reading a range of real and alien words, using their Phase 3 phonetic knowledge. Then, the children have built their own aliens!

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

It's been another super week for Year 1!

In English, the children have been exploring the features of poems and planning to write their own, based on a poem we have been reading called The Lonely Garden. The children spent some time in our outdoor space to think about what they could see, smell, touch and hear, ready to put their ideas into their poem.

In Maths, we have started our unit on Time. The children have been using the language of before and after, as well as learning about the days of the week and months of the year. We learnt a special rhyme to help us to remember how many days are in each month – we wonder if the children can practise this at home!

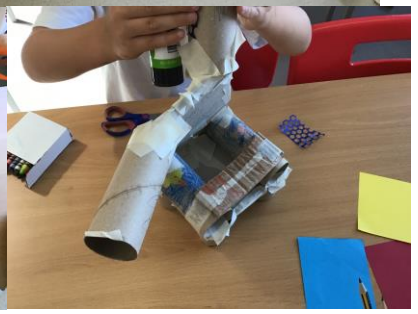
In PSHE, the children have been learning to name parts of boys' and girls' bodies, making sure that they understand which parts of the body are private and that they use the correct names for these body parts.

In History this week, we have been learning about and locating castles in the United Kingdom.

In D&T, the children have had lots of fun decorating their thrones and ensuring that they are secure enough to stand alone. They are very proud of their final products!

In RE, we discussed the importance of candles for those with Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Jewish worldviews. The children acted out the story of Rama and Sita to understand the meaning behind Diwali and the importance of light.

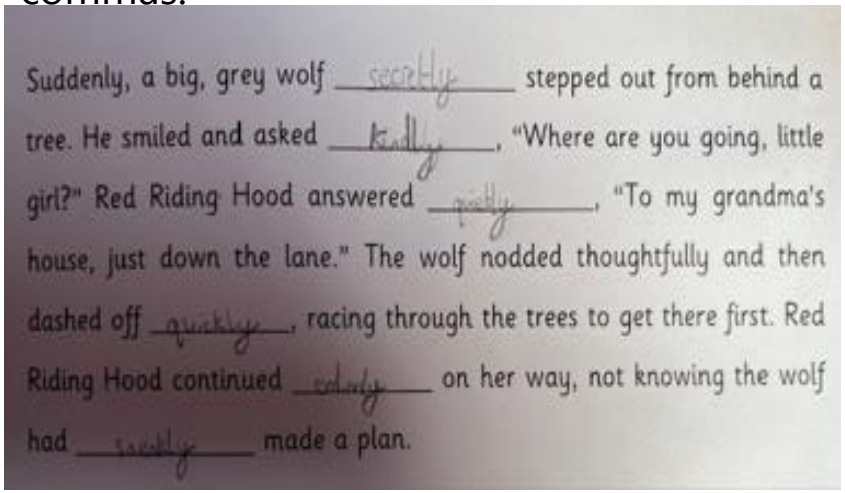
A reminder that Bell's class assembly is next Friday 11th July and Windsor's is on Friday 18th July, both from 10:15am. We hope to see you there!

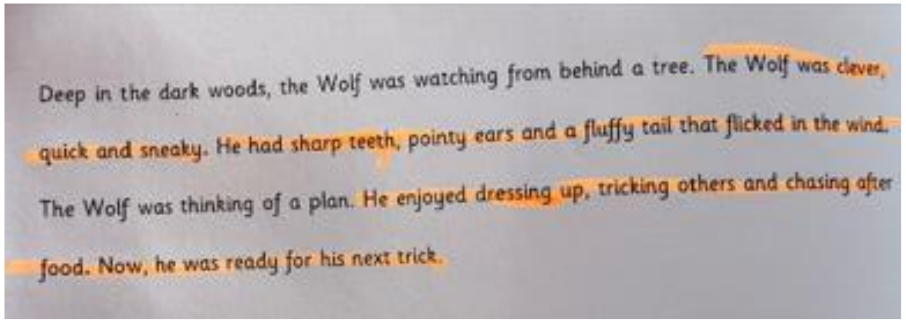


Year 2 (Braille Class and Kerr Class)

We have had another wonderful week!

English:
In English, we have continued focusing on our new book 'Inside the Villains,' and have been focusing on using adverbs and commas.

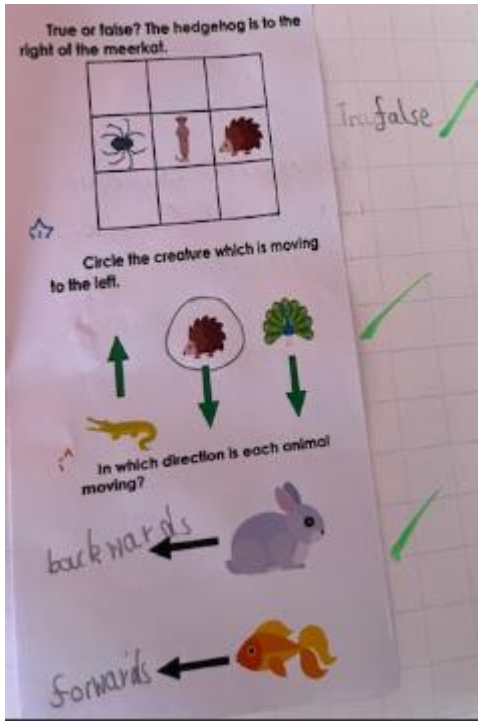

Suddenly, a big, grey wolf ___ stepped out from behind a tree. He smiled and asked ___, "Where are you going, little girl?" Red Riding Hood answered ___, "To my grandma's house, just down the lane." The wolf nodded thoughtfully and then dashed off ___, racing through the trees to get there first. Red Riding Hood continued ___ on her way, not knowing the wolf had ___ made a plan.


Deep in the dark woods, the Wolf was watching from behind a tree. The Wolf was clever, quick and sneaky. He had sharp teeth, pointy ears and a fluffy tail that flicked in the wind. The Wolf was thinking of a plan. He enjoyed dressing up, tricking others and chasing after food. Now, he was ready for his next trick.

Handwriting:
In handwriting, we have been focusing on forming the letters l,t,h and k neatly and legibly, starting and finishing in the correct place.

RE:
In RE, we have continued focusing on the concept of reconciliation and discussed where we could go to gain peace and reconciliation in our school. We also created our own 3D doves to symbolise peace.

Maths:
In Maths, we have started learning about position and direction and have been describing movement and turns using the correct technical vocabulary.



Year 3 (Malala Class and Anning Class)

In English, we have been planning and writing letters to our new teacher, who we will be meeting next week. We've looked at how the purpose of writing our letters is to inform our new teacher about ourselves and things we are looking forward to in the next academic year.

In Maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of time and we have been deepening our understanding of minutes, hours and days as well as different durations.

In RE, we have explored and looked closely at how symbols are used to represent different worldviews. We looked at the purpose behind these symbols and also thought about different symbols we could use to represent our own worldviews.

In Art, we have been designing and practising our own sewing patterns in the style of Althea McNish. The children have shown great resilience (particularly when threading the needle) and creativity in their designs!

Year 4 (Turing Class and Tagore Class)

What a fantastic adventure we had on our very first residential trip! We seem to have picked the hottest day of the year to embark on this exciting journey - who knew we'd be sweating so much under the sun? After a bus ride filled with chatter and laughter, we arrived at Beaumanor Hall, our home for the next 24 hours. As we caught our first glimpse of our accommodation, some of us could barely contain our excitement about sleeping in bunk beds for the very first time!

Our first activity was an outdoor scavenger hunt. We dashed through the beautiful Beaumanor woods, map in hand, eager to solve clues quickly while developing our orienteering skills. We were thrilled to spot some of the local wildlife along the way! When the siren sounded, we rushed back to base eager to hear about our success.

After settling into our cabins and enjoying a delightful lunch alfresco, we played a thrilling game of Stealth, attempting to sneak up on the teachers who were ringing a bell. What an enjoyable experience! Next, we practised our archery skills, and we were very proud of the bravery shown by everyone!

Dinner was a delicious burger feast, with some of us even going back for seconds. Our evening was filled with laughter around the campfire, singing silly songs and sharing amusing riddles.

The following morning, we enjoyed a delightful breakfast, which some of us voted as the highlight of our trip! Climbing was our next adventure, where we learned about safety while scaling the walls. Everyone demonstrated great courage, and we were proud of each other.

To conclude our experience, we visited the gift shop to bring back a little memento of our amazing time. All in all, the trip was a wonderful success, creating memories that will last us a lifetime and empower us in many ways.

Year 5 (Attenborough Class and Gandhi Class)

This week, rehearsals have been in full swing! We have been going through each scene to add in actions and practise our lines altogether. We are so excited and are really looking forward to next week when we perform our dress rehearsal to Year 3 and Year 4.

In Maths, we have been learning about volume, exploring how volume is measured using cubed centimetres. We have used the multilink cubes to represent this and then progressed to comparing volume. We have also used our knowledge of estimating to estimate volume and capacity too.

In History, we have been learning about Viking cosmology, and their beliefs about creation. There were many different Gods and Goddesses, such as Odin and Thor. The Vikings also believed in different realms, which form Yggdrasil, the Tree of Life. We have compared Viking beliefs with other beliefs that we have learnt about, such as the Christian creation story.

We have reflected on the last two weeks of residentials, thinking about what a wonderful time we had at Viney Hill. All of the children faced their fears and braved new challenges, all with a smile on their face! Such wonderful memories have been made!

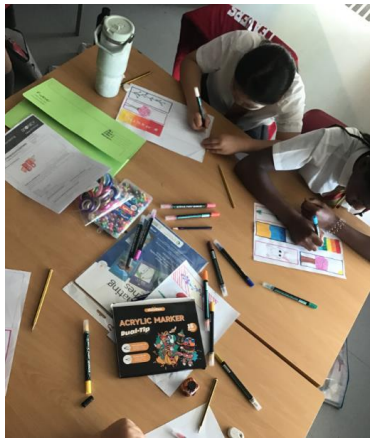
Year 6 (Pogson Class and Ahmad Class)

It has been another busy week in Year 6!

This week, we have spent most of our time preparing for our very first Year 6 Enterprise! The children have been working very diligently, creating their products to sell this Friday afternoon. It has been amazing to watch as the children have used their resilience and creativity to think about what their product should look like, how to alter their product to reach a wider market and what important pieces of information and advertising they need in order to make their product more appealing. We cannot wait to see how much they raise!

Next, in PSHE, we have been exploring the impact of screen time on mental and physical health and different ways to use recreation time. After researching some of the positive and negative impacts of screen time on development, the children had to prepare their ideas to hold a debate based on the statement: Children's screen time should be limited to 10 minutes.

Finally, we had our last swimming lesson this week! We are so proud of how much the children have progressed with this vital life skill and can't wait to apply it next week on our residential!



Collective Worship

This week, Braille class led Friday's Celebration Worship. Inspired by national NHS day, the children celebrated the dedication our NHS workers show each, and every, day to take care of people in our community.

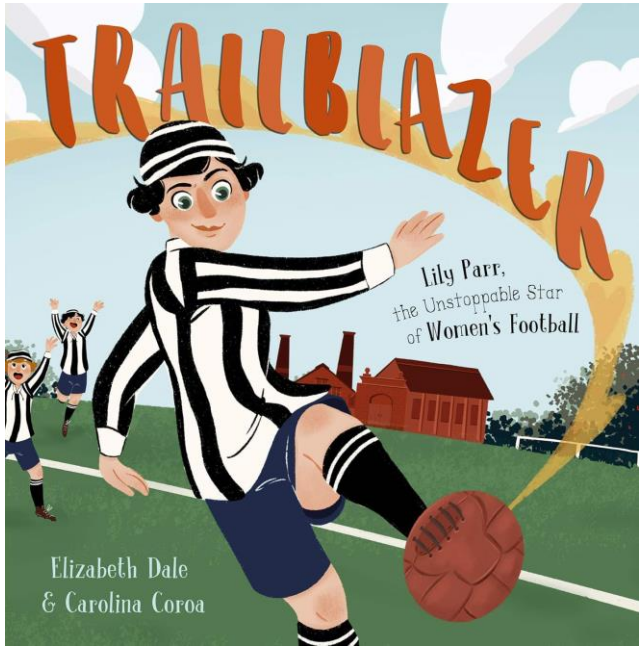
Time has also been dedicated to learning about St Francis of Assisi particularly focussing on how he inspires people to care for God's world.

Collective worship at St Gabriel's always aims to be **inspirational** for all, **invitational** to all and **inclusive** of all.

Recommended Read

'Trailblazer' by *Elizabeth Dale*

Lily is one of the most talented footballers of her time but, when football is banned for women, she has to battle prejudice to play the sport she loves. Based on the incredible true story behind English football player, Lily Parr and her trailblazing success.



Online Safety

The YouTube Kids app offers controls to restrict search and content, set time limits and manage watch history to help promote internet safety. You can also set a passcode to ensure only you can change settings in the app.

Follow the link for more information on how to support your child with these top controls:

https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-kids-app/

YouTube Kids

Whole School Attendance	
Attendance since September	96.5%
This week's attendance	95.6%
Latest Local Authority ranking	12th out of 195 schools
Latest National ranking	Top 10% of schools

Outstanding	**100%**	190 days of full learning All lessons complete
Very Good	**98%**	186 days of learning 4 days and 20 lessons missed
Good	**96%**	182 days of learning 8 days and 40 lessons missed
More needed	**94%**	178 days of learning 12 days and 60 lessons missed
Concerning	**92%**	174 days of learning 16 days and 80 lessons missed
Very concerning	**90%**	171 days of learning 19 days and 95 lessons missed

Whole school target is 96%

National research shows, on average, children who meet expected standards in reading, writing and mathematics have higher attendance than those who did not.

Please contact the school for support and advice if you are concerned about your child's attendance.

NHS England has provided helpful guidance for parents and carers when making the difficult decision regarding not sending a child to school.

NHS guidance- Is my child too ill for school?

Family Support

This week's Family Information Service newsletter includes information about:

The latest SEND newsletter

Free scooter training for children

Designing a bookmark competition with Warwickshire Libraries

and much more!

This month's special edition of the Family Information Service newsletter focuses on free school meals.

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