Weekly Learning Update

11th October 2024

Nursery

This week, the children have been focusing on creating our very own volcano scenery; we have used paper mache to form the shapes of two volcanoes, a cave and some rocks!

We have started our English session in both rooms and been looking into our key text of Harry and the Dinosaurs go to School. We have read the story together and discussed the characters, using props to support our story telling.

We have been exploring dino playdough on our Maths table, using sticks to add to the playdough whilst encouraging counting in order. The children have also been learning about what sinks and floats in water, testing out a range of different materials.

Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

English:

This week, we have been focusing on the early concept of a sentence. We have been working through examples of how a sentence is a group of words which tell us something and it makes sense. With this, we thought about how sentences could be generated and looked at a range of pictures. We thought about how to describe the images and came up with different captions, which the children have written each day.

Phonics:

We have finished our Phase 2 phonemes, which the children are very excited about! We have learnt: h, b, l and ll, f and ff and ss. Next week we will assess how many phonemes the children have retained and start our Phase 2 recap.

Maths:

We have all been subitising superheroes this week in Maths! The children have practised the concept of subitising: recognising a quantity of objects without needing to count them. We have had a range of games and activities to support this.

PE:

We have continued to focus on different methods of movement and ways to ensure we avoid obstacles. We played games where we had to focus on dodging.

We have enjoyed exploring in our Investigation Area; we have had some Autumn eye spy activities, some pumpkins to explore and other autumnal objects, which the children have contributed to throughout the week.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

It has been another brilliant week in Year 1. We are so proud of the growth the children are showing each and every day.

In Phonics, we have been focusing on the phonemes 'ow', 'oi', 'ear' and 'air'. The children are super at remembering the caption actions now, as well as reading and writing words containing these graphemes.

In English, we started reading 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew. We have had lots of fun exploring the setting of the story and the character of Katie, through hot seating and vocabulary collecting. The children have learnt how to use adjectives to make their sentences exciting to read.

In Maths, the children have come to the end of their Place Value (within 10) unit and have had fun learning about ordinal numbers. The children had lots of fun taking part in running races and giving out medals based on their position.

In Science, the children were answering the comparative question "Are 2 eyes better than 1?" The children had lots of fun taking part in obstacle courses, ball games and reading games to investigate the question and find an answer.

In RE, we began our unit of learning on Sanatan Dharma. We discussed the duties of those with Hindu worldviews and explored our own duties at home, in school and our community. We then explored the concept of karma and played a game of Snakes and Ladders to help us to understand this.

Year 2 (Braille Class and Kerr Class)

We have had another fantastic week!

Phonics:

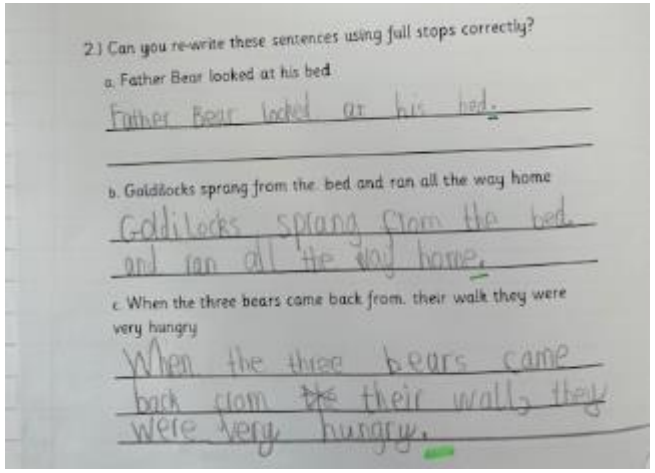
This week, we have learnt that:

- The grapheme ch making the phoneme sh and c in words like chef and school.
- The grapheme ou making the phoneme o in words like boulder and shoulder.
- The grapheme ou making the phoneme oo and u in words like could and you.
- The graphemes ou and o making the phoneme u in words like tough and come.

English:

In English, we have been focusing on using capital letters, full stops and conjunctions correctly.

Here are some excellent examples.



Maths:

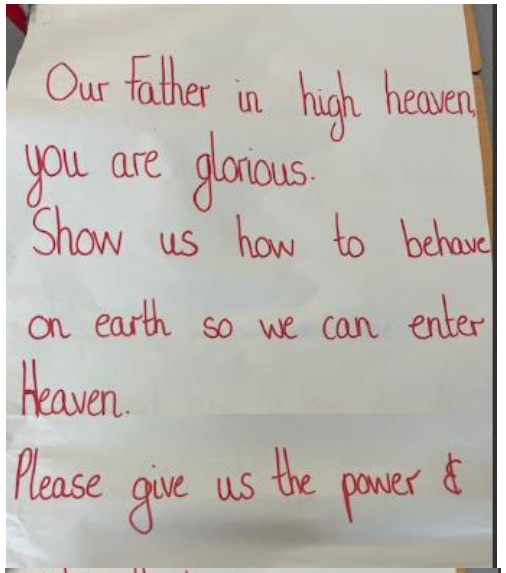
In Maths, we have been learning to count in 5s and 3s and have started our new topic of addition.

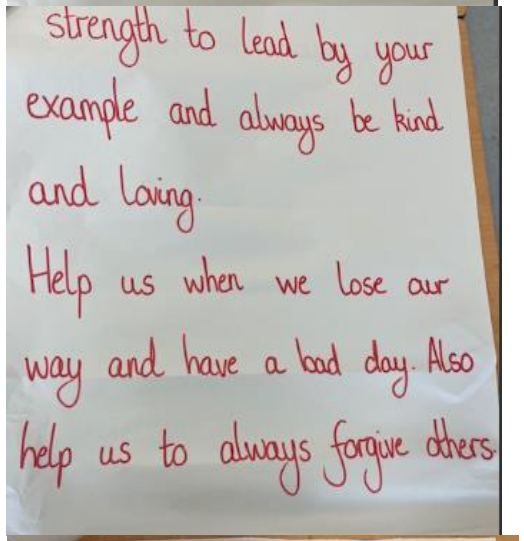
Geography:

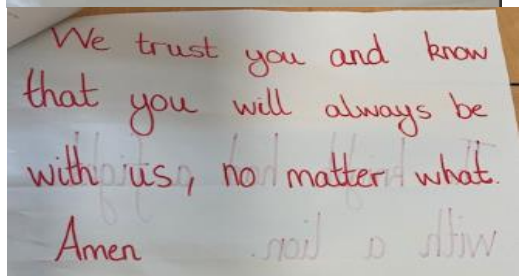
In Geography, we have been learning about the human and physical features of London.

RE

In RE, we have been learning about Jesus being a teacher and created our own version of The Lord's Prayer.







Year 3 (Malala Class and Anning Class)

We've had another brilliant week in Year 3.

In English, we have started our new book 'Lost Species' by Jess French. We have been using our inference skills to make conclusions about what might happen and what an animal might be thinking. We have also been applying our knowledge of conjunctions as well as looking at how to use subheadings.

In Maths, we have continued learning about adding across a different place value column and this week we have been adding 1s across 10. The children have been looking how they can work this out practically, as well as showing their working out and completing some calculations in their head.

In RE, we have been looking at how nature and seasons impact Jewish worldviews. This week, we have been focusing on the Jewish festival 'Passover' and looked at the story from the Exodus. We learnt about when this festival is celebrated each year, about how it follows a lunar cycle as well as being able to sequence and retell the story.

In Art, we have been creating our own cave paintings using the medium of paint.

Year 4 (Turing Class and Tagore Class)

It has been another fab week in Year 4! Tagore class have worked incredibly hard on their class assembly on Black History Month. Thank you to all those who were able to make it!

In English, we have completed some grammar lessons focused on expanded noun phrases and inverted commas. We also read the end of our text and started planning our own morality tale; we started this by creating our own character.

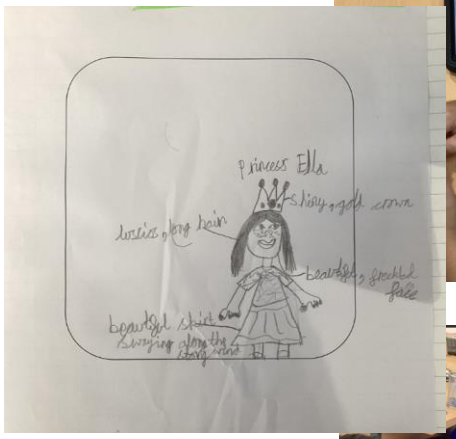
In Maths, we started our unit on addition and subtraction. We used the column method to add two 4-digit numbers with and without an exchange. We have answered a wide variety of question types including some word problems.

In Science, we completed our final observations in the egg investigation. We all concluded that the vinegar egg was the most affected, which surpised many of us. It was very interesting observing over time to see what changes occurred and also highlighted the importance of brushing our teeth.

In Art, we began creating our final pieces using different shading and sketching techniques. We look forward to sharing these next week.

In Geography, we examined patterns in land use and how they have changed over time. We used digital mapping to add shapes to maps and then compared this in different time periods.

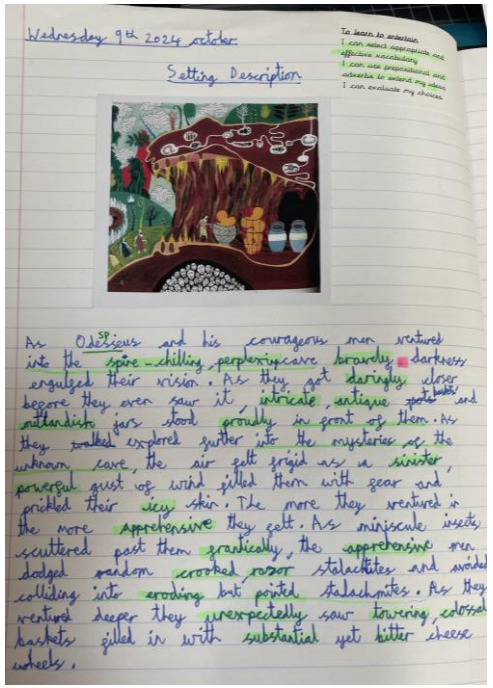
In our reading lessons, we have continued to read 'Chocoplot' and use our active reading skills to develop our understanding of the text. We also read a non-fiction text linked to the history of chocolate and completed questions based on this.



Year 5 (Attenborough Class and Gandhi Class)

We have had another week of hard work in Year 5 and we are really proud of the progress all the children have made.

In English, we moved on in the story of the Odyssey to the chapter entitled 'The Giant in the Cave.' We learnt about how adverbs can be used to enhance our writing and give the reader a clearer understanding of the action taking place within a scene. We then applied our vocabulary knowledge and skills to write another setting description to describe the cave in which Odysseus and his men stumble across the formidable giant.


Wednesday 9th 2024 october

Setting Description

As Odysseus and his courageous men ventured into the spine-chilling, perplexing cave bravely, darkness engulfed their vision. As they got daringly closer before they even saw it intricate, antique pots and outlandish jars stood proudly in front of them. As they walked explored further into the mysteries of the unknown cave, the air felt frigid as a sinister, powerful gust of wind filled them with fear and prickled their icy skin. The more they ventured in the more apprehensive they felt. As minuscule insects scattered past them frantically, the apprehensive men dodged random crooked razor stalactites and avoided colliding into eroding but pointed stalagmites. As they ventured deeper they unexpectedly saw towering, colossal baskets filled in with substantial yet bitter cheese wheels.

In Maths this week, we have finished our learning on addition and subtraction by applying our learning to multi-step word problems and missing number questions.

In Geography, we learnt about the city-states of Ancient Greece and what this would have looked like on a map. We discovered the difference between a relief map and a political map. Then we used our locating skills to add the city-states to a blank map of Greece.

In PSHE this week, our learning was focused on the impact peer influence can have on other people. We discussed why peer influence might happen and how it can affect or change someone's behaviour. We then suggested strategies for managing peer influence in a positive way.

In Art with Mrs Fuller, we designed our own mythological creatures and played about with hybrid animals. We enjoyed coming up with a name for our new creatures too!

Year 6 (Pogson Class and Ahmad Class)

This week has flown by in Year 6!

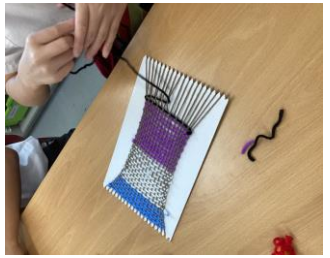
In Maths, we have been improving our accuracy and application of short division and extending our knowledge further by beginning to use the formal method for long division. The children have blown us away with how quickly they have picked up this very long and tricky method! You might like to ask your child about it at home – get them to share what DMSB stands for!

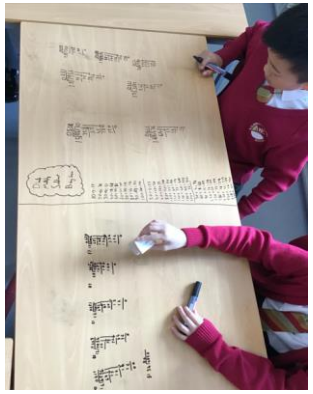
In English, we have continued to utilise a range of writing techniques to create an informative and engaging recipe for a witch's brew! This week, we have incorporated all of the skills we have learned so far this half term, including expanded noun phrases, adverbial phrases, parenthesis and subordinate conjunctions and clauses. We can't wait to plan and write our final pieces next week!

In Science, we had the chance to get outside of the classroom to carry out our investigations to find out how different types of exercise might impact our heart rate (BPMs). After recording and averaging our results, we were able to conclude that more vigorous exercise led to a greater increase in BPM while less vigorous exercise was linked with a slower increase in heart rate.

In Art, we began creating our planned weaving pieces! It was not an easy task to get started on and sometimes the wool would become tangled, but we are so impressed with what each child has been able to make!

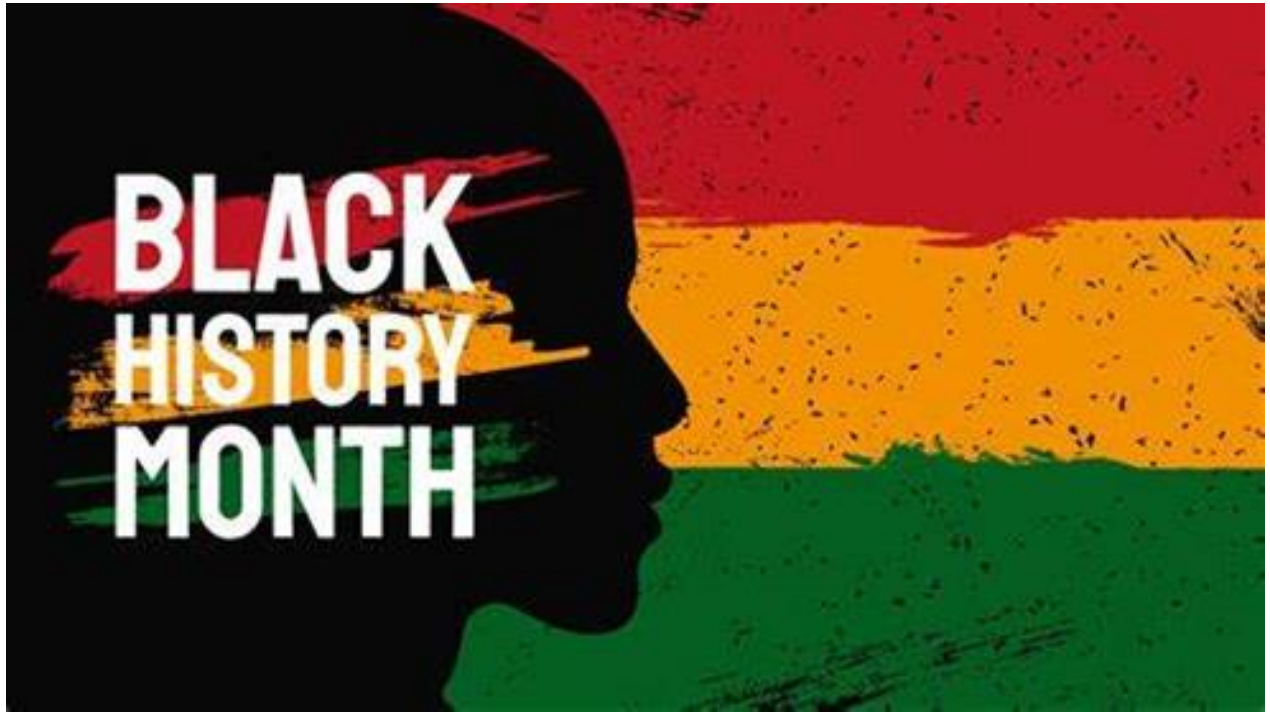
Finally, to help enrich our learning in History, Year 6 enjoyed visiting Tudor World this week! We had an amazing time learning more about the experiences of those who lived during the Elizabethan Era including what they drank and ate, what they learnt at school as well as crime and punishment. We finished off our trip with a guided tour around Stratford-upon-Avon, to see some of the important buildings and places that were used by William Shakespeare.





Collective Worship

This week, Tagore class led collective worship teaching us all about the significant contribution made by people from the black community across the world. The theme for the presentation was 'Standing on the shoulders of giants' which taught us about great role models such as Jude Bellingham, Simone Biles and Barack Obama who were able to build on the success of trailblazers like Nelson Mandela, Sydney Poitier and Mae Jemison.

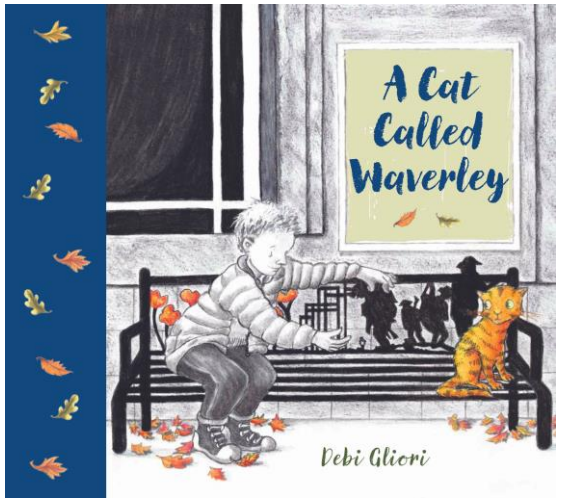


Collective worship at St Gabriel's always aims to be **inspirational** for all, **invitational** to all and **inclusive** of all.

Recommended Read

This week's recommendation is 'A Cat Called Waverley' by Debi Gliori, which is a poignant and uplifting picture story that introduces socially important topics: homelessness and post traumatic stress disorder - as well as the loyalty and value of pets.

Born in a city park, the little cat belongs to no-one until he is befriended and cared for by Donald, a soldier. When Donald is sent away to fight in a far-off war zone, the cat waits for him to return at Edinburgh's Waverley Station. And waits... Travellers and railway staff name him Waverley, and look after him - but he is waiting for Donald. Years go by, until one day at last he hears a voice he knows! Warfare has drastically changed Donald's life, but when the lonely cat and the forgotten man are reunited, their world suddenly seems a brighter and more hopeful place.



Online Safety

Talking regularly with your child can help keep them safe online. Having this conversation helps to prepare your child from an early age, so they can safely explore the internet and know who to speak to if things go wrong. It's also important to listen to your child and give them a chance to talk about what they're experiencing online, what apps and sites they use and who they're talking to. You could try making it part of a daily conversation, like you would about school. This can help your child feel relaxed, and means that if they do have any worries about online safety, they're more likely to talk to you about it.

Following on from last week, the NSPCC have created an activity pack to introduce the children to the world of online safety through their new friendly dinosaur, Techosaurus. For a suggested donation of £6, you can order yours here.

Whole School Attendance	
Attendance since September	96.8%
This week's attendance	96.6%
Latest Local Authority ranking	73rd out of 188 schools
Latest National ranking	Top 30-40% 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?

PTFA

PTFA NEWSLETTER

Friends of St Gabriel's C of E Academy

w/e 11th October 2024 | PTA@stgabrielscofeacademy.org

BOOK YOUR TICKET BY SCANNING QR CODE

Prizes on the night include:

- 4 x tickets to Jack and the Beanstalk Panto at the Benn Hall
- 2 x tickets to a Coventry City FC 2024/25 season game
- 2 x tickets to Concerned Others at Macready Theatre
- 2 x tickets to Shock Horror: A Ghost Story at Macready Theatre
- Ice skating tickets at Whilton Locks Garden Village
- FREE entry tickets for 2 adults & 2 children to Tigers Indoor Play
- £25 Nandos voucher
- £25 Pizza Express voucher
- Cash prizes

EVENTS

Full details and how to book to follow

- **Thursday 17th October:** PTFA AGM and Bingo night
- **Friday 25th October:** Cakes and second hand uniform sale
- **Thursday 7th November:** Yrs 4-6 Disco
- **Thursday 28th November:** Wreath Making Night
- **Friday 29th November:** Hot Chocolate sale
- **Friday 13th - Sunday 15th December:** Santas Grotto at the Barn

Friends of St Gabriel's C of E Academy

INVITE YOU TO ATTEND OUR

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

We invite you to come to the PTFA AGM to learn more about what we do, how we support the school and to bring any suggestions moving into the new school year.

- Meet the PTFA team
- Find out what we have raised and what we have funded
- Find out more how you can get involved

For more information and questions please send us an email:
PTA@stgabrielscofeacademy.org

THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

MAIN HALL COMMUNITY ENTRANCE

6:30PM

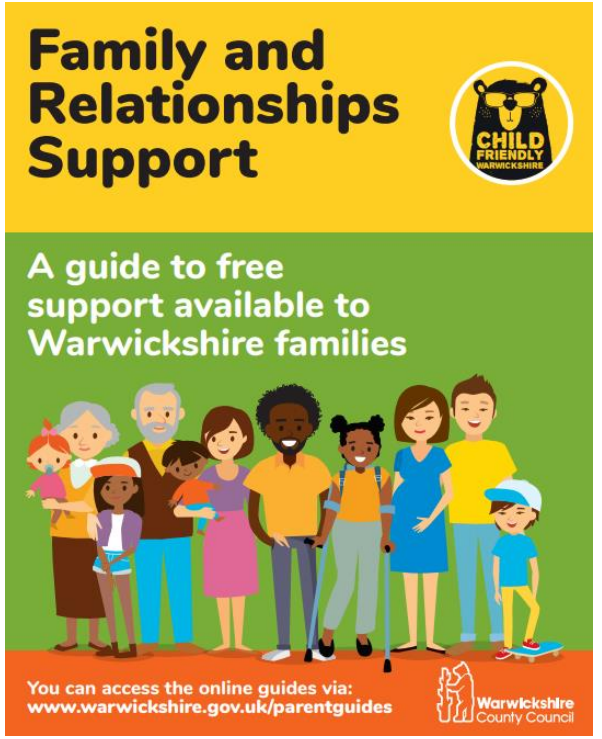
Family Support

Warwickshire Family and Relationship Support Team provide online guides, virtual and face to face workshops and programmes for parents and carers. Topics include sleep, behaviour, teenagers, nurture, boundaries and rules, and more.

View the online guides you can complete at a time to suit you.

View the range of virtual and face to face workshops and programmes here.

This guide also gives more information about free support available to families.



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