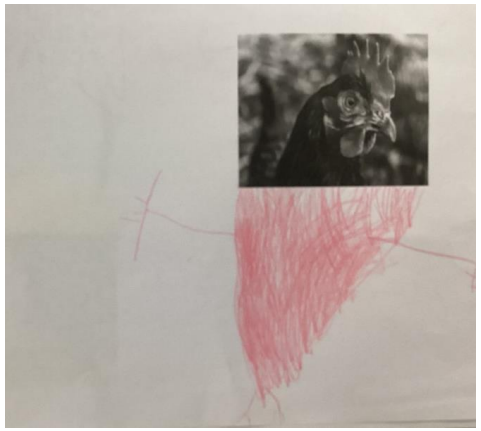
Weekly Learning Update

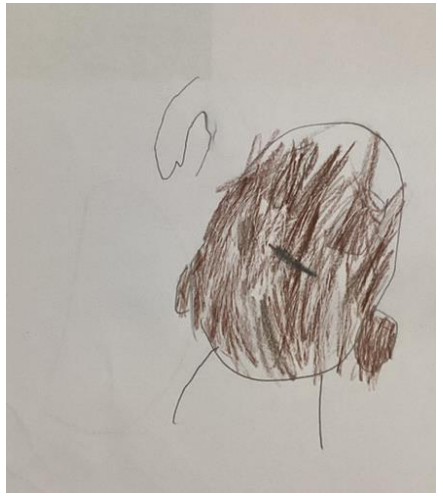
14th March 2025

Nursery

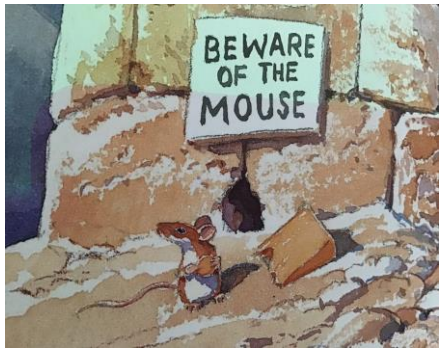
This week, we have been exploring symmetry on the creative table. The children have created some beautiful butterflies whilst exploring colour and change.

The children have been encouraged to construct their own giraffes on the Maths table; we enjoyed measuring to see which one was the tallest! We have enjoyed challenging ourselves with our drawings of Mondi (Handa's hen) and worked hard on drawing our own interpretation of her.





Reception (King Class and Parks Class)



The children have been super excited this week as we have had conversations about next week's school visit to Warwick Castle! The children have enjoyed accessing the Role Play Area in preparation for the big trip!

English:

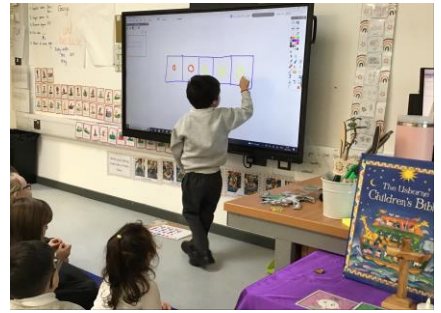
We have been continuing to explore inference and understanding of a text in greater depth based on information other than words. The children have looked at a range of different images within our key text 'George and the Dragon' and identified the different characters. From there, they have considered how the characters are feeling and why. To extend the learning further, we have been exploring using the conjunctions 'and' and 'because'.

Phonics:

We have focused on assessing children's confidence with their phoneme recognition and blending words containing Phase 3 phonemes this week.

Maths:

We have been exploring number bonds to 5. We know that a number bond is where two numbers are added together to make a given number. We have thought about the pattern of number bonds to 5 and we are learning to recall them. We have used different concrete resources to explore this concept.



We cannot wait for our school trip next week; the children are very excited as well! We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

Year 1 have had a very exciting week! On Tuesday afternoon, we were so lucky to be joined by lots of amazing parents who came in to share the jobs they do as part of our learning in PSHE. Thank you so much to those who could join us. The children really enjoyed it and came away full of excitement about everything they had learnt.

In English this week, the children have been planning their own stories based on the story we have been reading, The Sea Saw. The children enjoyed describing their toys from home and planning out their ideas, ready to use in their stories next week.

In RE, we were learning about how parables are sources of guidance for Christians on how to live their lives. We were joined by Mr Taylor, Mr McCormick and Mrs Garner who came to share their favourite parables with us.

Year 2 (Braille Class and Kerr Class)

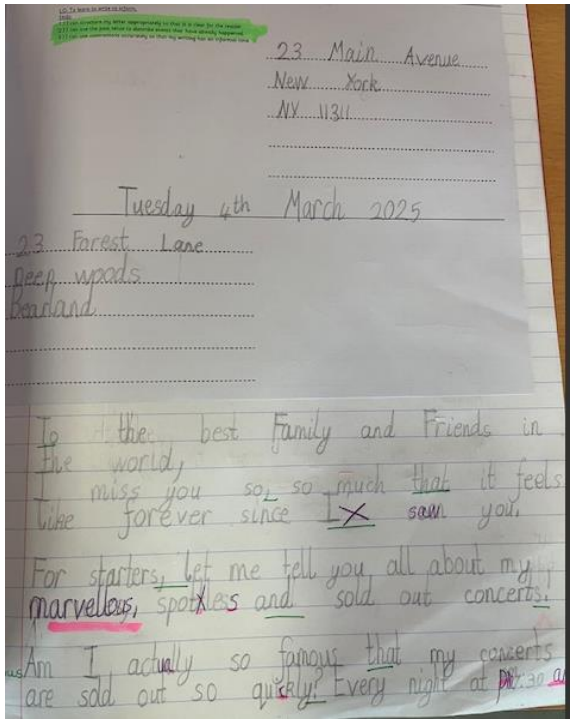
Phonics
This week, we have learnt that:

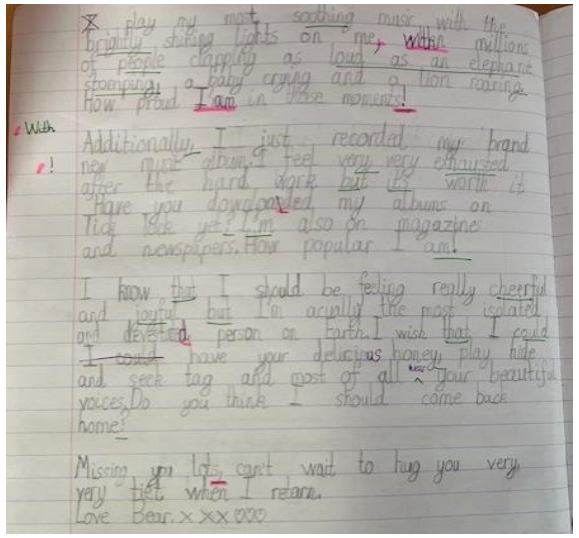
-The grapheme le makes the phoneme l in words like little and middle.

-The grapheme el makes the phoneme l in words like tunnel and funnel.

-The grapheme al makes the phoneme l in words like medal and pedal.

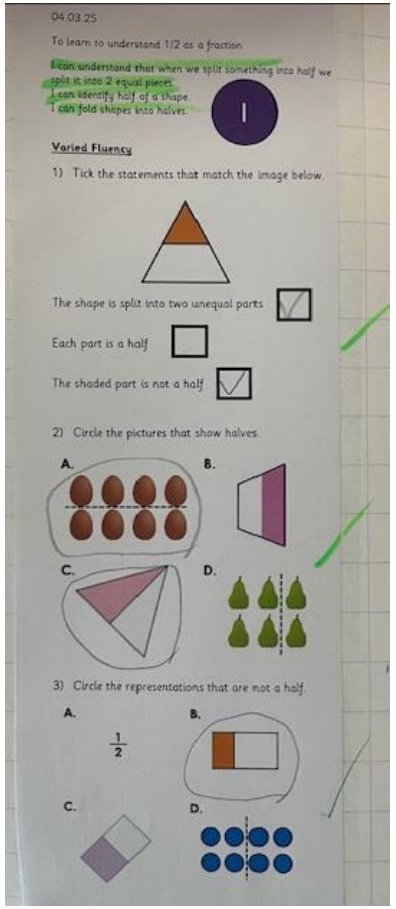
English:
This week, the children finished writing their informal letters. We are so proud of all of the children's amazing work! They have included paragraphs, fronted adverbials, contractions and commas in a list.





Maths:
In Maths, we started our new topic of fractions. We have learnt to identify the whole and the part, as well as identify a half of a shape.

Science:
In Science, we learnt about the importance of hygiene and set up a simple test. We had three pieces of bread: a control piece, a clean piece and a dirty piece. We will hopefully see over the next few weeks how mould grows more quickly on the dirty piece of bread and how important it is to wash your hands with soap.



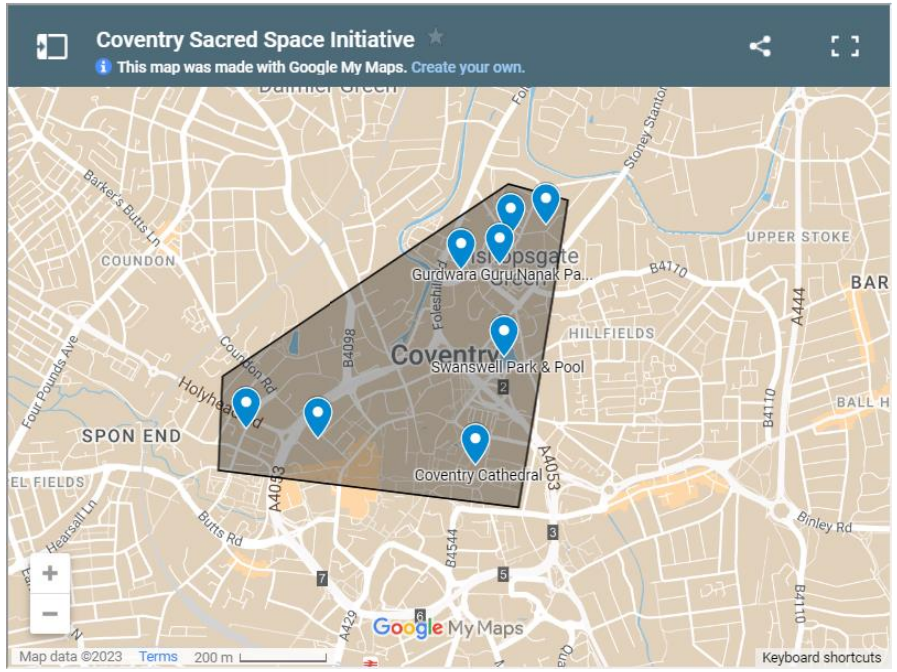
Year 3 (Malala Class and Anning Class)

In English, we have been planning and writing our own narratives. We recapped our learning from last week, focusing on what makes a great narrative. We then used this knowledge to develop our ideas for our own writing. We have focused on using interesting vocabulary, using similes and metaphors as well as a range of adverbials and conjunctions to ensure we are providing our readers with enough description to help them visualise our narrative.

In Maths, we have continued our unit on fractions. We have been looking at fractions on a scale and a number line and looked at how these concepts can help us in a real life context.

In History, we continued to develop our knowledge of the Tudor era and looked at Henry VIII and why his marriages were significant. We learned about the reformation of the church and how this was due to his desire to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

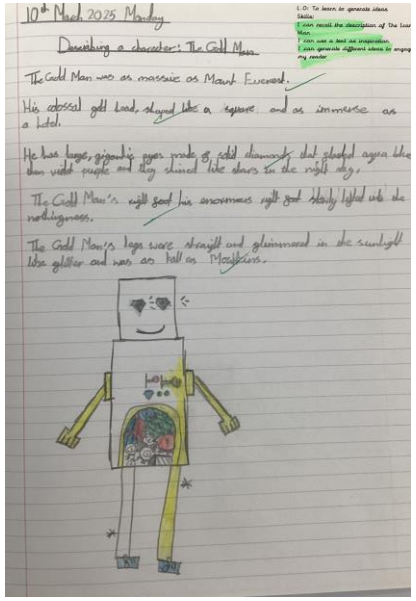
In RE, we discussed whether reconciliation is solely resolving conflict or whether it is more than that. In this lesson, we explored Coventry's Sacred Space where many places of worship are situated within a mile of each other. We learned how communities with different worldviews built these places of worship to provide sanctuary not just from conflict but also creating peace through the building of relationships.

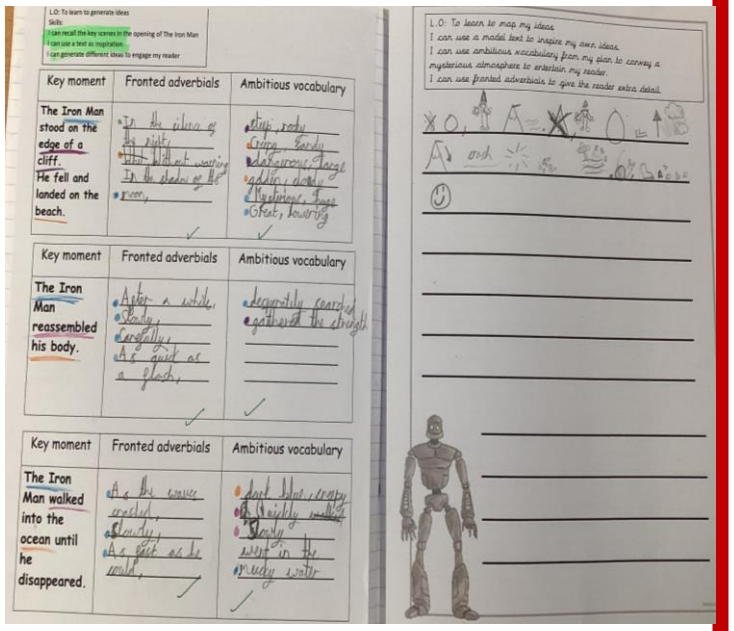


Year 4 (Turing Class and Tagore Class)

Year 4 have had yet another exciting and productive week.

In English, we have continued to explore the fascinating world of The Iron Man. The text has inspired us to create our own versions of the first chapter, leading to some imaginative character ideas such as the Titanium Man and the Platinum Man. We described our characters using ambitious vocabulary and we have focused on enhancing our writing with fronted adverbials. After story mapping our chapters and using images for inspiration, we performed our stories to one another, which allowed us the opportunity to not only develop our speaking skills but to give each other feedback to further improve our ideas. We are eagerly looking forward to writing our full chapters in the upcoming week.



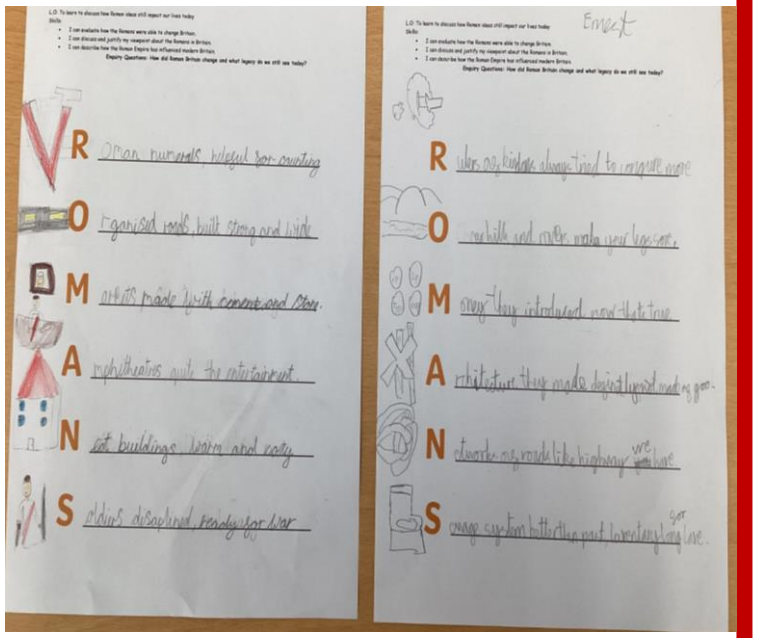


In PSHE, we have been advancing our learning about staying safe online. This week, we examined online advertisements and discussed their purpose. We engaged in identifying safe versus unsafe adverts and acted out various scenarios to demonstrate our discernment when faced with different advertising messages.

In Maths, we have continued our journey with fractions, specifically adding and subtracting them. Building on last week's learning, we practised converting improper fractions into mixed numbers, reinforcing our understanding of this essential concept.

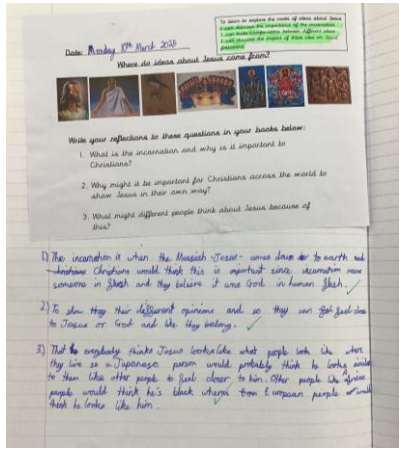
Our History lesson has also been exciting as we have been exploring the Romans. This week, we considered the lasting impact of the Roman Empire on modern Britain. Utilising our newfound knowledge, garnered over the last few weeks, we crafted and performed acrostic poems, showcasing our creativity.

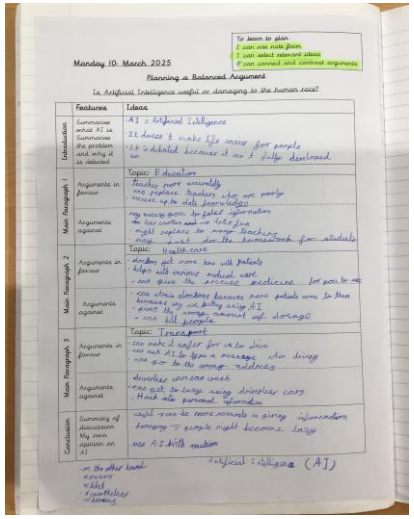
In Design and Technology, we have begun an exciting textiles unit focusing on creating our very own bags. In our initial lesson, we examined different types of bags and their purposes, followed by deconstructing bags to understand their internal structure. We are excited to move forward with creating our own bags in the upcoming weeks.



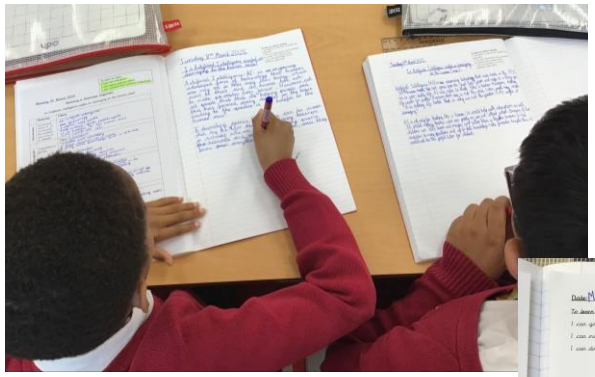
Year 5 (Attenborough Class and Gandhi Class)

In English this week, we have planned and written a balanced argument, considering the question 'Is Artificial Intelligence useful or damaging to the human race?' We have explored points which show why AI can be useful across different industries, for example within transport there is the development of driverless cars which mean that more people could have access to their own car. We have also explored how AI can be damaging in these same industries too. For example, driverless cars are expensive, and the technology is still not fully developed, which could cause lots of problems.

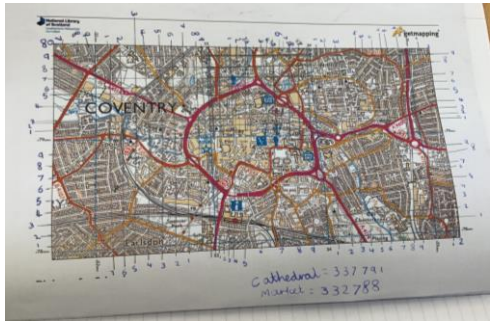


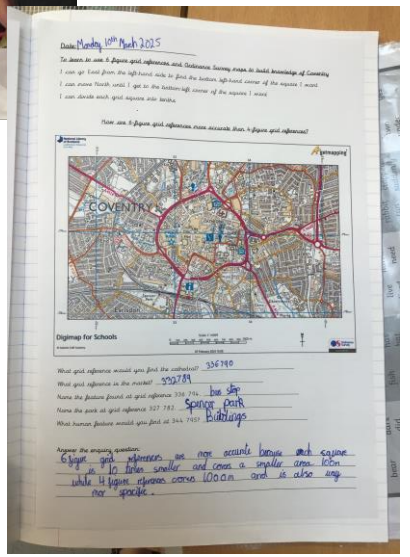


In Maths, we have been calculating the perimeter of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and polygons. A rectilinear shape is a shape made of rectangles which have right angles on the inside. We have then progressed on to calculating the area of rectangles and compound shapes.



In Geography, we have built upon last week's learning on using 4-figure grid references, to now using 6-figure grid references for greater accuracy. We had to split each grid square into tenths representing a smaller part of the four-figure grid reference. We then used our map to identify human and physical features of Coventry and used the 6-figure grid references to locate different parts of Coventry too.





In RE, we have been exploring early ideas about Jesus. We have explored how different communities across the world represent Jesus through art.

Year 6 (Pogson Class and Ahmad Class)

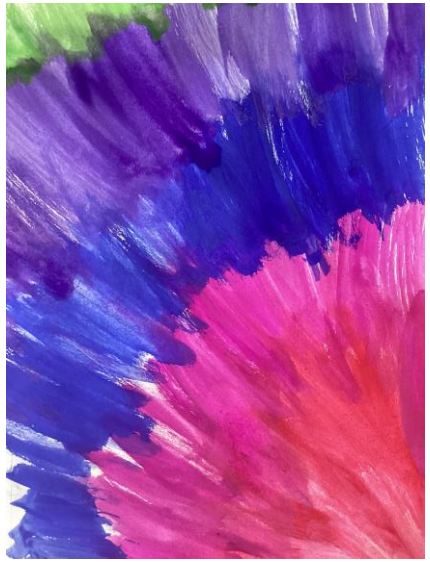
In English, Year 6 have started writing a discovery narrative, describing Charles Darwin's travels to the Galapagos Islands and the exciting discoveries that he made. They will be using features to entertain their reader, including expanded noun phrases, adverbials and rhetorical questions to describe the interesting creatures he found.

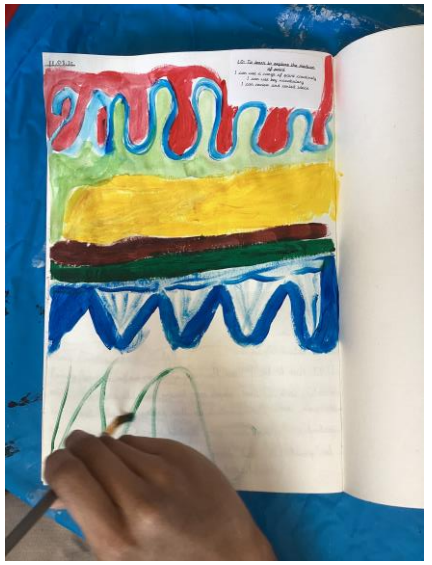
In Maths, Year 6 have started a new topic: Area and Perimeter. Before beginning new learning, they revisited content covered in Year 5, including finding the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes. Later on this week, Year 6 have progressed to finding the area of triangles, where they use a new formula: ½ x length x width.

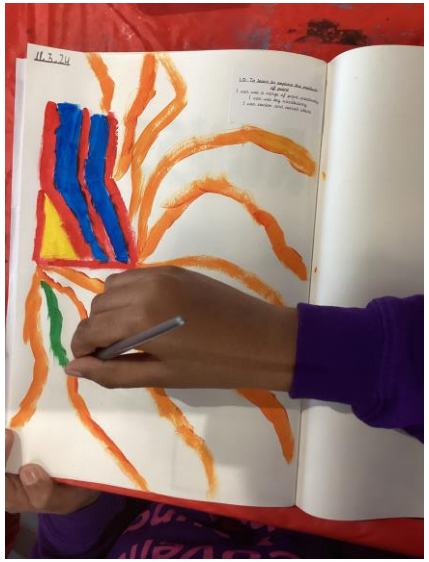
In Science, as part of their topic on Evolution and Inheritance, the children have explored how animals have adapted over time to suit their environment. Using the book, 'Moth', the children investigated how the peppered moth has adapted over time to survive the changes seen in the industrial revolution due to pollution.

In Geography, the children dove deeper into tropical rainforests, describing in detail the physical geography of each layer, including the plant and animal life which lives there. The children used sources of information to detail the biodiversity within each layer in a non-chronological report.

In Art, Year 6 explored the medium linked to Henri Rousseau's work. The children used different types of paint, including water colours, to explore different techniques.







Collective Worship

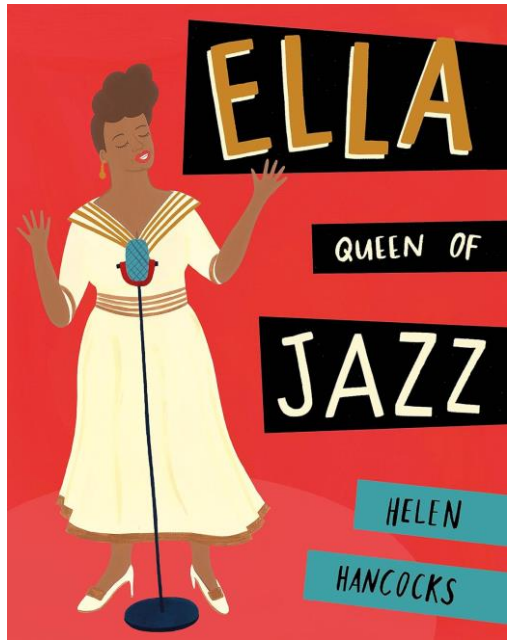
During Worship Through Song, we have been singing the song 'Sing' and reflecting on how the lyrics link to our value Community.

This week, **Malala** class led Celebration collective worship teaching us all about the importance of reducing the negative impact on the environment. Inspired by British Science Week, the class shared how advances in technology are enabling humans to reduce the use of fossil fuels and move towards more sustainable forms of energy.

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

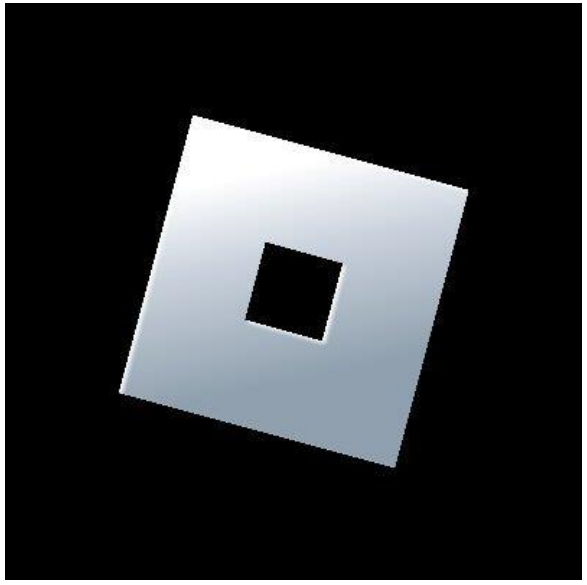
Recommended Read

'Ella: Queen of Jazz' *by Helen Hancocks*



This is the incredible true story of how a remarkable friendship between Ella Fitzgerald and Marilyn Monroe was born and how they worked together to overcome prejudice and adversity.

Online Safety



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. The game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

It can be a lot fun but it's not without its risks, including strangers, scams, harmful content and more.

You can download a guide here.

Whole School Attendance	
Attendance since September	96.3%
This week's attendance	97.9%
Latest Local Authority ranking	15th out of 188 schools
Latest National ranking	Top 10-20% 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

WhatsApp lets users send messages and content to contacts added to their account. To use the service in the UK, users must be 13 years old or older.

Here is some information for parents about Whatsapp.

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