Weekly Learning Update

20th September 2024

Nursery

This week, we have been exploring the story' Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs go to School'. We have visited Harry's house, fed the dinosaurs some vegetables and created our very own stegosauruses. We also went on a dinosaur egg hunt and placed the eggs into the correct coloured dinosaurs.

We have had a great second week and can't wait to see you all back on Monday!

Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

English:

We have started creating whole class story maps to support retelling our key text of 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea' by Judith Kerr. The children are learning to recall the story through actions and pictorial support. They are very excited to share with you all when they have remembered the whole text!

We have also been creating the different characters of the story and labelling them, thinking of as many sounds within the names as possible.

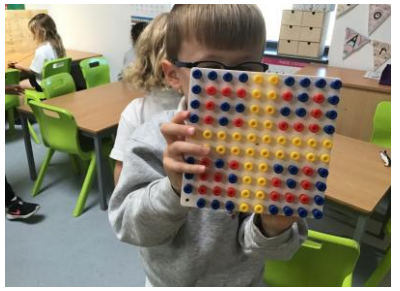
Phonics:

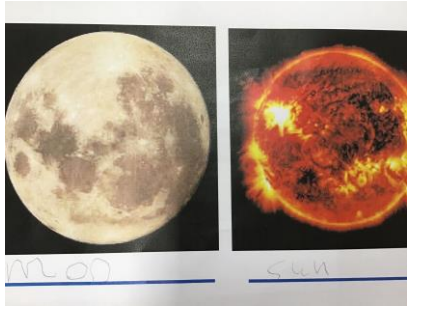
We have continued to develop our Phonics knowledge and learnt p, i and n. The children are enjoying blending for reading as well representing the letters in writing.

Maths:

We have continued to focus on number order, recalling numbers to 10 and even to 20. Children have been representing numbers as quantities and climbing their number ladders as they count one more.

It has been great to see so many children engaging in the learning around the classrooms; this week there have been threading opportunities, creating patterns with pegs, making puppets to support retelling 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea' as well as making clay tigers and going to space!





Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

It has been another brilliant week in Year 1. The children are continuing to get to know the new routines in Year 1 and have been working so hard.

In Phonics, we have focused on the phonemes 'sh', 'th', 'ng' and 'ai'. Already, the children have shown so much growth in their reading and it has been wonderful to see this coming through in their writing too.

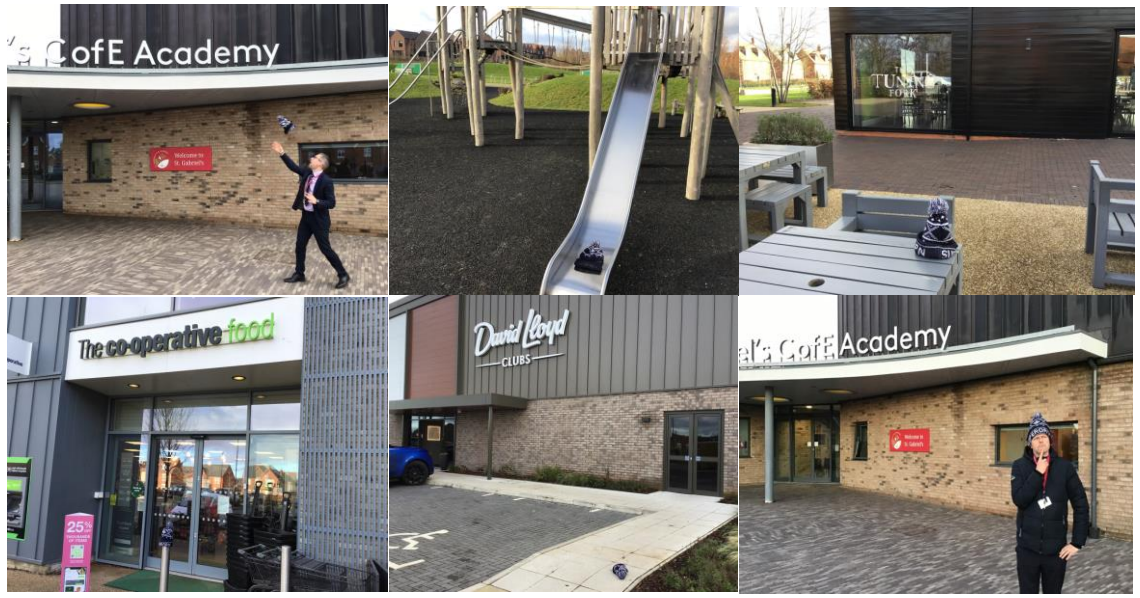
In English, we have been helping Mr Taylor to find his hat! On Monday morning, whilst walking into school, his hat flew off his head, just like in the story 'The Queen's Hat'. His hat went flying around Houlton and was spotted in lots of different places, finally landing on Mr McCormick's head! We have been sequencing the events and writing sentences to let Mr Taylor know about the adventures his hat has been on.

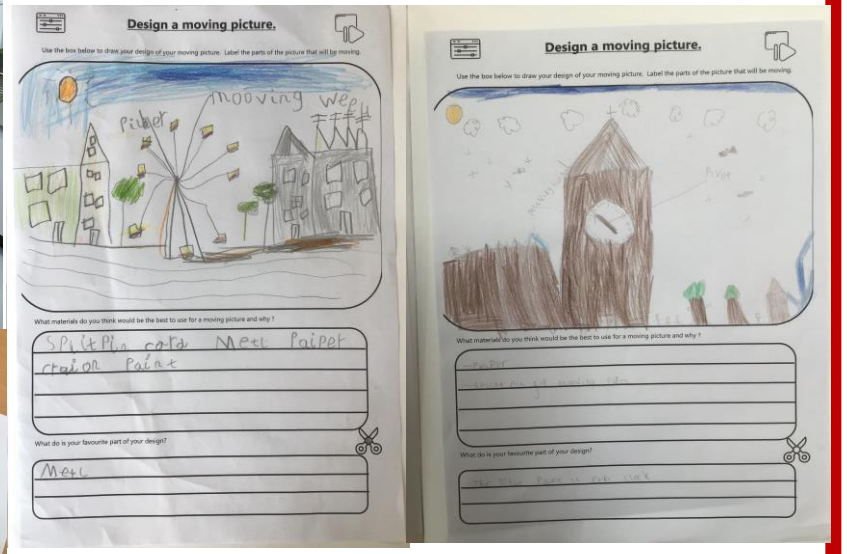
In Maths, we have been counting forwards and backwards within 10, using cubes and counters to help us.

In Science, we have been learning about all of the different body parts. The children have been able to identify the different parts and label them.

In Geography, we recapped the names of the countries of the United Kingdom and the children played games in pairs to locate them on a map.

In D&T, the children have been designing their moving pictures.





Year 2 (Braille Class and Kerr Class)

Phonics:

In phonics we have learnt that:
- u makes the phoneme you in words like unit and music

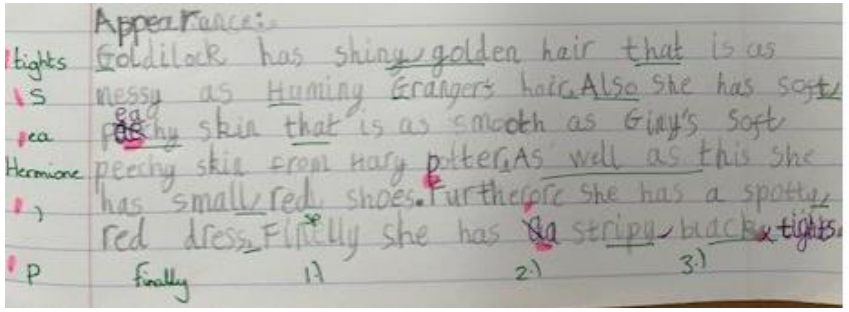
-ow makes ow for cow and ow for snow

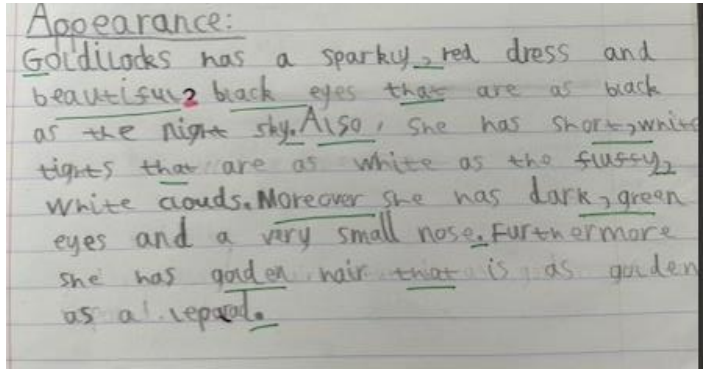
-ie makes the phoneme ee in words like field and chief

-ea makes the phoneme e in words like bread and head

English:

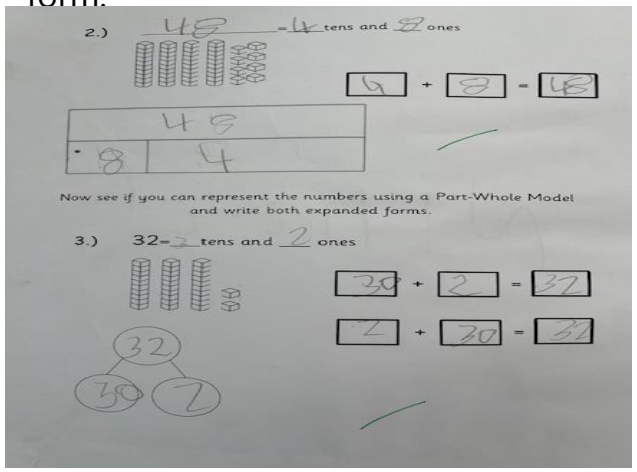
In English, we have been using expanded noun phrases and similes to create our own character descriptions of Goldilocks. Here are some super examples.

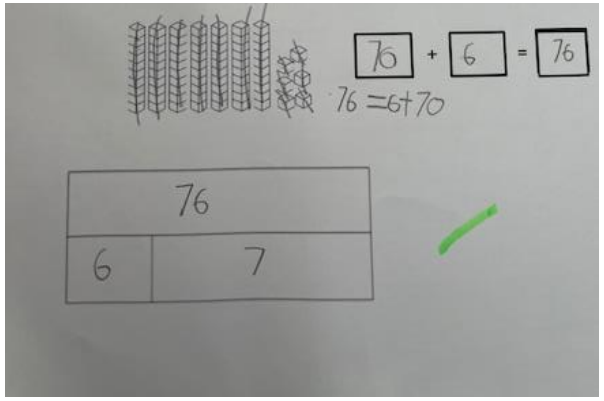




Maths:

In Maths, we have been partitioning 2-digit numbers into tens and ones and have been writing the expanded form.



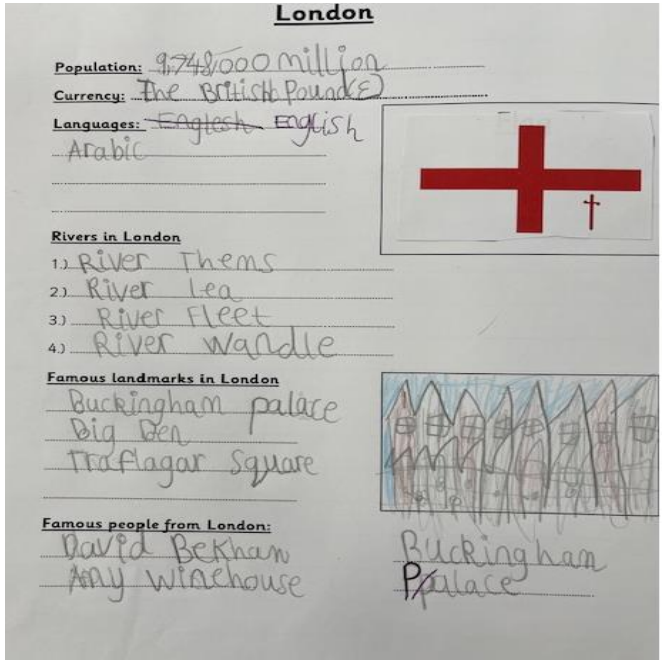


Science:

In Science, we learnt to compare bulbs and seeds and learnt that bulbs have enough food stored within them for a whole year and a tunic that protects them.

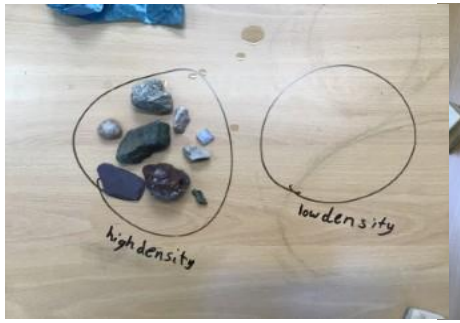
Geography:

In Geography, we have been creating our own Fact Files about London. We learnt about the population, currency and languages of London as well as the famous rivers, landmarks and people.



Year 3 (Malala Class and Anning Class)

It has been another brilliant week in Year 3. The children are continuing to show amazing growth in all aspects of their learning.



This week in Maths, we have continued looking at 'Place Value' where we have been looking at partitioning numbers up to 1000 in different ways. We have moved on to looking how we can find 1, 10 or 100 more.

In English, we started the week off by refreshing our knowledge of sentence types. We then moved on to planning our letters to Mary Anning and Malala Yousafzai and we thought about what we could include. We came up with our family and friends, hobbies and our future goals. We then finished the week off by writing the letters. Malala Class have sent an email to see if there is a way we could send them to Malala.

In Science, we started off our topic of 'Rocks'; we looked at different types of rocks and how we could group them depending on their properties and how they looked or even felt.

In History, we explored how people from the Stone Age lived their lives and what type of sources are available to help us to understand their way of life. See if we can tell you any interesting facts.

In Art this week, we have explored the history of Cave Painting. We looked at how they were made and also what they included.

This week we were lucky to be invited to a Tag Rugby festival where we got to experience and test out a range of skills. We had such a great time, enjoying learning new skills and meeting new people.

Well done Year 3 on another super week!

Year 4 (Turing Class and Tagore Class)

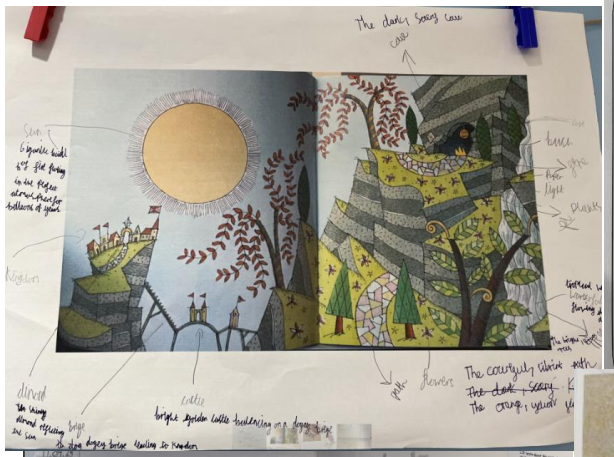
It has been another busy week in Year 4 with lots of amazing learning taking place.

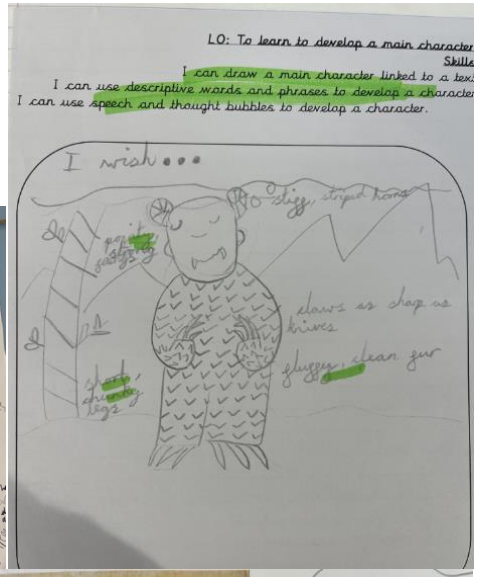
In English, we began our new text (we still do not know the name of our text!). We used our skills of prediction to try and work out what creature/character may live in the setting illustration. We drew the character we imagined and wrote a character description. We then learnt what the character looked like and actually had a go at creating it – with a little help from the author himself. We finished the week with some grammar lessons based on the past tense and conjunctions.

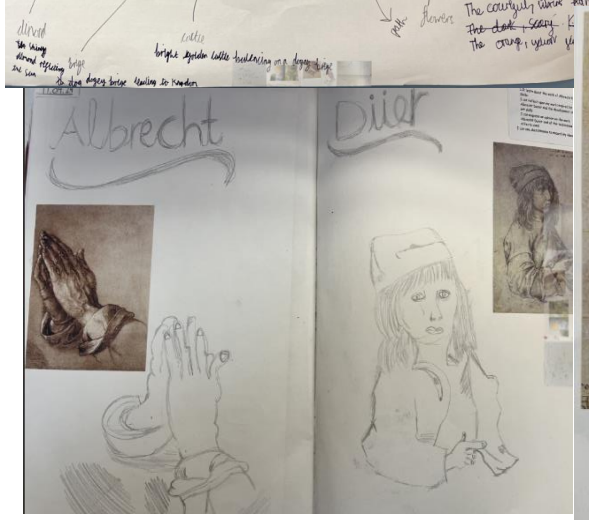
In Maths, we have developed our understanding of 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 more or less than a given number and working on using number lines up to 10,000. The children have worked hard and used multiple methods such as part – whole models and the place value chart.

For our Art lessons this week, we have conducted some research into Albrecht Durer and his work within the renaissance period whilst thinking about how we can implement his methods into our own work.

Year 4 have enjoyed learning all about the human digestive system and this week we saw it in action! We used a model to see the role of each organ/part. Even though it was quite messy and smelly (thanks to the vinegar aka acid!) the children loved seeing how all the parts work together and came up with some incredible questions throughout.







Year 5 (Attenborough Class and Gandhi Class)

We have had another busy but productive week in Year 5.

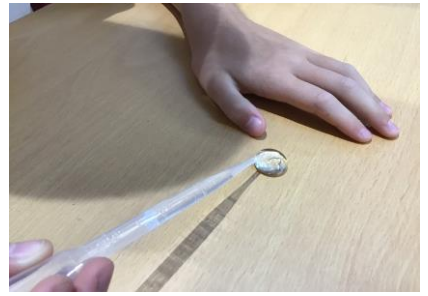
In English, we have gathered information about the two key figures that our classes are named after – Gandhi and Attenborough – and then planned and wrote a short information report about them. We thought carefully about how our sentences were constructed and sequenced to produce our best work.

In Maths, our learning this week has focused on applying our knowledge of place value for numbers up to 1 million. We have learnt how powers of ten can be used to change the value of a number both more and less. We have also flexibly partitioned numbers and used number lines to represent them.

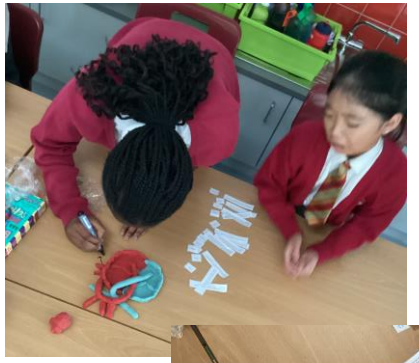
Our History learning this week involved exploring what it means to be a historian. We learnt what primary and secondary historical sources are and how these can help to construct knowledge about the past. We discussed the reliability of these sources based on how accurate they are in delivering this knowledge.

In Science, we continued with our exploration of materials and we investigated the properties of different materials, such as the absorbency and the transparency.

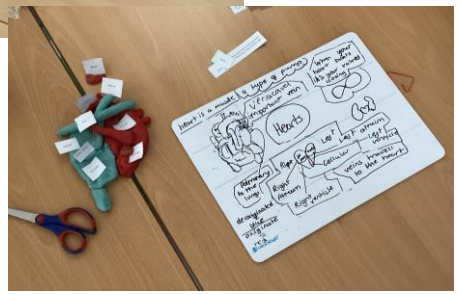
In Art with Mrs Fuller, we have learnt all about Aesop and his fables. We have created a double-page spread to show information about his life and his work.



Year 6 (Gutenberg Class and Ahmad Class)

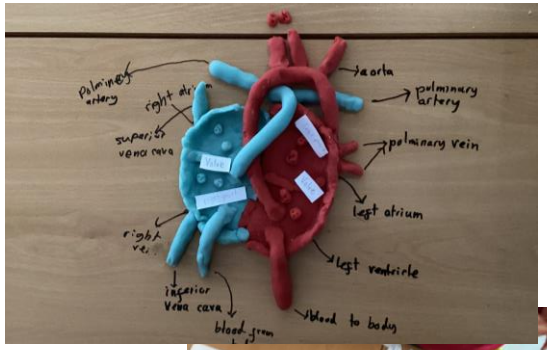


It has been a very busy week in Year 6 this week! In Science, we have been diving deeper into the circulatory system as we have been finding out more about the specific components that make up the heart and their functions. We then had a go at making our own 3D models of the heart, using labels.

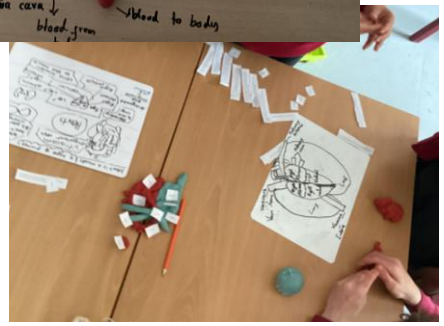


In Maths, we have finished off our first topic of Place Value and have moved on to Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. This week, we have been applying the formal methods of Addition and Subtraction to a series of multi-step problems.

In English, we have continued our learning around Macbeth as we have brought our descriptive techniques together in order to write a character description that creates an atmosphere of mystery and tension.



In RE, we have built upon our understanding of the Creation story to explore how different Christian communities use Eco-Churches to respond to the global issue of Climate Change and reduce the impact of our carbon footprint. After researching the initiatives that different Eco-Churches implement, the children were given the task of designing their own Eco-Church and writing an advert to appeal to other Christians who may be interested in supporting their cause.



This week, we were also very lucky to be invited to take part in the Tag Rugby Festival at St Andrews. All of the children did an amazing job when playing against different schools. They showed great skills with their teamwork, communication and resilience as they worked together to score many goals!

Collective Worship

During collective worship this week, we have been reflecting on the importance of British Values with a particular emphasis on Democracy as children in Key Stage 2 will soon be voting for peers they would like to form this year's school council. The children learnt about the active part they can play in the school community and beyond.

In our worship through song assembly, we continued to focus on the theme of harvest in preparation for our celebration of this important festival in the coming weeks.

Steve Gold taught the children about the classic biblical account of Noah's Ark. The story holds different meaning for people including learning about the importance of caring for animals in the world or having faith that God will protect people in turbulent times.

Congratulations to all children who received a Head Teacher's Award this week and Pogson, Ahmad, Malala and Anning classes who earned group awards.

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

PTFA

PTFA NEWSLETTER

Friends of St Gabriel's C of E Academy

w/e 20th September 2024 | PTA@stgabrielscofeacademy.org

Shop with Asda?

Raise £1 plus 0.5% of every shop for the school FREE!

CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Open your Asda rewards app
2. Tap 'Cashpot for Schools'
3. Search for and select 'St Gabriel's CofE Academy'

ASDA

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT

ASDA

Asda have launched a new cash pot for schools so you can help raise money for the school every time you shop using the App when you nominate us.

If you are a new Asda App user, Asda will give you £5 in your cash pot when you spend £5 on your first shop using the App.

TESCO THANK YOU!

Between April and June 2024 we were one of the Tesco Rugby Stronger Starts projects. We are pleased to announce that we have received £500. This money will be used to fund a greenhouse for the school.

DONUT SALE

NEXT FRIDAY (27TH)

AFTER SCHOOL

EVENTS

Full details and how to book to follow

- **Friday 27th September:** Donut sale
- **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 (Registered Charity No: 1204367)

Other News

We are aware that for the next two weeks, there will be road closures operating in Houlton for road surfacing works.

Maine Street: Tuesday 24th September Road Closure, duration 1 day (Junction of Maine and Station Avenue, in front of Columbia Street)

Maine Street: Wednesday 25th September Road Closure, duration 3 days (From Houlton Way to Station Avenue)

Houlton Way: Monday 30th September Road Closure, duration 3 days (From the roundabout on Maine to the edge of the Pocket Park)

Please take care to plan your journey to school to account for this. If you feel you need to communicate any concerns or have any questions, please liaise with the operatives on site or contact the Phoenix Surfacing office on 01536 416540.

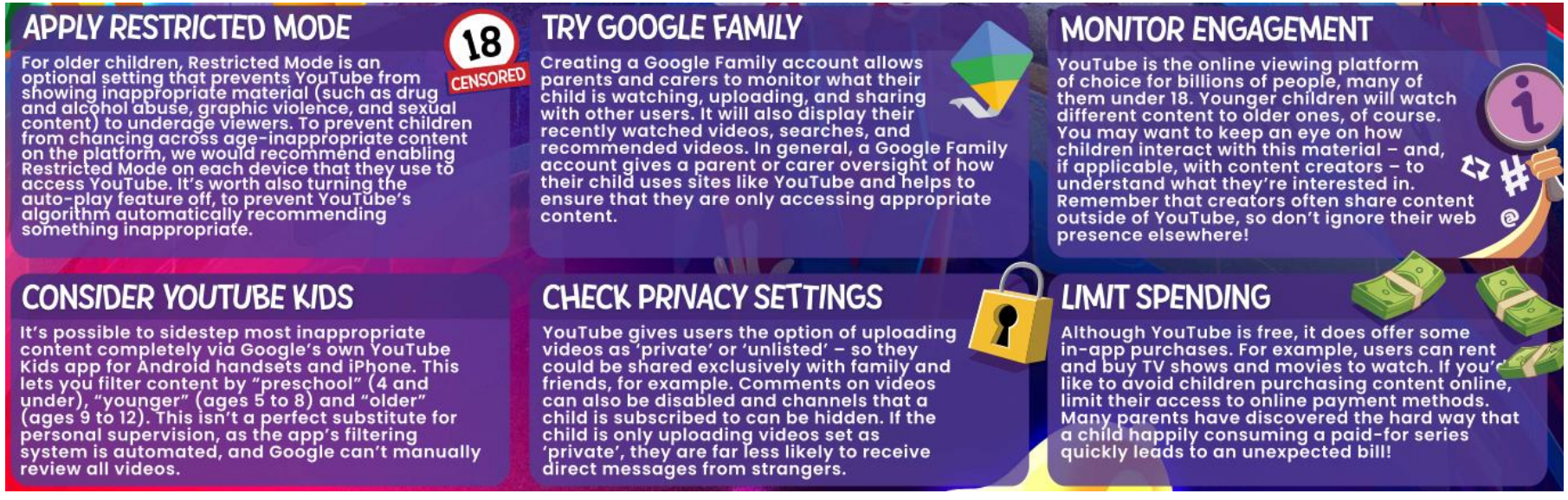
Recommended Read

'I Will Swim Next Time' *by Emily Joof and Matilda Ruta*

This week's book focuses on overcoming fears. At first the big blue sea makes them feel small and scared. Then the child visits a lake and a river, and their fear of water gradually starts to ebb as curiosity begins to flow.

Online Safety

YouTube is an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. However, with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it is appropriate for young eyes. Here are some tips to ensure that children are only accessing appropriate content.



Whole School Attendance	
Attendance since September	96.6%
This week's attendance	96.2%

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?