



Newsletter 12th February 2024





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*'We are responsible for the way we act toward others.'*

**Luke 10 30-37**

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## Head Teacher's Welcome - issue 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week, we participated in Children's Mental Health awareness week and focused on children recognising that they have 'a voice' and encouraging children to speak out to trusted friends and adults if something is worrying them. Communication is in many forms and children need to be aware that their tone of voice and body language is really important when conveying messages to one another.

In upper Key Stage 2, children have been very open and talked about the negative impact that social media and gaming is having on them. In particular, too many children are communicating via WhatsApp inappropriately and using negative comments towards one another. Fortnite is also bringing issues into the classroom. WhatsApp is rated 16 plus and Fortnite has an age recommendation of 13 plus. If your child is using these platforms, we would urge you to check messages being received and sent.

Despite the weather, we have managed to dodge the rain clouds and have been playing outside as much as possible. Year 3 have been taking part in Forest School, and many of the children have participated in PE and extra-curricular activities out-of-doors. The Braunston Canal Society volunteers have spent many weekends refurbishing our boat and the children have been delighted to see Flourish (Flo) with her new paintwork.

We would like to thank the Braunston Canal Society and the following people/companies that supported us with very generous donations for the project

Victoria and Tim from Braunston Marina for organising and donating the paint.

Pete and Karen from Tradeline Rope and Fenders for donating the fender.

Mark from Signzone for producing and donating the boat name vinyls.

Lewis for giving his time to generate the boat name graphic.

On Thursday, FOBS have organised a 'Break the Rules' day and this is already causing great excitement amongst the children (my least favourite day!) Please see previous details shared.

A reminder that we break up for half term on Friday 16th February and we will welcome the children back on Tuesday 27th February.

Best wishes

Lianna Willis

Headteacher

## Reception - Inkpen

We had a GB dragon boat racer visit Reception.

The children sat beautifully, listened and asked lots of great questions.

He talked us through what he does as a dragon boat racer, showed us on the map where in the world China is and where the different countries are that take part in dragon boat racing. He talked about Chinese traditions and showed us some lovely pictures of lanterns, Chinese dragons, Chinese meals, firecrackers, and the red money envelopes that the older generation give to the younger generation to wish them another safe and peaceful year.

He also brought in his paddles for us to have a look at. One was wooden and very old, it had Hong Kong written on one side and Chinese writing on the other side. The other paddle was a carbon fibre paddle, it was very light and very strong. We then got to practise in our own dragon boats, we paddled really fast whilst listening for the beat of the dragon boat drummer.

We have been reading 'On Sudden Hill'. The children have enjoyed exploring what they can make with boxes and how it can feel to be someone in a new situation whether that be a new school, activity or friendship group. The children were really good at suggesting different ways in which they can make a person feel included.

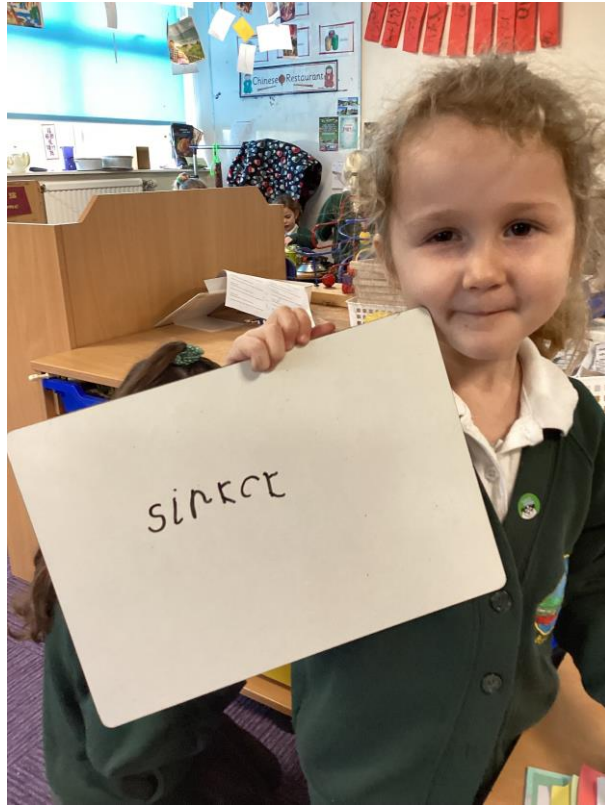
The children have enjoyed discovering how to use charcoal. They drew a Chinese dragon and learnt how they could change their drawing by pressing harder or lighter on the charcoal stick and smudging it using their fingers.

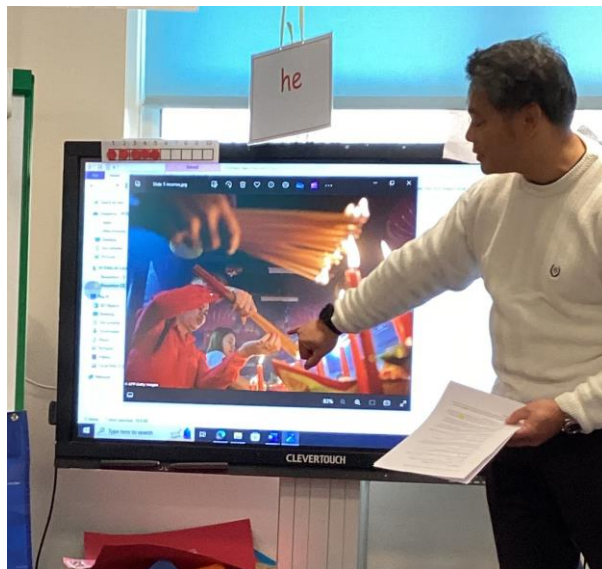


We are exploring numbers 6,7, and 8. The children have been finding different ways in which they can make 6,7 and 8.

We are revising all of the set 1 sounds in phonics and beginning to learn set 2, with a big focus on sounding out and blending the words together.







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*"3 and 3 make 6" - Jayden (Whilst holding up his fingers to show me.)*

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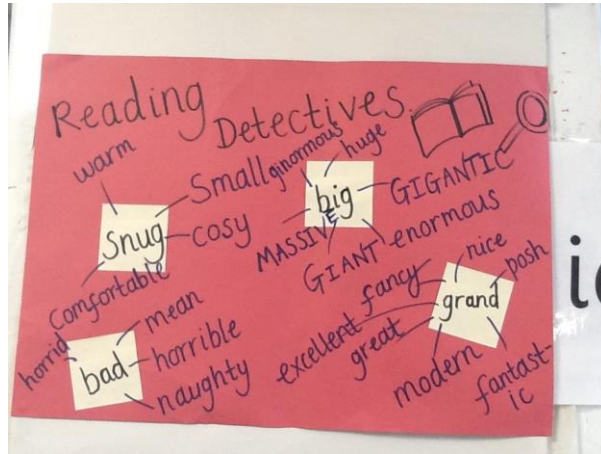
## Class 1 - Donaldson

We have been learning how to double and use near doubles to help us with finding out the answers in maths. We have also been using our knowledge of number bonds to 10 to help us learn our number bonds to 20.



In English, we have been continuing to learn the different rules of grammar, in particular learning the -ed suffix. We have had a go with applying this rule to our independent diary entries from the perspective of Samuel Pepys.

In art, Year 1 have created some super collages depicting scenes from 'The Great Fire of London.'





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*I know that double 4 is 8 and 4 and 5 is a near double. I can add one more to work it out so it's 9! - Erin.*

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*I ripped the paper to make the flames. The houses burnt down. They were made of wood. - Freyja.*

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## Class 2 - Ahlberg

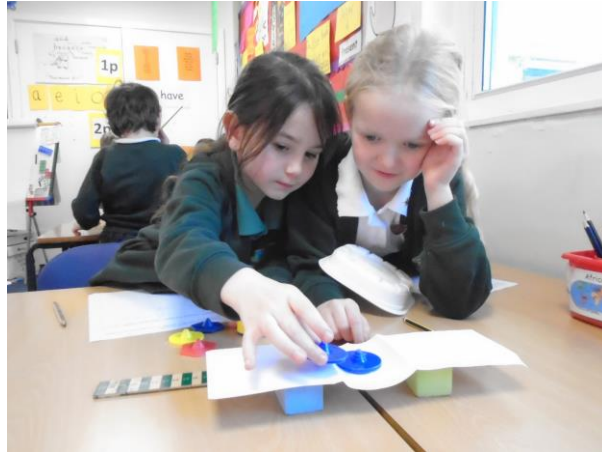
Class 2 have had a wonderful couple of weeks. They have all practised sewing skills and used them to create their very own hand puppets, they have carried out many scientific experiments on materials to test how solids can be bent, squashed, twisted and stretched and of course completed lots of maths and English too!

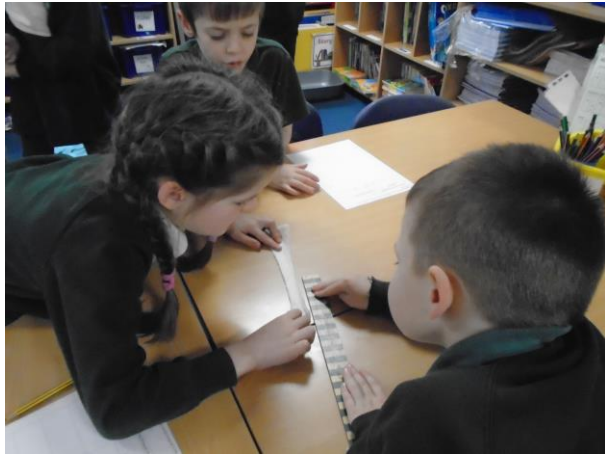


In English, the children have completed their Traction Man adventure stories and have moved on to writing letters as if they are Florence Nightingale arriving in Scutari during the Crimean War. We have found out about the terrible conditions she found there and what she did to improve them.

In maths, we have continued to practise multiplication and also added the new skill of division to our repertoire. We will finish the term by learning about how to record information in charts and graphs.

Well done Class 2 - you deserve a week off for all of your hard work and brilliant learning.








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*My paper only held 5 grams at first and then we put zig zag bends in it and it held more than 100 grams. The bends made it much stronger. Kingsley*

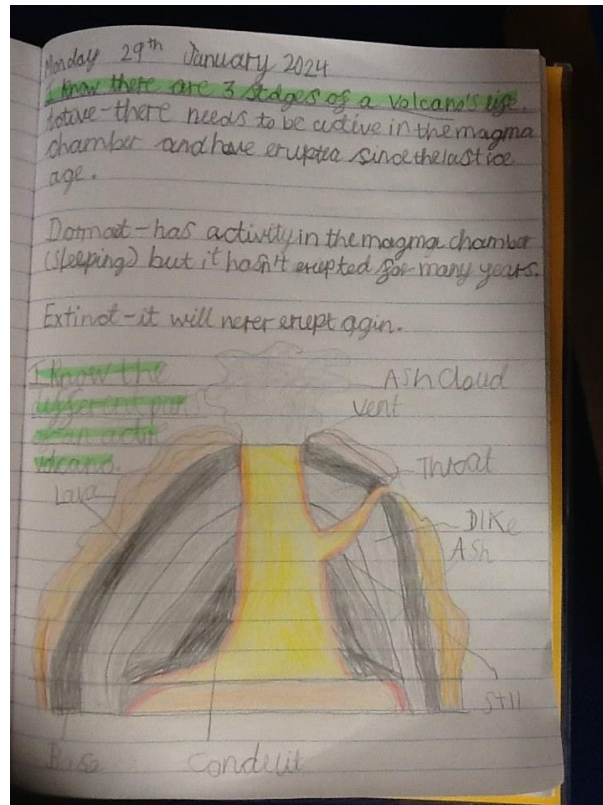
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### Class 3 - Jamila

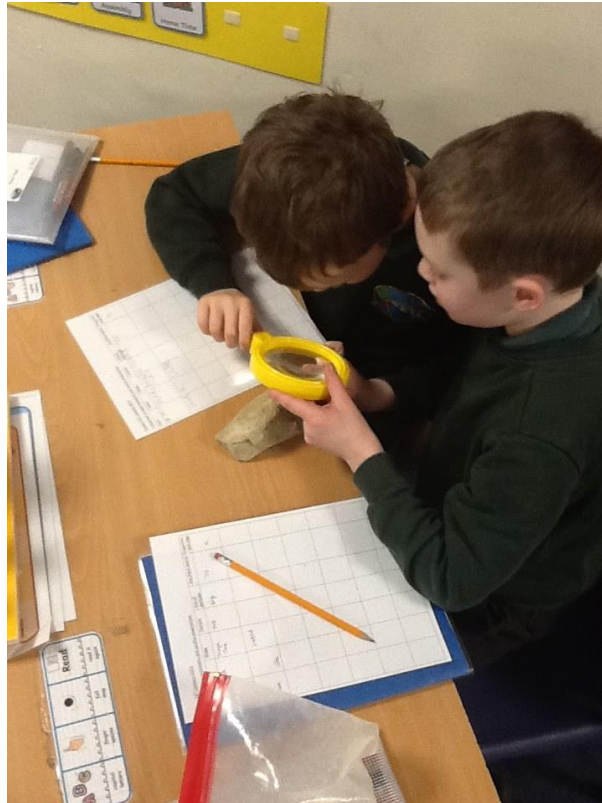
In English, we are looking at diary entries based on our story *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. We have been learning how to use conjunctions of time to join two clauses and prepositions of time, as well



as continuing our work on expanded noun phrases. We can't wait to write our diary entries as Hogarth when the Iron Man and Space-Bat-Angel-Dragon have been undertaking their challenge! In science, we have continued our work on rocks. Last week, we conducted a comparative test to test the permeability, density, hardness and chalk content of rocks. It was lots of fun! In geography, we are really enjoying learning about volcanoes including how they are formed and their structure.







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*Some volcanoes are formed when the oceanic plate gets pushed under the continental plate. This makes pressure and gases which go up and make a volcanic eruption - Alfie*

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## Class 4 - Morpurgo

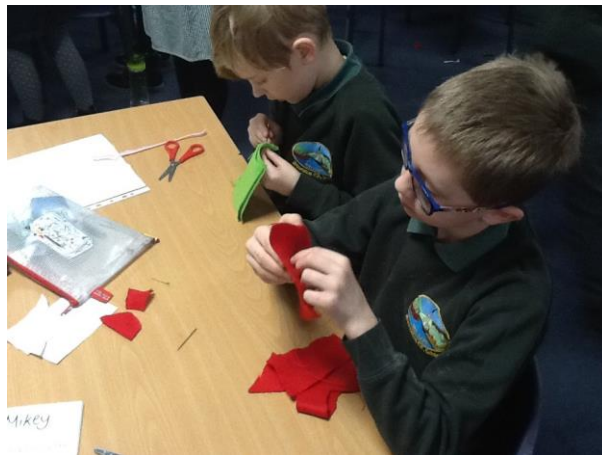
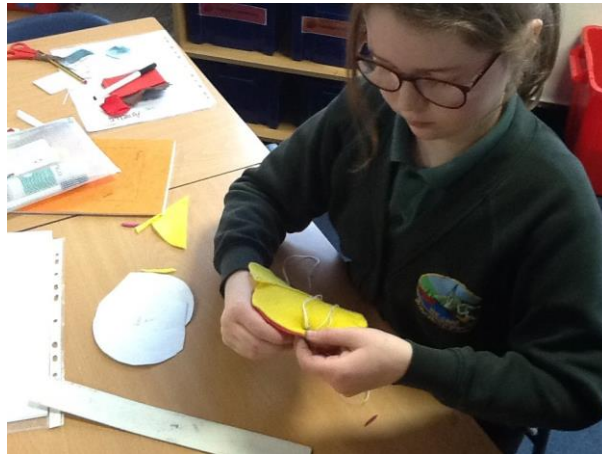
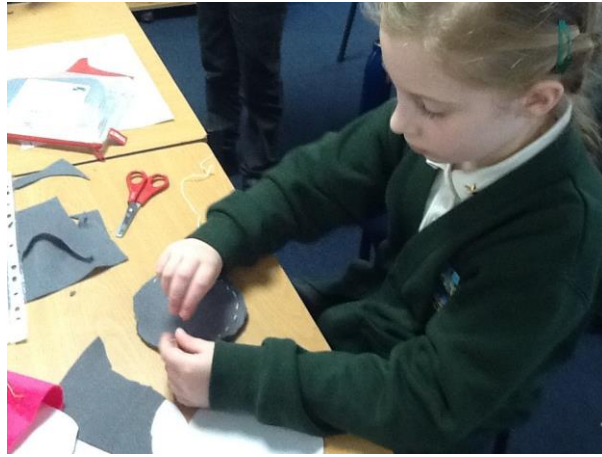
In our reading lessons, we are continuing to look at 'Charlotte's Web'. The children love to hear about Wilbur's adventures and can't wait to discover how Charlotte is going to save him! In year 4, we love listening to each other read and sharing books with our peers! During our writing sessions, the children have been exploring the stages of The Water Cycle. We are learning how water travels in each stage and new scientific vocabulary needed to be able to write our own explanation text.

In maths, we are continuing to divide two and three digit numbers using the partitioning model. The children are working really hard to learn new methods to support with their division calculations. Year 4 are working hard to learn their times tables through TTRockstars. Please can we ask that they continue to do this at home, ready for a multiplication test in June. Thank you for your continued support.

In DT, the children have started to make their own felt purse. They have looked at a range of purses / wallets, critiqued the designs and have used these examples to design their own purse / wallet. The children have thought carefully about the style, colour and the audience for their design. They have enjoyed practising cross stitch and running stitch, ready for when they pull their design together. We can't wait to see the finished product!







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*DT is really fun because I love making my purse. I really enjoy stitching and being creative.*    - Sophie

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## Class 5 - Rowling

We have been busy in science investigating reversible and irreversible changes. We found that salt that has dissolved can have the process reversed by evaporating the water; we were left with salt again. The water could also be collected as it condensed on the cold whiteboard. However, when we

put vinegar onto bicarbonate of soda it fizzed up creating a new substance of CO<sub>2</sub> gas. We could not get the bicarb back so it was irreversible, as was the bread being cooked and becoming toast.

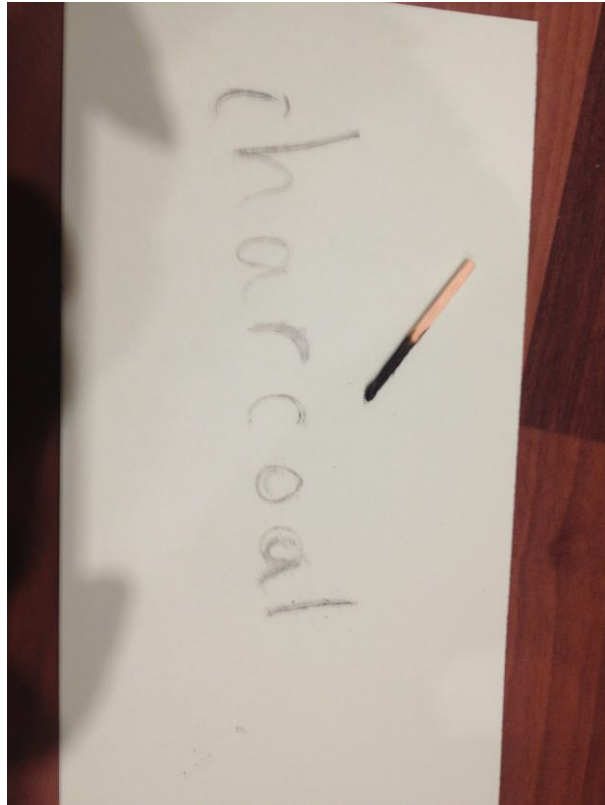
As part of our RE work, we welcomed in a visitor, Jo Elijah, who is a practising Jew. She shared with us some of her beliefs and practises, in relation to the following of Kosher rules and the reading of the Torah.

We enjoyed our maths enrichment day, with many other PDET schools. Our day began by watching a very entertaining magic show with numbers and puzzles. Then we embarked on some workshops: we began by using our number skills to crack codes and open padlocks aiming to get to the centre of the box; we also had fun making daisy chains patterns, moving towers and building cubes in a practical workshop; after lunch we folded paper to make pentagons which we then connected 12 of them together to make a dodecahedron (well, some of us managed this last part back at school). We are now looking forward to returning to Irthlingborough Rock UK for our residential in June.











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*"Maths was fun!" announced Scarlet, while holding her shape. "I am very proud of the dodecahedron we made."*

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## Class 6 - Horowitz

Class Horowitz have had another eventful couple of weeks, working hard to develop their skills in a range of curriculum areas. In English, they have been analysing Alfred Noyes poem 'The Highwayman' ; using it as inspiration to write their own narrative pieces including



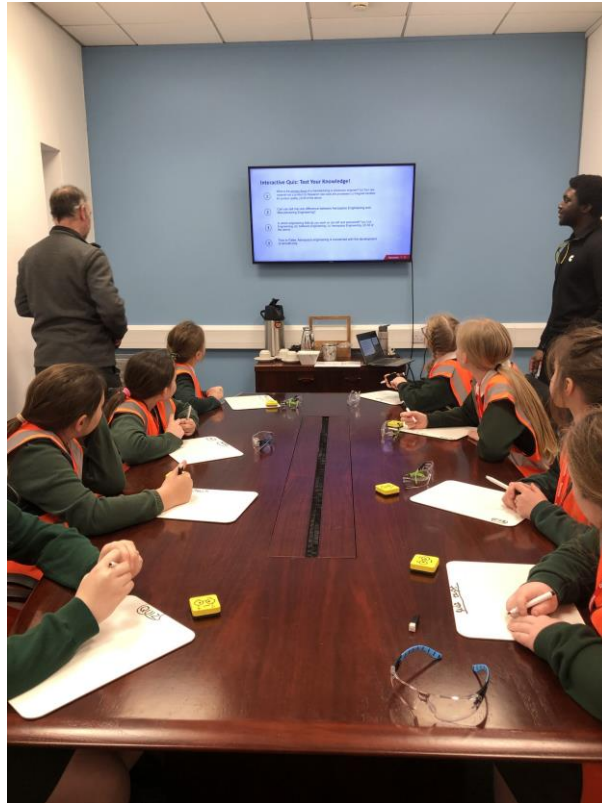
dialogue. Through role play, they have considered how various conversations may have looked between key characters. In maths, they have enjoyed the challenge of forming and solving equations. During geography, they have discovered how different mountains are formed and used their research and mapping skills to locate examples. In science, they have been investigating the best exercise to strengthen their hearts: drawing conclusions about why certain exercises are more effective than others. Being Safer Internet week, they have carefully considered the advantages of mobile technology but also the dangers and drawbacks: thinking carefully about the importance of using this technology safely for their own and others well-being.



*1 - Investigating the best exercise to strengthen our hearts.*



*2 - Our second group of girls have started their Girls' Engineering Club at Cummins.*





"I enjoyed learning about engines and how long it takes to make them. I also enjoyed spending time with my friends. The day started with us learning about engines, then we met some of the staff followed by lunch. The afternoon was spent on my favourite activity - making and flying foam and paper aeroplanes." Pippa

## Focus On Sport

The children have been very active during their break and lunchtimes, as well as in class. Year 3 and 5 have been enjoying developing their tennis skills, whilst year 4 and 6 have been developing volley ball, all with Mr Webb. A team of children from Year 1 and 2 enjoyed having the chance to represent the school at a multi-skills festival at Parker Academy as part of our involvement with Northants sport. A lot of fun was had as they struck aim at archery and curling, volley ball and golf. They were a credit to our school and did extremely well making Mrs Lawson and Mr Pryce proud.









## Forest School



Hello from Forest School! Year 3 have been continuing their sessions in our Forest School area. We have made bubble pipes by whittling cuttings from an overgrown Elder tree. Mrs Barnwell and Mrs Allinson made some charcoal at home using some whittled willow which had been cut to pieces to fit into a small coffee tin which had a small hole pierced into the lid. They placed the packed tin inside a lit firepit and waited until all the moisture had left the wood inside the tin. This makes brilliant artists charcoal, and when placed inside elder sticks it makes a charcoal pencil. The children enjoyed drawing with these pencils on a sheet which was pinned up in our garden. We are always learning new skills and enjoyed making spinners from tree cookies. A great time was had by all.



3 - The children also used their charcoal pencils to make drawings and we laminated and framed them inside stick frames.



4 - There are signs of Spring all over the School gardens, with new shoots and Daffodils emerging through the wet ground.









## Focus on Wellbeing



Wellbeing has been at the very forefront of our minds over the last couple of weeks. Every class has been learning about the Zones of Regulation and how to identify how they are feeling. Everyone can come into school and tell the adults how they are feeling by placing a named lollipop stick into a coloured pot. Each colour related to a group of different emotions and feelings. We strive to return to green and have been learning strategies to help us to do this. By talking about how we are feeling helps us and means that our friends and adults in school can also help us to return to calm (green) - the optimum learning zone. Each class also now has a Calming Corner that also supports us to find strategies.

Last week was Children's Mental Health Week and our Anti-Bullying Committee ran an assembly to show how important it is to speak up and how powerful even one voice can be. We shared the story of Malala Yousafzai who believed it was her right and the right of other girls to have an education. She spoke up and was eventually able to achieve this.







## Certificates of The Week

Pupil of the Week		
	2.2.24	9.2.24
Inkpen	Reuben	Tabitha
Donaldson	Riley	Chester
Ahlberg	Nicholas	Luke
Jamila	Darcie	Hanna
Morpurgo	Oliver	George
Rowling	Iris	Joshua
Horowitz	Darcey	Aerinn

Our School Value Resilience – Relationships – Reconciliation – Responsibility – Respect & Reverence – Reflection		
	2.2.24	9.2.24
Inkpen	Hallie	Emily
Donaldson	George	Lucy
Ahlberg	William	Abigail
Jamila	Blake	Isaac
Morpurgo	Archie	Amelia
Rowling	Leo	Ben
Horowitz	Billy	Madison

Presentation Award		
	2.2.24	9.2.24
Inkpen	Harriet	Oliver
Donaldson	Roman	Theo
Ahlberg	Polly	William
Jamila	May	Alfie
Morpurgo	Freya	Mya-Poppy
Rowling	Hope	Francisco
Horowitz	Merin	Noah



Problem Solver		
	2.2.24	9.2.24
Inkpen	Isabella	Jayden
Donaldson		George
Ahlberg	Gracie-May	William
Jamila	Leo	Sophia
Morpurgo	Max	Lana
Rowling	Isaac	Iris
Horowitz	Madison	Enzo

## Attendance

Attendance		
	2.2.24	9.2.24
Inkpen	95.5%	96.9%
Donaldson	98.0%	91.3%
Ahlberg	99.5%	95.8%
Jamila	97.4%	95.9%
Morpurgo	97.2%	98.6%
Rowling	88.6%	99.7%
Horowitz	97.3%	98.3%
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.1%	96.7%

## Contact Us

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**If you have a safeguarding concern click [HERE](#)**

**WEDUC**

*Link to calendar of events [Calendar](#)*

*Report An Absence - [Forms](#)*

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