



Newsletter – 26th May 2023

RECEPTION

This term Reception have been very busy. We have been reading the story 'The Naughty Bus' and the children have loved learning about double decker buses and doing some role play in the 'bus station' cabin.

We have been doing lots of work on double numbers, pairs, number bonds to 10 and 'more than' and 'fewer than'.

Reception have loved learning about different types of vehicles and what they do and the sounds they make. They have made brilliant vehicles with recyclable materials and have thought about different adventures they would go on and what vehicles they would need to get there.

We have been working on ball skills in PE focusing on control, catching and throwing. The children have been fantastic at this. They have also been doing their forest school sessions. We have made bug hotels, done mud painting, cloud gazing and made portraits using leaves, sticks and stones.

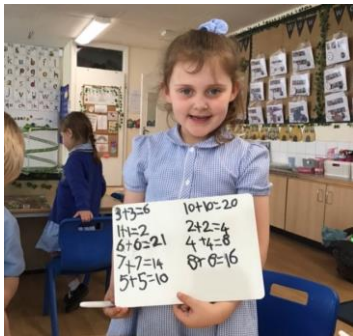
We have some new visitors in our class. The children will be observing caterpillars over the next few weeks and will be looking at the different stages of them turning into butterflies.

Our garden has got some new flowers in it which were planted by the children who would make brilliant gardeners!

We celebrated the King's Coronation and had a visit from Rock Kids and had our very own rock concert which we loved!

Reception had their class assembly, on 'May the month of Mary' and they were absolutely fantastic. We are so proud of you Reception, keep up the good work!





YEAR 1

Year 1 have been learning all about 'The Arctic' this half term and finding out what animals live in the Arctic as well as the learning about the different climates around the world. Children loved being weather reporters and talking about the weather in the UK, the Amazon Rainforest and the Arctic and were able to recognise hot and cold areas of the world. We have enjoyed reading our key text 'Winter Sleep' and learnt lots about hibernation and which animals hibernate and why they hibernate in the winter. Year 1 have been writing about the hibernation of a dormouse, comparing the secret glade in the season of Summer and Winter, as well as creating their own version of the story 'Winter Sleep'.

Year 1 have really enjoyed their Music (Charanga) lessons, having fun with improvising, and learning about pulse, rhythm and pitch. Children were fantastic singing and performing the song 'Getting dressed' and are becoming more confident improvising and composing a song using musical instruments.

In Come and See Year 1 have been learning about 'Holidays and Holydays'. Year 1 were fantastic creating their own dance showing the sequence of the events of Pentecost Day. They also created different movements using streamers and enjoyed performing their own dance to the class in small groups.

Well done for all your excellent work this half term Year 1.



Year 1 particularly enjoyed the 'Rock Kidz' on tour and learnt a song called 'Nobody Like Me' reminding them they are unique and special.

YEAR 2

During this half term, Year 2 have been working hard in all aspects of the curriculum. We have had a huge focus on handwriting in class and the children have produced some beautiful work because of this. One of our favourite sessions this term has been Forest Schools – the children love it. We have explored the woods, searched for mini beast, built our own Bug Hotels, and made some clay faces on the trees. Exploring outside is something we all enjoy. We have also been lucky enough to have Widnes Vikings in to develop our rugby skills. We have been focusing on our speeds, strength, agility, and ball skills. In Geography, we have been learning all about Llandudno and everything it has to offer – from its wonderful beaches to the amazing Great Orme.



YEAR 3

The Stone Age

Year 3 have enjoyed our topic this half term, learning about how early man lived and survived thousands of years ago. In history, we have studied the Stone Age through to the Iron Age and learned about 'Lindow Man' - the well-preserved body of an Iron-Age man discovered in Lindow Moss peat bog in Cheshire in 1983, as well as the famous Boudica, a Celtic queen who led a revolt against Roman rule in Ancient Britain in A.D. 60 or 61.

We also learned about how people lived and worked in this period and studied a 3D model of one of the most famous Stone Age farm dwellings to exist – 'Skara Brae' on the Scottish Isle of Orkney.

We read the book 'Pebble in my Pocket', which was the inspiration for some fantastic comic strips written by the class and also read the story 'Stone Age Boy' which helped us to imagine and write about what life was like in this period. In science, we studied rocks and soil, and learned about the different types of rocks and how they are formed. We also learned about the role that volcanoes and glaciers played in the creation of our planet as well as where most volcanoes are found on Earth.

We created some beautiful artwork based on a local rock sculpture called 'Moongate' as well as enjoying lots of celebrations for the Coronation and Eurovision. In PE, we have enjoyed learning how to play rounders and practice our tennis skills. And last but not least, the visit from 'Rock Kidz on Tour' was truly unforgettable and we had so much fun dressed up in true rock star style!



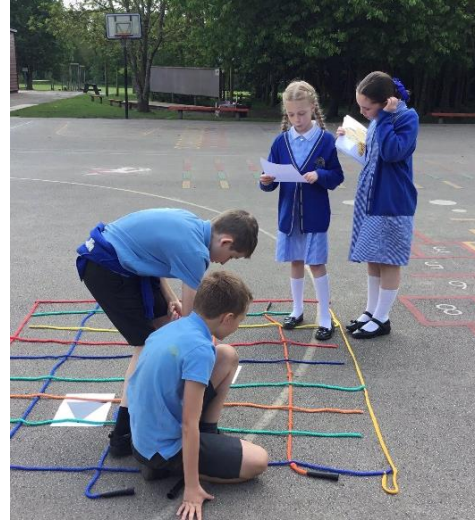
YEAR 4

Year 4 have had so much fun this half-term! We loved our school visit from Rock Kidz where we had the opportunity to sing and dance like rock stars. We've been getting fit in P.E. during our fitness lessons, timing our sprinting and devising a mini circuit with exercises we've learnt about. Our History topic has been about the 'Saxon King'. We have thoroughly enjoyed exploring and learning about the inspirational story of Harold Godwinson, the final Anglo-Saxon King of England. A lesson we particularly enjoyed was when we were put into groups and had to research the different candidates' claim to the throne after Edward the Confessor died. Each group put together a speech where we aimed to convince the Witan Council to choose their claimant. We had so much fun planning and delivering these speeches and deciding who would be the next King of England.

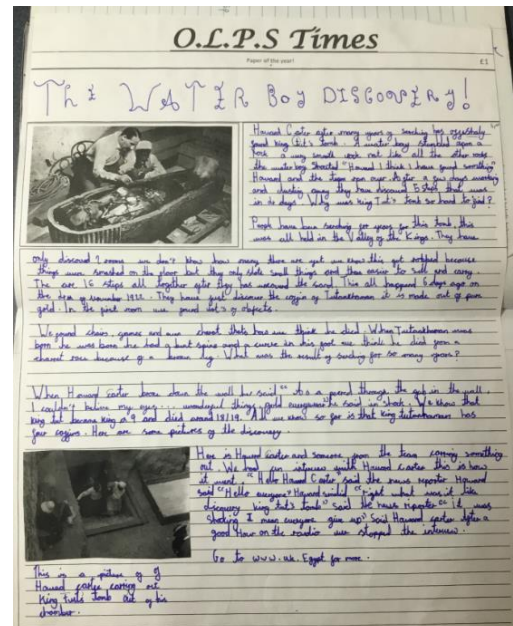
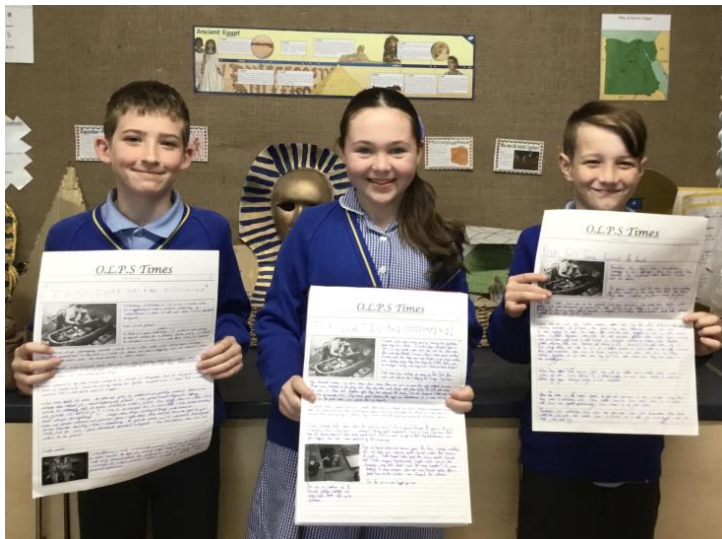


YEAR 5

This half term we have emerged ourselves in the culture and beliefs of Ancient Egypt. We have looked at where Egypt is in the world, and the importance of the river Nile to its economy, now and in the past. We have looked at maps of where the important places and antiquities are located, creating maps using 4 figure grid references both in our books and on the playground.



Our writing has also been inspired by the Ancient Egyptians. We read *Ma'at's Feather* by Juliet Desailly, and then imagined how exciting it must have been for Howard Carter to finally discover the tomb of Tutankhamun after years of searching:



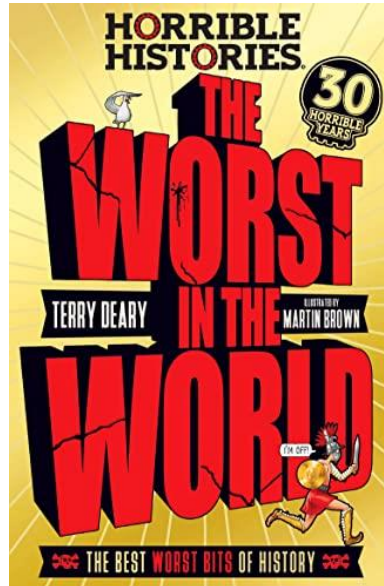
We had fun making our own little mummies and placed them in their sarcophagi. We also really enjoyed researching Ancient Egyptian beliefs and customs. They would place all the deceased pharaoh's vital organs into little jars, called canopic jars, to preserve them for the 'after-life'. The lids of the jars represented some of their gods, such as the jackal-headed Anubis. We designed our canopic jars, based on the original ones, and then made them from clay in DT:



In PE we have thoroughly enjoyed improving our rugby skills with Widnes Vikings:



Finally, did you know that we met the talented author Terry Deary who is famous for the Horrible Histories books, (virtually of course!) We took part in a quiz together with 235 other primary schools.



YEAR 6

After plenty of hard work across the whole of Key Stage 2, and indeed since they started at Our Lady's, Year 6 have completed their SATs. All our class performed incredibly well, and completed the exams by showing excellent resilience and composure - even if they were very hard this year! Mr Easby and Mrs Heston could not be prouder of the hard work, commitment, and maturity the children showed in the face of pressure. A huge well done to them all! To celebrate we had our traditional sweet hunt in the woods. It is also important to remember that while SATs measure the children's progress in Maths and English, they do not measure the amazing progress they have made as individuals over the year. The children have developed in confidence and maturity, resilience and determination, not to mention how well they have improved in the many other subjects not assessed by SATs. Now we can take that maturity and confidence in the remaining time at Our Ladys, and we look forward to our residential visit to Plas Menai after half term.



Mrs Donnelly

I am writing to let you all know that after **26** years of dedicated service to generations of families of Our Lady's and **38** years in teaching, **Mrs Donnelly** has decided 'to hang up her whistle' and take a well-earned retirement.

This is a huge loss to our school community but I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best for a long, happy & healthy retirement.

Congratualtions and best wishes on your retirement Mrs Donnelly.



PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association)

We need your help!

We encourage parents/carers to get involved with school life and an excellent way of doing this is by joining the PTFA.

The PTFA assists with events and fundraising and contributes to the school social functions. It's a useful way to get to know other parents/carers and feel part of the school community.

If you are interested in learning more about our PTFA, please come along to a brief meeting on: Friday, 9th June @ 2pm.





Thank you for your support in helping to raise money for our school funds.

Our 2nd bag2school event managed to raise £90.00.

Thank you for your continued support.

School Trips

Yr Reception	-	Imagine That	-	7 th July 2023
Yr1	-	Knowsley Safari Park	-	7 th July 2023
Yr2	-	Delamere Forest	-	4 th July 2023
Yr3	-	Science & Industry Museum	-	27 th June 2023
Yr4	-	Science & Industry Museum	-	27 th June 2023
Yr5	-	Catalyst Museum	-	To be confirmed

RESIDENTIAL TRIP PAYMENT

Year 6 Residential Trip to Plas Menai

Wednesday, 7th June 2023 to Friday, 9th June 2023

All payments should now have been paid and your account balance should now be zero.

If you still have a balance on your account, please could we ask you clear as a matter of urgency.

Thank you.



Change of details

Please could you inform the office if you have any new contact numbers, moved house or if any medical conditions have changed? If your child has been diagnosed with a medical condition, please provide a copy of medical evidence from your GP for our records.



Dogs

Please could we remind parents/carers that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school premises, even on a lead.



CHILDREN LATE

This is a polite reminder that if your child is late for school in the morning, parent/carers **must** come into school with their child and sign them in on the EntrySign system at the office. Thank you.

REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE

Please could we remind parents/carers that if your child(ren) are absent from school it is expected that parents/carers will provide an explanation of the child's(ren's) absence on the 1st day the absence occurs, at the start of the school day (before 8.30am)

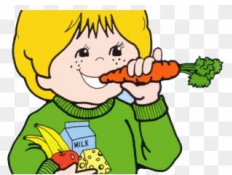
If your child(ren) is absent for 3 days or more, parents/carers should contact the school again and provide an update on the child's(ren's) condition.

Please ensure that your child is in school every day and on time

POLITE REMINDER – SNACK AND DINNER ACCOUNT

Please could we ask that you keep a check on your child(ren's) snack/dinner account ensuring they have **credit** on their accounts at all times.

Unfortunately, if there is no credit on your account you will need to supply a packed lunch and a healthy snack from home.



SNACK

Please ensure that if your child is not buying snack from school then they bring in a piece of fruit **ONLY** for their snack at playtime. This is to ensure that all children are having healthy snacks as we are a Healthy School.



We look forward to welcoming you all back on

Monday, 5th June 2023 @ 8.30am children in class by 8.45am

