



## Newsletter – w/e 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Reception

Well, Reception have had their first term in school, and they have had a fantastic time! The children have all made friends with their peers and have been learning how to play nicely with each other and turn take.

The children have been exploring their new school and have been using their gross motor skills on the jungle gym and on the bikes.

The weekly continuous provision activities have engaged the children and through this they have been practicing their fine motor skills, name writing, counting, colouring and cutting skills.

The children have loved their weekly music lessons as they have been able to experiment with lots of instruments and they have been learning how to sing some songs.

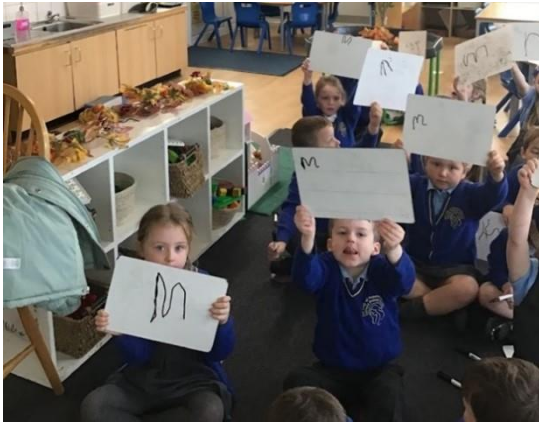
The children helped create our 'Autumn Table' and they brought in lots of autumn things from home such as chestnuts, acorns, leaves and pumpkins. The children have enjoyed looking at these objects and drawing or writing what they can see.

We have been learning about 'God's Wonderful World' and through this the children have learnt about recycling and the importance of trees and how they change in each season.

Our topic this term has been 'All About Me' and the children have enjoyed looking at themselves in the mirror and drawing self-portraits. They have been very good at naming various body parts and talking about what features they have.

The children have really enjoyed our role play cabin which has been the 'Doctors'. They have been using their imagination really well by dressing up as doctors, helping patients, putting on bandages and answering very important phone calls.





## Yr 1

Year 1 have really enjoyed the topic 'Unity in the Community' this first half term. Children have been learning about their local area and where Widnes is on a map of the UK, as well as finding out where the United Kingdom is on a world map. Year 1 had lots of fun being weather reporters talking about the weather in Widnes. In Science, Year 1 have enjoyed learning outside the classroom, going into the forest to learn about plants and seasonal changes. They also enjoyed collecting different leaves from the forest and were able to sort the leaves in different ways.

In English Year 1 have loved reading the story 'The Bog Baby' and were amazed when we found footprints that led us to find the Bog Baby in our school forest! We have been using lots of descriptive writing about the Bog Baby and describing the pond where it lives. Children have really enjoyed this story and were able to create their own narrative to re-tell key parts of the story.

Well done for all your hard work. What a fantastic start to Year 1!



## Yr 2

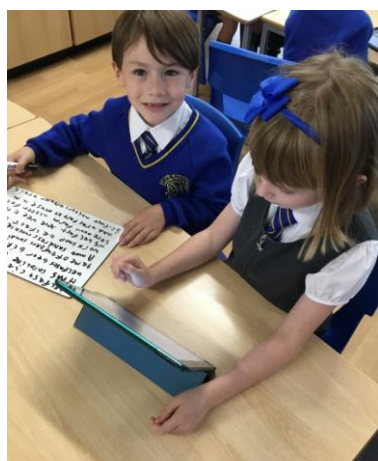
Year 2 have really enjoyed their topic 'NESW' this half term. We researched the capital cities of the United Kingdom and we also learned about human features of our local area. We then used this information to write our own non-chronological reports about Widnes. As part of the topic we completed a fieldwork task on our school grounds and then sketched the landscape of the school in our art lessons.

In English, this half term we have been reading 'The Lonely Beast'. The children had a fantastic time reading the story and wrote their own character descriptions and retold of the story.

In Maths we have been practising our addition and subtraction and the children have been introduced to 'renaming'. We have used practical resources to help us and we have learned new written methods too.

During 'Stay Safe Week' Year 2 took part in a range of fantastic workshops. We learned all about CO safety with 'Safety Seymour' and we also learned about how to stay safe in and near water with the RNLI.

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the school year, all the children have settled in really well and are all putting 100% into their work. Well done Year 2!



### Yr 3

Year 3 have enjoyed our topic 'Journey to Greece' this half term learning all about ancient Greece. We have been transfixed by the Greek myths all about the great Gods and Goddesses and the stories about the mortals who angered the Gods with their unwise behaviour such as Pandora, King Midas and Arachne. We also learned about the heroes from Greek mythology including Perseus and Jason and the Argonauts. In history, we learned that Ancient Greece was a very powerful empire between 2000 BC and 146 BC and was responsible for introducing democracy, (one of our British Values today) as well as many new ideas for government, science, philosophy and art (and the Greek alphabet!).

We also compared two Greek cities that existed in ancient times (Athens and Sparta) and looked at their similarities and differences, observing what it would be like to grow up there and debating which city was the best.

Other highlights have included P.E where we have enjoyed dance, football and after-school tennis club.

We have also listened to traditional Greek music and had a go at dancing the 'Hasapiko'. The absolute highlight of our half term, however, has been our Greek food tasting lesson, combining learning about healthy eating in science as well as trying some yummy Greek food.

We also spent a morning learning all about road safety including a safety walk where we practiced crossing the road – we were all brilliant at doing this as the pictures below show!

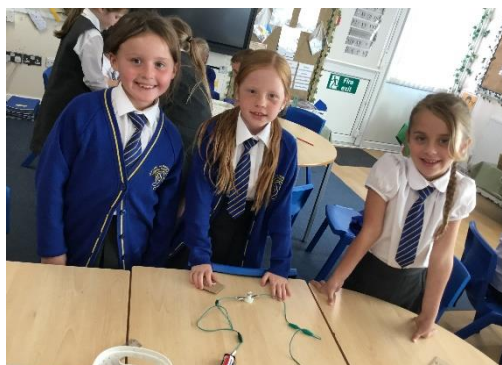
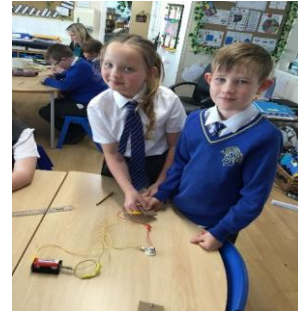
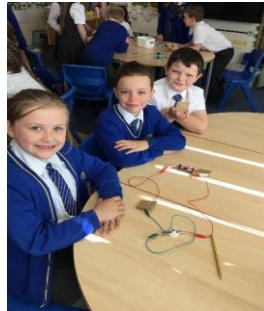
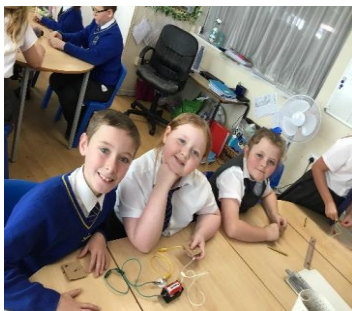
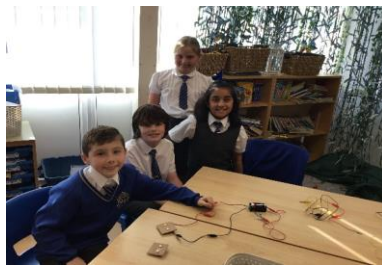
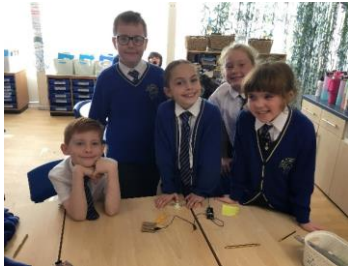


## Yr4

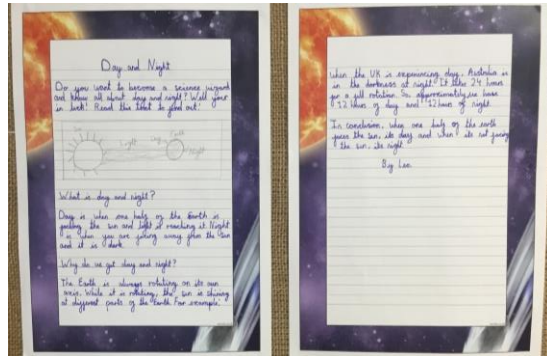
During this half term, Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the topics within our 'Lightning Speed' theme. In history, the children really enjoyed researching Widnes looking at historical places in Halton and how industry has changed. They created an informative leaflet about it and presented them to the class. In P.E. the children have been really lucky to have had the opportunity to work with the excellent tennis coach, Tia! They have had a fantastic time learning all about the skills and determination needed to play tennis.

During Stay Safe week, the children learned all about road safety and took part in many activities. They even got to put into practise all they learned in the classroom and were supervised demonstrating how to cross the road safely.

Our favourite subject this half term has to be science when we learned all about electricity. The children have participated in many investigations. They have made their own simple circuits, identifying complete and incomplete circuits. Their inquiries have also helped them recognise the difference between conductors and insulators. One of their favourite investigations was observing how long a battery powered a bulb for. They had so much fun recording their finding and writing explanations as to why the battery lasted as long as it did.

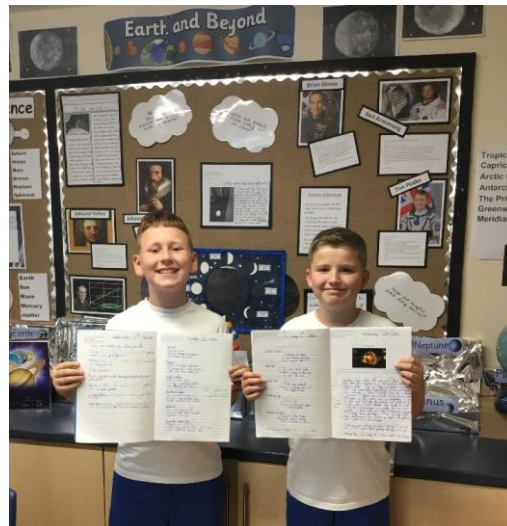
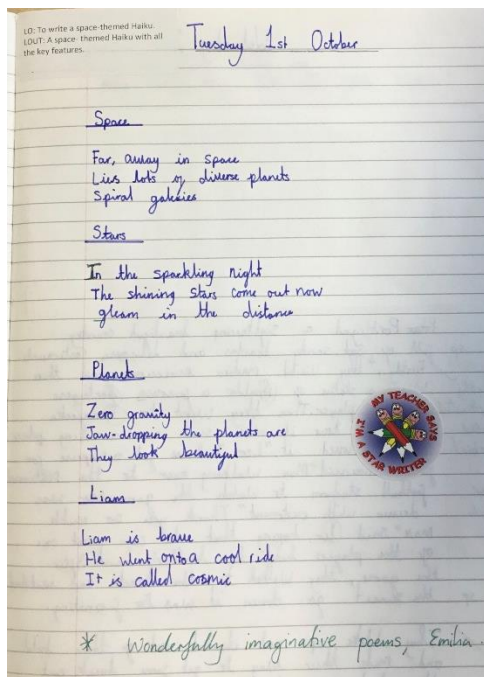


## Yr 5



We have had a very busy term in Year 5. We have been exploring the topic of Space, and have learnt all about the Earth, Moon and Solar System. We began by looking at the Earth itself, and how you map the globe. We learned all about lines of latitude and longitude, the Greenwich Meridian as well as the tropical zone.

In English we have loved reading Frank Cottrell-Boyce's amazing book 'Cosmic', which inspired us all to do our own research on this topic, resulting in space themed diaries and we particularly enjoyed creating Space themed haiku poems.



In Science we have learned all about the Solar System, how day and night occur and the phases of the moon. We kept moon diaries and charted the different phases.

Finally, in our forest schools lessons we have enjoyed making art from nature as well as building shelters. It is great to get outdoors and experience our wonderful school woods. We've taken part in these lessons in every type of weather! We can't wait to see what next term brings...

## Yr 6

It's been a busy start for Year 6 in their final year at Our Lady's, with lots of new learning and adjusting to life at the top of the school. Most of our class have new responsibilities like House Captains and Prefects, but one job we have been working especially hard with is our roles as Play Leaders and Buddies for Reception. Play Leader training has taken place this year with Year 6 being able to create games using all kinds of equipment, as well as adapting those games to suit the younger children. This role allows them to help nurture the Reception and Year 1 children's ability to play well. Our class also met their Reception buddies, whom they will look after all year round and help settle into Our Lady's and hopefully act as a role model for.

There's also been lots of learning and a very busy Stay Safe week which saw Year 6 look at the dangers of Smoking and Vaping as well as keeping safe online and the threat of carbon monoxide.

All in all, it's been a busy settling in half term with some great new experiences. Well done Year 6, you've worked hard - but we're only just getting started!







### 100% Attendance Awards

Well done to the following children who obtained 100% attendance for the school term 1<sup>st</sup> September to 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Patrick Cassidy	Carter Black	Maisie Bate	Tommy Birchall
Eliza Devy	Theo Buckley	Daisy Black	Jax Connor
Nella Gaffney	Ayda Doran	Emily Farmer	Nicholas Doyle
Lillie Harmon	Freya Dyas	Zoe Fitzharris	Ruby Fazackerley
Henry Hepburn	Parker Hardman	Eve Fogg	Mikey Foster
Ava Jones	Jacob Harris	Ellis Hanley	Thomas Henson
Jack Malone	Eliza Jones	Alfie Jones	William Johnson-Wright
Isaac Lawton	Luis Keowski	Summer Jones	Olivia Jones
Charlie Power	Finnley Macfarlane	Seth Karaski	Charlie Lita
Phoebe Radcliffe	Auraelia Maher	Ava Losh	Roman Mafi
Ada Rowlands	Ivy Marsden	Elijah Maher	Isla McFadden
Aaron Rowley	Lottie Moglione	Lillie Masangwi	Evan Lawton
Myah Wignall	Adeliade Mitchell Mullally	Mila McDonald	Ellsie Noone
	Thomas Roach	Imogen Molyneux	Sam Owens
	Ozzie Ryan	Olivia Murphy	Teddy Prendergast
	Dolly Siner	Mia Reilly	Finley Romano-Burns
	Tymon Starzyk	Lennie Smith	Jacob Rowlands
		Keira-Lily Strutt	Vincent Weston
		Ella Wignall	
		Lucas Willcox	

**Year 4**

Dexter Bowan

Sam Bowles

Belle Connor

Ella Connor

Austin Dutton

Hudson Gaffney

Eryn Grant

Mason Hughes

Oliver Lafferty

Joseph McGuffie

Betsy Merrill

Orla-Quinn Riley

Oliver Rowlands

Alex Russell

Isaac Sinclair

Finley Telfer

Amelia Winstanley

**Year 5**

Elizabeth Armitage

Freddie Buck

Isaac Campbell

Elliot Dunne

Grace Fogg

William Harris

Rhys Jones

Neo Kandoje

Leo Keowski

Jackson Kinsella

Alice Kirwan

Millie Lamey

Emilia MacDowell

Tobias Neil

Billy Rowlands

Jude Smith

Alex Turpin

Naveah Worsley

**Year 6**

Willow Black

Dixie Bowen

Jack Bowles

Joseph Cox

Lillie Edwards

Kelsey Graham

Ella Lane

Alex McGuffie

Ava Moran

Jack Moran

Elliott Noone

Will Raymond

Esme Reynolds

Zack Russell

Frankie Tighe



## Guinness World Poetry Challenge

This term we've also been involved in helping to set a Guinness World record with the poet Laura Mucha for the largest poetry lesson ever!

We sent in our ideas for the poem and actually voted on the day for which parts to leave in and cut out of the finished piece of poetry! We have received our certificate of participation and look forward to OUR poem being published and the record becoming official!

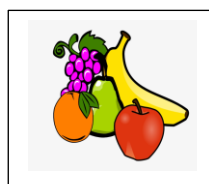
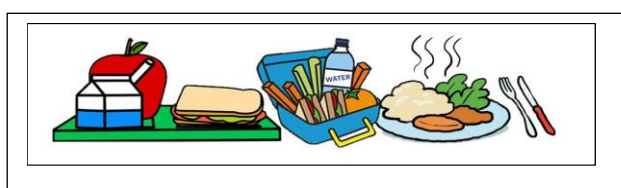


## Booking School Snacks and Dinners

Please remember that as Parents/Carers it is **your responsibility** that you book your child(ren's) snack and school dinners online, ([www.schoolhub.co.uk](http://www.schoolhub.co.uk)) and make payment for all meals/snacks booked. If there is no money in your wallet you will need to provide snacks/packed lunch from home until account is in credit. **Also**, if your child is **absent** from school, again, it is **your responsibility** to cancel any meals/snacks booked otherwise you will still be charged.

School meals must also be booked if your child is entitled to Free School Meals and if your child is in Reception, Yr1 and Yr2.

Snacks must be booked by midnight the night before and dinners can be booked 2 weeks in advance.

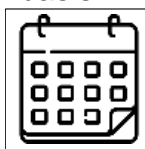


## Upcoming Events/School Calander

<b>November 2024</b>	
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children return to school after half term break
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Vision/hearing screening Reception and Y6
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr2 – Remembrance Assembly
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Own Clothes Day – Tins
18 <sup>th</sup> November	UK Parliament Week
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Own Clothes Day – Chocolate / Bottles
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr5 – Advent Assembly
<b>December 2024</b>	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Flu Vaccine
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Bingo – details to follow
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Aladdin @ Brindley – Whole School
10 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity @ 1.30pm and 6pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity @ 6pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Vaccine – catch up
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir to Trewan House Care Home
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Concert
20 <sup>th</sup> December	INSET – School Closed
<b>January 2025</b>	
6 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET – School closed
7 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school after Christmas break
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Dentist visit for R, Y2 and Y5
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Reception – Chinese New Year Assembly
<b>February 2025</b>	
<b>10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School nurse drop in visit
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Yr4 – Lent Assembly
17 <sup>th</sup> February	School Closed for half term break
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school after half term break

Please keep a check on the school website's calendar for upcoming events at school during the year.

This will be updated on a regular basis.



### **PARKING AROUND SCHOOL**

We have had numerous complaints from residents about the parking and parents/carers being abusive.

Please could we remind parents/carers to be mindful on where they park when dropping/picking children up from school.

Please do **not** park across driveways/on driveways or block residence in or out and please, do not leave your litter, take it home.

Residents will be reporting all future complaints to the police via 101.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

### **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.

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

### **CHILDREN LATE**

This is a polite reminder that as part of **safeguarding** 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.

And finally... We say goodbye to Mrs Holian who has been a midday assistant here for many years! We wish her well and hope that she comes back to school to see us all. Thank you for all your hard work and support you have given to the children and staff of Our Lady's.