



# Roberts Primary School Weekly Newsletter 22.11.24

## A message from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the wintery weather this week- I know the children enjoyed getting out to play in it.

A huge thank you to all the staff who helped clear the site each morning to make sure we were safe and could open and thank you to all the parents/carers for your positive feedback and for passing on your thanks each day.

I think the staff enjoyed their time in the snow (some more than others!). There are a few photos below.

**Welcome-** On Monday, our new school business manager joins the team. Mr Connor Lawrence will be joining us as an experienced business manager from a secondary school. He will form part of our senior leadership team and will take the lead role on many upcoming projects such as repairs to the school roof, developing our nursery offer and managing our broadband and IT support. If you see Mr Lawrence around school, please do say hi and welcome him to the Roberts family.

**Parking-** please can we ask that parents/carers do not park on the double yellow lines on our driveway when dropping off and collecting from Brightsparks. It is making it difficult for cars to pass and unsafe for children to cross. Please use the car park.

**Plea for help-** We are looking to purchase some rugs or carpet for our reception classrooms. We are struggling to find exactly what we need and wondered if we have any parents/carers

or friends of parents/carers who might work in a carpet shop or have links that could help us. If you do think you could help, please get in touch via the office.

**School photographs**- don't forget on Thursday next week it is school photographs. Photographs will work differently this year with sibling photographs taken before school. Mrs Drinkwater will be sending details of this to you. It is a short turn around, please make sure you return sibling forms by Monday.

**Children in Need**- we raised £571.49- thank you to everyone who contributed.

**Harvest donations**- this week we received an email from the Black Country Food Bank to share with us how much Roberts had donated as part of our harvest collection. 308kg of food and 25.2kg of toiletries is amazing and will make such a difference to our community and the wider Black Country. This will provide 616 meals and 25 toiletry packs.

Please remember that we have access to food bank vouchers for any families who need support- speak to Mr Hughes.

Our certificate is attached below- thank you and well done to our school community.

**Time Table Rock Stars**- we will shortly be launching time table rock stars for our children. This is an app children have access to to help improve their times tables. Look out for details coming soon.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Watkins, Mr Hughes, Miss Beddoes, Miss Gregory









Harvest



**THANK  
YOU**

## Roberts Primary School

Thank you so much for collecting food for your local community.

We will use all the food you have donated to make emergency food parcels for people in crisis.

You have donated **308kgs** of food and **25.2kgs** of toiletries, enough to provide **616** meals and **25** toiletry packs.

This is absolutely wonderful, and we are so thankful that you have supported us in this amazing way.



## Starting primary school in September 2025

### Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer



#### Why not apply for a place online?

**If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 they will be due to start primary school in September 2025.**

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at **[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)** or by completing an application form from your home local authority by **15 JANUARY 2025**. You can include five school preferences on the application; there is nothing to gain by only putting one preference.

Applications will be available from **1 October 2024**.

- It's quick and easy to use
- You can apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There's no risk that your application will be lost in the post
- You will get email confirmation that your application has been received
- It's safe and secure

The online system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 1 October 2024 until the closing date for applications on **15 January 2025**.

**Please note:** Even if your child already attends a school nursery or has an older sibling at school, do not assume that your child will automatically gain a place at that school. This is a common misconception and often the biggest cause of disappointment for parents who believe otherwise.

For further information please contact Dudley School Admissions Service on **0300 555 2345**.



one click . . . makes it quick

[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)

## Attendance



***Our attendance has taken a big hit this week with families not coming to school on the two days we had snow. Please aim to have children in school, all week next week.***

Our goal for each week for attendance is 96% and above for every class.

At the end of this week our attendance for each class is:

Reception Red attendance is 83.33%

Reception Yellow attendance is 87.73%

Reception Blue attendance is 85.65%

Red 1 attendance is 94.84%

Yellow 1 attendance is 93.57%

Blue 1 attendance is 82.41%

Red 2 attendance is 88.24%

Yellow 2 attendance is 88.67%

Blue 2 attendance is 72.76%

Red 3 attendance is 87.14%

Yellow 3 attendance is 89.40%

Blue 3 attendance is 91.76%

Red 4 attendance is 88.69%

Yellow 4 attendance is 83.67%

Blue 4 attendance is 86.67%

Red 5 attendance is 81.88%

Yellow 5 attendance is 91.07%

Blue 5 attendance is 82.41%

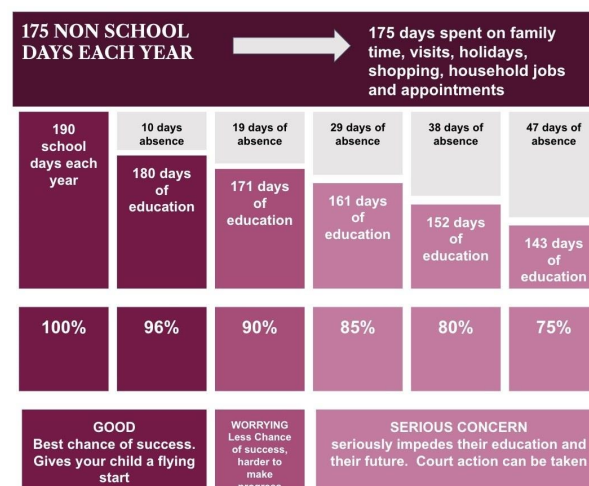
Red 6 attendance is 83.00%

Yellow 6 attendance is 89.33%

Blue 6 attendance is 92.41%

Overall whole school attendance is 86.35%

Unfortunately, our persistent absence is 19.10%



## January Start and Finish Times

As previously shared, we will make some changes to our start and finish times from January.

From January, our new times will be as follows:

### Nursery

Morning session: 8:45 am - 11:45am

Afternoon session: 12:30pm-3:30pm

### Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Morning: Doors open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am

Home time: 3:20pm

### Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Morning: doors open at 8:50am and close at 9am

Home time: 3:30pm

We have kept a slightly staggered start to the morning and home time to ease congestion and foot traffic around the site. It will also give families time who have to drop off/collect multiple children.

## SEND Support Group

With the help of some of our Year 5 children to design the logo, one of our parents has set up a support group for parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities. We think this is an excellent idea and one we fully support. See below for details.



## A message from Communications and Public Affairs

**UKSPF People & Skills programme is providing thousands of opportunities for individuals to gain a brighter future through upskilling and/or gaining employment.**

**No job? No benefits\*? Need support?**

**We can help.**

*\*Support is available for individuals in receipt of health-related benefits*

- Upskilling/ development opportunities
- Education opportunities
- Routes into training and qualifications
- Support in securing a job

The programme is designed to support people who are economically inactive, meaning those who are without work and not in receipt of benefits, or those out of work but in receipt of certain health-related benefits. It's for adults aged 19 right up to retirement.



Do you know someone who could benefit from the programme? Contact the team on 01384 813567 or email [UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk)

For more information visit: [www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills)



No job? No benefits\*? Need support?  
**WE CAN HELP.**

\*Support is available for individuals in receipt of health-related benefits

**Are you looking for?**

**Upskilling/development opportunities**

**Education  
opportunities**

**Routes into training  
and qualifications**

**Support in  
securing a job**

**UKSPF People & Skills is providing thousands of opportunities for individuals aged 19+ to gain a brighter future through upskilling and/or gaining employment.**

Build your future in a way that is tailored to you, through:

- 1-2-1 support • Development opportunities
- Customised training • Coaching • Apprenticeships
- Work placements • Self-employment advice...and more

**Who are we and how can we help?**

Through specialised services ranging from coaching to managed work placements, our work will ultimately give you the best employability prospects for the future, benefiting you and the wider communities. Taking those first steps

UKSPF People and Skills is in a unique position to have a wide range of influence with local employers across the Dudley borough.

We can help you overcome the barriers to employment. We provide:

- a programme to support employability and skills
- a Key Worker/Mentor trained to support you throughout your journey
- advice and guidance, along with customised support tailored to you. We may even be able to help with travel, childcare and equipment
- brokering between you and the opportunity you decide upon, making it simple for you to start



Funded by  
UK Government



Contact us on 01384 813567, email [UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk) or visit  
[www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills)

Regards,

Communications & Public Affairs Team

Chief Executives Directorate

## Polite Reminders



Please can we remind all parents to park and drive safely around the school community. It is also important that our gates are not blocked as this is preventing emergency access. We will shortly be putting barriers out to prevent the gates from being blocked. Thank you you your support with this.

Can we also remind all parents/carers of our expectations for anyone who is on the school site regarding the language we are using. As we have young children around, please do not use any inappropriate language as we do not want children overhearing this and using it on the playground. Many thanks for your understanding.

## Dates for your Diary



**Thursday 28th November- School photographer- individual photos (sibling photos taken before school)**

Friday 29th November- Non-uniform day- bring an item for the raffle (more details to follow)- Handy helpers event

Friday 13th December- Christmas Jumper Day and Santa's Grotto (more details to follow)- Handy Helpers event

Thursday 5th December- 5:30pm- Music Recital

Tuesday 17th December- Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance- 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Wednesday 18th December- Nursery Carol Service- 11:30am and 3pm- Parents/carers to go to Nursery during the session your child attends.

Wednesday 18th December- Reception Nativity Performance- 9:30am and 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Wednesday 18th December- Christmas lunch for children

Thursday 19th December- Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance- 9:30am and 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Friday 7th February- Valentine's Disco- Handy Helpers event





## After School Clubs



Our extra-curricular clubs this half term are as follows:

Monday - Year 3 and 4 Dodgeball run by Ace Coaching Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Monday - Year 4, 5 and 6 Recorders (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

Tuesday - Year 6 Commando Joe's (8.00am - 8.45am)

Tuesday - Year 4, 5 and 6 Choir (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

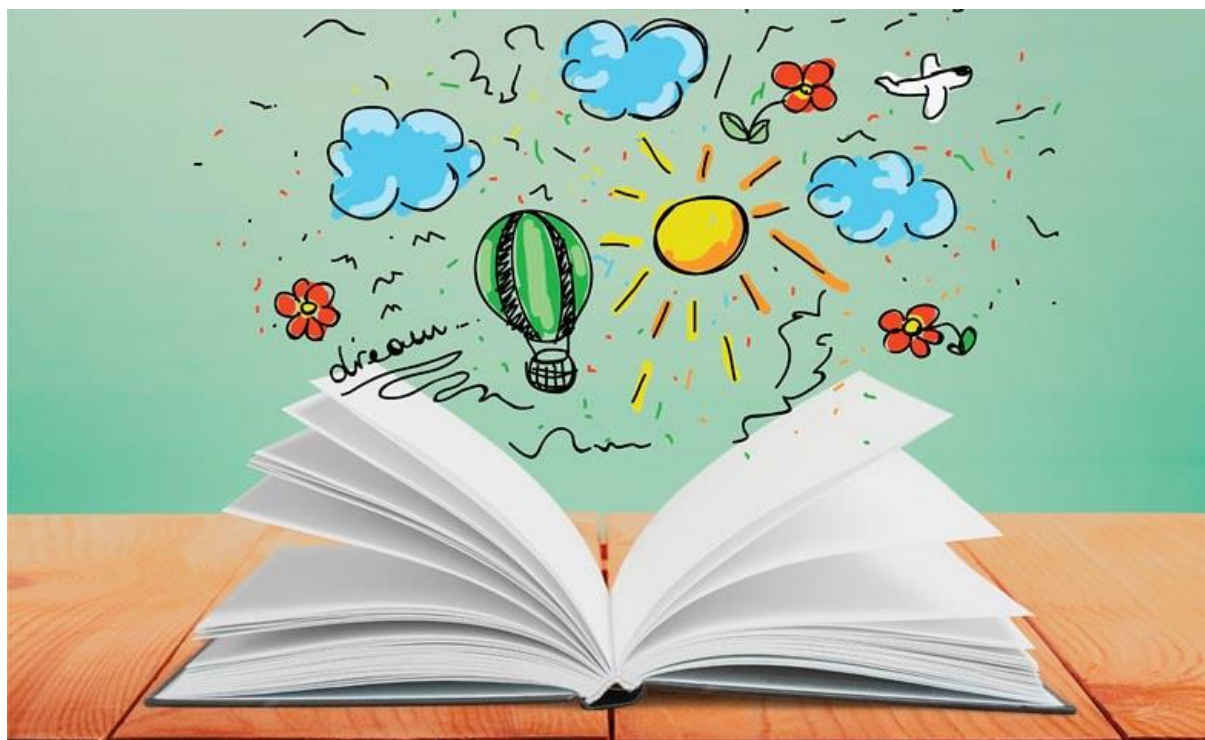
Tuesday - Year 3 Commando Joe's (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Wednesday - Year 1 and 2 Multi Sports run by Ace Coaching Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Thursday - Year 6 Tag Rugby Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Thursday - KS2 Orchestra (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

## Reading at Roberts!



This week the adults in school have been very excited! There has been a special delivery of over 650 books to school!

We have launched a new reading curriculum and have lots of exciting books we will be using to teach reading throughout school.

Here are some of the titles on our new reading curriculum, we are very excited to share them with children and start reading them next week!





## Class Information



### 1 - Nursery - Important Information

*Well that was a very different week to what we were expecting. But the children had a lot of fun exploring our changing environment. Being the first out on the field to explore, make a snowman and have a snowball fight was so much fun, although the amount of times the children aimed a snowball at me, I'm surprised non actually went down my back!*



*As promised, I did remember our Ipad this week so we were able to take a lot of pictures of all the fun we had down there, although I nearly forgot it when coming back to class!!! The children are really enjoying all the activities. I'm especially proud of the children, who with a little encouragement, were able to jump around in the muddy puddles just like Peppa pig.*

*This week we have been looking at pattern in our maths work and thinking about things that repeat. We have sang songs, and used objects to make a pattern using the same thing over and over again.*

*We have also been learning about the sound "i" this week in our phonics.*

*I know I said it while you were in Nursery last Friday, but that was my favourite time last week. It was so lovely to see the vast majority of you reading with your child. Reading is so vital in their young lives. The biggest way you can help their education is to read a good bedtime story every single night. We can see why your children are so brilliant with the support you showed last week, so once again, a big massive thank you.*





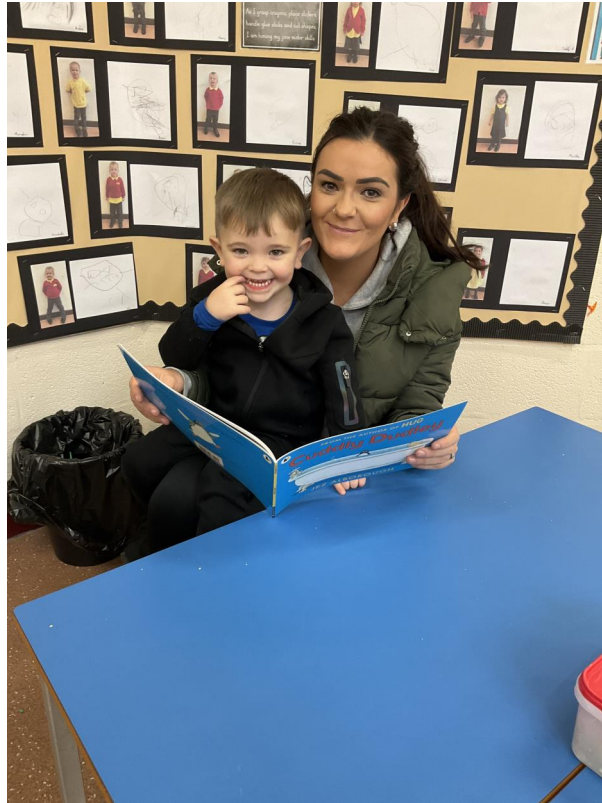












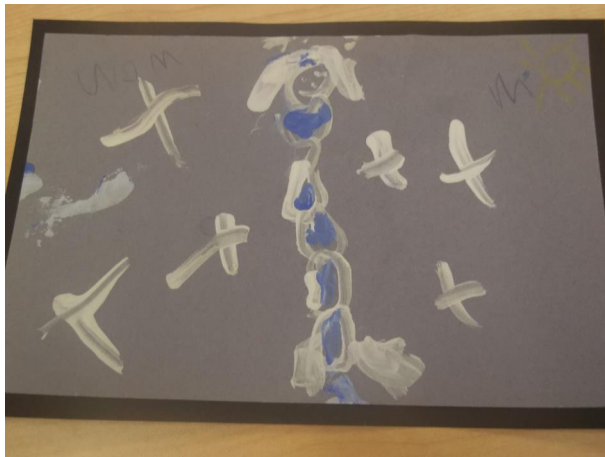
# Reception

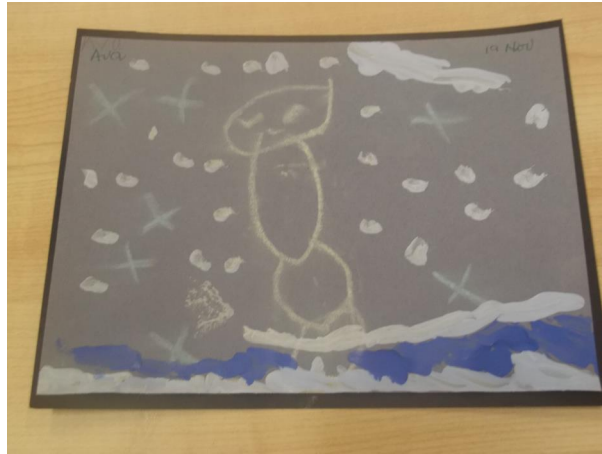
We had lots of fun in Reception this week due to our wintery weather that took us all by surprise. On Tuesday morning, the children had a fabulous time playing in the snow. We wrapped up really warm and made our way to our school field which was an exciting first experience in itself! We enjoyed feeling the snow crunching under our feet, feeling it in our hands and making snowmen with our friends.

Back in the classroom, we then got creative and used wintery colours to create some snow inspired art work. We also watched *The Snowman* and talked about our own experiences of the snow.

The snow theme then continued through the week and we found out that when snow melts it turns into water by filling up a bucket of sand and bringing it inside. What a memorable week!







## Phonics

This week the children have learnt the phonemes z, qu and ch. Please look out for their homework on Teams.

## Book Bags

Please try to remember to send your child into school with their book bag every day just in case we need it in class during the day.

# Year 1

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed the snow on Tuesday in our Forest School sessions. The Ezone was turned into a winter wonderland. The children enjoyed themselves jumping in the snow. It was great fun making tracks in the new snow and observing animal tracks. Some of the children made snow figures and shook the apple branches to make their own snowstorms. Back in the classroom, the children have shared winter stories like *One Snowy Night* by Nick Butterworth. In History, the children have played with old fashioned toys. In phonics, the children have been working on the new digraphs **ir**, **ie**, **ue** and **u** as in the word *unicorn*. New spellings are set on Teams and addition number facts to learn. 10 minutes a day practising recall facts will help your child's confidence.







### **Timetable Update**

Blue 1's PE slot has moved to a Monday afternoon. Please ensure earrings are removed on this day. Many thanks.

Year 2

# Year 2



Year 2 have enjoyed the snow this week! We have been going out for winter walks every day and have noticed how different our playground looks in the frosty weather.

This week, we will be sending home the children's lines to learn for our Nativity play in December. If you can, please spend some time at home learning your words off by heart. Thank you!

### Year 3

# Year 3

We're excited to share how much the children have been enjoying their time walking in the snow! Whether exploring the snowy paths, making footprints in the fresh powder, or simply taking in the beauty of winter, they've been having such a wonderful time.

These snowy walks are not only fun but also a great way for the children to stay active and connect with nature and to have some fresh air between lessons.

In English this week we have continued to focus on the text called 'The Door'. We have used our senses to explore and describe a beach scene, just like Billy in the story. The children produced some excellent pieces of writing and even managed to include ambitious vocabulary like mesmerising, emitting and isolated.

We have also been reading our book 'The Iron Man' for guided reading sessions. The children have worked very hard to understand and compare characters using the text. Each reading session the children have had the opportunity to read an extract of the text using expression. They are looking forward to reading Chapter 3 to find out what happens to the Iron Man.

During Mathematics, the children have been exploring multiplication and division, including application of the multiples 3 and 4 and using the inverse of each operation.

In Science lessons, the children have been looking at forces and enjoyed learning about magnets. They investigated what materials are magnetic and were very surprised to find out that all metals are not magnetic!

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 3 Team



*2 - Our snow walk!*





*3 - Having fun in the snow.*



*4 - We are wrapped up nice and warm.*



5 - 'We are so glad we have our warm coats on.'



6 - 'Look up to the sky Miss, it's like as if it's Christmas. The flakes are huge and so pretty.'

# Year 4

## 7 - Year 4 - Important Information

This week has definitely been a little bit different! The children have enjoyed walks in the snow, especially on Tuesday morning when it was snowing. During this time, the children

even recited words 'Crunch, crunch, crunch...' from our class novel 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear'. In reading, the children have explored 'Who was the hero or heroine?' As well as whether Crama was a victim or a villain?'. All classes had a great discussion.

In English, the children have planned their own portal stories based on 'Elf Road' and have written the first parts of their stories. Each class has come up with lots of interesting ideas, and objects that their main character has taken back into the real world. We can't wait to finish them next week!

In Science, the children worked collaboratively to make a simple circuit with a buzzer. They were then given a task to make a small version of a buzz-wire game, this helped them to understand how switches work in a circuit.

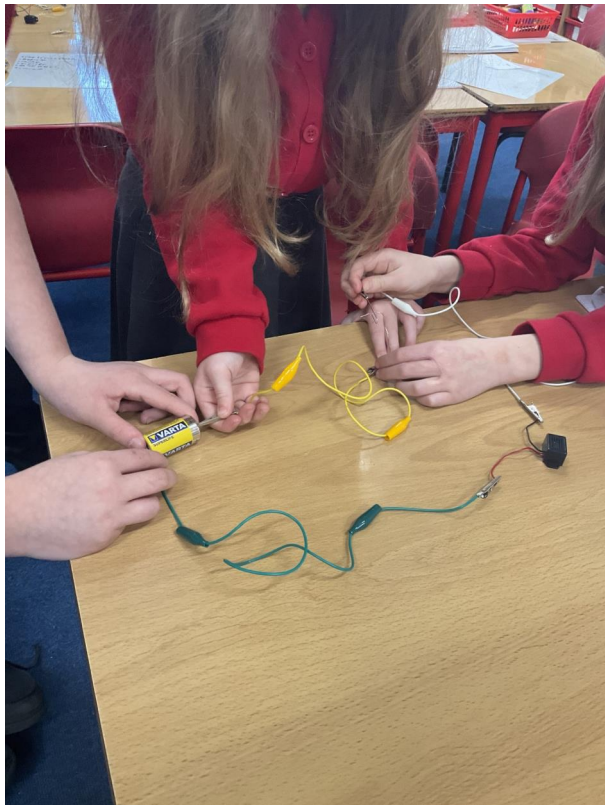
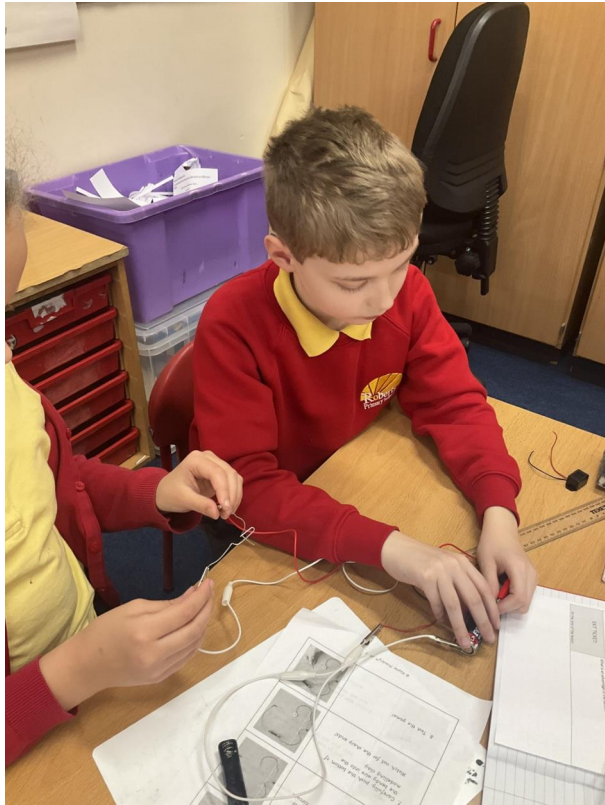
Please can you continue to support your child learning their times tables.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 4 Team







# Year 5

Can you all believe it? **SNOW!**

It was lovely to see the children light up with wonder wandering around at break times, being able to take part in such a unique weather condition.

In maths, we are still looking at fractions, right up until Christmas. Next week, we will be looking at adding and subtracting mixed number fractions and fractions less than and greater than 1.

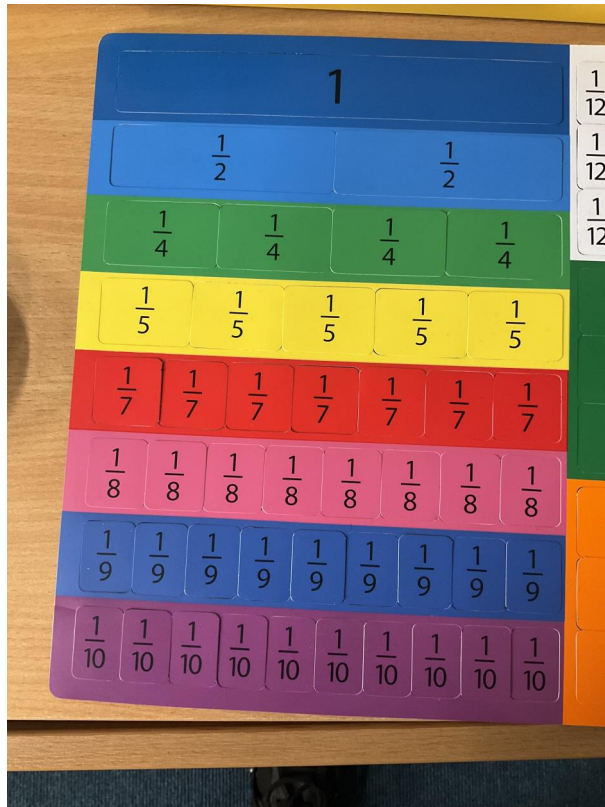
In English, we have come to the end of our narrative topic around 'The Key' and have created and edited fantastic stories, built suspense and atmosphere while developing our characters. We have been using figurative language, parenthesis, adverbials, powerful adjectives, similes, metaphors and personification.

We have also started our D.T. topic and have been designing our own 'war' vehicles. We will then make these vehicles move using pulleys, axles and motors. Our vehicles aim is to destroy an egg with its own built in weapon!

**Please remember:**

- Homework is in on a Tuesday through Teams
- Children must read a minimum of 3 times a week, signed off in their reading records by an adult
- Average attendance should be at 96% or above





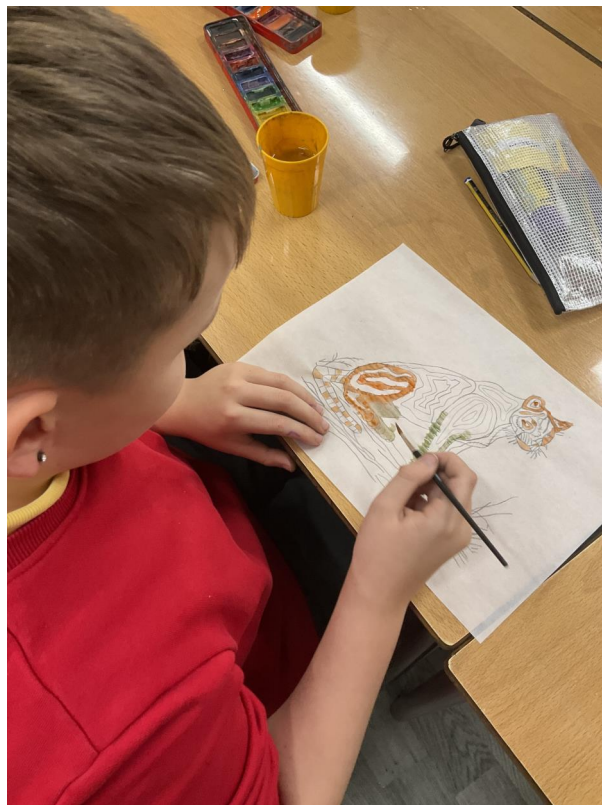
# YEAR 6

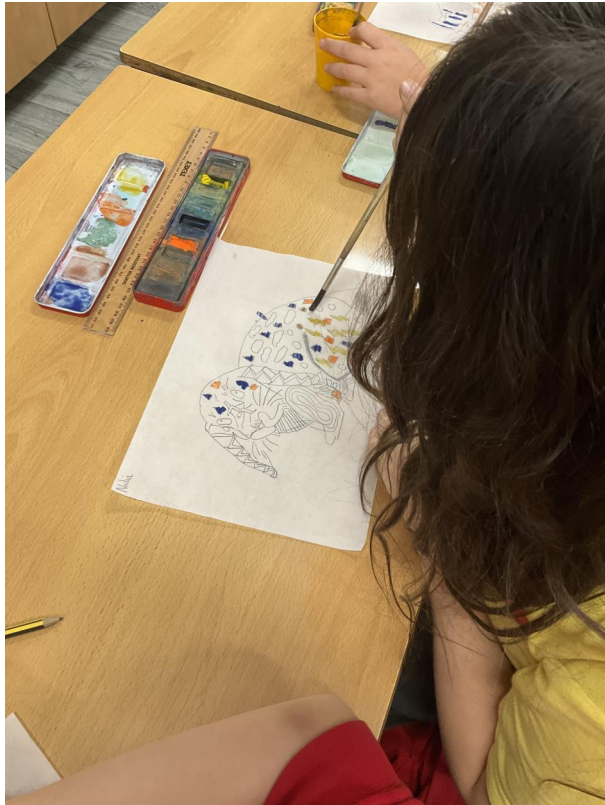
## 8 - Year 6 - Important Information

Another exciting week in Year 6 in which we have continued to enjoy our class novel *When the Sky Falls*. Please do let us know if your child has managed to read other books written by the same author - Phil Earle. They may enjoy reading books by authors who write in a similar style or about similar themes: ([Phil Earle Book List](#)).

Congratulations to this week's Handwriting Heroes: Lacie, Lydia and Ruhani and also to our Reading Champions: Grace, Lily and Samson.

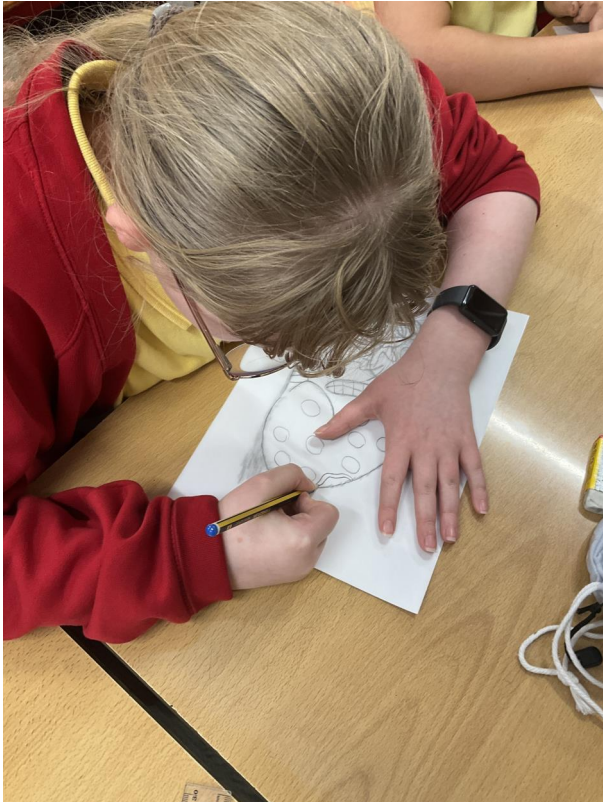
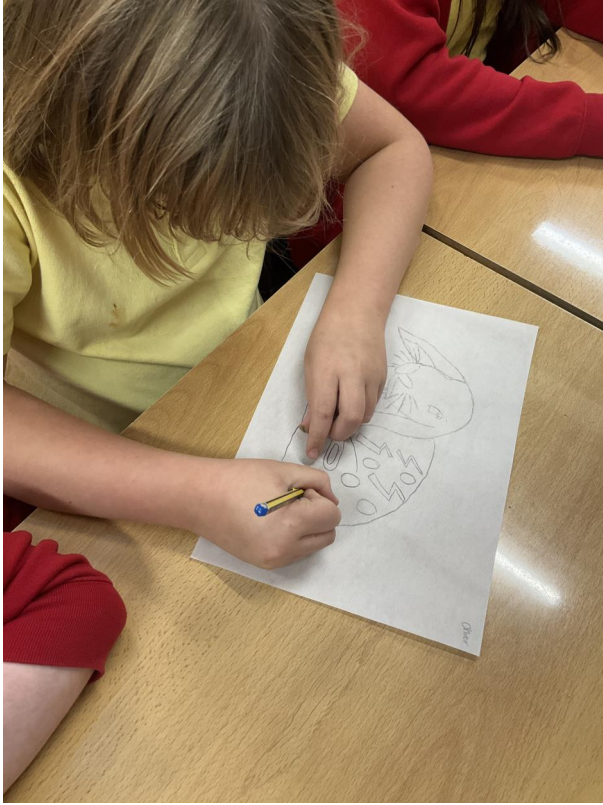
In art, the work of artist Carole Clarke has inspired our of colour to create pieces of artwork. Her use of vibrant colour will be used in our final piece of artwork for the topic - a version of Tutankhamun's death mask - and we look forward to sharing the finished results with you. In mathematics, we have learnt ways of adding and subtracting fractions. Thank you for all the support you give your children in completing their homework.











## Remembrance Day 2024

Some of the children from Roberts Primary School's School Council were invited by the Royal British Legion to take part in their Remembrance Day service on 11.11.23.

The children who took part each laid a wooden cross at the memorial in memory of soldiers who have died fighting in the wars.







