



Roberts Primary School Weekly Newsletter 18.10.24

A message from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

One week left and then it is half term. I think all the children and staff are ready for a break after a long half term of working hard.

A few things to share this week.

Handy Helpers- This week the handy helpers met for the first time this year. We have planned out some Christmas and New Year events including a non-uniform day and raffle, a Santa's Grotto and a Valentine's disco. Have a look in the dates below for more info. For any parents/carers who are unaware of the Handy Helpers, they are a group of parents/carers and friends of the school who volunteer some time to organise events and raise funds to spend on the children.

Reception classes- an exciting week for Reception as all our new furniture and resources for the three classes arrived this week. We have invested £35,000 in high quality resources to further improved our EYFS. Once we are set up, we will invite parents in to have a look around.

Diary dates- check out the dates below for parent's evening and school photographer dates. This year, the photographer will be in school from 8am to take sibling photographs. If you would like a photograph of siblings, you will need to bring them in before school for this, otherwise it will just be individual photographs. More info to follow closer to the date.

School Life App- you should have received an email to login to the school life app. Please do this as this is how you will book a parent's evening appointment.

Emergency procedures policy: In school it is important we prepare for all emergencies and each term we rehearse a fire drill. The Department for Education also recommend that schools have lockdown procedures in place. This is where there might be a threat to the children from an intruder or something happening in the local area and the school needs to lockdown. Governors have recently signed off our emergency procedure policy with our lockdown arrangements.

Should there be a threat to the children, the following will be in place:

- an alarm will be sounded.
- all external doors will be locked.
- No one will be allowed to enter the site during lockdown.
- Children and staff will hide under tables to be out of site.
- Staff will register children and communicate to the office.
- Telephones will not be answered as lines kept clear to communicate with emergency services.

We hope that this procedure will never be needed in school but just as we do with a fire drill, we want everyone to be fully prepared. From after half term, we will begin to rehearse lockdown drills. To begin with we will do this when the children and staff know it is going to happen to get everyone comfortable with the procedures and the alarm. We will always let parents/carers know when we have rehearsed a lockdown drill so you know there is nothing to worry about.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Watkins, Mr Hughes, Miss Beddoes, Miss Gregory

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 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

Attendance



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

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

Reception attendance is 90.76%

Year 1 attendance is 90.30%

Year 2 attendance is 93.88%

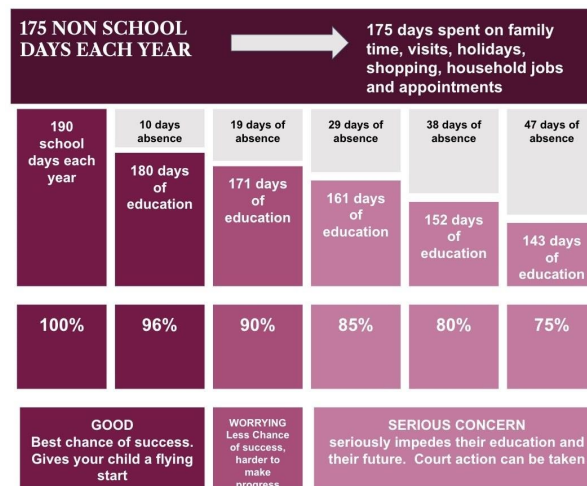
Year 3 attendance is 95.73%

Year 4 attendance is 92.86%

Year 5 attendance is 91.56%

Year 6 attendance is 92.78%

Overall whole school attendance is 92.31%



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

For more information visit: 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 or visit 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 for 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



Friday 18th October: Year 4 Theatre trip

Thursday 24th October- 4pm- School Tours for Reception class 2025

Friday 25th October- 9:40am- Year 2 Diwali Assembly- Year 2 parents/carers to go to the main hall.

Monday 28th October: Half Term

Monday 4th November: INSET day- school closed for pupils

Tuesday 5th November: Pupils return to school

Monday 11th November- Remembrance Parade- School Council. Taking place in Gornal Village- parents/carers welcome to attend.

Tuesday 12th November- 3:30pm-6pm- Parent's evening

Wednesday 13th November- 3:30pm-6pm- Parent's evening

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

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.

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)

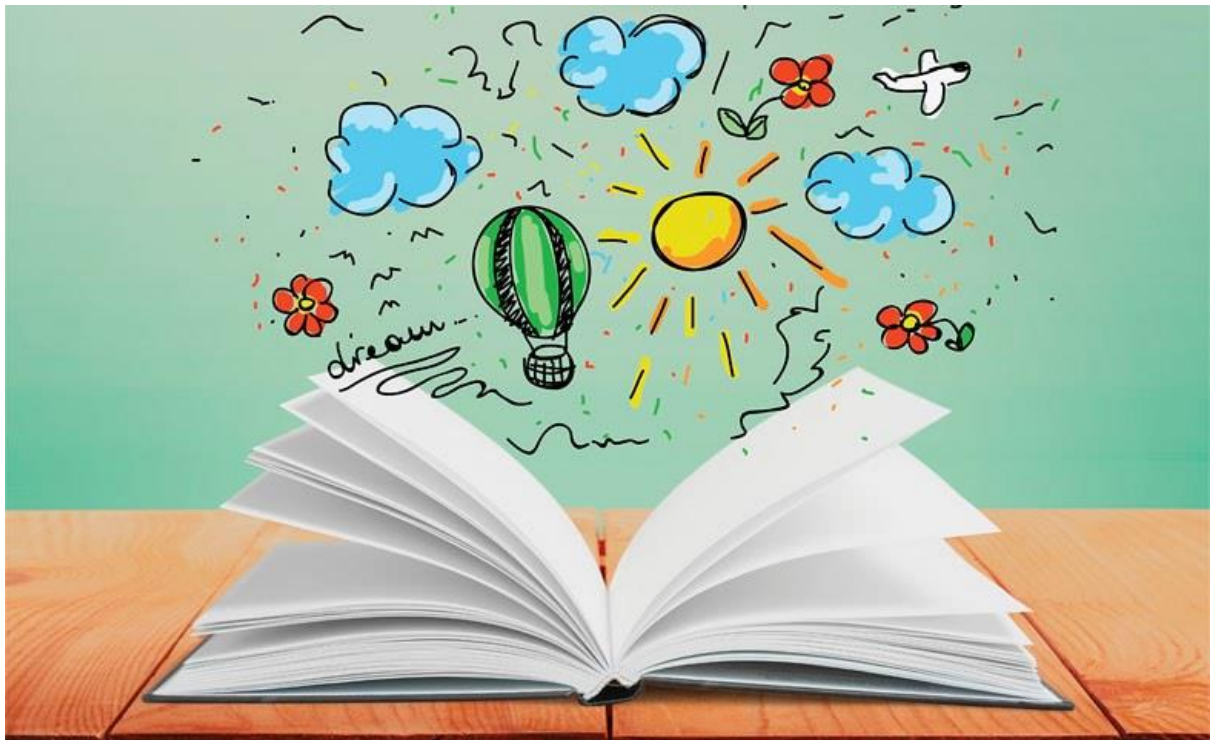
Tuesday - Year 3 Commando Joe's (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

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!

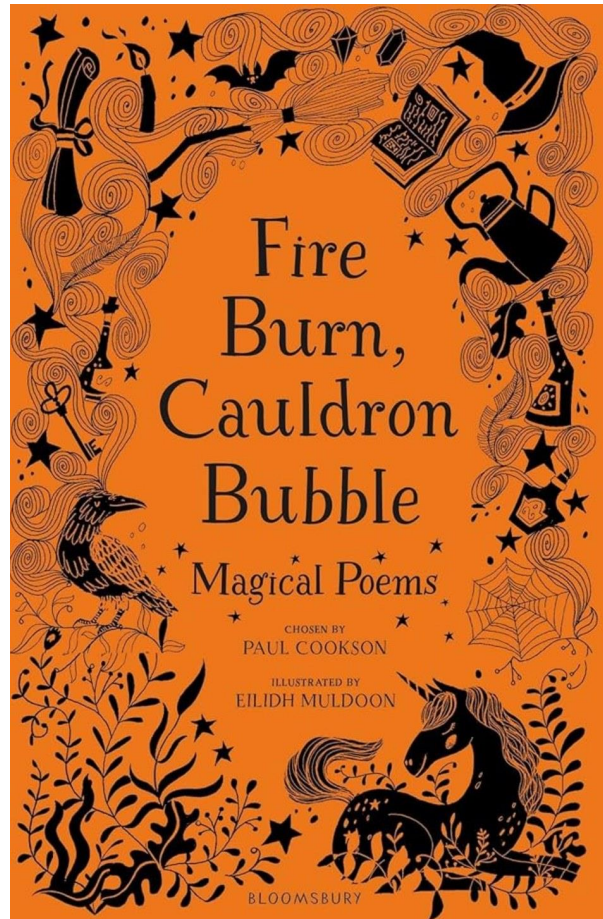


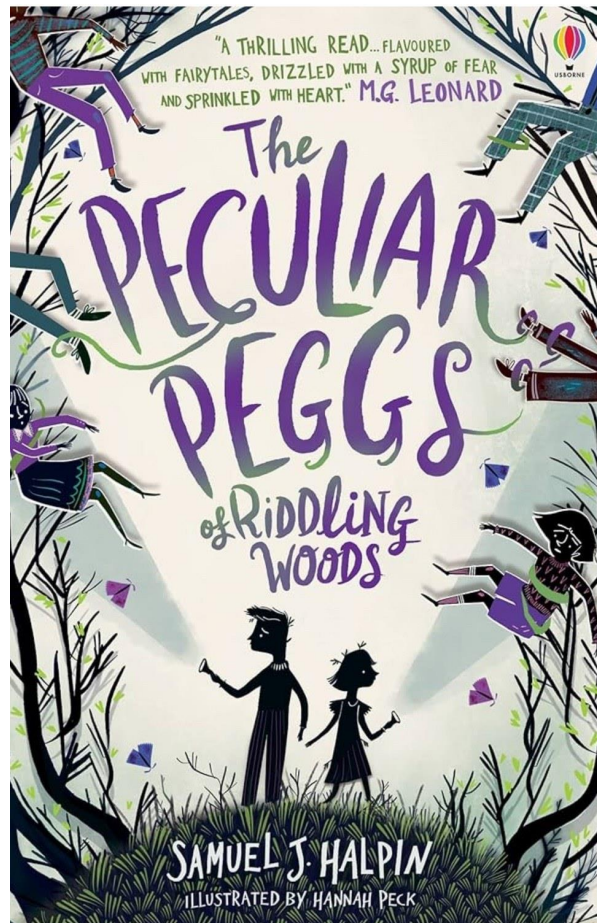
Spooky season is soon upon us and this week's book selection is sure to get you into the Halloween spirit! We think these books will cause fright and delight in equal measure!

Scroll on for a frighteningly good selection of books for children of all ages as well as grown-ups who have secretly never grown up!







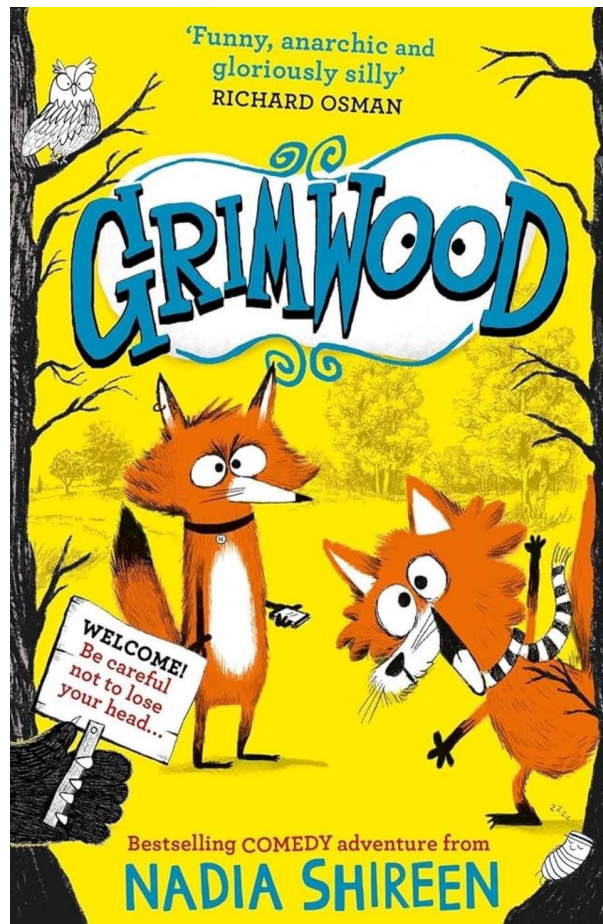


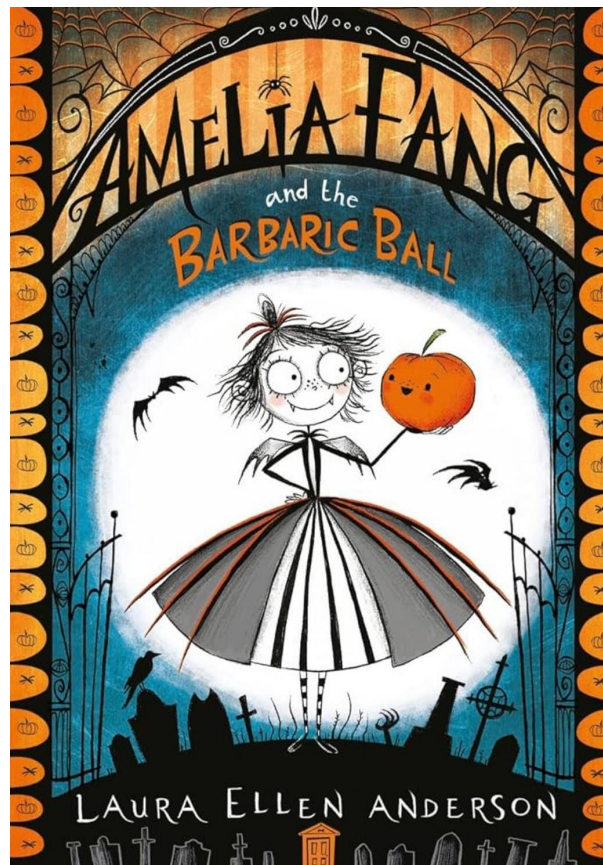
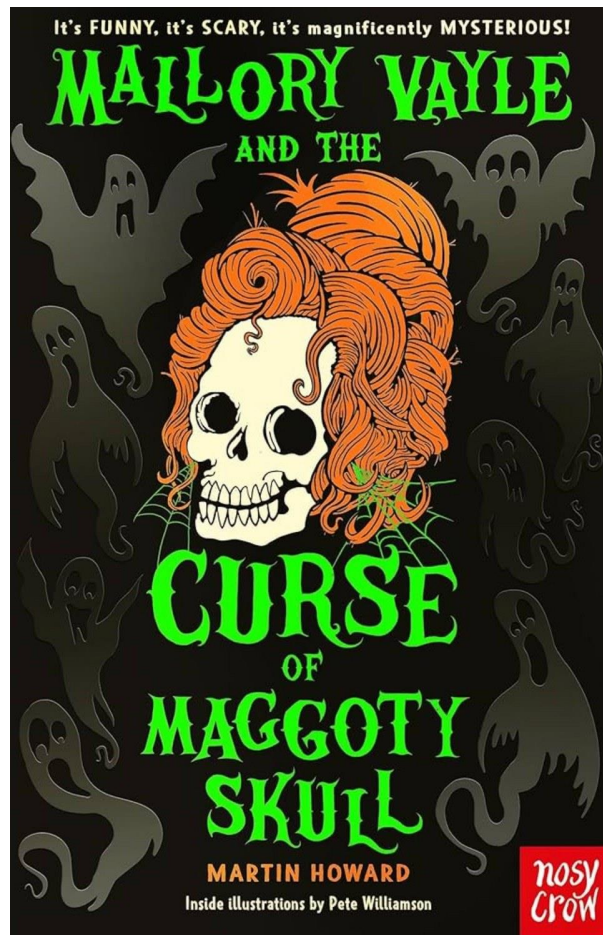
'A funny and (bone) cracking good read' MICHELLE HARRISON

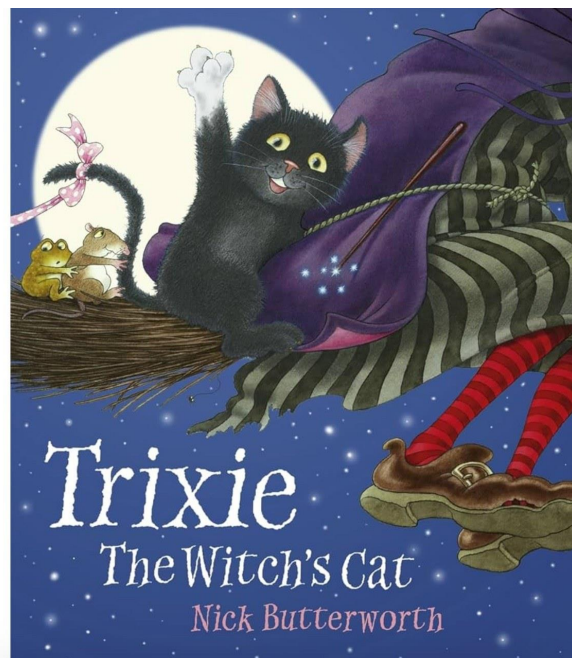
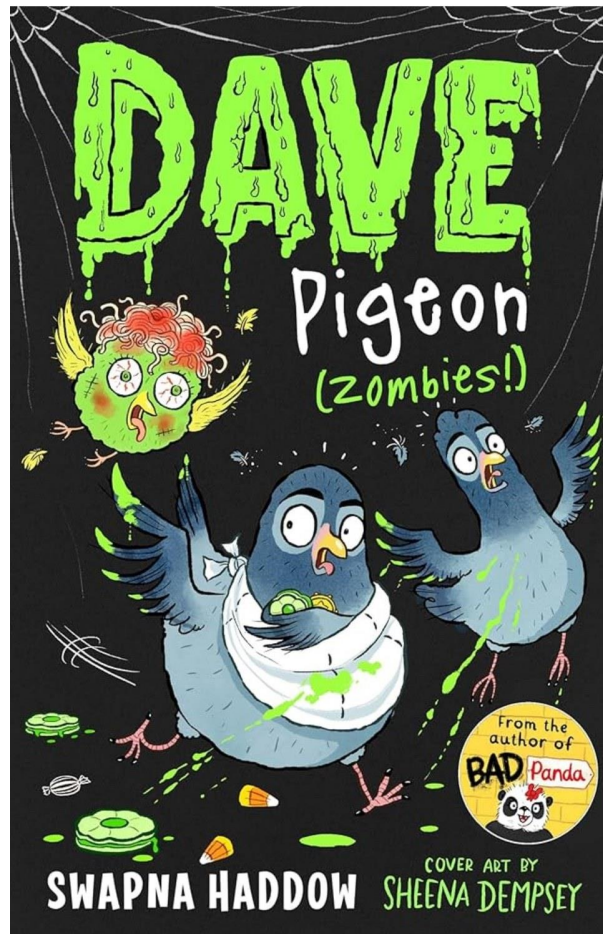
The BEAST and the BETHANY

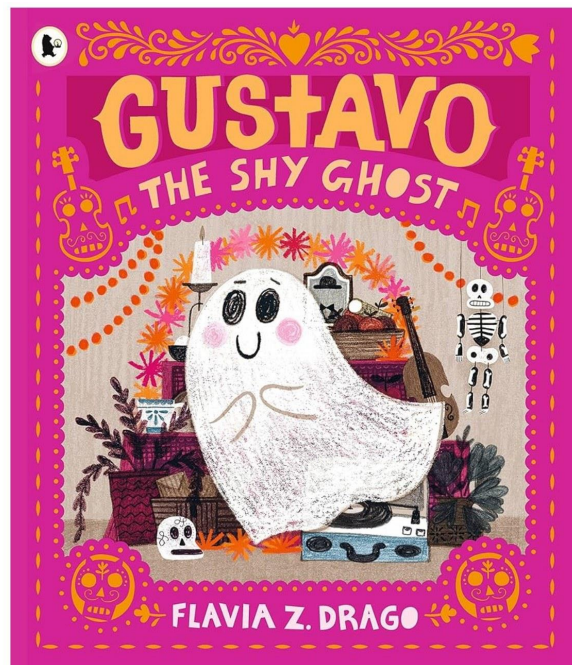
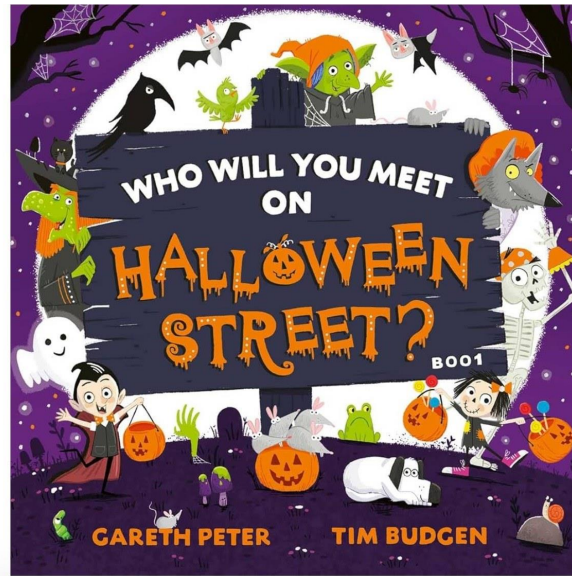


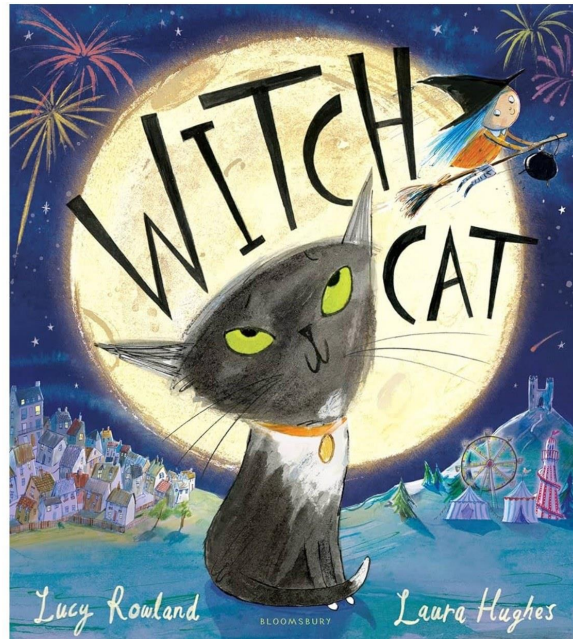
From the monstrosly funny
JACK MEGGITT-PHILLIPS
Illustrated by ISABELLE FOLLATH

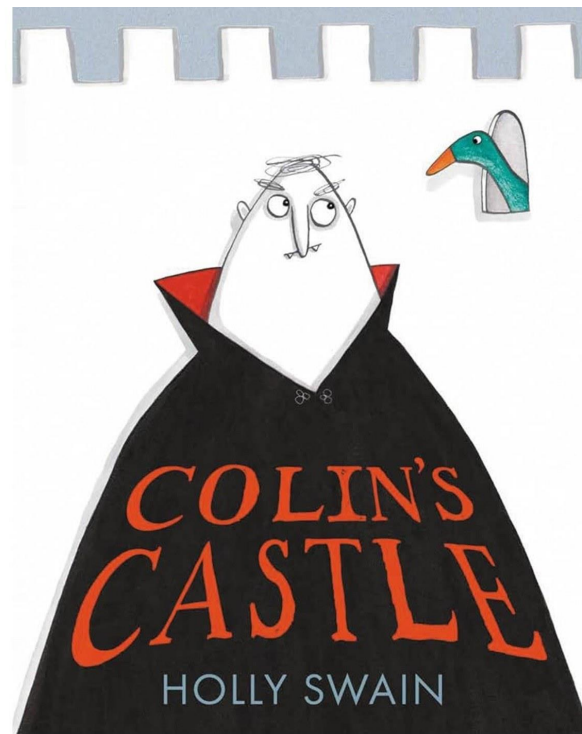












Class Information



1 - Nursery - Important Information

This week the children have really impressed us. We have been sitting down and learning phonics every day and the children are really doing well. Information on this will be sent out each week of the games we have taught and the phoneme (sound) we are concentrating on for this via Teams, but

put simply the children will be learning to recognise initial sounds for words, and also start to listen and understand sound talk (sounding out a word like s...u...n sun).

- The Nursery rhyme we have been learning this week is 'Row, row your boat'. With this in mind we have been building boats from the building blocks, although a lot of them did end up turning into a car track or an obstacle course after! We practiced printing using shapes to try and create a boat too.
- A lot of the children have enjoyed working on refining their fine motor skills by placing cheerios' on to a spaghetti to stack them as high as they can.
- We have also introduced parachute games by throwing a bean bag up high and try and keep it on the parachute as long as possible. This was good gross motor work.
- And considering it has rained for a large proportion of the week, we decided to make a den inside this week. As you can see from the picture, the children loved it.







What a busy week we have had!

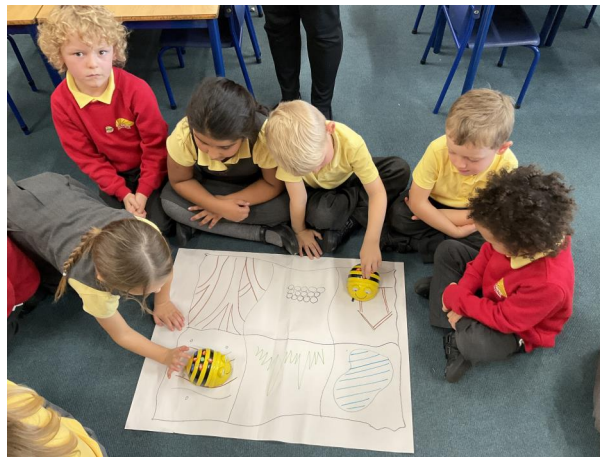
As mentioned, it has been a very exciting time for Reception as our 'Early Excellence' Continuous Provision furniture and resources have arrived. Throughout the week we have started to set up our new classrooms. Take a sneak peek below!





Year 1

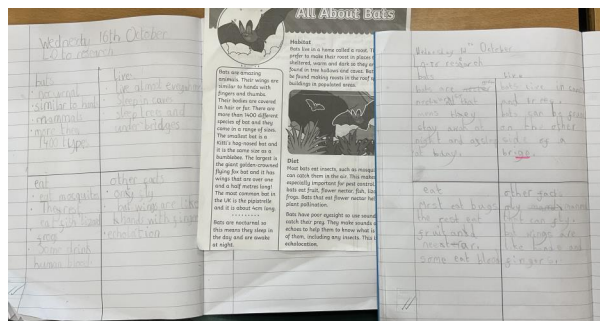
Year 1 have been learning and using direction words in Geography and during Forest School. They had lots of fun programming a Beebot to go forwards, backwards and making it turn right and left around a picture map. The children worked well in teams and had to communicate instructions to each other. When the Beebot went in the wrong direction, the children had to problem solve which new commands were needed. Over the week, the teachers were really pleased how hard the children have been working blending sounds in phonics and reading in their groups. The children have been given new reading books and library books, please record in their reading records how they are getting on.



Year 2

Year 2 this week have been working on a new unit in English. We have been looking at non-fiction texts, specifically focusing on non-chronological reports. We have looked at features we could find, such as headings which tells us what the page is about and sub-headings which tell us what each section is telling us. We then generated our own research questions before finding out facts about bats from different sources. We're in the process of writing this up into our own non-chronological report!

We are also busy preparing for our Diwali assembly next Friday and we have enjoyed learning the songs and applying singing in cannon which we have looked at in our music lessons. We can't wait to share it with you! It starts at 9.40am, please meet at the main hall (max 2 adults per child).



Year 3

We have had another busy week in Year 3. In English we have been focusing on non-chronological reports. First we looked at a variety of non-fiction books and located their features by becoming detectives! We worked with a partner to construct a range of questions we wanted to find the answer to. Then we have planned our own non-chronological report using the skill of note taking.

In Maths we have used the column method to add and subtract 3 digit numbers. Please can you continue to support your child learning their times tables, 4 times table is the focus alongside speed recall on 2,5 and 10 times tables. Thank you.

In History we have been learning about the Neolithic settlement Skara Brae, that was first uncovered by a storm in 1850. The children enjoyed looking at photographs and seeing a virtual walk through too. Stonehenge is our focus next week in !

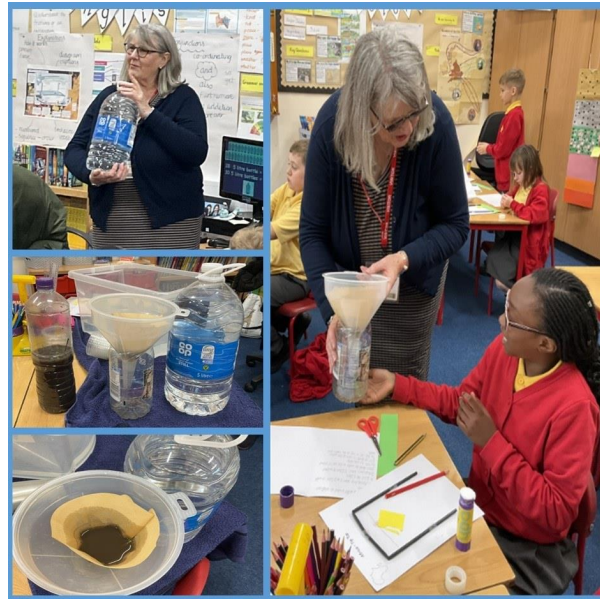
Year 4

2 - Year 4 - Important Information

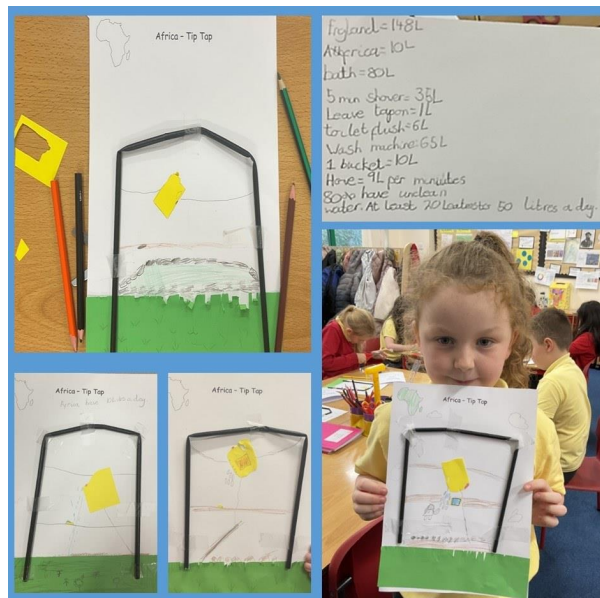
On Wednesday 17th October, Year 4 had a workshop led by Georgina Varney on the theme 'water'. The children participated in group discussions, and learnt lots of interesting facts about water. Did you know that to fill the whole bath you use 80 litres of water? In addition, 703 million people in the world do not have access to clean water. The children also made a model 'Tip Tap' illustrating how this contraption is used in African countries for children to wash their hands.

In English, children have been learning about the features of explanation writing. Next week, we will be looking at Wallace and Gromit's 'Cracking Contraptions' to generate ideas for their own inventions.

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



3 - Filtering water



4 - 'Tip Taps'

Year 5

In Year five this week we have looked at the dilemma faced by the two boys in Friend or Foe. Should they tell the authorities they have found the German airmen, or should they help them after one of them saved David's life? In R.E. we concluded our study of The Fall (Adam and Eve's story), devising our own modern day story about temptation.

We have planned out some Blitz Art ideas in Art and we will be using these to produce a large scale piece of work next week. A new note has been learnt in music - lower B - which involves using our right hand as well as our left. In French, we have written a journal saying what activities we did during a week.

Maths will continue to be multiplication and division by 10,100 and 1000.

Please continue to read with your child, as well as keeping times tables sharp!



5 - The children took part in a 'conscience alley' where 'David' and 'Tucky' listened to advice as they walked through. What did they decide?

YEAR 6

6 - Year 6 - Important Information

Another busy week for Year Six. We have enjoyed having the Loudmouth Theatre Group visit us to perform *Bully 4 U*. The performance, designed to raise awareness about bullying, captivated us all with its engaging and relatable storyline. Through role play, the actors explored different forms of bullying: physical, emotional, psychological, cyber and financial. The pupils actively engaged in discussions and now have a deeper understanding of how to prevent bullying.

[Loudmouth's website has a range of resources that you could explore.](#)

We have had fun completing our science unit on the topic of light by making and experimenting with periscopes. We discovered that through light being reflected across two mirrors we could see around corners or on the top of cupboards.

Well done this week to Damien, Leroy and Freya who are Year 6's Reading Champions this week and congratulations to Isabel, Ibraheem and Alina on getting the Handwriting Hero award this week.

Thank you all all who were able to attend the recent SATs meeting for parents and carers. If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to ask.



