



# Roberts Primary School Weekly Newsletter 25.10.24

## A message from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

Half term has arrived!

On behalf of all the staff, we would like to thank everyone in the school community for all the hard work and dedication. The children have worked incredibly hard and very much deserve a break.

The bookings for parent's evening should go live today. If you have not yet downloaded the school life APP, please do this so you can book your parent's evening slot. You will have previously received an email with your login details.

Today we have trialled our new lunch times with all the children eating in the main hall and then going outside together. Overall it went really well and the children loved having more time outside and having the opportunity to socialise and play with other children in their year group. We will continue to have lunch like this after half term.

We had a very special visitor in school today. All the children came to assembly this afternoon so we could celebrate Mrs Jones who retired at the end of the summer term after 45 years of service to Roberts and Gornal. From all of us, thank you and happy retirement.

**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.**

**Next half term we will share more details around how we will support some of our SEND children who might be anxious with the busier mornings and evenings. We are also in the process of speaking to the Dudley road safety team and local businesses who might be able to support with parking.**

Thank you for your support with this.

Have a safe and restful half term and we look forward to seeing the children back at school on Tuesday 5th November.

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](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 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 92.38%

Reception Yellow attendance is 82.73%

Reception Blue attendance is 92.89%

Red 1 attendance is 95.17%

Yellow 1 attendance is 92.86%

Blue 1 attendance is 93.00%

Red 2 attendance is 98%

Yellow 2 attendance is 96.67%

Blue 2 attendance is 86.9%

Red 3 attendance is 96.9%

Yellow 3 attendance is 93.55%

Blue 3 attendance is 91.38%

Red 4 attendance is 98.06%

Yellow 4 attendance is 94%

Blue 4 attendance is 94.67%

Red 5 attendance is 89.69%

Yellow 5 attendance is 94.48%

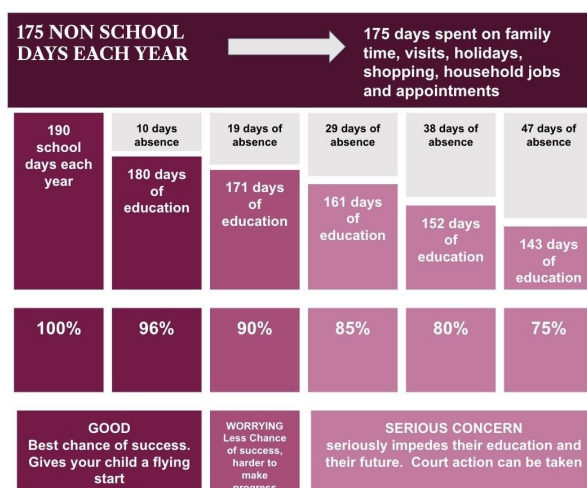
Blue 5 attendance is 94.48%

Red 6 attendance is 93.87%

Yellow 6 attendance is 94%

Blue 6 attendance is 96.55%

Overall whole school attendance is 92.95%



## 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 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



**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)

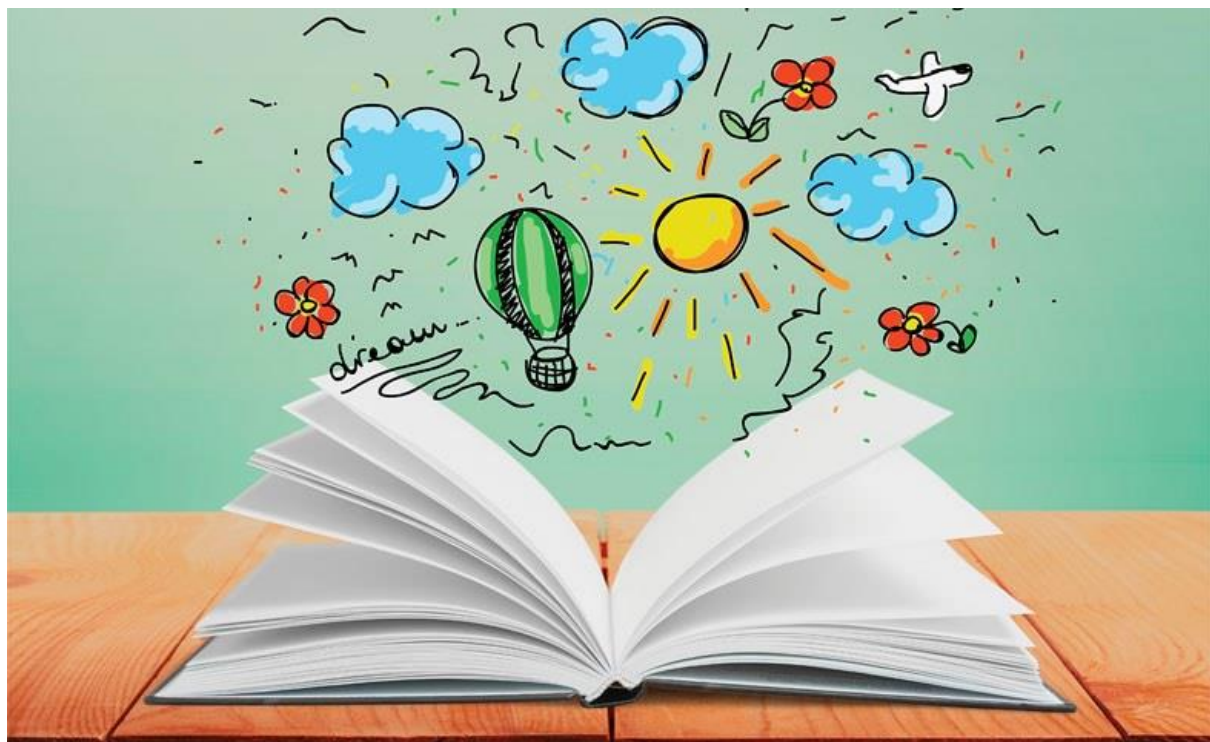
Tuesday - Year 3 Commando Joe's (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

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)

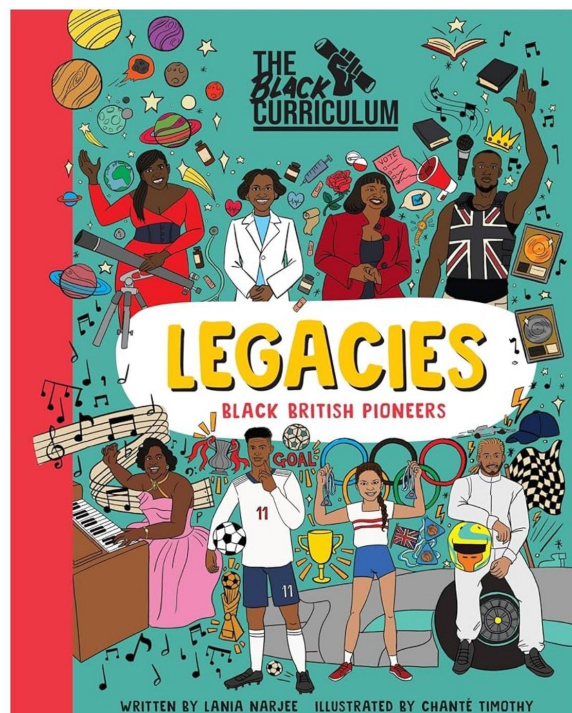
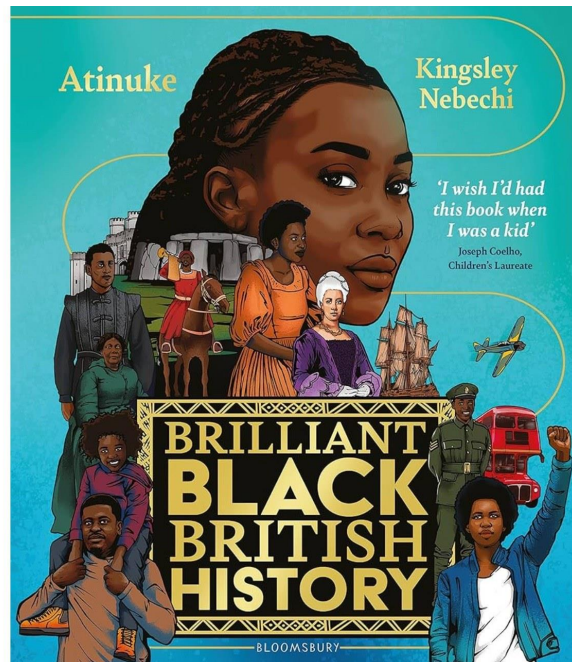
Thursday - KS2 Orchestra (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

## Reading at Roberts!

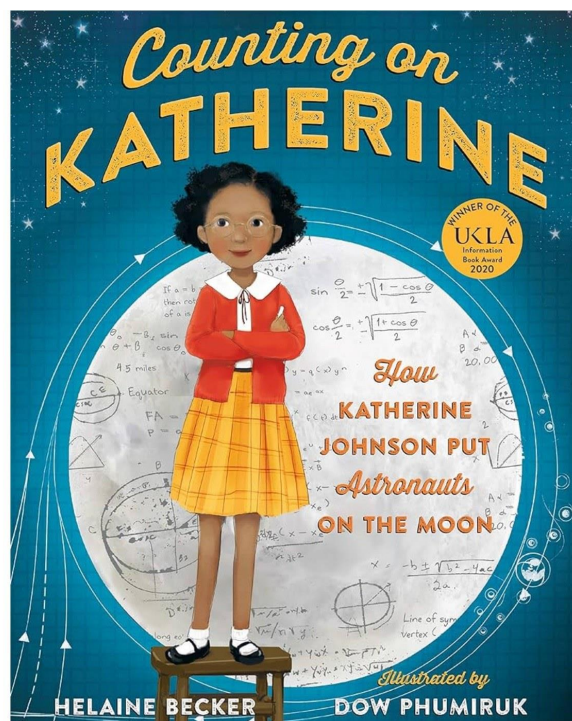
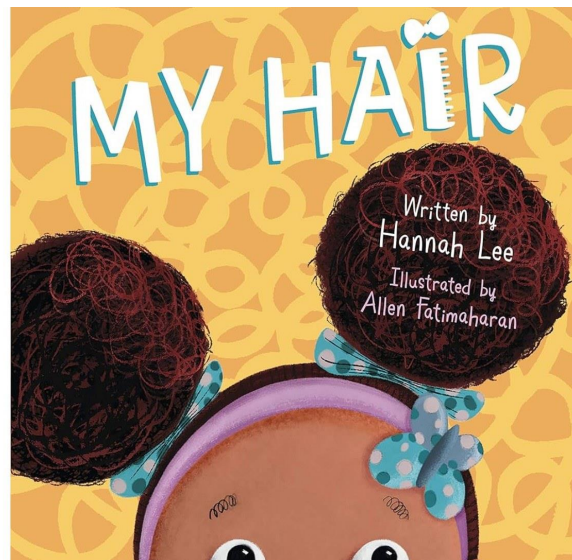


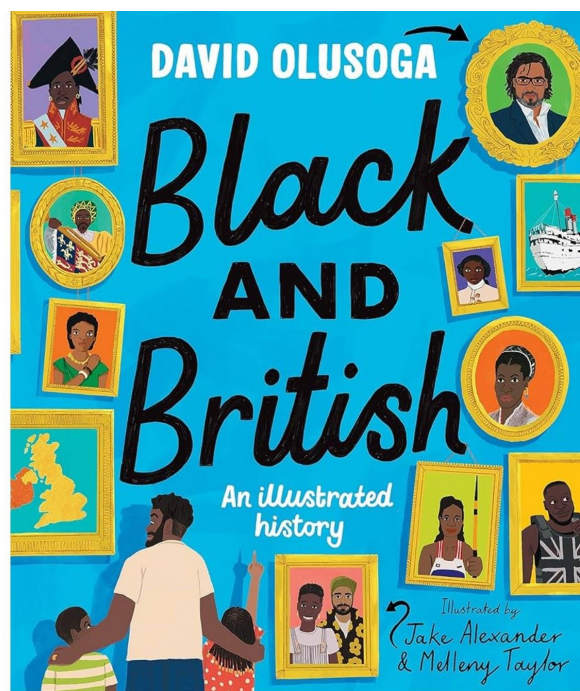
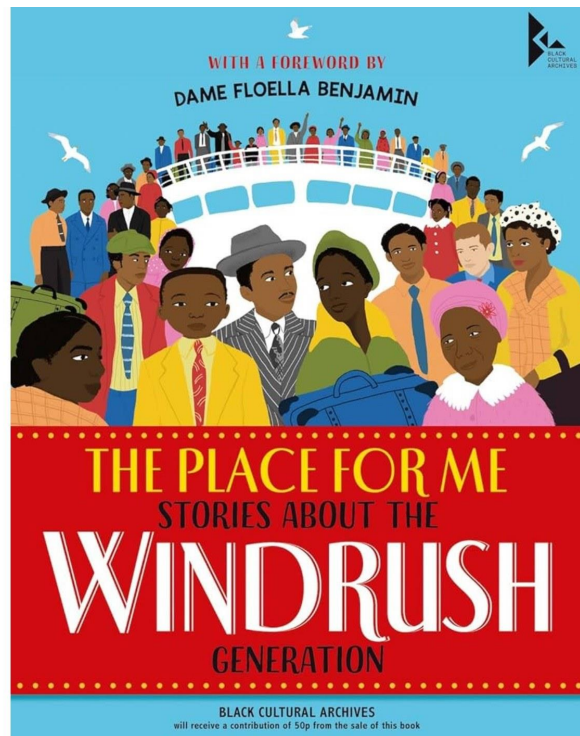
October marks Black History Month.

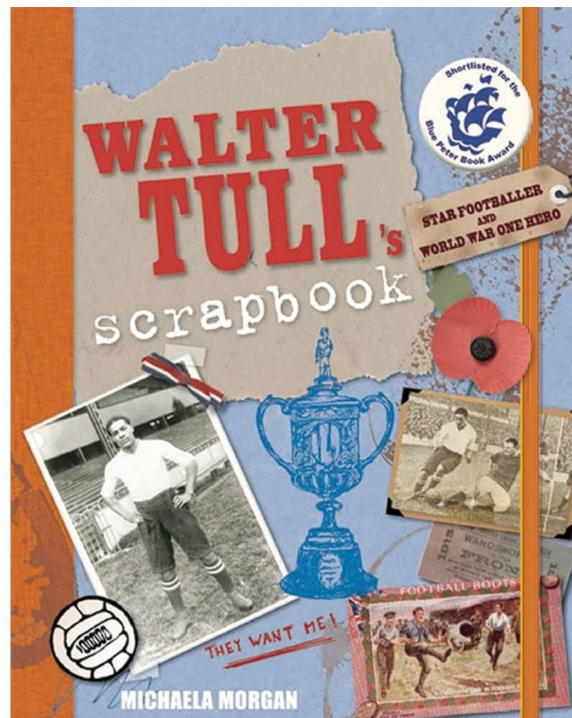
Here are some books that we recommend for opening up conversations around Black History and Culture.











Class Information







#### *1 - Nursery - Important Information*

What a fun week we have had. The nursery rhyme we have concentrated on learning this week has been Incy Wincy spider. This has fitted nicely with some spooky goings on around nursery, and the children have been getting excited for Halloween and telling us what they will be doing and dressing up as next week.

Phonics has been a success. We are getting into the routine and the children are participating much more now. The phoneme we have concentrated on this week has been 'a'.

When we return after half term we will be extending our timetable to give the children more opportunities to learn. One of the big things we are all looking forward to is forest school, but we will also be introducing a maths lesson, so any counting games over half term will help the children no end.

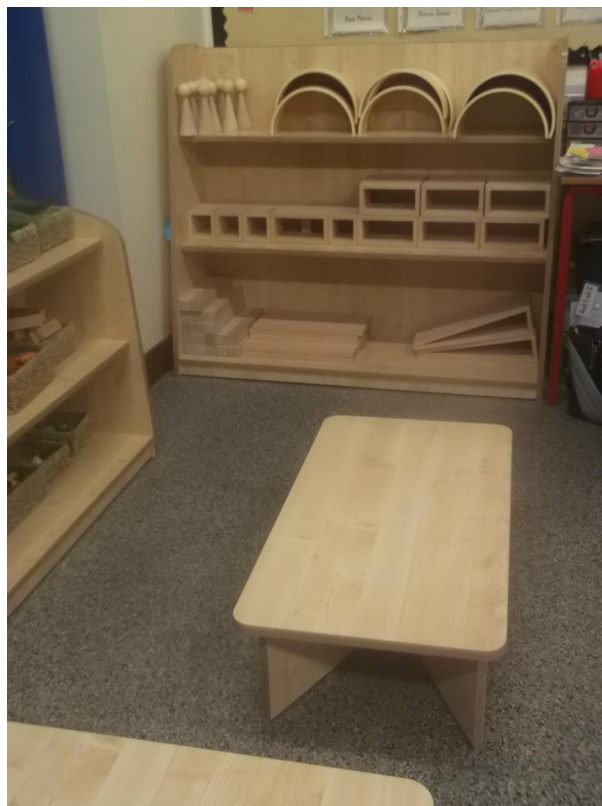
The children have settled in so well, with all our new routines and learning going on. They should be proud of themselves. It has been wonderful seeing how much they have grown even in this short eight weeks. We have had so much fun with them. They deserve a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you again when we come back.







The excitement has continued this week with more new areas arriving in our classroom. The children have had a fabulous time exploring.







This week the children have completed their Phonics assessment and we were very proud of all of them. Over half term please continue sharing the love of reading with your child. Reading includes sharing stories, spotting letters in the environment and playing fun word games.

# Year 1

Year 1 have really enjoyed Forest School this week. The children climbed trees and looked for apples in the orchard and went for swamp walks. They found lots of puddles to jump in and filled containers with water. The children used binoculars to look for birds. In the digging area, the children went on a big dig for treasure and found some unusual stones and bricks. Whilst some of the children built

their own dens. The classes were very lucky because the sun shone! Year 1 are continuing Forest School on Tuesdays. It will get colder and wetter, so the children will need to wear layers and have gloves and hats to keep them warm. Packing a spare of socks is helpful, in case the children get wet feet.



*2 - Yellow 1 working as a team building a den.*



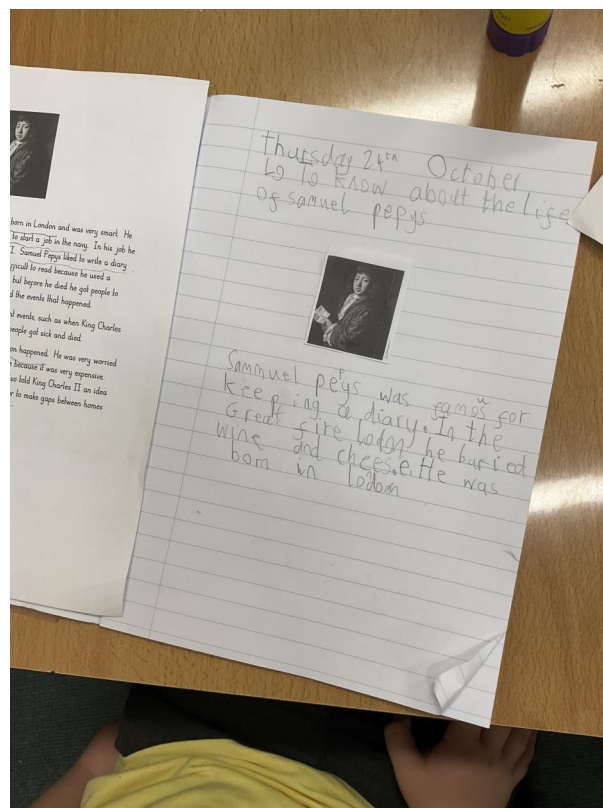
*3 - Busy exploring the swamp.*

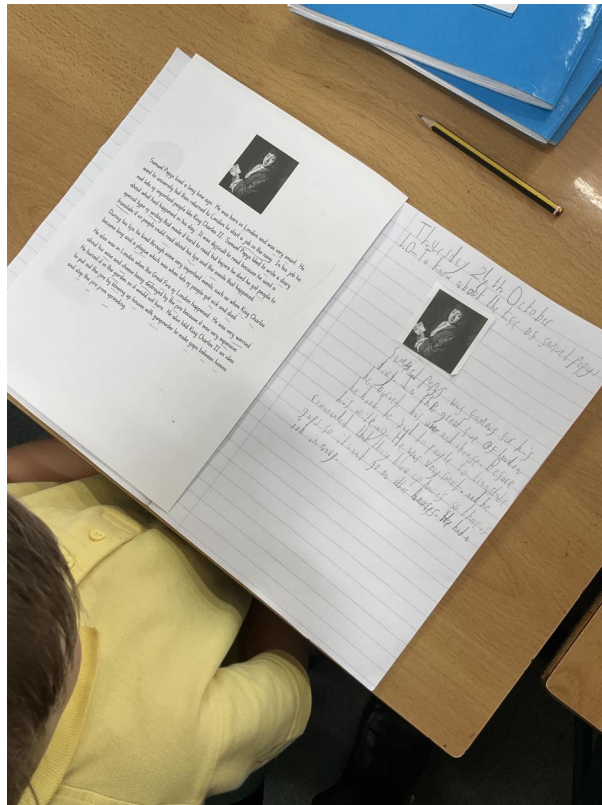
# Year 2

Well done Year 2 on your Diwali assembly today!

In class, we have enjoyed over the last few weeks learning about the Great Fire of London. In English lessons, we have applied our non-chronological report writing to write about the events of the Great Fire of London. In History, we used our reading skills to discover more about Samuel Pepys and why he was so important for knowing about all the things that happened during the Great Fire.

In Maths we have continued to practise our addition and subtraction skills. Over half term, please continue to practise recall of number facts, such as number bonds to 10/20 and number bonds within 10/20. These skills are really helpful for supporting other areas of the maths curriculum that we will be covering.





# Year 3

In Year 3 this week, we have finished our guided reading text *The Twits*. We have thoroughly enjoyed our class reader each day and the children are looking forward to starting our new book after the holiday and the new journey it takes us on.

In Literacy we have finished our non-chronological reports including the features we had listed last week. We have chosen to write about a variety of animals and we have been fascinated to find lots of information about our chosen animal.

We have finished our last lesson in History for this half term. This week we have worked in pairs to research facts about Stonehenge that is one of the world's most famous prehistoric monuments. We then used a postcard style format to report back facts and images found.

After half term, the children will be starting a new topic in Maths - Multiplication and Division. Please keep practising with your times tables.

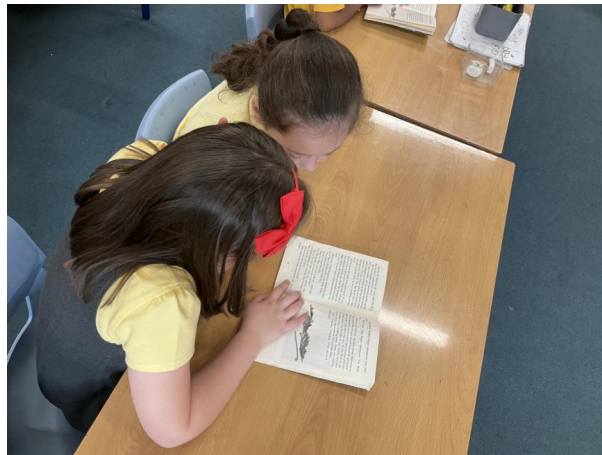
Enjoy your half term holiday, if you have time there's lots of lovely activities and craft sessions at your local library, or you could just pop along to join and borrow some books.

<https://www.better.org.uk/library/dudley>

Thank you for all your support this half term.



Please keep safe and take care from the Year 3 team.

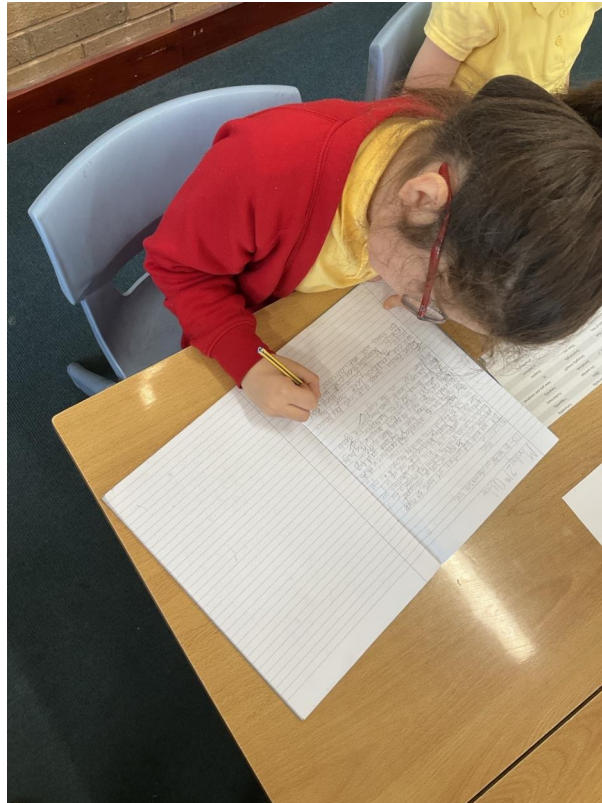


*4 - Class reading text.*

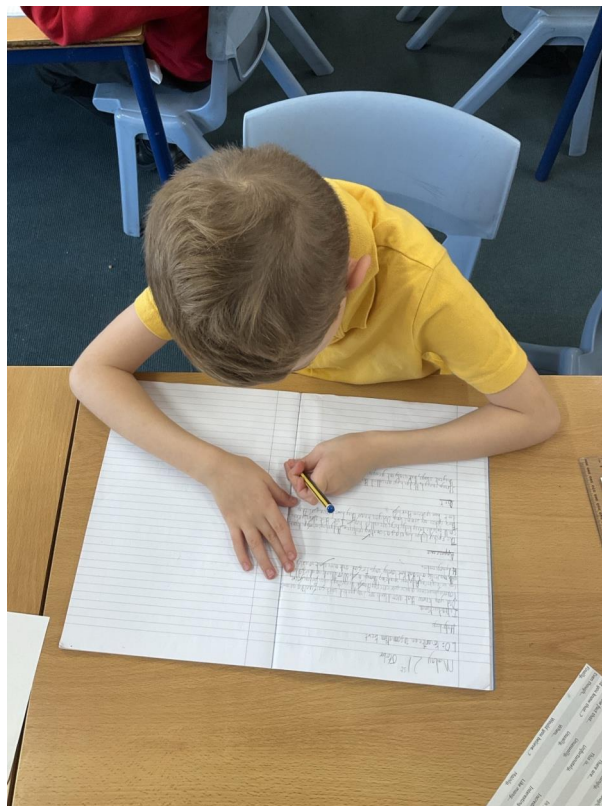


*5 - 'I wonder if the Twits learn their lesson.'*





*6 - Busy finding more facts.*



*7 - Non-chronological writing. Finishing off and then ready to share our work.*

# Year 4

## *8 - Year 4 - Important Information*

Year 4 had a fantastic time watching 'Awful Auntie' at the Alexandra Theatre on Friday 18th October. The behaviour of the children was excellent throughout the trip and they were a credit to Roberts Primary School. A big thank you to all the parents and carers who brought their children to school earlier on Friday, we really appreciate your support.

In Science lessons the children have completed the unit 'States of Matter' by learning about the water-cycle and creating their own mini water-cycle in groups.

This term in P.E. we have focussed on football skills, the children have learnt how to pass and control the ball correctly. In gymnastics lessons the children have worked collaboratively to perform sequences involving: balances, rolls and jumps.

Finally, the children have completed the reading text 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. All the children have really enjoyed the book, discussing the relationship between main characters, Michael and Kensuke. They have all been really engaged in the sessions and couldn't wait to read the final chapter.

Thank you for all of your support, and enjoy October half term. We looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 5th November.

Year 4 Team



*9 - Football skills.*



*10 - Trip to Awful Auntie*



*11 - Water-cycles*



12 - Gymnastics

# Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we have finished our text of Friend or Foe in English lessons, discovering the outcome for our two heroes and their German acquaintances. The children have been reporters, interviewing the two characters on their motives, while asking them to explain any questions people in the village may have.

We have finally finished our large scale paintings for Blitz Art and we have created some magnificent pieces, currently drying off, that we will be able to show you after half term in our next newsletter! We have been really proud of how the children have co-operated and communicated in their groups for this task.

The children are all still enjoying swimming and are making good, steady progress. If, over the half term, you have the opportunity to take the children swimming, we would love to hear about it. Swimming is an important life skill and any extra time in the water would be beneficial to their progress this year!



After half term, the children will be starting a new topic in Maths - Fractions! We shall be looking at what they remember from Year 4 and will be testing their knowledge on equivalent fractions for the week.

As we say, we expect children to read at least 3 times a week with an adult, to check for fluency, tricky concepts and inference skills! If you could keep this up with your children, we would be grateful!

Enjoy your half terms from all of us in Year 5! Re-charge your batteries and enjoy a well deserved break!





# YEAR 6

## *13 - Year 6 - Important Information*

Year Six have enjoyed studying Ancient Egypt this half term. In Art we have created a 'Mood Board' all about the patterns, colours and pictures on a sarcophagus. In History this week, we have researched various aspects of Ancient Egyptian life and created a non-fiction report full of information, facts and pictures.

We are thoroughly enjoying reading our class novel, Wonder and this week have written as different characters from the story.

Well done to Belle, Oliver and Ella who are Year 6's Reading Champions this week and congratulations to Isabel, Nadia and Ella on getting the Handwriting Hero award.

Thank you for encouraging your children to complete their SATs homework. Please continue to listen to your children read and help with spelling practise during the holiday.

Thank you for your support this half term.

Have a happy, safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 5th November.