



# Roberts Primary School Weekly Newsletter 15.11.24

## A message from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a good week.

Thank you to everyone who came to parent's evening this week and for all the positive feedback on everything we are doing as well as the changes we made to parent's evening.

Today I showed the MP for Dudley around school. She was very impressed with our children and the questions they asked her. I raised parking issues in the area with her and she wanted me to encourage all families to email her with any concerns- the more that raise it, the more she can do.

**Nativities- We are beginning to organise our Christmas performances and will shortly get details out to you to book your tickets. Reception are by themselves so we won't have nay issues fitting all the parents/carers in the hall.**

**For Year 1 and 2, we have looked at our seating capacity in the hall and we can fit in 250 seats for parents and carers with all the children in there and on stage. We have now added an additional performance in for Years 1 and 2 on Tuesday 17th December at 2pm so that over the three performances, parents/carers and other family members will hopefully have the chance to attend. We will give all families two tickets initially to book onto the performance of you choice (with a maximum booking of 250). We will then release spare tickets so you can book places for other members. We will get booking on the school life app ASAP.**

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](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 94.76%

Reception Yellow attendance is 89.55%

Reception Blue attendance is 85.65%

Red 1 attendance is 95.17%

Yellow 1 attendance is 96.79%

Blue 1 attendance is 92.41%

Red 2 attendance is 89.33%

Yellow 2 attendance is 98%

Blue 2 attendance is 92.41%

Red 3 attendance is 94.83%

Yellow 3 attendance is 93.55%

Blue 3 attendance is 95%

Red 4 attendance is 89.68%

Yellow 4 attendance is 94.33%

Blue 4 attendance is 92%

Red 5 attendance is 94.38%

Yellow 5 attendance is 100%

Blue 5 attendance is 88.97%

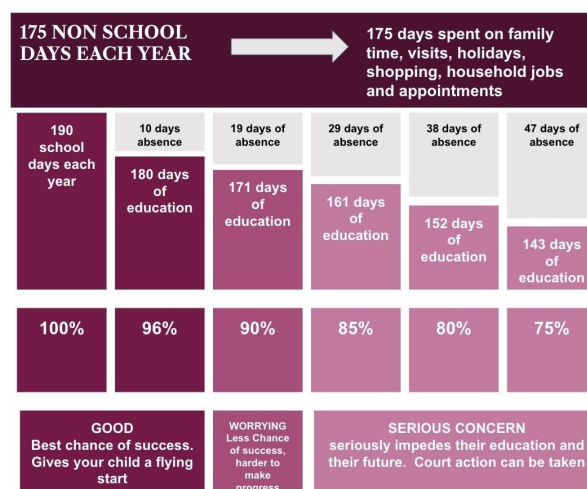
Red 6 attendance is 90 %

Yellow 6 attendance is 97.33 %

Blue 6 attendance is 96.90 %

Overall whole school attendance is 93.28%

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.

## 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



**Friday 15th November- Children in Need- £1 donation to wear own clothes/Pudsey related clothing**

**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)

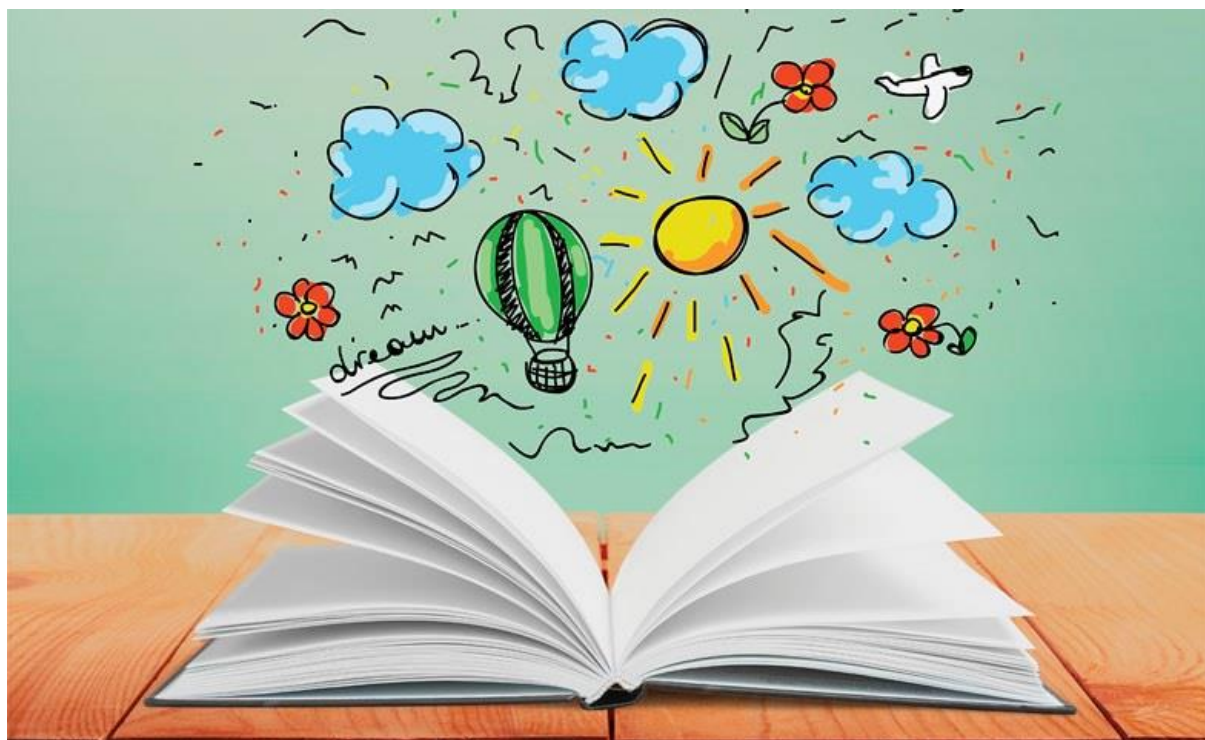
Tuesday - Year 3 Commando Joe's (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

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

*What a lovely week we have had, all starting with our very first trip down to Forest school. I have to admit, I was very excited when I was told this opportunity was being made available to us, and it didn't disappoint. I did watch the children from time to time, with a massive smile on my face with how much they were enjoying it. Now my time to apologise... I had*

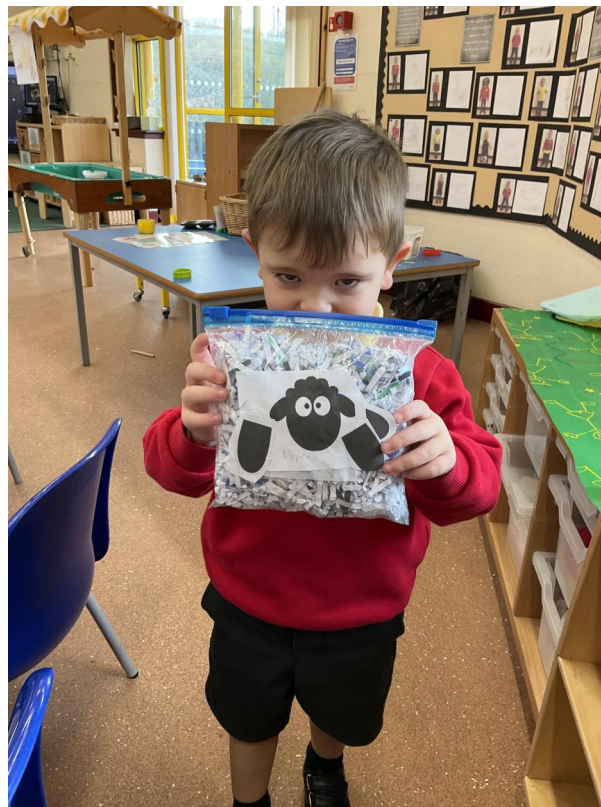


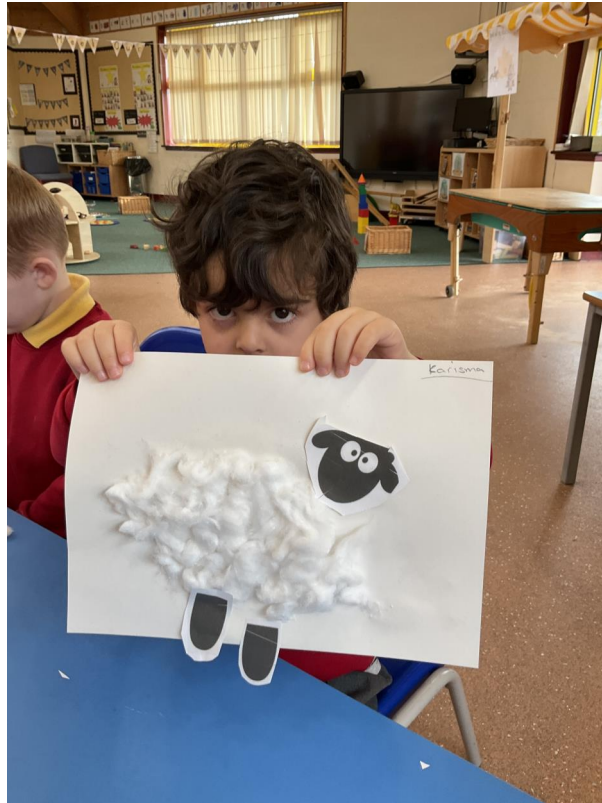
*good intentions of taking lots and lots of photos while we were down there, but when I picked up the Ipad, I found that I had forgot to charge it. So I am really sorry, but I do plan to make up for it next week.*

*The Nursery rhyme we have concentrated on this week has been Baa Baa Black sheep, as you may have guessed with how many sheep have come out of Nursery with the children. Again this has been lovely to watch, because we taught the skills at the start of the week and then left the activity out for the children to have a go at independently. And loads did it to a very good standard.*

*Phonics we have concentrated on the 'p' sound. We have been teaching that it is a quiet sound so we have been whispering the words it relates to. For example, "ppp for penguin". We are very pleased with their progress and how they are starting to hear the sounds in words and understand when we sound talk words.*

*A pleasing aspect part of this week is how we have been using shape. We have been talking about flat sides and curved sides and which is the best to build things with. We have really enjoyed building castles, dens, rockets and car tracks. We have got the junk modelling out and it was wonderful to see. And even better, was how they tidied up the massive mess after!!!*





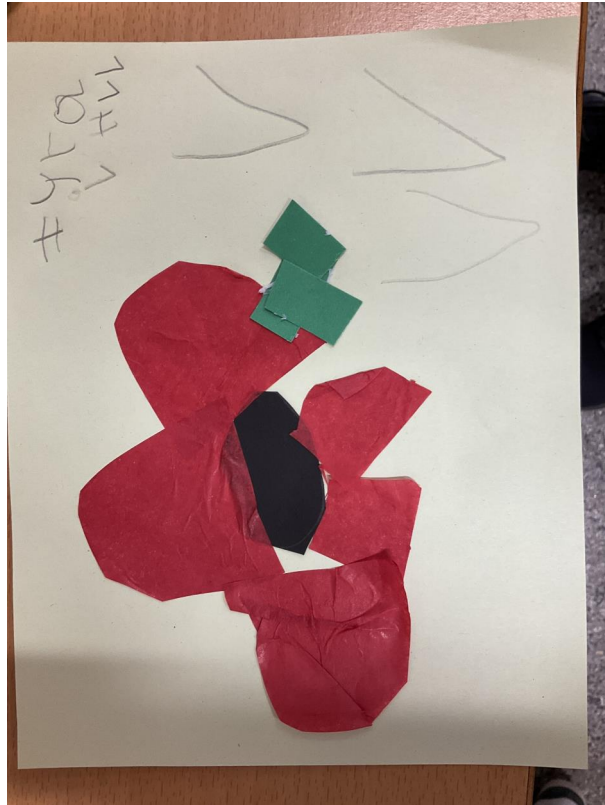
# Reception

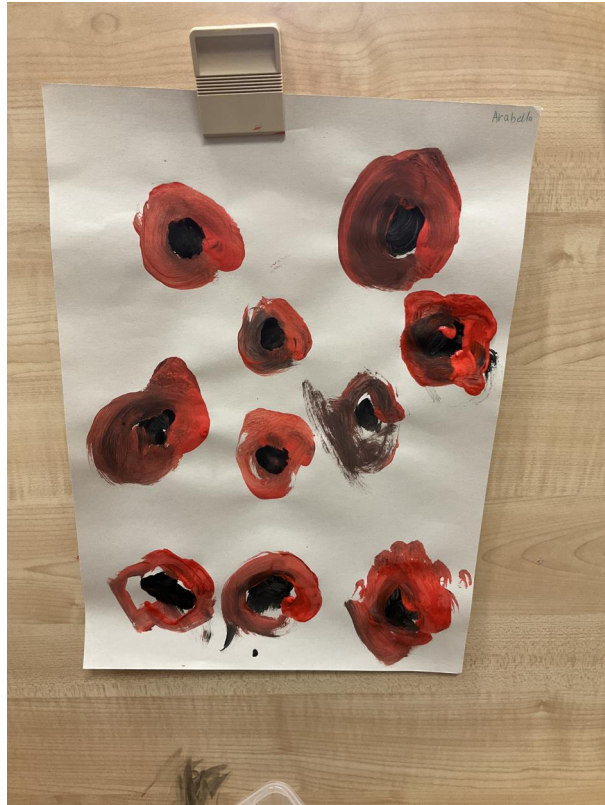
## Remembrance Day

The children took part in the whole school minute's silence, after learning the basics of why we wear poppies for the 11th November. The children made their own poppy creations. Have a look below:











## Forest School

Children experienced their first forest school this week. They were so excited and had a fabulous, messy time! The children listened extremely well throughout and quickly picked up the 'forest school' rules in keeping safe. They explored the forest, sat around the campfire safely (it wasn't lit), navigated over logs and rocks, swung on the tree swings and climbed trees. Take a look!

***During the course of the next few weeks, children will have the experience to go through the stream in the forest. We recommend that children bring with them a waterproof all-in-one, that they can put on just before forest school and a spare set of socks, in case they get wet feet!***













## Phonics

This week the children have learnt four new phonemes: v, w, x and y. Please look out for their homework on Teams.

## Family Photos

Remember to send a photograph in with your child of them and their family, so that we can display these in our home corner. We want them to feel like they are at home!

## Labelling clothes

A polite reminder to label your child's clothes, especially jumpers and cardigans. Children take these off during the school day, e.g. before going in the water and sand area, painting... We can not return these to the correct child, based on whether they have the school logo on or not or dependent on the size. Thank you in advance.









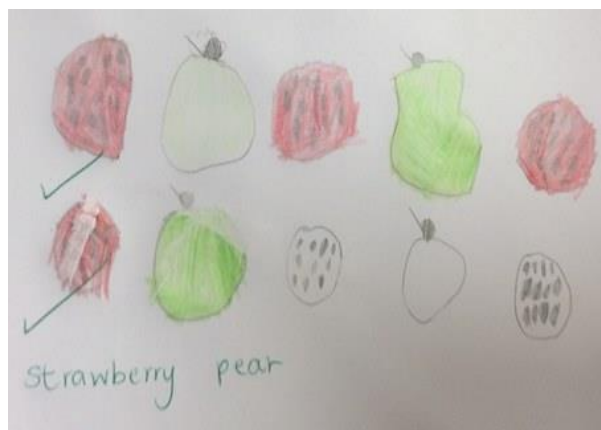


# Year 1

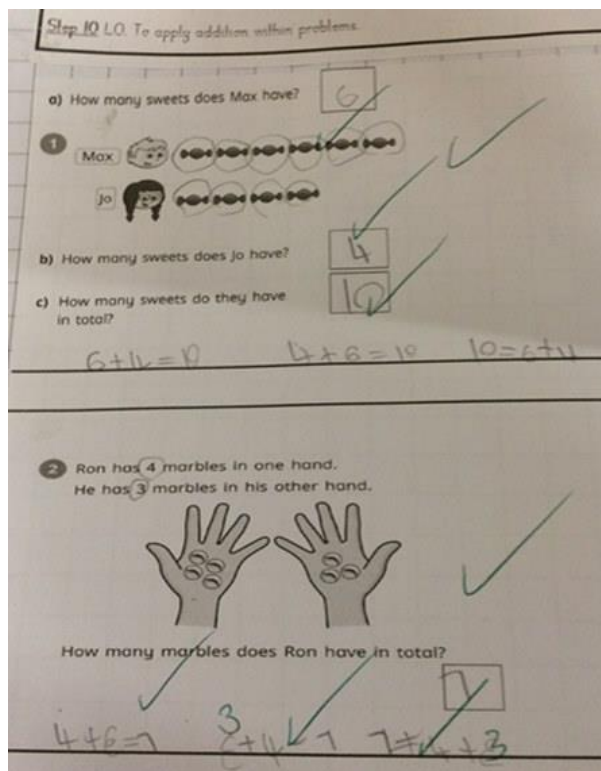
On Monday, we reflected on why we have poppy day and enjoyed celebrating Children in Need on Friday. Thank you for the kind donations for these fantastic charities. In English, we have practised how to wash our hands carefully step by step and in Mathematics, used our addition knowledge to solve simple number stories. It is really pleasing to see the children's confidence growing in their mathematical skills. The children in History, this week have been examining old fashioned toys and thinking of what they would like to find out about the old toys. Whilst in Art, they have been looking at repeat patterns in nature and making rubbings from the Autumn leaves. At home, the children could practise making repeat patterns with coloured Lego blocks or beads and collect leaves to make further rubbings using Autumn colours.



2 - Children's Poppy Mural



3 - Nature inspired repeat patterns.



4 - Real-life addition problems.

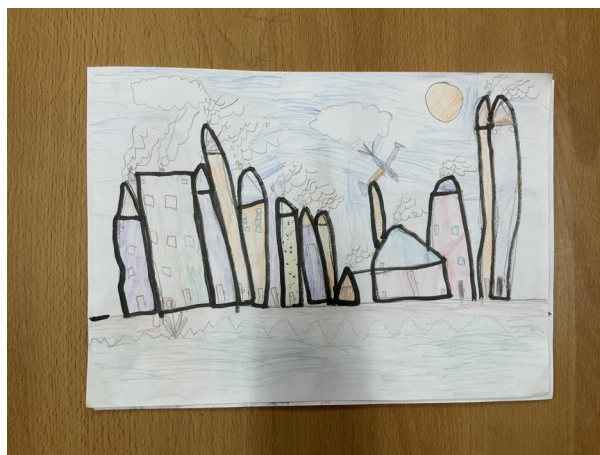
### Timetable Update

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 really enjoyed creating our own Paul Klee inspired artwork over the last few weeks. After researching some of his paintings, we have used his style to inspire our own cityscape creations. We used different mark making techniques, such as focusing on different lines to create parts of buildings and adding detail to them. We have thought about foreground and background and how this looks in a piece of art. Finally, we have used different media to make parts of our art stand out. Have a look at some of our creations!





## Year 3

# Year 3

In Literacy this week we have started to explore a new story called 'The Door'. We have used our acting skills to retell different parts of the story and unpick ambitious vocabulary within the text. We have used a story map to guide our retelling too.

We have been introduced to our brand new book 'The Iron Man' for guided reading sessions. The children have worked very hard to summarise, predict and retrieve using the text. They are looking forward to reading Chapter 2 to find out where the Iron Man goes to explore next!

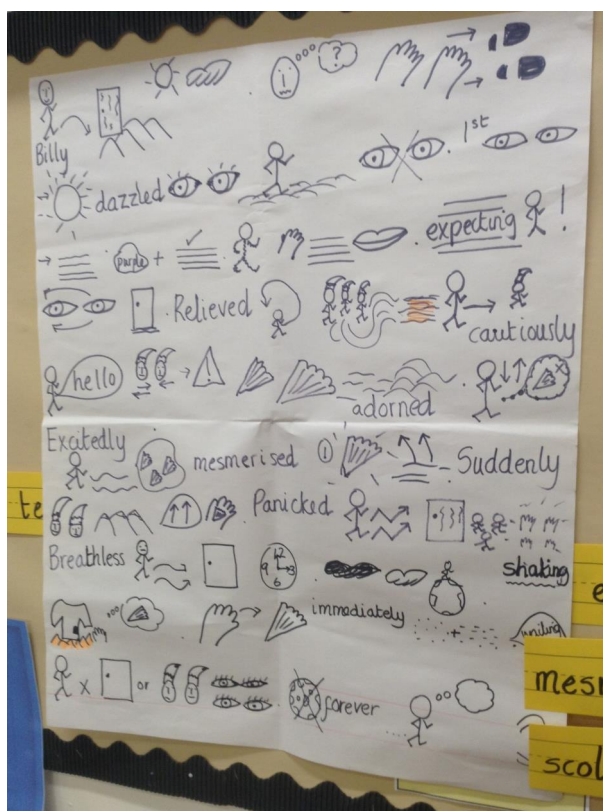


During Mathematics, the children have been exploring multiplication and division, including application of the multiples 5 and 10. Please keep practising the times tables at home as this will improve their quick recall skill.

In Science lessons, the children have been looking at forces, including friction. They thoroughly enjoyed using the ramps and toy cars to test out different surfaces. The children recorded their results and discussed their findings.

Thank you for all your contributions for 'Children in Need'.

Year 3 Team



5 - The Door story plan.

# Year 4

6 - Year 4 - Important Information

This week Year 4 have been introduced to our brand new books for reading lessons! On Wednesday, we have started reading Bill Bryson's book 'A Really Short History about Nearly Everything', the children really enjoyed the section 'Who's out there?', which promoted lots

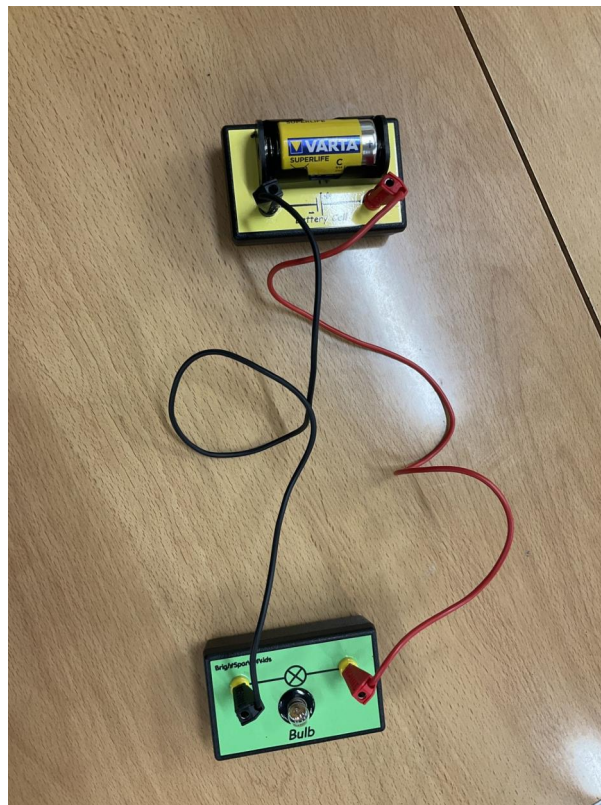
of interesting discussion. We have also started reading 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear', focussing on the main characters, we can't wait to read more!

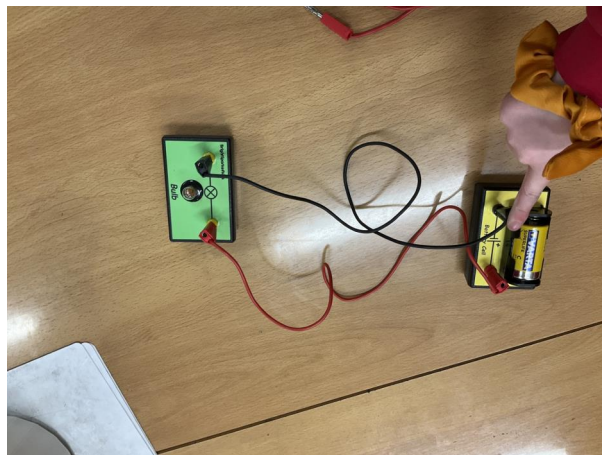
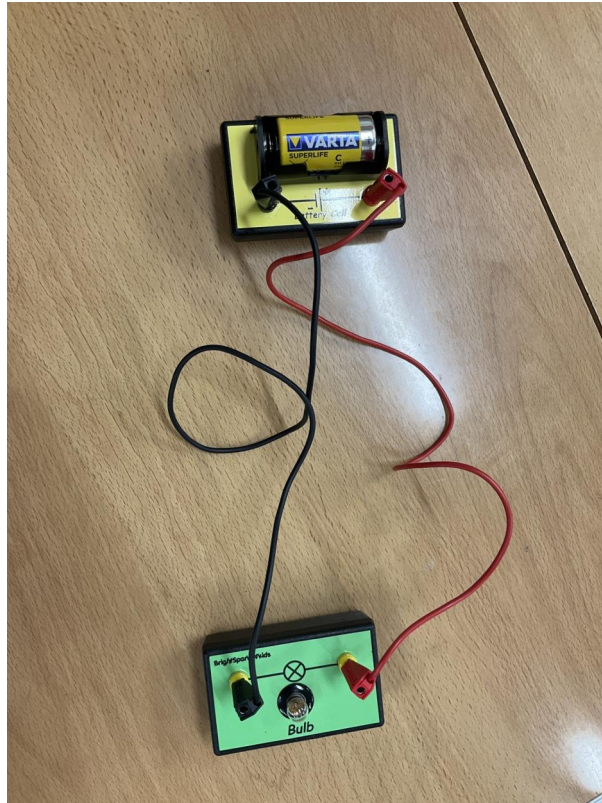
During Mathematics, the children have been exploring patterns and relationships between the 3,6 and 9 times tables. Next week we will also look at the 7, 11 and 12 times tables. Please continue to support your child learning their times tables - 'Hit the Button' is a fun game, the children enjoy. <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

In Science lessons, the children have enjoyed learning about the different components in an electrical circuit. In addition, they followed images on task cards to make circuits to see if the bulb would light up.

Thank you for all your contributions for 'Children in Need'.

Year 4 Team





# Year 5

This week Year 5 have been very busy improving their creative writing skills. We have been trying hard to use techniques such as fronted adverbials and exciting vocabulary to really bring our writing alive. We have started to write our own stories which involve a character

going through a magic portal. So far, we have written the start which is based on a setting and character description.

In History, we have been learning about what life was like for an evacuee in World War 2. We used a range of historical sources to do our research and then used what we had learned to write letters home from the point of view of an evacuee.

In Science, we have been investigating reversible changes. We have stepped into the shapes of a scientist by planning an experiment and making predictions using our existing knowledge.



photos 15.11.24





Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November

I did write a letter in a role as an evacuee from World War 2

re:berry farm  
Devon  
T26 624  
05.8.39

Dear Mum and Dad

It would be nice to see you how are you? see you do? It has been so different without you all at home. There is a lovely garden here, I miss you so much and I feel a bit lonely because I live on the farm. I get to see all the nice animals, they are lovely.

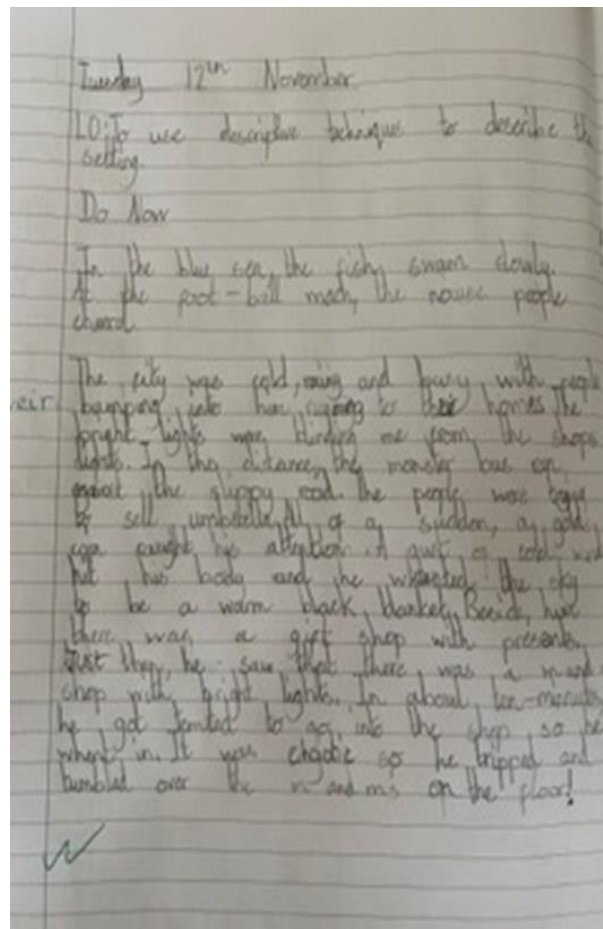
The journey was ok because I sat by Auntie and Papa and we had food and drink but I didn't want to leave England but I did. The beds were comfortable and I slept for a little bit, there was so much to see like rivers and beautiful trees and people (so many people!)

On the farm, I live with a couple called Mr and Mrs Dole. There are lots of chickens and they lay a lot of eggs so we get eggs for breakfast and food because there is wheat too.

I miss you so much,

from Edith X

7 - A superb letter from the point of view of an evacuee in World War 2



8 - A fantastic description of an imaginary setting

# YEAR 6

9 - Year 6 - Important Information

Thank you to all parents who came to this week's parents' evening. If you were unable to see your child's teacher then please do not hesitate to speak to them regarding finding an alternative time to speak about how your child has settled into year 6.

Congratulations to this week's Handwriting Heroes: Ellis, Lennon and Leon and also to our Reading Champions: Jake, Ella and Ellie.

We have thoroughly enjoyed starting our new class novel *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle. Our reading lessons have been engaging with plenty of opportunities to discuss character and setting within the opening chapters.

If your child has enjoyed reading this book, they may be interested in reading books on a similar theme by the same author.

[While the Storm Rages](#)

[Until the Road Ends](#)

These books should be available from all good bookshops. Dudley Libraries should have copies too. Your local library is free to join and could offer a wonderful opportunity to find a range of books to read.

[Dudley Library](#)

In Science we have been finding out more about our topic of classification by looking at vertebrates. Have a go at solving a riddle that describes a vertebrate:

**Cold-blood vertebrate riddles**

***We breathe with gills and lay soft eggs.***

***We have wet scales and have no legs.***

***What are we?***

Finally, Year 6 enjoyed a live seminar with the author Dame Jacqueline Wilson. We discovered how the much-loved author created some of her characters such as Tracy Beaker and Hetty Feather! Jacqueline then introduced her brand new book *Star of the Show*, set in the Victorian era. The event finished with a live Q&A session.



[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.







