

# Bedwell News

March 2026

## This term's highlights:

- Our Year 5/6 Choir joined 8000 other children to sing at the O2 as part of the *Young Voices* project.
- We all got into costume for World Book Day and took part in lots of fun reading activities.
- A packed Science Week saw us completing loads of exciting workshops and challenges.
- Years 1/2 rounded-off their latest geography topic with a packed *India Day*, while Year 3/4 organised a brilliant *USA Day*.
- We finished the Spring Term with a fantastic Easter Disco, raising money for School Council funds.
- Our Spring Parents Evening was attended by 86% of families across the school.
- In a packed term of sport, we've collected medals in Basketball, Rapid Fire Cricket, Speed Stacking and Girls Football. In total, over 90 children have represented the school at sport this term!

## What we've been doing this term...

### Easter Egg Competition

We held our annual Easter Egg Competition in the final week of term. With some fantastic ideas, designs and pun-tastic names, it was a great display of artistic flair and ingenious construction - including models of circus tents, classrooms and football matches, collections of turtles, pandas,



dinosaurs and superheroes, plus some gorgeous Easter bonnets and lots of carefully painted egg characters. It was lovely to see how much we all



enjoyed looking at the creations and picking out our favourite details - even if all the care and attention did make some of the judging decisions really tricky! The winners from each class were revealed in our final assembly of term, where we handed out lots of well-deserved prizes.

### Sharing learning

We continue to be really keen to share our learning with our parents, carers and families as often as possible, and throughout the term we have once again organised lots of workshops and activity sessions. These have included:

- Two *Stay and Play* sessions in Early Years, with the first focussing on Mother's Day and the second filled with Easter-themed craft activities.
- *Stay and Count* workshops in Years 1 and 2, sharing key strategies to support children in developing number sense.
- *Stay and Multiply* sessions in Years 3 and 4, emphasising the importance of times table knowledge and sharing ideas for helping children to develop their rapid recall of tables facts.
- *Stay and Calculate* workshops for Year 5/6, with each maths set running their own arithmetic activities.



There will be lots more opportunities for parents and carers to join us in school during the summer - dates will be sent home at the start of term.

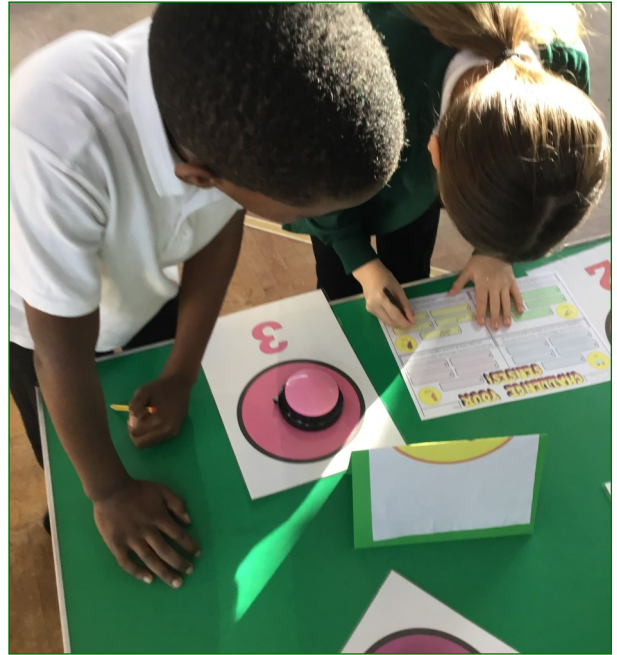
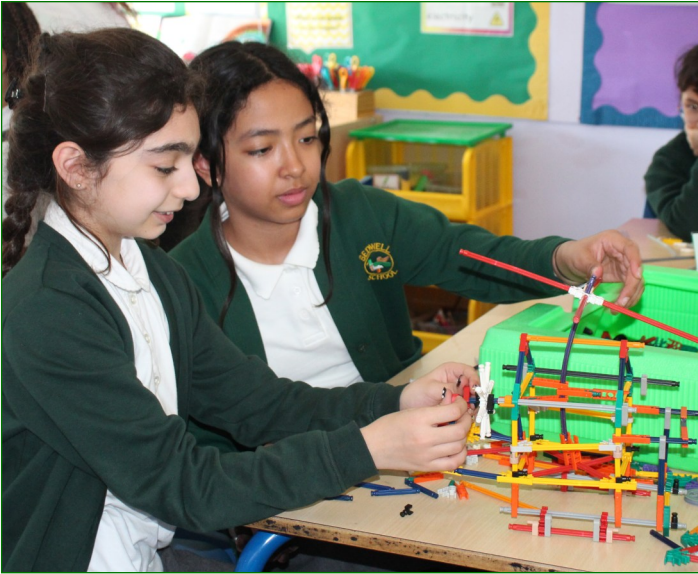
## Science Week

The penultimate week of term saw us taking part in our fantastic Science Week, which included:

- Our amazing Science Fair, which included ten stations covering everything from circuit building to periscopes and chemistry tests!
- A senses trail which challenged us to identify objects using only touch, sound clips, smells or close-up pictures.
- Workshops with Teaching Talons, who introduced us to their parrot, bearded dragon, frogs and dogs!
- Our Egg Drop Challenge, building a contraption that could safely transport an egg from the roof to the floor.
- Sessions with the Science Boffins, making slime and investigating static electricity.
- A Knex Challenge, where we worked in pairs to build helicopters.

As you can probably tell, it was a really busy week, packed with fab opportunities to learn about science and what it means to be a scientist.



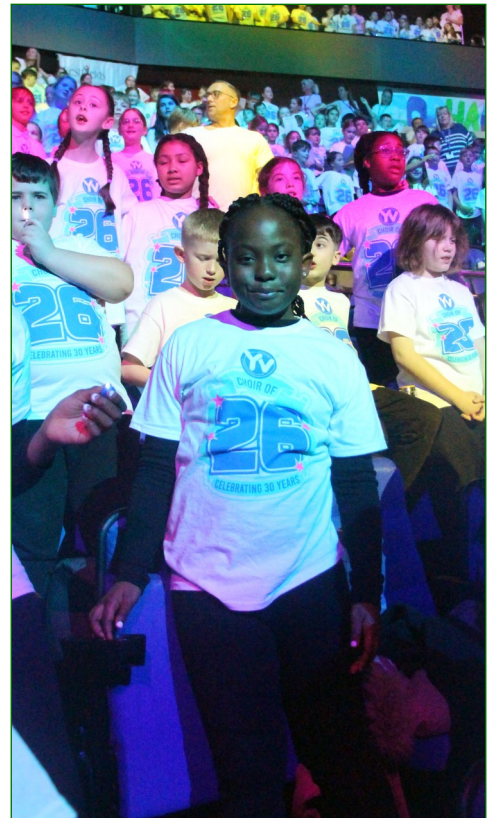


## Young Voices

Year 5/6 leapt at the chance to take part in the *Young Voices* project this year., singing at famous venues as part of a massive choir. Having learnt a collection of (pretty tricky) songs, they headed into London to take part in a huge performance at the O2 just after half-term.

Arriving in North Greenwich, the group (led by Ms Rose) headed into the vast arena. Our choir took their place alongside over 8000 other children and spent the afternoon rehearsing their songs, as well as the accompanying dance moves... And then, as if all that wasn't enough, it was time for the performance proper, when another 10,000 audience members, a few special celebrity guests and a massive light show was added to the mix.

It was huge, it was an amazing experience, and it now means that our brave choir members can all say that they have played the O2! It was a very long day, but eventually everyone made it home, exhausted but exhilarated!

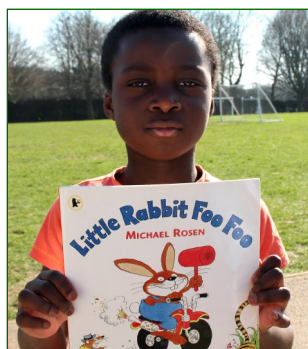


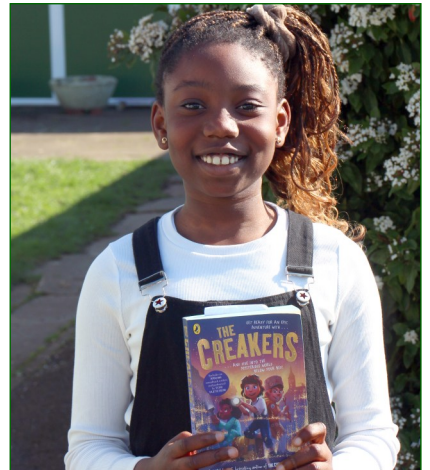


# World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day, we got into costume, dressing-up as our favourite storybook characters. We were really impressed with the range of characters and stories on show, with everything from Roald Dahl to Percy Jackson to Dr Seuss! We also had an army of Harry Potters, a palace of Disney princesses and enough superheroes to take on even the most fearsome of villains! Lots of us also brought in copies of the book that our characters appeared in, which was a great addition.

During the week, we also took part in reading events throughout the school, including buddy reading with children in other classes, taking part in nationwide BBC live lessons and writing lots of reviews. Finally, we did lots of work linked to this year's special World Book Day £1 books, reading extracts, making predictions and learning more about their authors. It was great to see so many of us talking about the books we loved and discovering new favourite stories!





## Easter Disco

On the final Thursday of term we held a fantastic Easter disco. With over 150 children from Years 1-6 coming back to school to join the party, the evening was full of energy, dancing and laughter. We ate a lot of burgers, pizza and sweets; we drank a lot of juice and pop; we threw a lot of balls at the coconut shy; and (helped by all that food and drink) we bounced enthusiastically around the dance floor! It was also lovely to see how our older children looked after and supported younger children - not just brothers and sisters, but anyone who was looking a bit lost or overwhelmed.

As a result of all of this, we collected over £990 for School Council funds. This will help us to get more resources to use at playtimes and lunchtimes, as well as topping-up our bank of Golden Time toys and games.

Can we all send a massive thank you to the staff who volunteered to give up their time to organise and run the disco, making our brilliant evening possible!





## Early Years

### Our day on the farm

Over the last two weeks, Butterfly and Dragonfly classes have each had a brilliant day out at Ardley Church Farm. We met the lambs, goats and guinea pigs, explored the fairy trail and played in the woodland. We all had a lovely day out and learnt loads about the lives of different animals - and Nursery will be following in our footsteps, with their visit to Church Farm planned for the Summer Term.

### Science

During Science Week we explored floating and sinking, met some amazing animals in our *Teaching Talons* session and made our own 'egg drop' contraptions - and we really enjoyed watching these being dropped off the roof with real eggs inside!

### Chickens!

In Reception we took delivery of an incubator filled with eggs. We watched them carefully, and eventually they began to hatch. A clutch of chicks emerged, and we have loved watching them grow day by day, helping us to better understand their life-cycles.





# Early Years

## Celebrations

This term has included lots major events that we have enjoyed celebrating and learning about, including Chinese New Year, Eid and Holi. In March, we made the most of World Book Day, dressing up as our favourite book characters, making bookmarks and reading stories in different places

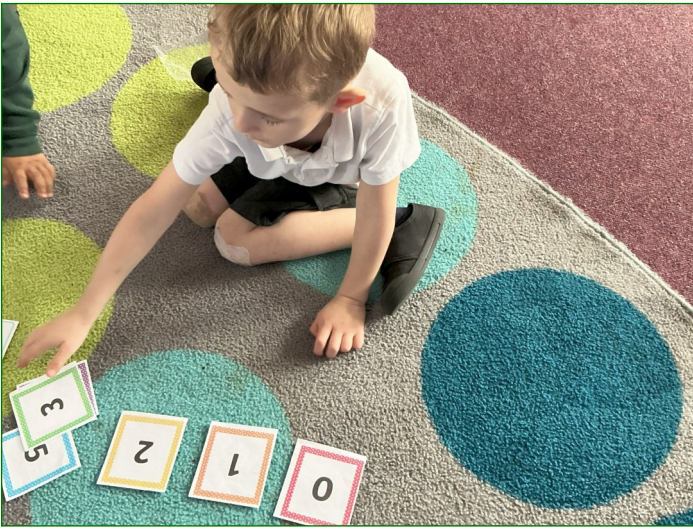
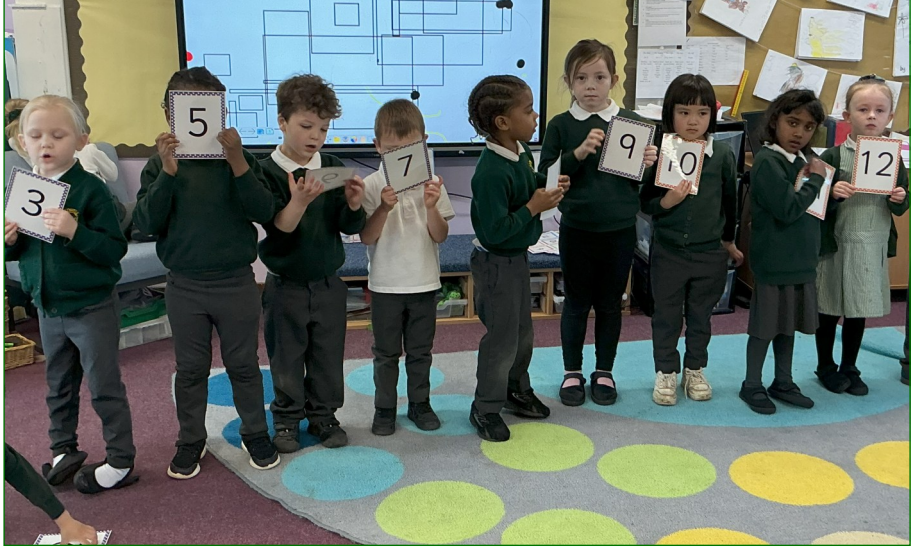
## Stay & Play

We have had two Stay and Play sessions this term - one themed around Mother's Day and one linked to Easter. We were delighted that so many of you were able to join us in class, making perfume from petals, lemon juice and water, hunting for letters hidden in plastic eggs, decorating biscuits and finding out more about what we've been up to in school!

## Maths

In maths we've been learning to order numbers, starting with 1-5 and then progressing to 10 and beyond. We have made number lines to help us to count forwards and back, and have been introduced to part-part-whole models.





# Year 1: Fieldmice

## Maths

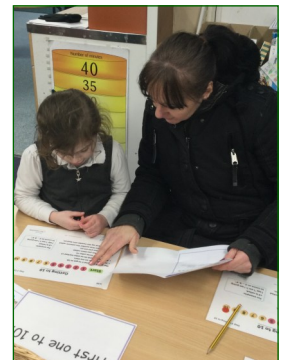
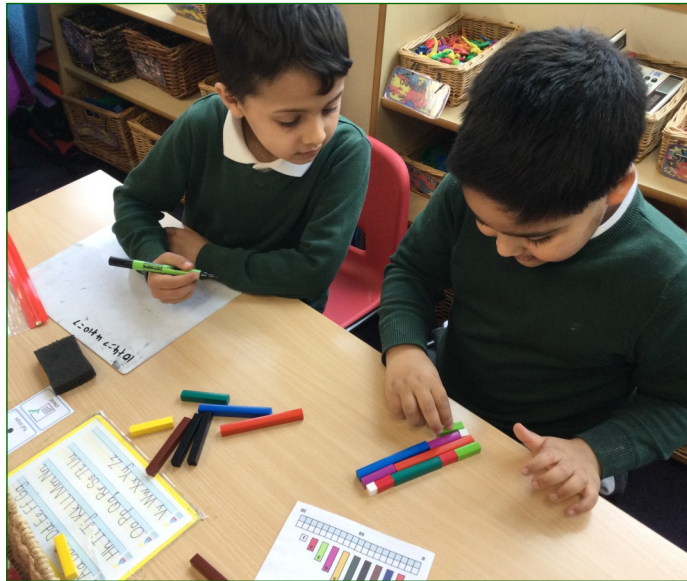
We have been learning about 2d and 3d shapes and their properties, as well as exploring measures, the days of the week and months of the year. We really enjoyed sharing lots of our learning with you at our *Stay and Count* session.

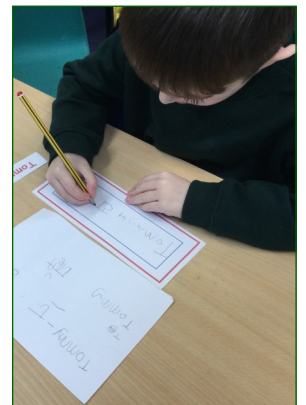
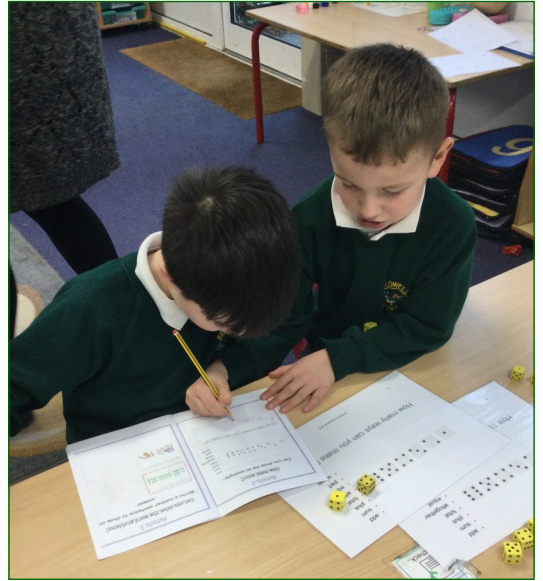
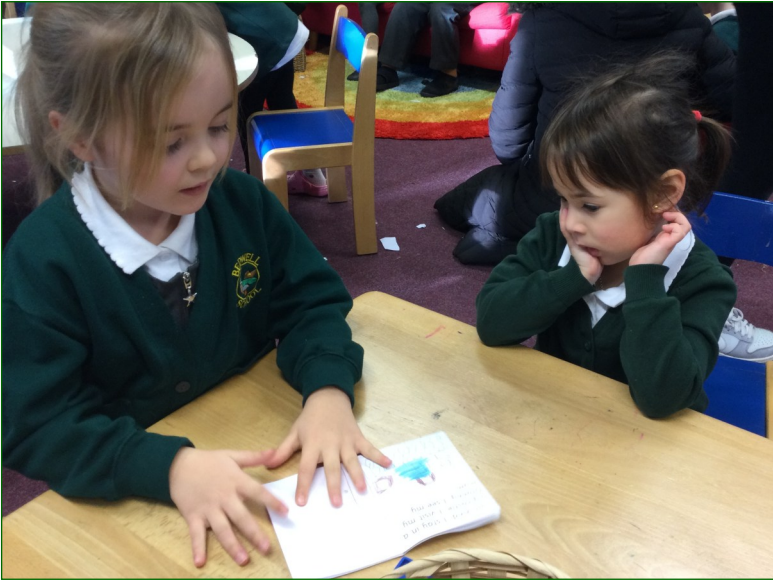
## India Day

We all had great fun on our *India Day*. We took part in a variety of Indian workshops including dancing, writing our names in Hindi, playing cricket, creating mehndi hand designs and cooking chapattis. We finished the day by sampling our cooking with a variety of dips.

## English

This term we have been reading *Stanley's Sticks*, *Ruby's Worry* and *Madlenka*. We learnt how to plan and write our own stories about our stick, recount roars or worries we may have had and wrote our own journey tales. We particularly enjoyed getting to share our finished books with children in Nursery. We have also worked on using ? and ! correctly, as well as using conjunctions to extend sentences.





## Year 1/2: Dormice

### English

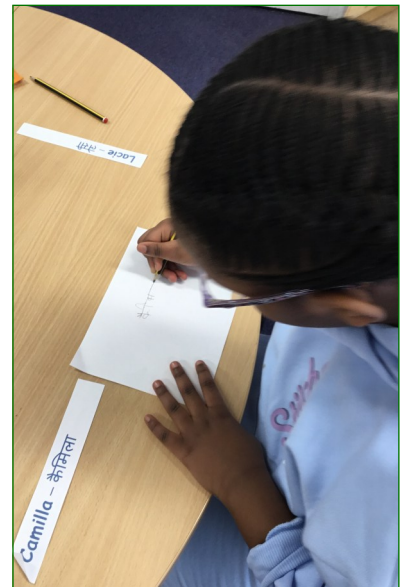
In the first half of term, we enjoyed reading the story of Little Red. We created sections of speech and acted out the story with homemade puppets. We then turned our own stories into little books for Little Red's next adventure! After that, we read and learnt all about turtles. We have found it fascinating learning facts about them and turning these into statements with a conjunction. We then used our knowledge to write up our own reports.

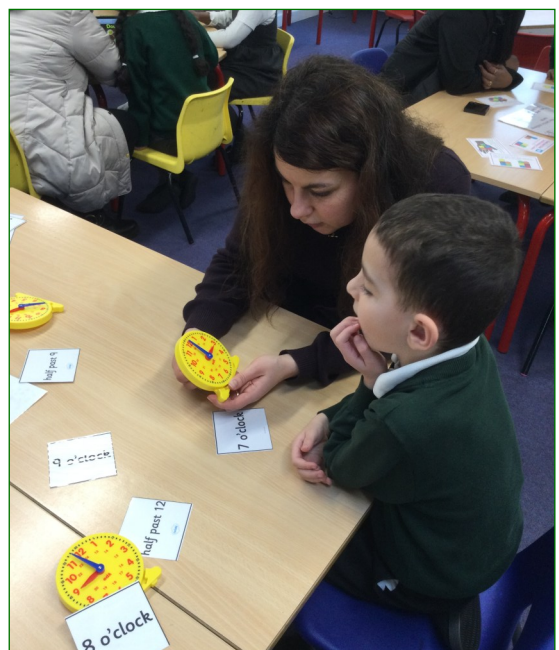
### India

We have been learning about India and comparing it to life in the UK. We have explored Rangoli patterns and have created our own using tissue paper and glue. To finish off our topic, we organised a fantastic India Day - you can see some highlights in the pictures on the right.

### Stay and Count

We had a lovely Stay and Count session where our parents joined us to play maths games in class. We were delighted that so many of you were able to join us!





## Year 2: Hedgehogs

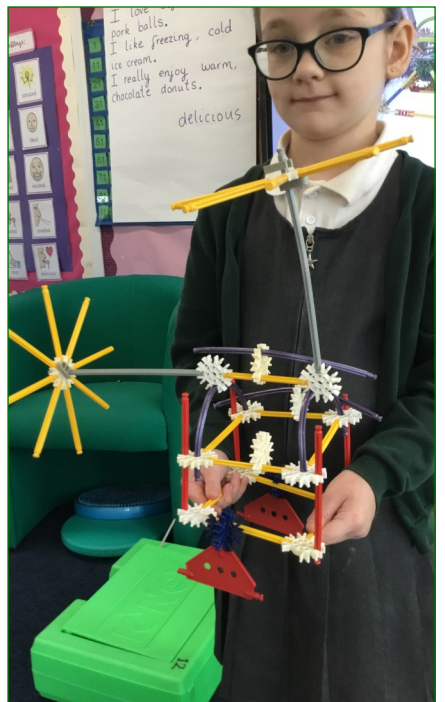
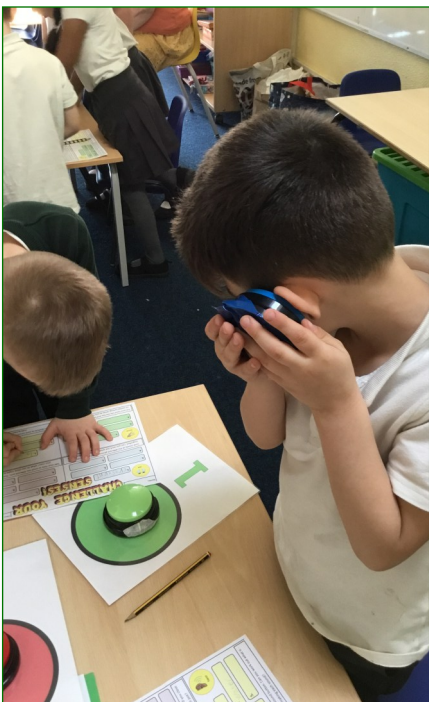
### Science Week

Hedgehog class enjoyed every minute of our Science Week. We had the opportunity to get 'hands-on' with a friendly group of animals - we all managed to stroke a bearded dragon, hold a guinea pig and even watch an African toad eating his lunch. Later in the week we completed a senses trail, trying to work out what the sounds, smells, close-up pictures and hidden materials all belonged to. We also tackled the Knex challenge, working in teams to build a helicopter. Our class winners were Arabella and Cassie, and Aina and Grace.

### Maths

We started the term learning about graphs and money. We used scales to weigh small objects in grams. Then we learned to tell the time using our special T00thPASTe method! This helped us to realise whether the time was quarter-to or quarter-past the hour. At the end of the term we have been learning how to double and halve two-digit numbers, developing useful strategies to help us to do this accurately.





## Year 3: Rabbits

### Fit Kidz

This term, we have had the chance to take part in Fit Kidz activities as part of our weekly PE sessions. With lots of weights and fitness activities, they are a great way for us to build up our core strength and stamina - and it's been lots of fun too!

### USA Day

We rounded-off our geography topic with a brilliant USA Day. We all came to school dressed in red, white and blue (to represent the American flag), and then took part in art, cooking and PE sessions. We especially enjoyed making (and eating) our apple pies!

### World Book Day

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we organised a buddy reading session with Fieldmice. We each paired-up with a child from Year 1, and then shared books with each other. The younger children really enjoyed listening to us read from some of our favourite stories, and it was a great opportunity to talk about books and characters we love.



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## Year 3/4: Moles

### Science Club

Lots of us have taken part in Science Club this term, and in the first half-term we built and tested our own bottle rockets. We were amazed by how far some of them flew -check out the pictures on the opposite page to see for yourself!

### Art

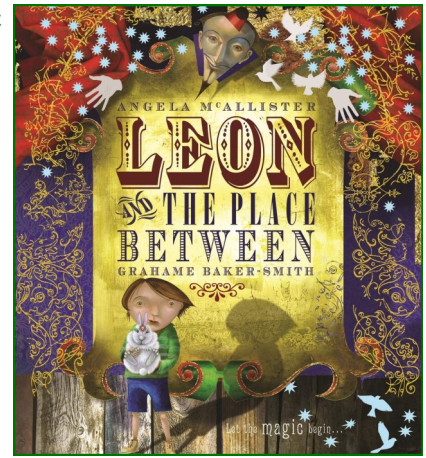
In geography we have been learning about the USA, and linked to this we created clay models of famous American monuments. Some of us chose the Gateway Arch, whilst others chose the Statue of Liberty and a few of us went for rockets! The models were quite tricky to make, but we learnt a lot about how to shape and join clay.

### Science

As part of our work on plants we carried out investigations to discover what they need to survive. We tried growing them in the dark, with no water or sealed in plastic bags (to give them no air). We recorded our observations carefully and used these to draw conclusions about the conditions needed for seeds to germinate and grow.

## English : Portal Stories

In English we have been reading a fantastic book called *Leon and the Place Between*. In the story, Leon wants to prove to his brothers that magic is real, so he volunteers to be in a magic show - and is transported to a mysterious, fantastical world. We used the same idea for our writing, with characters transported a new and exciting world after travelling through a strange portal. While writing, we focused on descriptive language and building suspense, and you can see a few extracts from our finished pieces below:



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Lala was slowly walking around the peaceful woods. The woods were Lala's favourite place to be. Lala said to herself, "Where should I go to now?" She went round the corner and found a surprise. A beautiful campfire was there! She saw tall, green and rough trees all around her. She also saw her friend running towards her.

Suddenly, the tall, green, rough trees got even taller! Accidentally she tripped over and it really hurt. Before she could even catch her breath she was teleported to a magical world. "Where am I?" she asked herself...

By Frankie

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"What game should I play?" asked Emily. She chose to play *99 Nights in the Forest* and was making a good base to survive for 99 days, but then she got hungry and went to find food.

Suddenly, she got teleported into her game because she played a bit too much. "Oh no, what am I going to do?" said Emily in shock. She thought she was stuck in the game forever, but there had to be a way out. "I can do this!" said Emily, feeling very brave...

By Stefi

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"Do you want to play Fortnite?" Crist asked his best friend Larry. Larry was playing outside in the park. It was a beautiful, sunny day. Crist could smell the surprising scent of flowers.

After the boys started playing in the park, suddenly Larry saw a white, sparkly pigeon sitting on a branch of a tree. Larry went to chase the pigeon but he suddenly disappeared. Crist looked everywhere for Larry, but he couldn't see him. Suddenly Crist was transported to a Fortnite world, where he found Larry dodging bullets and trying to protect himself...

By Christo



## Year 4: Badgers

### USA Day

On 27th February, we came to school in red, white and blue to celebrate USA Day and round-off this term's geography topic. During the day we took part in three very different activities. First up, we were introduced to American Football, learning the names of key positions, practising a play and scoring a touchdown. For the second session, we made apple pies, slicing apples and rolling out pastry. Finally, we created American flags, choosing unusual tools to paint the stars and stripes.

### Science Week

We loved getting involved in this year's Science Week. We particularly enjoyed the senses trail, trying to identify objects using just one of our senses. We also took part in the Knex Challenge, building model helicopters in pairs. During the week we also got to take part in a session with *Teaching Talons*, who introduced us to some of their amazing animals and built egg-drop contraptions which could safely carry an egg from the roof to the ground.

## English : Storytelling

We have all been really trying hard to develop our writing this term, focussing on adding fronted adverbials (with a comma), using expanded noun phrases and similes when describing characters and settings, and ensuring that speech is accurately punctuated. Along with making sure our handwriting is the best it can be and all our spelling is tip-top, it's a lot to remember all at once, but we have been working hard to draw all of these skills together and produce finished writing that we can be proud of. Over the last few weeks we have been working on writing stories inspired by the fantastic book *Leon and the Place Between* - and you can read a few extracts from our finished pieces below:

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In a dark, cold, beautiful room, a little girl called Maren lived in a peaceful, warm house. She was the only child and her father had surprisingly passed away due to cancer. This all happened when she was five years old, and it made her very depressed. Six years later, when she was at her window, she spotted a weird looking creature in the centre of her garden. It was standing on her favourite flower, but when she blinked it disappeared in a flash. "What was that? I hope it does not come back!" Maren gasped in horror...

By Atarah

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The dark, purple portal was terrifying. All around me there were so many swirls. There were purple, pink and blue swirls around everything. Quickly, I turned and saw a strange figure! I ran for help. I ran faster and faster, because the strange figure was getting closer and closer all the time. Suddenly, the stranger shouted, "Come here!"

Then I replied, "No, you monster! Leave me alone!"

By Albi

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One afternoon, Zoey was chilling on her sofa. Zoey was a famous pop star and she was taking a selfie of herself, while watching her favourite horror movie. Her heart started to pound because the movie was so terrifying! Her best friend was staying with her and Zoey asked her to take a photo of her. She got a pose ready and Poppy (her best friend) took the photo. Suddenly, they heard a big bang. They both shouted, "What was that?" Who knows what is going to happen next?

Next, they began to disappear! They had no idea what was going on, then they were teleported into Zoey's phone. Poppy thought, "What just happened?"

"Wow!" exclaimed Zoey. Both of them were really confused and tried desperately to work out what was going on...

By Sienna



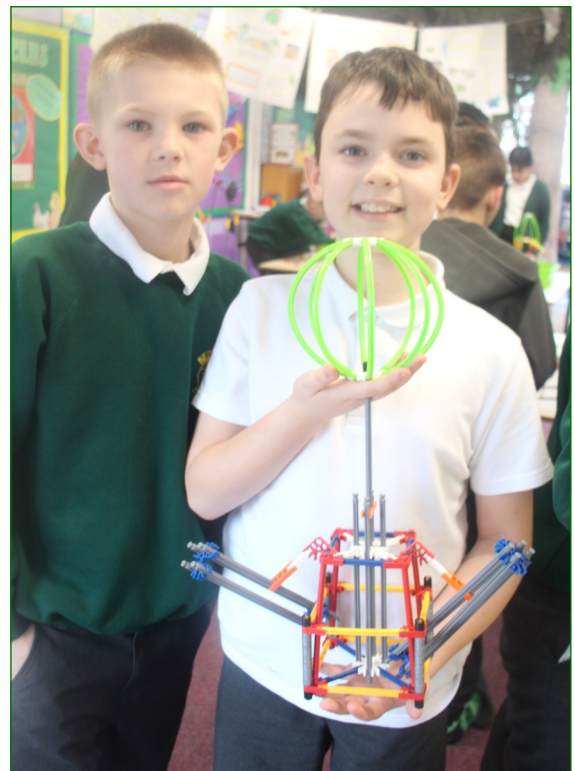
## Year 5: Foxes

### The Easter Story

On 11th March we headed to St Andrews and St Georges church to learn about the Easter Story. We split into 4 separate groups and learnt about the Christian faith's belief in the miracles of Jesus and the days leading up to his execution including Palm Sunday and the Last Supper. After a short snack break we then found what happened on Good Friday and Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. We had great fun, learnt lots and thoroughly impressed the Arch Deacon!

### Knex Challenge

We had a head-start on one of our Science Week challenges, as we got to take part in the STEMPOINT Knex Challenge earlier this half-term. The county-wide competition challenged us to build a space rocket, with detachable boosters and a command capsule for the crew. We worked hard in our pairs to build, test and adapt our designs over the course of the morning, with Cosmin and Michael eventually selected as our school winners.



## DT : Pillow Packets

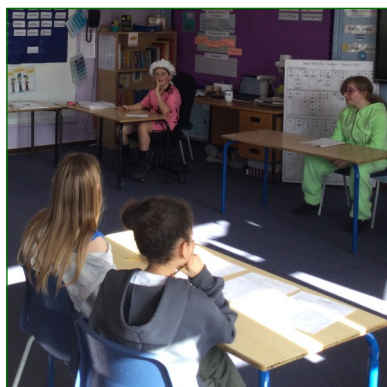
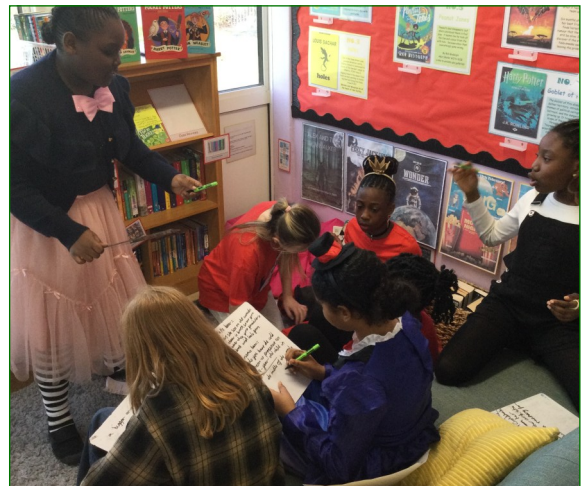
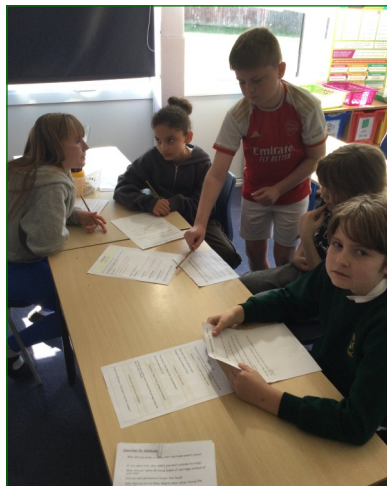
This half-term, we were set a challenge to design and make a pillow in the shape of our favourite snacks. After working on different famous logo designs, we then had to create our chosen one from card. Once our designs and card practice piece were completed, we learnt running stitch and back stitch. Once we had mastered these stitches, we began to cut out our designs in felt, before stitching them to one side of our packets. Finally we turned our packets inside out and using a back stitch we sewed up each side of our packet, leaving one side open so that will could fill it with stuffing. As you can see our finished products are fantastic and we couldn't wait to take them home!



## Year 5/6: Eagles

To celebrate World Book Day, we transformed the classroom into a courtroom for a dramatic retelling of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We were split into two teams: the defence, determined to prove Goldilocks' innocence, and the prosecution, equally determined to send her straight to bear-jail! Everyone had a proper role to play - judge, lawyers, witnesses, jury members, even a very serious-looking court clerk.

Goldilocks herself (played by Ayo) delivered an Oscar-worthy performance, complete with dramatic pauses and even a few tears to win the jury over. The Bears also gave powerful evidence... though Baby Bear did seem very upset about that broken chair. After a lively debate and much pointing of fingers, the jury reached their final verdict... and poor Goldilocks was declared guilty! The activity was a huge hit, filled with laughter, drama and some impressive acting talent that really brought the story to life!



## English : Twisted Fairytales

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Our latest writing topic has seen us exploring fairytales, using Oscar Wilde's *Stories for Children* as our inspiration. We all agreed that we're a bit too old for 'traditional' fairytales, however, so we've focussed on giving them a twist (and a few scares and surprises) to make them suitable for slightly older readers. You can see a few extracts from our finished stories below:

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### Skid the Dragon

Deep beneath ground level, in the open plains, sat the woeful wingless dragon: Skid. As sunlight filled the open land, a rushing stream flowed beside the valley. His dagger blue eyes portrayed sadness and flickered like candles in the darkness. Every darting movement made his scales recoil and ash fall from his crevasse. Claws jutted out from his paws and when angered a thunderous roar emitted from his mouth. Even though Skid was petrifying, it was sadness that filled his body. His claws, roar and scales were not a reason for him to be unhappy: he was missing his wings and needed to get them back.

Many years earlier, fire had ripped through the plains. As the flames clawed at his eyes and the screams filled his ears, he realised he had failed. He had failed his father. As he came out of the flames, unable to cry because of the heat, Skid flapped his wings in anger - but there were no wings to fly, only stumps to show where they had once been...

*By Chance*

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### The Brave Ladybug

Not too far from the small town of Everland Green, there was a lush forest where the hard wooden pinecones and fluttering, emerald leaves covered the paths. Nestled in the centre of the woods, the smooth, babbling brook splashed upon the mossy rocks. Right next to the river, where the sunlight poured through the trees, there lived a small, red ladybug. She buried herself beneath the brown oak log, which sat upon the moss. After she had finally awoken, she stretched her antennae and the ladybugs iridescent eyes sparkled with wonder and beamed in the sunlight. The ladybug bounced like a baby kangaroo; she adored the world around her. The sun finally peered through the clouds, shining on her cheeks and filling her with warmth and joy. A smile hung on her face like a picture frame. Ruby red wings covered with dark black spots flapped on her back and some say she looked like a vibrant peacock from a far, tropical island.

However, her time as a small insect had not always been like this...

*By Zeinab*

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### The Red Dragon

Hanging vines fell from tall trees, tulips stretched from the ground and animals roamed freely in the forest. At its heart, a small village stood. Everybody knew everybody, but even though they were kind to each other, a cold hearted dragon was all alone. Why? The dragon had an evil past. His scales were fiery red and his icy blue eyes filled with sadness. On his back, his red scales were covered with holes the size of buckets, while his wings were ripped by the teeth and spears of his enemies.

A few years earlier, Teacy had been a respectful dragon, helping the forest to survive. But lately, the villagers had begun using him. Soon enough, he was unable to sleep, as the villagers were asking him for help all the time. One day he snapped, and that was when his evil reign started...

*By Kossy*

## Year 5/6: Falcons

Although this has been a short term, we seem to have packed an awful lot in, with Young Voices, Big Talk, Science Week, Mini-Police, lots of workshops, visitors and sports matches, as well as everything we've been learning about in maths, English, science and history. Phew!

### Science

This term we have focused on exploring electricity, finding out where it comes from, how it travels and how circuits really 'work'. We've carried out an investigation to find out what affects the brightness of a lightbulb, and were lucky enough to take part in a work shop as part of this year's Science Week, which taught us more about static electricity and the role of electrons.

### Knex Challenge

Our Year 5s took part in the STEPOINT Knex Challenge, where they were challenged to build a model rocket. There was great creativity, teamwork and determination on show from every pair, with Daniel and Matei declared the overall winners for their brilliant design.

## English : Persuasive Speeches

In English, we have been writing stories in the style of Greek Myths and Fairytales as well as producing persuasive speeches which we presented in the style of the TV Show Room 101. We worked on balancing believable detail with the rhetorical tricks that make our arguments really convincing, in order to win-over our audience. Here's Avik's winning speech, in which he gave his compelling reasons for banishing vaping.

### Why vaping should be sent into Room 101

Ladies, gentlemen and my fellow peers, I am here today to talk about the severe effect vaping has on people and why it needs to be eliminated from humanity. Vapes have fooled millions of children and young adults - they are put on sale to look colourful and friendly, yet that is far from the dark truth. These electronic cigarettes slowly kill and infect you from the inside; they permanently damage your internal organs and cause breathing issues. Do you agree with my opinion that vaping must be stopped and to eradicate it into Room 101?

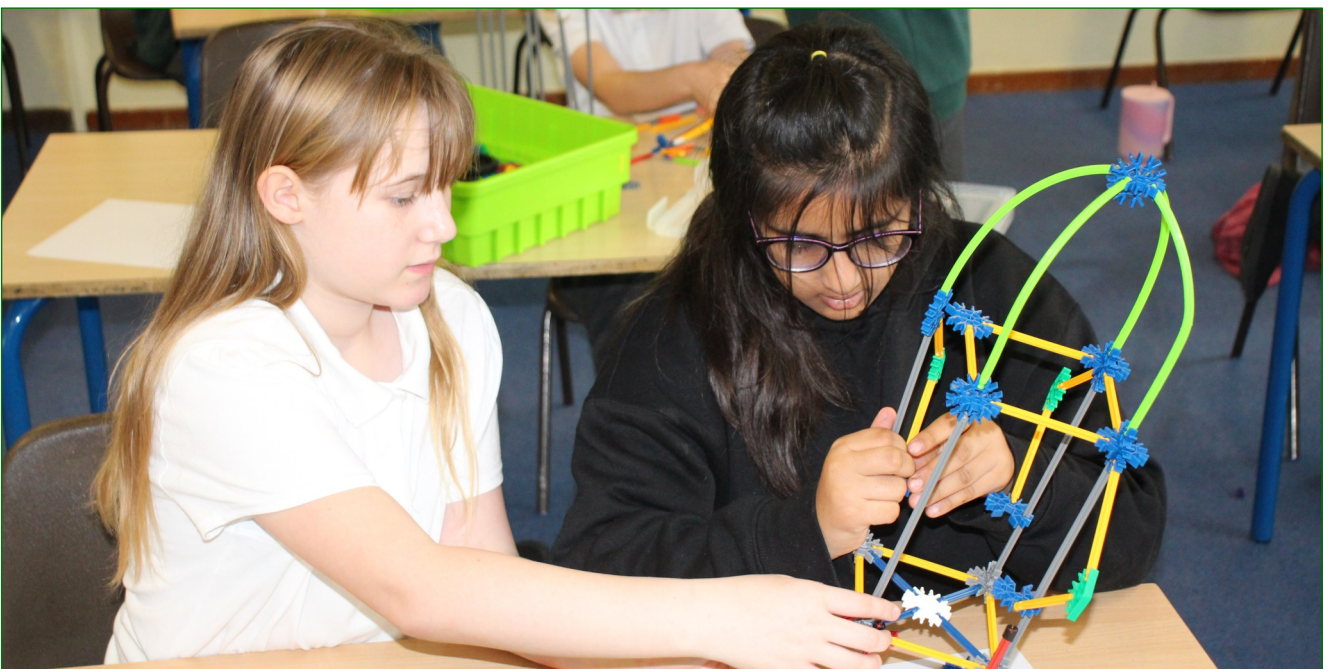
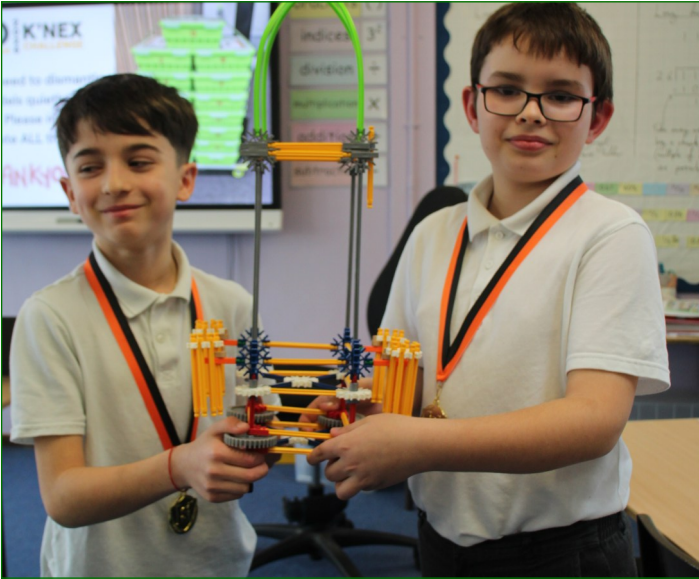


Let me supply you with undeniable evidence regarding why electronic cigarettes should be banished into Room 101's vaults. 11% of adults vape in the UK; that is 5-6 million adults in danger of getting lung disease and cancer, which can be fatal. Because vapes contain a deadly chemical known as nicotine, if you use a vape - even once- there is no going back. A common misconception is that electronic cigarettes are a healthier alternative than smoking - which is false - because vapes contain many harmful substances that cigarettes do not. Vapes are sold in shops to be enticing and colourful. This needs to be changed. Many teenagers are being illegally sold vapes and ruining their lives. Electronic cigarettes need to be removed from society; they have no positive effect on Earth and bring only harm. We need to educate the new generation on why they should never touch a vape.

Many innocent people get pressured into using a vape. This is known as peer pressure and needs to be stopped immediately, as it makes people feel uncomfortable and different - causing them to do something that could be deadly. This is not right! Let us all come together and make a difference. We need to put an end to vaping and free millions of people from the addiction of vaping.

Thank you for taking your time to listen to my speech.

By Avik



## Diary Dates

### 14th April

Summer Term starts

### 4th May

May Bank Holiday

### 11th - 14th May

Year 6 SATs Week

### 25th - 29th May

Half-term

### 8th - 12th June

Phonics Screening  
Check for Year 1

### 8th - 12th June

Year 4 Multiplication  
Tables Check

### 15th - 19th June

Sports Week

### 15th June

Foundation Stage  
Sports Day

### 16th June

Key Stage 1 Sports  
Day (Years 1 and 2)

### 17th June

Key Stage 2 Sports  
Day (Years 3-6)

### 25th June

Summer Fayre

### 26th June

INSET Day (staff  
training)

### 15th - 16th July

Key Stage 2  
Production

### 22nd July

Summer Disco for  
Years 1-6

### 23rd July

End of Term - 2pm

## Sports Update

### Basketball

Our Year 5/6 Basketball team took part in the Stevenage Festival earlier this term. In our heat, we finished in second place, which meant that we qualified for the finals event at Barnwell in the first week after half-term. We put in a great performance in the finals tournament, with each of the team hitting form in different games. A narrow loss to an excellent Codicote team meant we missed-out on the final, but we won the 3rd place playoff and came home with well-deserved bronze medals.



It's been another busy term for all four of our football teams, with our Year 5/6 A, B and Girls squads, along with our Year 3/4 side, all in regular action. Highlights have included some strong wins for our Y5/6 A team (who are now joint-top of their division after a nail-biting draw in the final week of term), super performances from our B team when faced with very strong opposition, as well as an excellent performance from our girls, who finished second in the SSFT Year 4/5/6 tournament.

### Netball

Our two netball teams have both had strong starts to their seasons, with some impressive wins for our Girls side and a series of battling performances from our Mixed Netball squad. As with so many of our teams, the determination and 'fight' shown by every player has been particularly impressive, dealing with setbacks, bouncing back from injuries and giving their all for every minute of the game.

### Rapid-Fire Cricket

Our Year 3/4 Rapid Fire Cricket team were in action at the Stevenage Festival this term. After winning their heat, they qualified for the finals event in February. They played brilliantly, securing silver medals after finishing in second place and missing out on gold by just one point overall!

