

Jerounds Journal

A newsletter for our school community - see what the pupils have been up to!

Our exciting priorities for the year ahead...

By Mrs Laura Çiftçi, Head of School

It has been another busy and purposeful week at Jerounds, with a particular focus on keeping our children safe online and sharing our exciting priorities for the year ahead.

Online Safeguarding – Working Together to Keep Our Children Safe

This week, all pupils, staff and parents/carers had the opportunity to take part in online safeguarding training delivered by the **'Two Johns'**. Their expert and thought-provoking sessions highlighted the importance of continual vigilance whenever our children are using online platforms, particularly when they are accessing devices and games at home.

The information, data and statistics shared during the sessions were, at times, shocking and served as a powerful reminder of the risks children can encounter online. The training reinforced the importance of appropriate supervision, open conversations and clear boundaries around children's online activity.

Safeguarding our children is everyone's responsibility, and we are grateful to all our families for engaging so positively with this important message. We encourage parents and carers to continue talking to their children about what they are doing online, checking the platforms they use and ensuring that appropriate parental controls and supervision are in place.

Our School Priorities for 2026-27

As we look ahead to another exciting year of learning and development, we are pleased to share some of our key school priorities.

Raising standards in handwriting and writing is a key focus across the school. We are developing our use of **'Talk for Writing'**, an exciting approach which supports children to develop their vocabulary, sentence construction, composition and confidence as writers. During the autumn term, we will be inviting parents and carers to a **'Talk for Writing'** workshop, where we will share more about the approach and how you can support your child at home.

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We are also very excited about developing **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)** across our school. Our aim is to transform our outdoor environment into an inspiring, practical and engaging space that provides children with increased opportunities for creative, imaginative and adventurous play. Our new OPAL shed will be installed on 7th October, after which Ms Plumb, our OPAL Lead, will be writing to all our families to request resources, helpers and much, much more! We look forward to sharing this journey with our whole school community.

Attendance continues to remain a key school focus. Evidence clearly demonstrates that regular attendance gives children the best opportunity to build the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to succeed. Being in school every day and engaging consistently in learning helps children to be ready for each important Key Stage transition and supports them in securing the foundations they need for future success.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and the opportunities these priorities will bring. As always, we look forward to working closely with our families to ensure that every child at Jerounds safe, happy, successful and able to thrive.

Finally ...

Could Your Business Sponsor Our New Sports Kits?

We are delighted to be looking for local businesses who may be interested in sponsoring a brand-new netball or football kit for our school teams. In previous years, we have been extraordinarily lucky to have a number of local firms, many of which are owned by our wonderful parents and carers, support our school by sponsoring a kit. It is a fantastic way to support our pupils while also giving local businesses the opportunity to have their brand proudly displayed on our new team shirts as our children represent Jerounds in sporting events and competitions across Harlow and sometimes beyond. If you, or a business you know, may be interested in this opportunity, please do contact the School Office for further information. We would be delighted to hear from you!

Wishing you all a glorious weekend of sunshine!



Nursery

By Miss Compton and Miss Noble

"Excuse me, but I'm very hungry. Do you think I could have tea with you?"

The Tiger Who Came to Tea



Nursery have had a terrific week learning all about the story *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in the story through a range of fun and engaging activities. We have been hosting our own tea parties, making delicious jam sandwiches, and talking about what we would do if a tiger came to visit us at home! The children have also enjoyed helping the tiger find his stripes by using marble painting and paint dabbers to create wonderful artwork. As we continue our learning, the children will be developing their understanding of the story further and will soon begin retelling it using a story map.

In maths, we have been exploring different 2D shapes. The children have been identifying and naming shapes such as circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. They have enjoyed creating shape pictures by drawing around shapes and using them creatively in their artwork. We have also been playing shape bingo, which has been a fantastic way for the children to practise recognising and naming shapes while having fun with their friends.

The children have really enjoyed using our new dressing-up outfits this week. They have been incorporating these into their child-initiated play, acting out different roles and stories. It has been lovely to see the children using their imaginations, developing their language skills, and working cooperatively with one another through role play.

We have also been spending time building friendships, practising turn-taking and sharing, and encouraging the children to become more independent during our daily routines. We are very proud of how well the children have settled and the enthusiasm they show towards their learning each day.

Please continue to upload photographs and observations to Tapestry showing activities your child enjoys at home or when you are out and about. The children love sharing these experiences with their friends, and they help us to celebrate and support their learning both in and out of Nursery.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

The Nursery Team 😊



EYFS

By Miss Miles and Miss Merrington



"Once there were three baby owls: Sarah and Percy and Bill. They lived in a hole in the trunk of a tree with their Owl Mother."

Owl Babies

The children in Reception have had a wonderful couple of weeks filled with learning, exploring and making new discoveries. They have continued to grow in confidence as they settle into their new classrooms, develop friendships and become increasingly independent within the provision. It has been lovely to see the children becoming more confident in sharing their ideas, exploring new experiences and learning alongside their friends.

In Maths, the children have been exploring patterns through a range of practical and playful experiences. They have enjoyed creating their own patterns using paint dabbers and looking carefully at patterns they can spot within our environment. We have also been developing our understanding of size by sorting objects into big and small, as well as exploring weighing and comparing different objects.

In Literacy, we have been focusing on the story Owl Babies. The children have enjoyed retelling the story using actions, helping them to remember the key events and develop their understanding of the story. We have also been exploring initial sounds and sorting objects according to the sounds they begin with.

As part of Understanding the World, the children have been learning more about themselves and the past. They have enjoyed creating self-portraits and learning about events that happened before they were born. We have also been learning about Harvest Festival and discussing how people celebrate and give thanks for the food that has been grown.

We have been incredibly proud of the children's progress over the past two weeks. They have shown such enthusiasm for their learning and are becoming increasingly confident, independent and curious as they explore the world around them.



Year 1

By Miss Chrzanowska and Miss Micheli



Welcome to Year 1

Year 1 are flying through the autumn term! The children have been learning lots, building their confidence and taking on new challenges every day. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and progress across all areas of their learning.

In English, we have started exploring and imitating a new story, *Peace at Last* by Jill Murphy. We will be using the story as inspiration to create and innovate our own retellings, developing our vocabulary, sentence writing and storytelling skills along the way.

In Maths, we have been practising our number bonds to 10 and exploring a range of different methods for adding numbers. The children have enjoyed sharing their ideas and explaining the strategies they have used to solve problems.

In Science, we have been investigating the different uses and properties of everyday materials. We have been thinking carefully about why particular materials are suitable for different purposes.

In Geography, we have continued to explore different areas within our school. We have been identifying and highlighting both physical and human features in our surroundings.

In RSE, we have enjoyed learning about our brains and the importance of regulating ourselves so that our brains can work at their best. We have been discussing different ways we can manage our emotions and feelings and help ourselves to feel ready to learn.

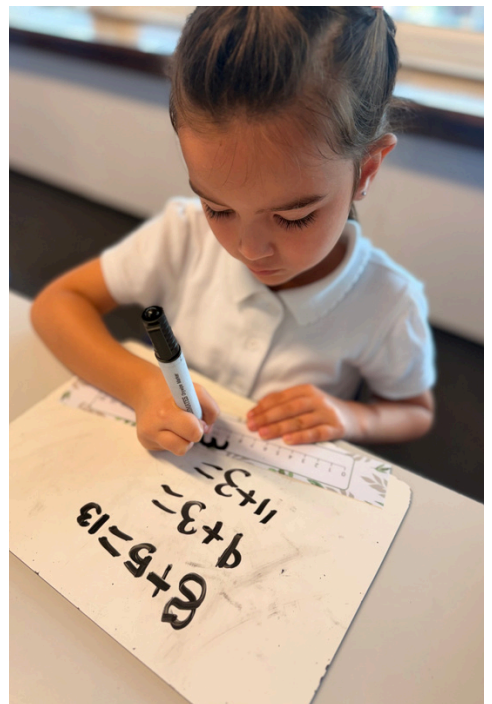
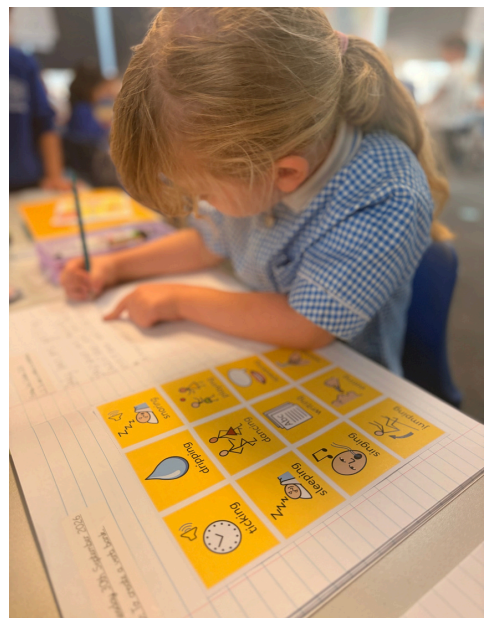
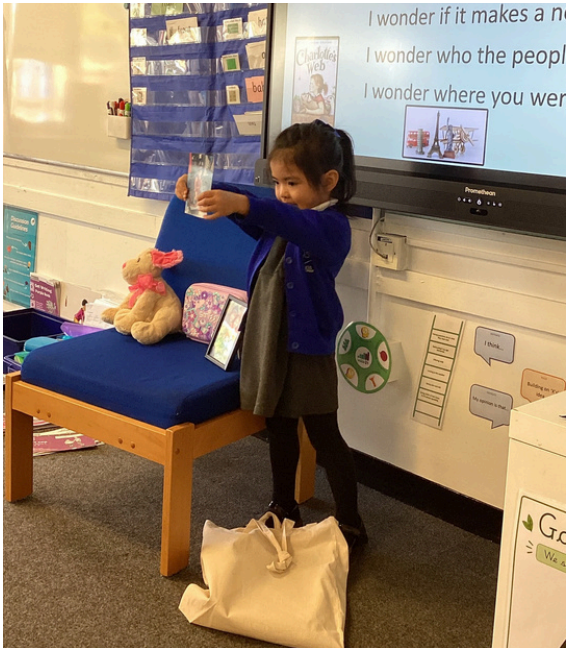
Thank you, as always, for your continued support with your child's learning.



Reminders

- Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name to help prevent items from becoming lost.
- Please continue to read with your child at home at least three times per week and record this in their home-school diary. This helps staff to monitor and support your child's reading progress effectively.





Year 2

By Miss Ahmad and Miss Tonge



Year 2 have had a very busy few weeks! It has been wonderful to see so many children completing their homework and reading regularly at home. This is fantastic to see, so please keep it up and remember, there are plenty of Dojos to be earned for all of your hard work!

In English, we are continuing to explore the story *Five Minutes' Peace* by Jill Murphy. We have been learning all about descriptive settings and have started to innovate our model text, which describes the messy breakfast table in the story. The children have been working hard to use interesting vocabulary and descriptive language to bring their writing to life.

In Maths, we have moved on to addition and subtraction. We are learning more efficient methods to help us build a strong foundation when adding and subtracting one-digit and two-digit numbers. We are also continuing to practise daily calculations to develop our strategies and confidence when answering a range of arithmetic questions.

In History, we have been learning more about The Great Fire of London. We have been exploring what happened during the fire in 1666 and why the fire was able to spread so quickly. The children have also been learning about what life was like in London at the time, including the types of houses people lived in and the materials they were made from. We have been thinking about how London changed as a result of the fire and the impact it had on the people who lived through it. The children have really enjoyed finding out about this fascinating event in history!

In Science, we have been learning about the uses of everyday materials. We have explored the different uses of a range of materials and discovered how one object can be made from several different materials, depending on its purpose. Next, we will be carrying out an investigation to explore how objects made from different materials can be changed in shape. We have already finished planning and predicting the outcome of our investigation, and we are looking forward to carrying it out in our next Science lesson.

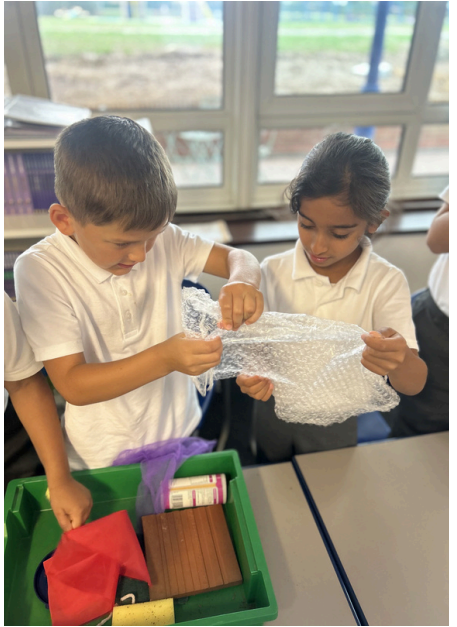
Thank you for your support



Reminders

- Please ensure you are reading at home a minimum of three times a week. Remember, those children who read will be getting Dojos!
- We will have PE twice a week; on Monday and Thursday. Children will come to school wearing their PE kits on the day their class has PE.
- Please can all items of uniform be labelled so we can identify who they belong to.





Year 3

By Mr Hession and Mrs Perera



Time really does fly when you're having fun and we cannot believe that we have reached October already! Over the past few weeks, the children in Year 3 have been approaching their learning with dedication, resilience, vigour and pride.

In English, we have been innovating our model text based on Dougal's Deep Sea Diary. The children have applied a range of new writing techniques, including Fronted Adverbials and Prepositional Phrases. They have also been challenging themselves to use more challenging vocabulary to make their writing more interesting for their reader. Throughout, we have been developing the legibility and consistency of the children's handwriting. This is a vital, fundamental skill and it will continue to be a core focus throughout the year.

In Maths, we have now moved on to an extended unit on Addition and Subtraction. Initially, we recapped some of the skills learnt in Year 2 to bridge in to the Year 3 content. We will now introduce Column Addition with exchanges, which is a challenging concept but we know the children will smash it! Once that skill has been mastered, we will repeat the process with Column Subtraction. All of this will involve using numbers up to 1000.

In Science, we have been learning about the human body. Specifically, how our bones are structured and how our muscles work. The children had great fun this week making working joints! They also classified animals based on whether they were a vertebrate or invertebrate.

In Computing, we have continued learning about animation. The children were introduced to a Stop Motion Animation app called iMotion. They had immense fun creating a range of animations using the 'Onion Skinning' feature. FYI – this is a free app and many of the children have expressed an interesting in creating more animations at home. Why not get involved and see what they've been up to!



Reminders

·Please ensure you are **reading** at home a minimum of three times a week and commenting in your child's diary. By supporting your child with this, you are helping them develop a vital life skill and will have a better understanding of their progress.

·Please also encourage children to play **TTRS** and **Edshed** to develop their multiplication skills and spelling ability.





Year 4

By Mrs Brodie and Miss Howland

Year 4 have been very busy over the last couple of weeks! We're so pleased to see so many children reading regularly at home and making great use of the new EdShed games to practise their spellings. Please do keep up this fantastic enthusiasm for learning, it really makes a difference.



In English, we have begun our innovation stage of our letter-writing unit, inspired by The Day the Crayons Quit. Both classes have worked incredibly hard to make their writing exciting by using ambitious vocabulary.

In Maths, we've wrapped up our Place Value unit and are now moving on to Addition and Subtraction. This is a chance to strengthen our skills with the column method, using our knowledge of place value to support us. We're also continuing our daily calculations to boost mental maths and strengthen metacognition (learning behaviours) through a range of arithmetic questions.

Our new Science topic, Animals Including Humans, has had a fantastic start! We've already explored the digestive system and the organs involved, complete with a live demonstration using a pair of tights, a banana, and some crackers! This week, we've been learning about teeth, their names and functions and we'll soon be carrying out an investigation (after making our predictions, of course).

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their dodgeball unit in PE. They have participated in a variety of skill-based games as well as competing in games during mini tournaments.

General Reminders

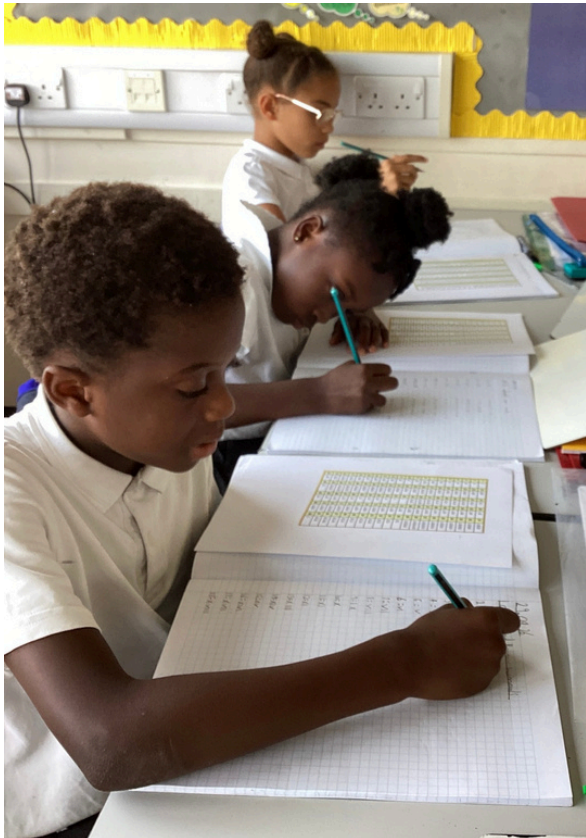
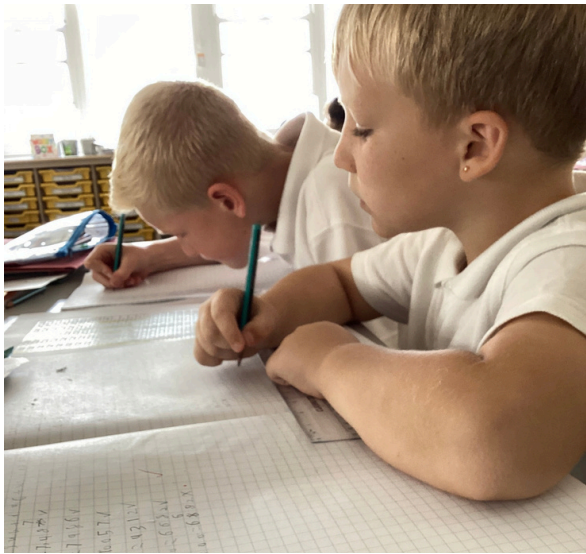
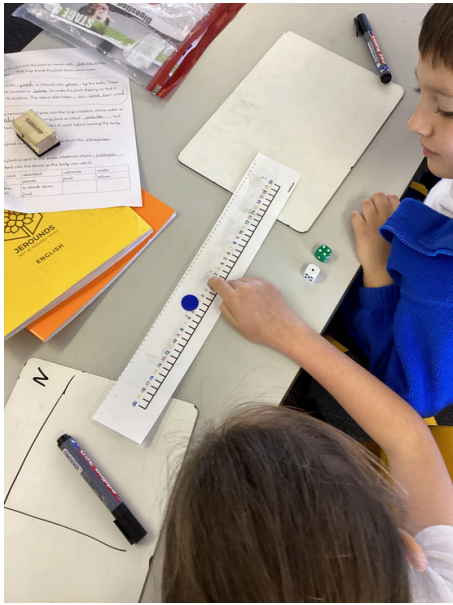


Please ensure you are reading at home a minimum of three times a week. Remember those children who read will be getting Dojos!

We will have PE twice a week, Owls: Monday and Thursday. Nightingales: Tuesday and Thursday. Please remember to take out or cover earrings for these days.

Practise spellings using Edshed and timetables with TTRS – logins for both can be found in children's reading diaries. The children will have 15 minutes of garage and 5 minutes of sound check; it is important that children practice these each week in preparation for their multiplication check in June.





Year 5

By Mr Ripa and Mr Allen



Year 5 continue to show that they have adapted brilliantly into Upper Key Stage 2. We are delighted with the high expectations and positive attitude towards learning they have shown.

In English, the children continue to show lots of creativity in their writing with some fantastic independent writing pieces. They have used a variety of language features and a range of ambitious vocabulary to bring their character descriptions to life. The children are now writing an instructional piece and will soon use the skills they have been taught to then write their own independent piece. We are really looking forward to reading their imaginative instructional descriptions!

In Maths, we have been focusing on Number and Place Value. The children have been developing a deeper understanding of place value as well as exchanging. The children have shown such an enthusiasm and maturity in their maths work and the work they have produced has given them an excellent foundation for the rest of the unit,

In Science, our current topic is forces, and the children have been learning about Sir Isacc Newton and have been conducting experiments using Newton Meter sticks! While in Computing the children have been taking their learning outside as they have been using the ipads to understand and record their own videos. It has been a pleasure seeing the children be so creative and collaborative in their learning.

Reminders

As we move further into the autumn term, please ensure that children are beginning to come prepared for changing weather conditions. We recommend that children have a coat with them each day, particularly as the weather can be unpredictable.

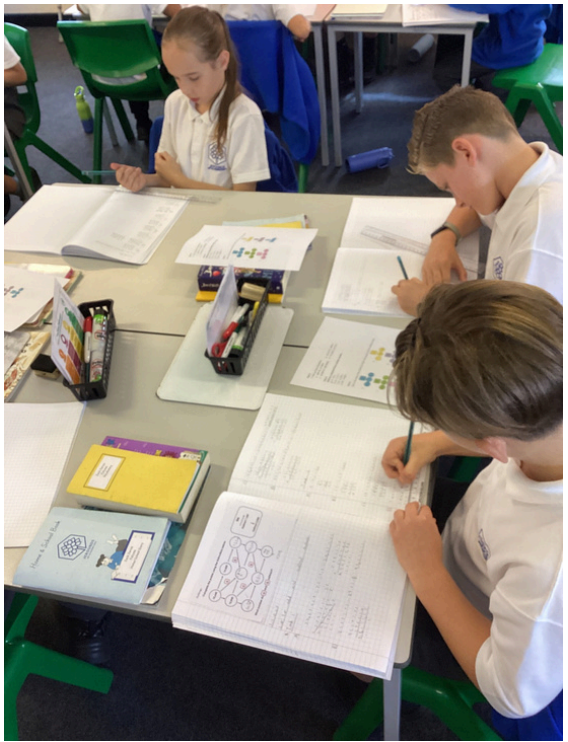
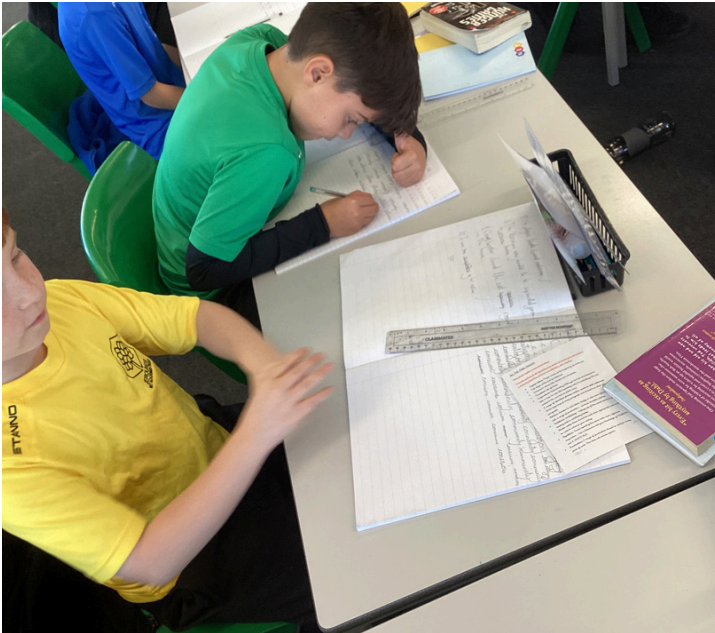
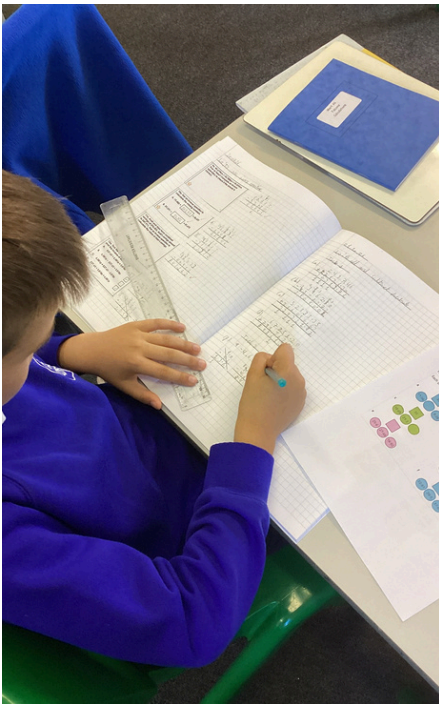


Please also continue to support your child with their weekly home-learning expectations:

- **A minimum of 3 reads each week, recorded and signed.**
- **5 games of EdShed each week.**
- **20-minute TTRockstars session each week.**

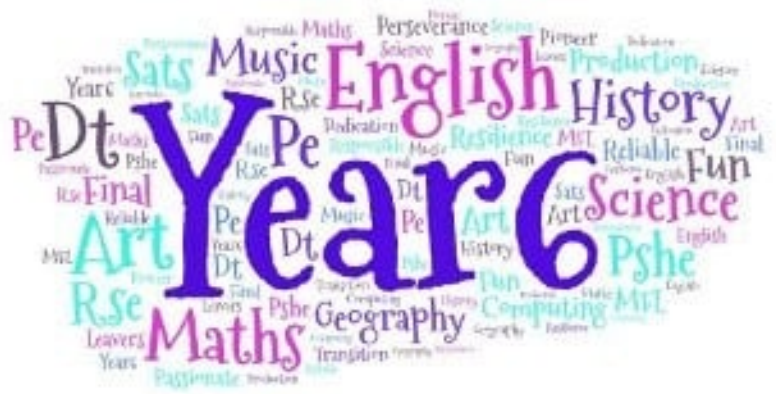
These small, regular routines make a real difference and help children to consolidate the learning taking place in school.





Year 6

By Miss Walley, Mrs West, Mr Thompson-Clarke and Mr Cullen



Year 6 have continued to build upon their fantastic start. They are continuing to demonstrate our school values in all aspects of school life.

In English, the children have continued to be inspired by the book *How to Live Forever* and have written a scene with dialogue in which their main character had to persuade their parents to let them go out in the evening. Their focus was on using accurate speech punctuation. This week, they have moved on to focusing on dilemmas and how to use modal verbs alongside adverbs to express certainty and also looking at how to use the subjunctive form.

In maths, we have moved on from our number and place value work and have started to revisit and build upon calculation strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children's fluency in times tables is key to their success in the latter two so please do continue to give your child plenty of practise on TT Rockstars (a reminder that the minimum is 20 minutes per week).

In Science, we have been investigating the effects of voltage on components in a circuit, noting that the greater the voltage, the brighter the bulb. We also discovered that the number of components in a circuit can affect how those components work.

Thank you for your continued support!

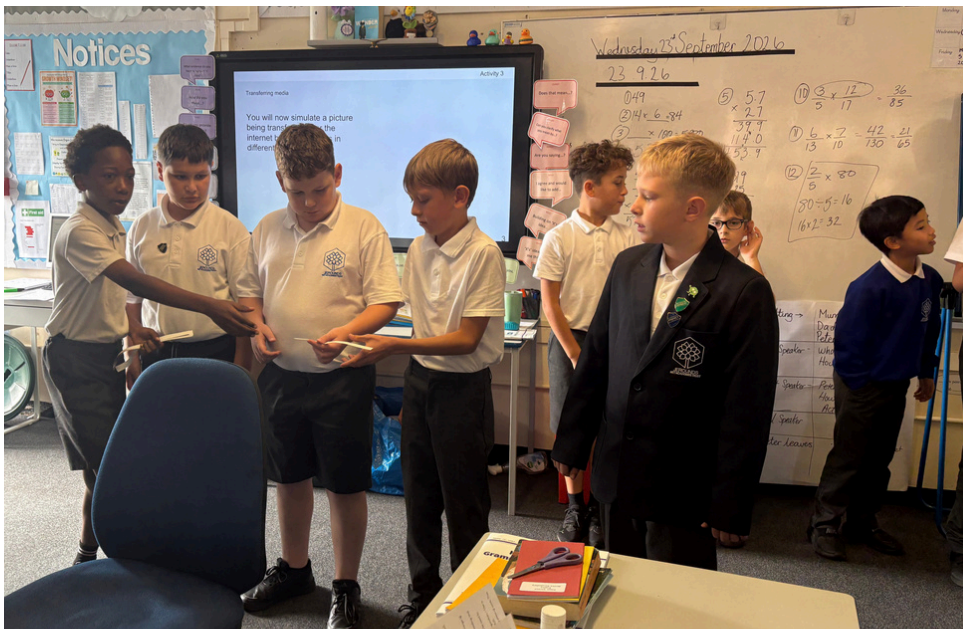
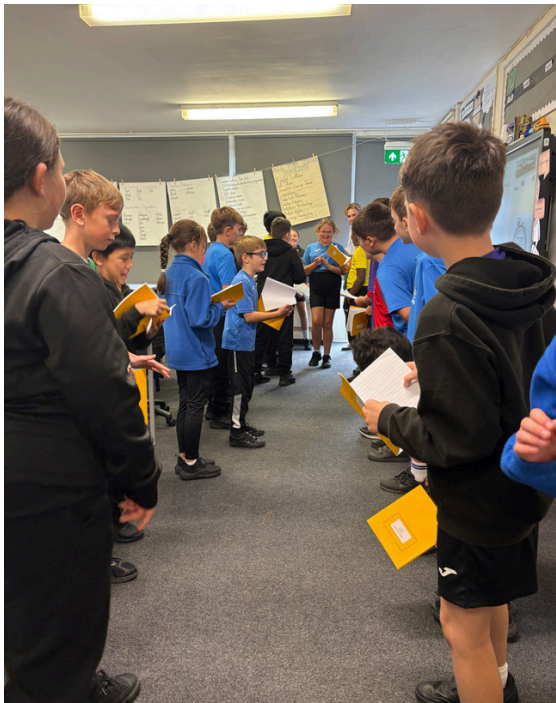
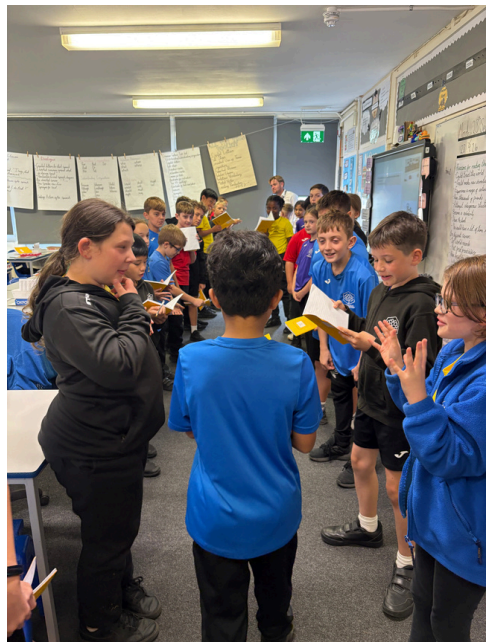


Reminders



Homework expectations:

- Monday - Maths CGP book
- Wednesday - Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling CGP book
- Friday - Reading Diary check (at least 3 times per week), Spelling Shed Check (at least 5 times per week), TTRS check (at least 20 minutes per week) and Spelling Test.



Is my child too ill for school?

Please take a look at the following NHS guidance on childhood illnesses.

What to do

Advice on childhood illnesses



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required



Some restrictions for school attendance



Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Asthma flare up	Worsening of usual symptoms	➤	Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
Chicken pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters	➤	Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	➤	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	➤	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat	➤	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
German measles/ Rubella	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards	●	GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
Glandular fever	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before	➤	GP	*
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	➤	GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	➤	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness	●	GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash	●	GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	➤	Pharmacy	
Scabies	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	➤	GP	Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash	●	GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash	➤	GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea	➤	Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	➤	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis/ Strep throat	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day	➤	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow. Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'	●	GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
Covid				Visit www.nhs.uk for latest guidance

*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Should my child go to school/nursery today?

Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information

<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers>

Working in partnership with



Is my child too ill for school?

Our attendance ladder also shows how absences affect your child's learning:



Categorising attendance and learning hours lost

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance (days)	Whole days absent	Lost learning hours	Level of concern
Excellent	100%	190	0	0	Green
	99%	188	2	10	
Good	98%	186	4	20	Green
	97%	184	6	30	
	96%	182.5	7.5	37.5	
Cause for concern	95%	180.5	9.5	47.5	Orange
	94%	179	11	55	
	93%	177	13	65	
	92%	175	15	75	
	91%	173	17	85	
Unsatisfactory	90%	171	19	95	Red
	89%	169	21	105	
	88%	167	23	115	
	87%	165	25	125	
	86%	163	27	135	
Critical	85%	161.5	28.5	142.5	Red
	84%	159.5	30.5	152.5	
	83%	158	32	160	
	82%	156	34	170	
	81%	154	36	180	
	80%	152	38	190	



Attendance Champions!

1st: Sparrows - 99.2%

2nd: Falcons - 98.7%

3rd: Ravens - 98.6%

Follow us...



Contact us...



If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please contact the school office:



office@jerounds.netacademies.net



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