Issue 4 - 2026-2027

Jerounds Journal

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

A Week to Remember - and a School to Be Proud Of!

By Mrs Laura Çiftçi, Head of School

What an extraordinarily busy week it has turned out to be, following our Ofsted notification call first thing on Monday morning!

Whilst we are unable to share the outcomes of the inspection just yet, as we await the completion of the necessary quality assurance processes and the official publication of the report, there is something we can share wholeheartedly: **the immense pride felt by our staff and pupils in showcasing our phenomenal school!**

It was also a privilege to share with inspectors the strength of our parent community and the invaluable contribution you make in supporting, championing and enriching everything we do. Equally, we were delighted to highlight the commitment of our Governors, both at Trust and Local level, whose challenge, strategic direction and financial support enable us to turn ambitious ideas into meaningful initiatives for our children and wider community.

In fact, taking the time to revisit this week's newsletter and scroll back through the first eight weeks of term on our social media platforms has provided yet more compelling evidence of just how much we have achieved together. From the everyday moments that make our school special to the bigger initiatives that shape our future, the breadth, energy and ambition of our community are there for all to see.

Whatever the eventual outcome, one thing is certain: we have an awful lot to be proud of here at Jerounds Primary Academy! Thank you to everyone who plays their part in making our school such a remarkable place to learn, work and belong.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Best wishes,
Mrs Laura Çiftçi BA(Hons) MEd



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Nursery



By Miss Compton and Miss Noble

We have had another busy and fun-filled week in Nursery, with lots of exciting learning opportunities both indoors and outdoors.

This week, the children enjoyed creating colourful firework pictures using a variety of materials and techniques. Through this activity, they explored different colours, developed their creativity, and strengthened their fine motor skills. We also spent time making a beautiful poppy wreath for Remembrance Day. The children listened carefully as we talked about why poppies are important and how we remember those who have helped us in the past.

The children have been working hard on their pre-writing skills by practising a range of patterns and mark-making activities. These activities are helping them to develop the hand strength, control and coordination needed for future writing. It has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence as they use a variety of mark-making tools.

In Literacy, we have continued to focus on the story Whatever Next! by Jill Murphy. The children have really enjoyed listening to and joining in with the story. They have been learning to retell the events in the correct order, talk about the characters and predict what might happen next. It has been lovely to hear the children using new vocabulary from the story during their play and discussions.

> ***"He packed his teddy and some food for the journey and took off up the chimney..."***
>
> *Whatever Next!*

In Maths, we have been learning about the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The children have enjoyed exploring these numbers through practical activities, counting objects and matching quantities. We have also been singing lots of counting songs and nursery rhymes to help us practise counting to 5 and develop our number recognition skills.

Our baking activity this week was making delicious star biscuits. The children enjoyed helping to measure ingredients, mix the dough and cut out star shapes. Baking provides lots of opportunities for learning, including following instructions, counting, measuring and developing fine motor skills.

Outdoor learning has been just as exciting. The children have loved digging for treasure in the sandpit, exploring and splashing in the water tray, and taking part in obstacle courses. These activities help to develop their gross motor skills, balance, coordination and confidence, whilst encouraging teamwork and problem-solving.

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled into their routines and how enthusiastic they are to learn and explore new experiences each day. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead.








In Nursery...
Phonics
CHALLENGE YOURSELF 2026
FOR CHILDREN IN NEED
star
Be YOU







EYFS



By Miss Miles and Miss Merrington

The children in Reception have had a fantastic first week back after half term and have been busy exploring lots of exciting learning opportunities across the curriculum.
rning after half term and look forward to another exciting few weeks of learning.

In Literacy, our focus story has been Room on the Broom. The children have enjoyed retelling and sequencing the story, thinking carefully about what happens at the beginning, middle and end. We have also been developing our writing skills by creating sentences inspired by different pictures from the story. The children have explored the structure of a story further by creating their own story mountains, identifying the key events and characters.

In Maths, we have been exploring 2D shapes, with a particular focus on circles and triangles. The children have enjoyed becoming shape detectives, looking for these shapes in the environment around them and describing what they notice about their properties. They have also been getting creative by using circles and triangles to make their own pictures and designs.

> ***"The witch had a cat and a very tall hat, And long ginger hair which she wore in a plait. How the cat purred and how the witch grinned, As they sat on their broomstick and flew through the wind."***
>
> *Room on the Broom*

As part of Understanding the World, we have been exploring different celebrations and seasonal changes. The children enjoyed learning about Diwali and creating their own beautiful diva lamps. We also went on an autumnal walk to look for signs of the changing season, noticing the different colours and changes in the natural environment. To celebrate Bonfire Night, the children created their own colourful fireworks using chalk and music, exploring different movements and patterns to represent the sounds and sights of fireworks.

We are so proud of the enthusiasm and creativity the children have shown since returning after half term and look forward to another exciting few weeks of learning.




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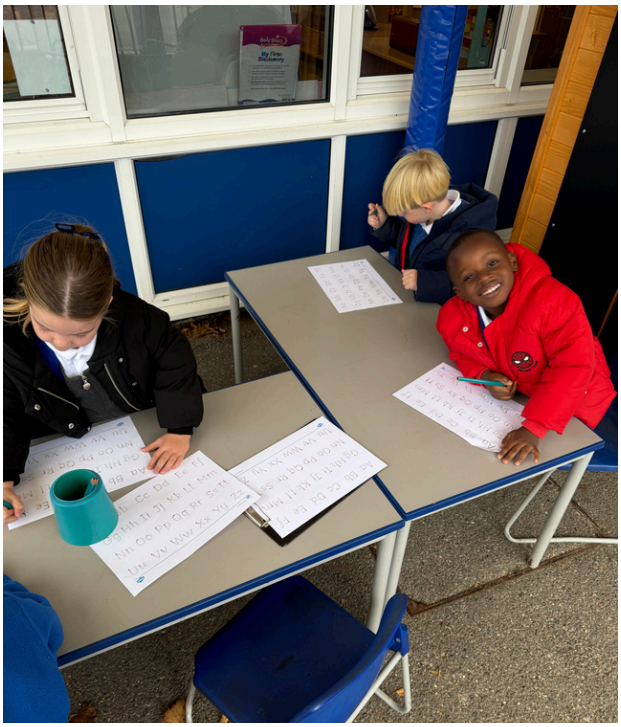










Year 1



By Miss Chrzanowska and Miss Micheli

Our Sparrows and Kingfishers have made a wonderful start to this half-term!
In English, we've begun exploring our new book, Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr. The children have been learning the repetitive pattern of the story through our story map and are now preparing for the innovation stage, where they will have the opportunity to create their own versions.
In Maths, we've been focusing on length and height, learning how to measure objects using both standard and non-standard units of measurement. The children have been practising using rulers and applying key vocabulary such as shorter, shortest, longer, longest, taller and tallest.



Our History topic, Toys, has sparked lots of curiosity! We've been comparing toys from the past with those we play with today. To make links with our Science topic, we've also explored the different materials that toys are made from and how these can help us identify whether toys are modern or from the past.

In Music, the children have begun rehearsing their Nativity songs in preparation for our performance in December.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



Polite Reminders

- Please ensure that all items of school uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name so that any misplaced items can be returned.
- Please continue reading with your child daily and recording this in their home–school diary. Regular reading makes a huge difference!

















Year 2



By Miss Ahmad and Miss Tonge

Well done to everyone in Year 2 for another fantastic week! We have had a busy and exciting second week back, with lots of wonderful learning taking place across the curriculum.

In English, we have started exploring our new text, Tell Me a Dragon. The children have loved discovering the different characteristics and features of dragons, using their imaginations to describe what a dragon might look like and even creating their very own! We have been so impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm.

In Maths, we have started our new topic of geometry, exploring both 2D and 3D shapes. The children have been learning to recognise and identify different shapes and talk about their properties.

In Geography, we have begun learning all about our local area. The children have loved becoming map detectives, exploring all sorts of different maps, from atlases and digital maps to maps with symbols and even cartoon maps! It has been wonderful to hear them sharing their observations and developing their geographical vocabulary.

We have also started practising for our Christmas concert! It has been lovely to see how enthusiastic and excited the children already are. Scripts will be coming home next week for the children to practise their parts at home, so please keep an eye out for these!

As the weather gets colder, please remember to send children into school with a warm coat each day, as we aim to get outside for fresh air and playtime whatever the weather!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home. We hope you all have a lovely weekend and are looking forward to another exciting week of learning!





Homework Reminders

- Please continue to read regularly at home and record this in your child's reading record.
- Practise weekly spellings and complete any set homework.
- Keep practising those daily calculations to build confidence and fluency in Maths.











Year 3

By Mr Hession and Mrs Perera



It's been a busy start to Autumn 2, and the children have settled back into school life brilliantly! We have already been enjoying lots of exciting learning across the curriculum, and it's been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and hard work.

In Writing, the children have been developing their skills in writing clear and effective instructions. Using a model text based on creating stop-frame animations, they explored the key features of instructional writing before applying these to their own instructions for making puppets. The children worked hard to organise their ideas into a logical sequence, using chronological signposts, imperative verbs and bullet points to ensure their instructions were easy to follow.

In Maths, we have been learning all about statistics! The children have enjoyed collecting their own data and finding different ways to present it using pictograms and bar charts. They have also been practising how to read information from charts, compare results and answer questions about what the data shows. It has been great to see the children growing in confidence as they put their new skills into practice!

In Science, we have been learning all about rocks and exploring their different properties. The children have enjoyed investigating how hard different rocks are and whether they allow water to pass through them. They have been making predictions, carrying out practical investigations and comparing their results. These investigations have helped the children understand how rocks can be different and why their properties make them useful for different purposes.

In History, we have been travelling back in time to the Stone Age! The children have explored how people lived, what they ate and the tools they used to survive. They have enjoyed discovering how different life was thousands of years ago and comparing it to life today.

Thank you for your continued support at home. We are looking forward to another exciting half-term of learning and seeing the children continue to grow in confidence and independence!

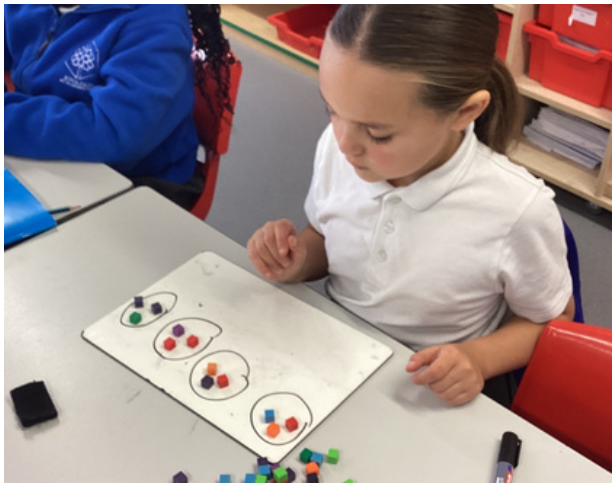




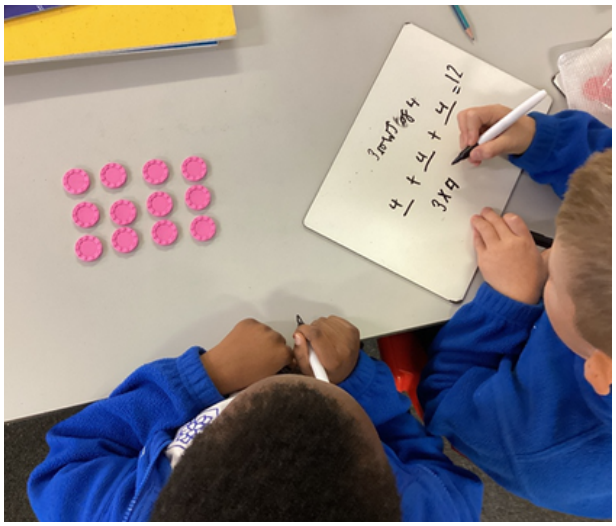



Geography
History








3 groups of 4
4 + 4 + 4 = 12
3 x 4







Year 4



By Mrs Brodie and Miss Howland

Welcome Back, Year 4.

It has been an incredibly busy first couple of weeks back!

This half term in English, we've been exploring the exciting world of the Circus! We began by watching, describing, and reviewing video clips of circus acts as the children stepped into the circus themselves! Using all five senses, they observed what they could see, hear, smell, touch, and even taste – popcorn and chocolate buttons! The children loved this creative 'hook' into our new topic and are now moving on to writing their own descriptions inspired by their own experiences.

In Maths, we've started our new unit on Measurement. We have spent time focusing on multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We have been learning how to convert between units of length using our multiplication and division knowledge, so that we can solve mathematical problems. We have considered which unit of measurement and which equipment is most appropriate for a given task-so that we don't try and measure an ant with a meter stick, or the Great Wall of China with our class ruler, in millimeters!

In History, we have moved onto our Ancient History unit. The children shared what they already know about the period and were able to make some comparisons between the Ancient Greek and Ancient Egyptian civilisations.

For PE this half term we are doing archery. The children have spent lots of time learning and discussing the health and safety aspects of the sport. They have then applied these rules to their own practice when loading, releasing and collecting their arrows.

Last week, both classes completed their art module: Prehistoric Painting. It linked nicely to their Stone Age topic from last year. They sketched common British animals using pencil before scaling them up using charcoal. The skills they were practising using included creating different textures using varying mediums (food items) as well as mixing their own colours. For their final piece, they created their own textured cave wall before making paints using natural materials.

Well done Year 4, for such a brilliant first couple of weeks, you really have set the bar high!



General Reminders

Keep up with your reading at home, completing homework on EdShed & TTRS and working hard!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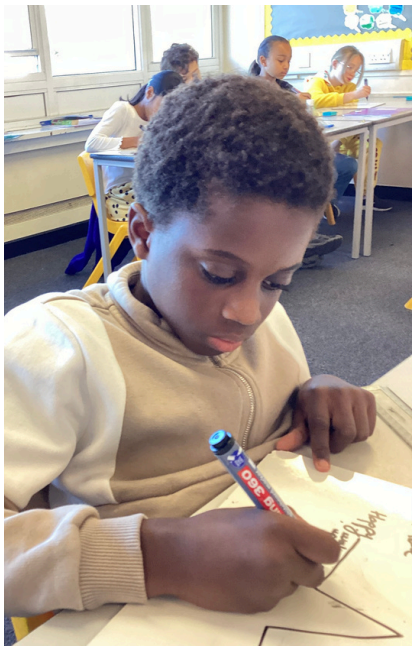
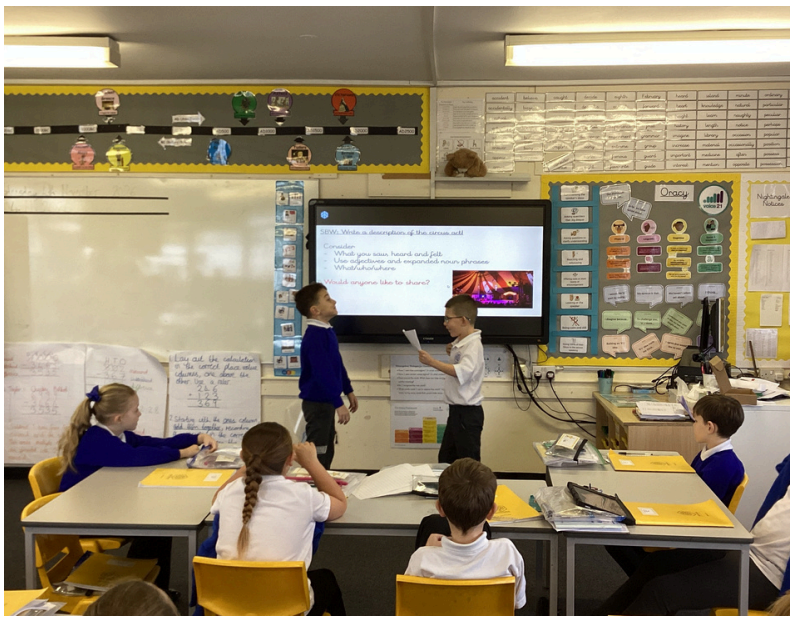
Discover the World
With Peace of Mind!




We aim to provide academic success,
physical development
and positive well-being for all pupils.
We do this through collaboration,
continuous improvement and community -
The NET Way


Oracy


Pointer






Insulator
Concluding and
evaluating.

Year 5



By Mr Ripa and Mr Allen

IA huge welcome back to everyone! It has been a brilliant start to the term and we cannot praise the children enough. After two busy weeks, they have settled back into school life seamlessly and have shown fantastic enthusiasm, positivity and readiness to learn. It has been wonderful to see them embracing their learning and working so hard. We are incredibly proud of them!

In English, we have started an exciting new unit based on The Present from Literacy Shed. The children have been exploring the story and practising lots of our Year 5 writing features, developing their vocabulary, sentence structures and use of varied sentence structures.
We are now working towards writing our very own independent letters, using all the skills we have been practising. We can't wait to see what the children produce!

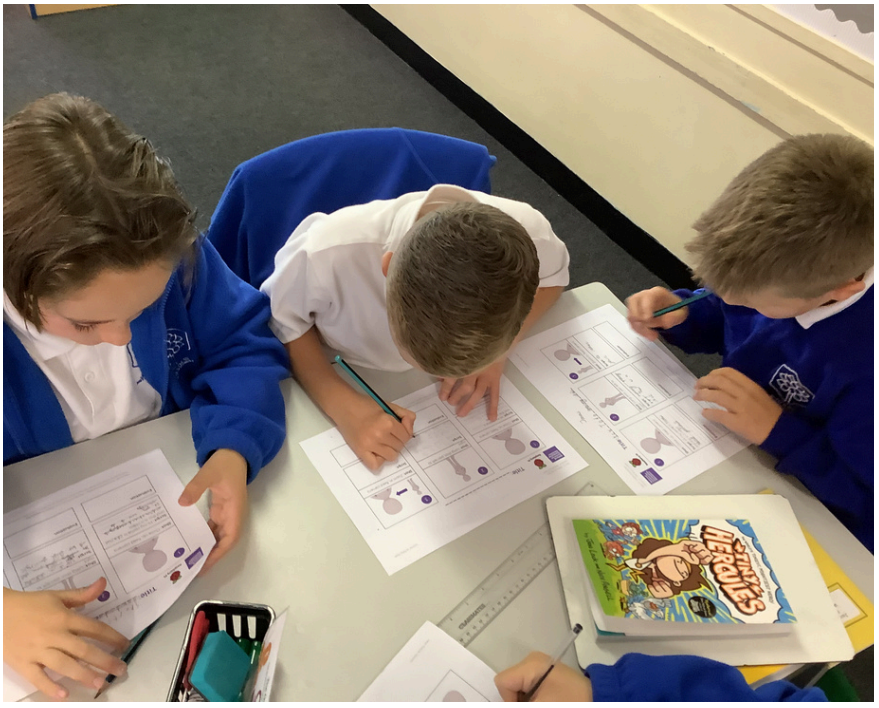
In Maths, we have been focusing on multiplication and division, developing our understanding and confidence with different methods and calculations.
We have also been exploring prime numbers, square numbers and cube numbers. The children have been working hard to deepen their mathematical understanding and apply their knowledge to a range of challenges.

We have blasted off into our new Science topic: Earth and Space! The children have shown a fantastic level of engagement and curiosity as we begin exploring our place in the solar system. There have already been some brilliant questions and discussions and we are looking forward to discovering much more throughout the unit.

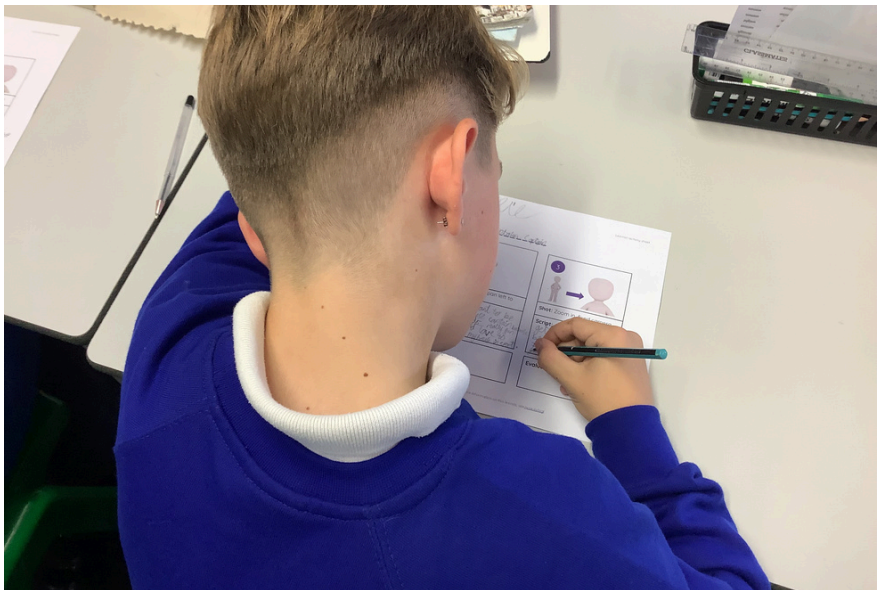
It has been such a positive start to the term and we are excited about all the learning and opportunities ahead. Well done, Year 5 – keep up the fantastic work!

Reminders

- Coats: Please ensure children bring a coat to school every day. We go outside in all weathers!
- Home Diaries: These must be signed at least three times each week.
- Times Tables Rock Stars: Please ensure children are logging on and practising regularly.
- EdShed: Weekly activities should be completed to support learning in both spelling and English.



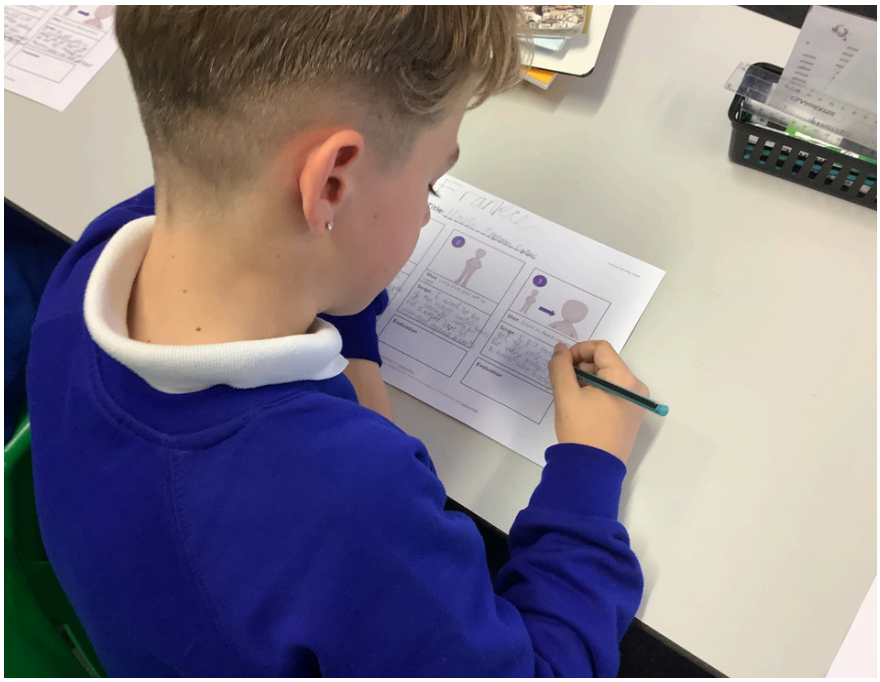












Year 6



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

We have had a wonderful start to the new half term and it has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. It has been fantastic to see how much excitement and enthusiasm they have returned with, and they have quickly settled back into their learning with positive attitudes and a real eagerness to engage with new challenges.

In English, the children have continued their focus on Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo. They have begun writing a scene featuring dialogue from the perspective of two children who have been evacuated from their homes in London due to the war. The children have been focusing on using dialogue effectively to convey character, advance the action and bring historical events to life through their writing. It has been wonderful to see them applying their understanding of the text to create thoughtful and engaging scenes.

In maths, we have begun the new half term with a focus on converting between units of length, mass, capacity and time. The children have also been interpreting and using conversion graphs to solve a range of problems. They have demonstrated increasing confidence when applying their knowledge of measures and making connections between different units. Next, we will move on to a study of fractions, where the children will continue to build upon their mathematical understanding.

In Science, the children have started their new unit, Living Things and Their Habitats. They have begun learning about the classification of living things, including how plants and animals are grouped according to their characteristics. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm as they develop their understanding of the natural world.

We have also concluded our learning in Geography with a brilliant trip to Todd Brook River. The children conducted a range of fieldwork investigations to learn more about the width, depth and velocity of the river. They demonstrated excellent teamwork and enquiry skills throughout the day and gained valuable first-hand experience of geographical fieldwork. We now turn our focus towards History, where the children will be studying World War II, a topic that they are already showing great enthusiasm towards learning.

We greatly appreciate the encouragement and support you provide at home, which continues to play an important role in the children's success and progress in school.

Reminders

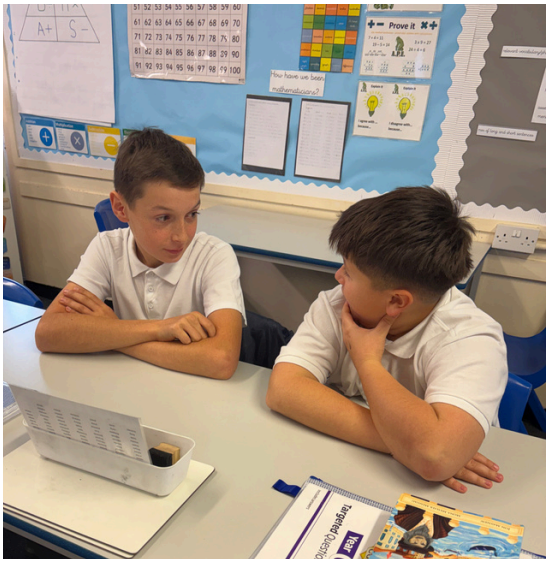
Homework expectations:

- Monday - Maths CGP book
- Wednesday - GPS 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.












THE NORTH FACE









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
Tonsilitis/ 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

NHS

Essex County Council

Is my child too ill for school?

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

Essex County Council
Education

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	
	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: Owls - 99%
2nd: Eagles - 98.3%
3rd: Swans - 98.%

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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