



## The Impact of Our Curriculum



The focus for this Newsletter is **Modern Foreign Languages**. Led by Mrs Radbourne, the children learn to speak **French in KS1 and Spanish in KS2**. We often hear from our colleagues at secondary school how advanced in languages our children are when they enter, but it is also lovely to hear of the wider impact below. For the next newsletter the focus will be literacy.

Hola, me llamo Damon ¡mi clase favorita es español!

Learning a language is really useful!

'Why?' you may ask.

Well, the benefits of it include:

Work - because when you're older you might work overseas or with people who only know a little English.

Sociable - **It is helpful on holiday and even if people you meet are fluent in English they very often appreciate hearing you speak to them in their language.**

General Knowledge - it can help you learn the roots of words (where they came from).

It can be good for your mental health and last but not least it can be fun and interesting.

This half-term I went to Malaga in Spain. One of the best places we visited was a place called Around the World in 80 Trees. It had about a hundred of each of the 80 species and I loved the bit with Cacti trees! It's great to travel and see new places and meet new people.

Trying new foods and being in a non-English speaking country is also a worthwhile experience.

**My parents did not know much Spanish so I had to translate for them most of the time!**

Some of the most frequent phrases I used were:

- Yo quiero pagar por favor = I want to pay please.  
Yo quiero un bocadillo de jamón y las tapas de manchego por favor = I want a ham sandwich and manchego cheese tapas please!
- Yo quiero una mesa para cuatro personas por favor = I want a table for four people please.
- GRACIAS!

**I was able to feel quite confident reading menus, listening to waiters and other people we met and having a go speaking Spanish because of my Spanish lessons at school** (credit to Mrs Radbourne, she teaches Spanish well) and the extra practise I get on the Duolingo app which I use at home (and which is completely free) .

**The Spanish people seemed to understand me and were pleased that I was trying out their language.**

**Adiós amigos y amigas!**

In the summer holidays, I went to Disney World. **While waiting in a queue, the little girl behind me started speaking to me in Spanish.** Her mum explained that her daughter didn't speak English, but I understood what the girl said. I replied in Spanish, and this made the little girl smile. **We spoke about the weather and how excited we were to meet Donald Duck. The girl then began to count but stopped after three, her mum mentioned that she was learning to count.** I used my fingers to show what number I was counting, and the little girl copied me. After a while, she counted to ten in Spanish by herself. Her mum was impressed with my Spanish, and **she thanked me for helping** and connecting with her child.

### Parent viewpoint:

Listening to Lily's interaction with another child using the Spanish she learnt at school was superb. They spent a long time communicating and giggling with each other and it was wonderful to see Lily teaching the little girl how to count in Spanish. Lily showed great confidence, and this prevented a language barrier between the children.





## Forest School



Antarctica class finished their term of Forest School with a trip up to the Nature Reserve. **"This has been the best thing in my life!"** one pupil declared on the way home. **"When are we coming back?!"** said another. We climbed trees and **practised our fire lighting skills** but the marshmallows were the biggest hit! **"The best marshmallows-crispy on the outside, gooey in the middle!"**



Year 1 engaged in a **fun-packed practical maths lesson**. They were embedding maths skills at the end of the 'place value' unit. Challenges were set up as a carousel of activities, and the children rotated in small groups. **They completed the variety of tasks on paper, ipads, and working as part of a team to complete a number ordering challenge.**



Year 2 enjoyed starting the topic of space. They have learnt all about the names of the planets and sang a song to remember the order of them. In literacy, they are reading the book *Alien's Love Underpants* and **have started to create their own amazing alien descriptions!**



Year 6 had an **exhilarating week filled with adventure and learning**. Our unforgettable trip to Kingswood challenged us to face our fears, work as a team, and discover our hidden strengths. From conquering high ropes courses to mastering archery, every moment was an opportunity for growth and camaraderie. We embraced the great outdoors, forging lasting **friendships and creating memories that will stay with us forever**.

In the classroom, our curiosity led us to delve into the captivating world of the Mayans. We explored their advanced knowledge in astronomy, mathematics, and artistry. Through our Mayan history reports, we uncovered the mysteries of their calendar, hieroglyphic writing, and contributions to science.



**We are planning on completing a full write up for Kingswood using the children's work from our journalistic writing unit in Literacy.**



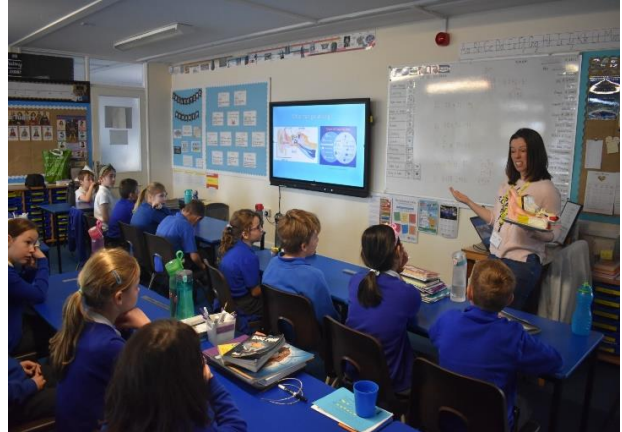
In Year 5, our students are currently **engaged in an exciting and educational journey** through history as they focus their studies on Roman Britain. During this study, students are gaining insights into various aspects of Roman life and culture, such as **Roman settlements and towns, the construction of Hadrian's Wall, the daily routines of Roman citizens, and the impact of Roman rule on the local population**.

In Year 3, the **children have been practising their rugby skills**. We practised throwing and catching, moving with the ball in lots of different directions and finished with an adapted game of bench ball. The **children showed great skills and everyone enjoyed our warm up run around the school**.



Let's celebrate! It was Kipper's birthday so **children in EYFS thought about what makes a good present for a dog**. We designed wrapping paper and used it to wrap the presents, then some of us made thumb buns. **We used our capacity skills and noticed how the texture changes**. We hope Kipper enjoys his party.





**Mrs. Fox, an audiologist, visited the Year 4 classes unraveling the mysteries of hearing!** This accompanied the topic of **'Sound'** which the children have been learning about in Science. Students discovered the wonders of human hearing, from different frequencies to the intricate journey of sound through the ear. Mrs. Fox shed light on hearing issues and shared the impact of hearing loss on humans, while engaging the children with an intriguing hearing test. **Thank you Mrs. Fox - the children gained lots of new knowledge about Sound and had a wonderful morning!**

Thank you for your continued support, Annette Mashru - Headteacher

#### Diary Dates

November 7<sup>th</sup> – PC Ben talk to Y1 and Y6  
 November 10<sup>th</sup> – Armistice Remembrance Assembly  
 November 13<sup>th</sup> - Anti Bullying Week/World Kindness Day  
 November 16<sup>th</sup> - Open Morning 9.30am  
 November 17<sup>th</sup> - MUFTI and KS2 SASA Disco  
 November 20<sup>th</sup> - Open Afternoon 1.15pm  
 November 23<sup>rd</sup> - EYFS writing for Parents 9am  
 November 29<sup>th</sup> - Henry VIII visit Y4  
 November 30<sup>th</sup> - St Andrew's Day

December 1<sup>st</sup> - Posada Starts  
 December 4<sup>th</sup> - Y1 Christmas Production 2pm  
 December 5<sup>th</sup> - Y2 Christmas Production 2pm  
 December 6<sup>th</sup> - Thame Festival of Voices 7pm  
 December 6<sup>th</sup> - EYFS Christmas Production 2.15pm  
 December 8<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 Christmas Production 2pm  
 December 9<sup>th</sup> - SASA Christmas Fayre  
 December 13<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Lunch – MUFTI Xmas Jumper can be worn  
 December 19<sup>th</sup> - A Christmas Pantomime in school for Y1 - Y6 and a special surprise 'visitor' in a red suit for EYFS children – Christmas Jumpers can be worn  
 December 20<sup>th</sup> - School Finishes at 1.30pm

