



The Palmer Academy

Weekly Round-up



Edition 18

Friday, 12th February 2021

Note from the Executive Headteacher

Welcome to our final round-up for this half-term. The start of this year has been unlike any we have faced before, with the move to remote learning, changes to ways of working and limitations on our social interactions. Much like yourself, we are eagerly anticipating any news from the government about changes and we hope that after the half-term break, we will have an update on the next steps the country will be taking.

This week has seen all classes within KS1 and KS2 move to remote learning through Teams, which has allowed us to provide further materials and support to the children. So many of the children have been so busy and no doubt, many parents and carers have also been providing their own time to support their children in accessing the curriculum. We really do appreciate all the effort and time families have contributed towards this and we know that this has really helped so many children in making progress despite the challenges this lockdown has posed. We hope that the live 'meets' that happened today in each class gave the children an opportunity to see their class teachers and celebrate their achievements over the course of the week, and indeed this half-term.

As we enter the half term break, we hope that everyone has a chance to have a well-deserved rest and we look forward to seeing you all again next half-term.



A. A. Wanford.

Mr. Aaron Wanford

Positive COVID case reporting (for children in school)

As we did at Christmas, we will require parents/carers to notify us if their child tests positive for COVID-19 during the half-term break so that we can identify any relevant close contacts and notify staff and other parents/carers as appropriate. It is crucial that we are made aware, especially from when we close on today and over the weekend as we are required to inform the parents/carers of any children who may have come in to contact with your child 48 hours before their symptoms developed or they may have tested positive.

If you do have a positive COVID test result for your child at any point during the half-term break, please e-mail admin@gthepalmeracademy.com with your child's name and class, along with their proof of positive COVID test result. This will also help us plan for the return to school on the 22nd February for those vulnerable pupils and critical workers.

We are sorry to have to ask for this information, particularly over the holiday period, but the Department for Education has requested that we continue to be alerted of those isolating and testing positive to inform a view of what action may need to be taken prior to school returning. Thank you for your understanding and continued support with this.

Internet Safety

This week, we saw international Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, which placed an emphasis to all school settings on the importance of keeping our children safe whilst online.

With more children on devices at home, particularly during the remote education phase, internet safety is so important. Guides have been prepared for parents/carers on how to set appropriate filters on their home Wi-Fi to prevent access to inappropriate content on these devices. NSPCC and O2 have produced a [video](#) for parents/carers to help them in setting up parental controls, and the UK Safer Internet Centre have published [guidance](#) on parental controls for the 4 main internet providers, both of which may be useful to share. We strongly encourage you to take the time to watch the video and/or read the guidance in hope that you can amend your settings at home.



Well-being Tip

Random Acts of Kindness Day is on Wednesday 17th February. Random acts of kindness are things we do for others when they are not expecting it - just to make them feel happy and cared for. Doing something kind for someone and having someone do something kind for us helps us all to feel good on the inside. This can help our minds to be healthy and make our thoughts and feelings positive. Here are some ideas for the children to complete:

- Give someone a compliment
- Write a letter to a friend or family member that you do not live with
- Leave positive post-it notes around the house to make people smile when they find them
- Offer to help with preparing a meal
- Help to clear and wash the dishes after dinner



Loaned Electronic Devices

If you have been loaned a school laptop device for access to remote learning, this device will not have access to the internet over the half term break. This is due to staff not being available for IT support and also to monitor usage. Please ensure to have a break from screen time over the half term and we will be ready to turn the internet back on ready for the 22nd February return to remote learning.

No internet access at home

If you are struggling with your internet access at home when supporting your child with their home learning there are lots of service providers which have teamed up to support families. Have a look at the link below to see if you qualify to apply.

<https://newsroom.bt.com/bt-announces-lockdown-learning-support-scheme-for-kids-and-families/>

What have Nursery been learning about this week?

At Nursery this week the children have been learning about representing numbers. We have been singing the song 'I have a number in my bag', picking a number out and then representing the number on whiteboards with lines and circles. The children at home and at school have been trying really hard. Well done everyone!



Nursery Home Learning Shout Outs

At home Leo has made a 'rip, stick and crumple collage' of the Valley from our story of The Three Billy goats Gruff. Well done Leo!

Well done to Ivanna, Siri, Shreenika, Wynford, Lasemi, Leo, Mason and Neyati for adding home learning to Tapestry every day.

Well done to Elvin, Bonnie, Bao, Aizah, Heavenly, Ollie, Islay, Theo, Gerald, Denise, Hridyasha and Alex for adding home learning at least once a week.

Please remember that the expectation for home learning is that at least one observation is added **a day** to show your child's learning.



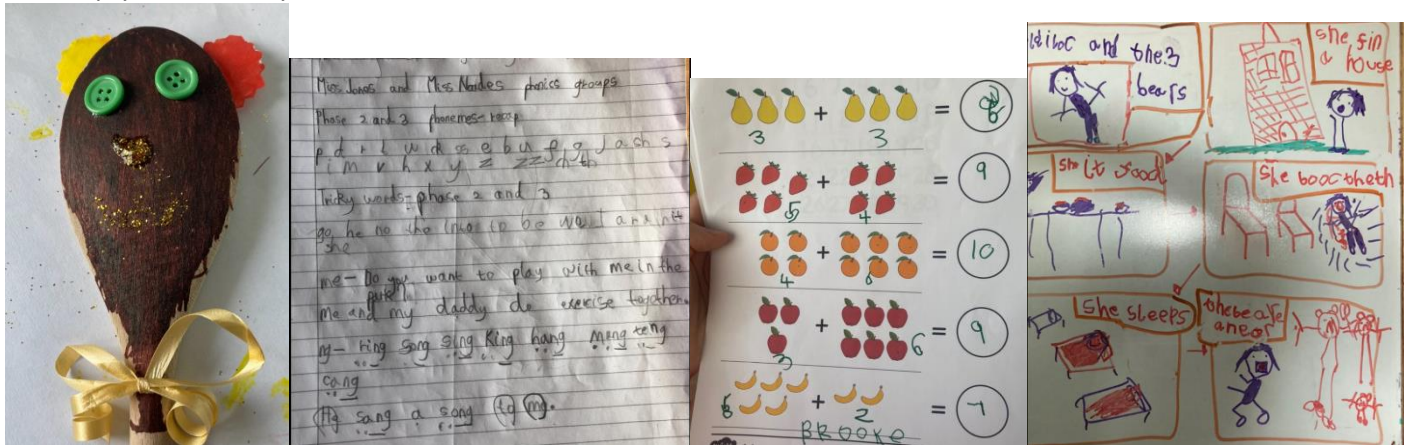
Tapestry

We have lots of families logging on but not posting observations onto Tapestry. Tapestry have a YouTube page with lots of helpful video on how to post observations, how to use the web browser and app especially for Parents. To access this please click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLthyVDX1AWQJeGUqAna3ZEhEqbgjdx0Yt>

What have Reception been learning about this week?

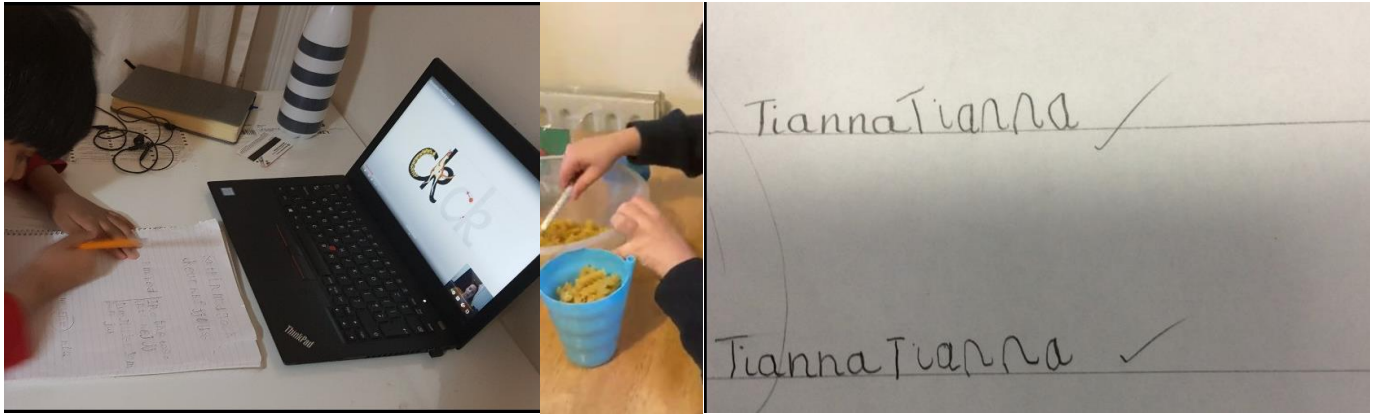
This week, we have been continuing with the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have been making story maps and labelling them, as well as creating story spoons for our Spoonville we are hoping to create next half term. We have been very impressed with the artistic skills we have seen so far! We have also been using mathematical language in our Numeracy lessons, talking about empty and full and experimenting with different containers. We have also been learning some new words in our talking time, such as soft, spiky and hard, transparent and opaque. We are so proud of all of our children (and parents!) this half term, we know how difficult things have been and we have loved seeing so much of your work on Tapestry. Well done especially to those children who are still working hard every day and sharing your work with us. Special mentions to Henry for his hard work and his amazing Daddy Bear spoon, Norika and Wele for their super phonics work, Kayden for super work with his phonics, Brooke for her brilliant Numeracy, Catalina's fab story map, Rohan for his hard work in phonics, Nyla for sharing her creative arts and work with us, Benjamin and Tianna for their hard work with their handwriting and Owen's great work with full and empty in Numeracy.



We would like to make a special mention to the following children, who have posted observations on Tapestry every day – you are amazing! : Owen, Catalina, Nyla, Henry, Alfie, Ruth, Yodhin, Brooke, Annabel, Ava, Norika, Amelia and Alice.

We would also like to say thank you to all these wonderful children who joined us in our Zoom meetings, seeing all your smiley faces brightened our days: Annabel, Ava, Kevin, Catalina, Elsie, Fatimah, Jamie, Kaci, Lexi, Shawna, Yodhin, Skyla, Henry, Niranjana, Owen, Ruth, Inaaya, Alice, Amelia and Brooke, and all our bubble children too (sorry if we missed anyone).

We hope you all have a fantastic half term and get a chance to rest a little.



What have Year One been learning about this week?

Hip-hip-hooray Year One! Half-term vacation begins today! A great big congratulations to all our students, both home learners and in the bubble, for a challenging yet successful Spring 1 Term. We are so proud of all of you for your fantastic efforts this term. It has been a pleasure watching you learn and grow through a challenging situation. This week we have continued to deepen our knowledge of place value and number, written some fact files about tigers, and learned all about tigers in our reading lessons! We wrapped up our units in science on Everyday Materials, Special Objects in RE, and Where We Live in Geography. To celebrate our term of Kandinsky and colour-mixing we created some beautiful and unique pieces of Kandinsky-inspired art! What masterpieces they were! Congratulations to Adrian for winning the Judith Kerr book draw this week, I hope you're excited to meet our new Author of the Term after the break. Have a safe and restful half-term and we cannot wait to see you in a week. 😊

Our Hall of Fame this week: some featured art from our final RE lesson – Divina, Abaan, and Armel!



What have Year Two been learning about this week?

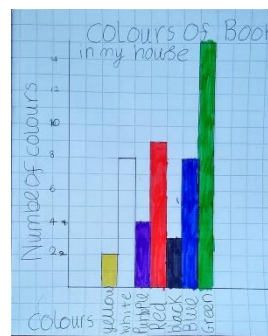
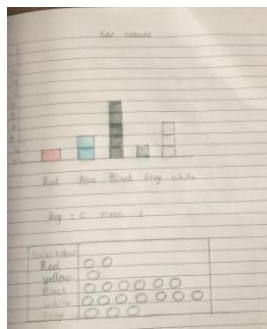
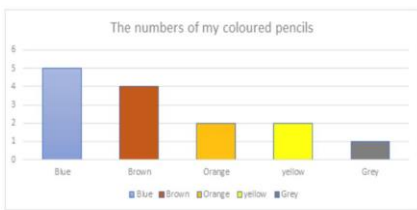
What a term we have had to begin 2021! We have been so proud of all the work we have seen being achieved while at home, it's been fantastic! This week the children were writing their own poems based around the weather and we have thoroughly enjoyed reading them. In Maths the children have started looking at shape and have become experts at identifying the different 2D shapes by looking at their sides and vertices. Special shout outs this week go to Arthur, Myra and Gadi who have been trying really hard and impressing the staff with their work.

We hope you all have a lovely and well-deserved break – we are so proud of you all and we will see you all soon!

What have Year Three been learning about this week?

Wow Year 3- what a way to end the last week of term. Your learning has not ceased to impress us this week so we would like to say a massive thank you to you all for your continued effort and enthusiasm with your learning. Also, thanks once again to our families of year 3. You have supported your children for a whole term now with

home learning and we cannot express our gratitude enough. In reading, we have finished our book *The Iron man!* We have been using this book to show a range of reading skills such as explanation and inference and even attempted 3 mark questions- shout out to a new member of our year Arjun- he wowed us so much with his answers - please see pictured. Due to the interest in the book, for our art project this week we challenged year 3 to create a piece of art inspired by the language used in *The Iron man*. We wanted to let the children's creativity roam free, so we encouraged them to choose an art style that suited them. The range of interpretations of this project amazed us! Please see just some of the incredible creations-shout out to Amelia, Arjela, Jolita, Milir, Mila, Riley and Martyna who's artwork is featured below. In maths, we finished off our unit of statistics by asking the students to collect and present their own data. Yet again we were so impressed by the way the children were logical and organised with their data gathering and neat and accurate with their presentation of their data. Shout out to Arman, Libby and Inesa for their incredible learning as pictured below. We hope all of our families have a well-deserved, restful half-term! Miss Davies and Miss Fernandez



1. How is the new creature in the text portrayed? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (3 Marks)

The writer describes the new creature as "Terribly black, terribly scaly, terribly knobby, terribly horned, terribly hairy, terribly clawed, terribly fanged, with vast indescribably terrible eyes, each one as big as Switzerland". This text creates the impression that the new creature is terribly scary. The writer also uses the text "space-bat-angel-dragon" to describe the creature which makes the reader feel that it looked like a space dragon.

2. What evidence is there to suggest that people in the story appear to be hopeless in defeating the dragon? (3 Marks)

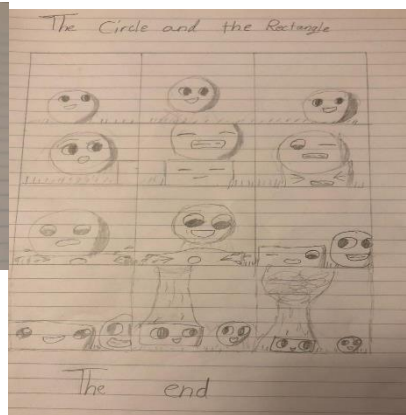
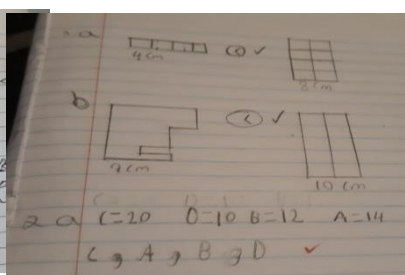
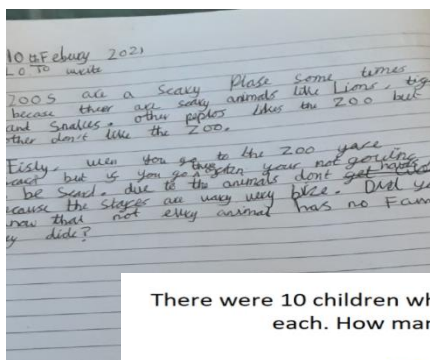
The writer shows this by "Now the peoples of the world were worried. They were all great fighters. All spent their spare money on preparing for wars, always making bigger and better weapons, and now they had all tried their utmost to blast this thing off the earth, and what was the result? The dragon merely smiled, and not a scratch could be seen anywhere on its body. Human weapons had no effect on it." This suggests to the reader that people were scared that they were not able to attack the dragon with all their weapons. The writer also describes as "Everybody in the world was talking about it, worrying about it" which emphasises that people were terrified and hopeless in fighting the dragon.

What have Year Four been learning about this week?

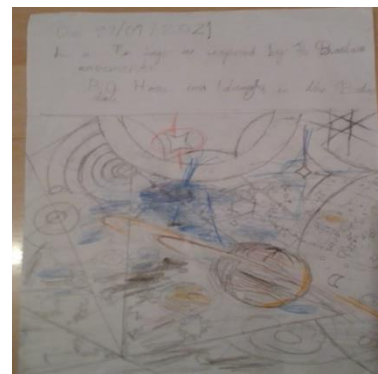
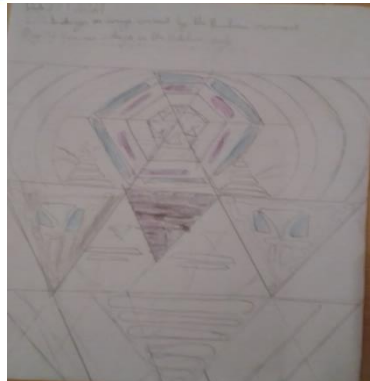
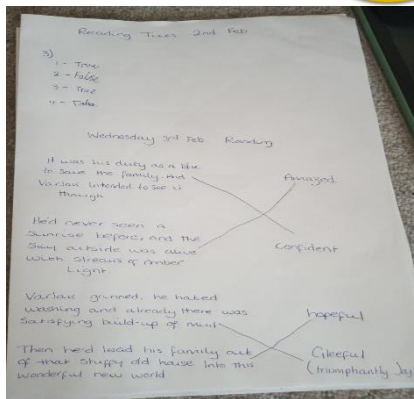
The Year 4's have had a busy last week of term. In Maths we finished learning about finding the area of shapes and we had some really impressive timetables results from the quizzes. We have written some amazing balanced arguments in English and we continue to read about the adventures of the cat, Varjak Paw, during our Reading lessons. To finish off our learning of DT and Art we completed some end of term quizzes to test our knowledge of what we had learnt this term. It was very impressive to see how much we remembered. The highlight of the week was ending it with live teams meetings. It was wonderful to see so many faces and to see some amazing learning. We cannot wait until we are all back in the classroom.

It has been an interesting term for us all, we have all had to learn how to use Microsoft Teams to submit our learning so a big shout out to all the Year 4's and their families who have made a fantastic effort in doing so.

Shoutouts: Charlie, Shinuna, Basit, Robin, Osburn, Godwill and Godwin for sending such amazing work.



There were 10 children who want two pieces of lemon cake each. How many pieces will be eaten?



What have Year Five been learning about this week?

What a fantastic week of learning-we are so proud of all the children who tried their best and did not give up. In Reading, it was great to see people apply their find and copy skills for inference and making sure that they were carefully thinking about their answers. In Maths, children continue to persevere with their fractions and we are incredibly proud of the children who did not give up, showing great resilience towards their learning this week. Children worked hard to produce some persuasive leaflets in English, which we are very excited to read all about Japan as this topic we learnt about in Geography! We received some lovely art and DT pieces, which we thoroughly enjoyed reading and seeing all the thought and detail go into the drawing/models. As always, we are so proud of every child! Here is some work we would like to celebrate:

Well done to Amaan, Cooper, Kara, Riley, Suyog, Kulreet and Bryant for some great work this week!

English, 9th March

The word has lots of things to say: delicious, warm, busy, adventurous, part of children, cars, cars and lots of wild animals.

Introduction
Japan is an island country in Asia it is located by the sea of Japan.

Attractions
Most popular places in Japan are Mt Fuji, Ghibli Museum, Sagami and Kyoto.

Food and drinks
Miso soup, yakitori, Shabu shabu and Royal milk tea also bubble tea, udon.

Cities
Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Nara, Osaka and Kobe.

Location and map
Japan is located in eastern Asia it is a large group of islands. Japanese flag is white and red.

Did you know?

Have a go at writing a haiku about Japan here. Have a look at the word bank to give you some ideas.

(5) They speak Japanese

(7) Japan is known for sushi

(5) I love to go see

Attractions
Japan has many amazing attractions including:
• Mount Fuji
• Hiroshima Peace Memorial
• Imperial Tokyo

Be sure to plan your trip to Kyoto's Sagami Bamboo forest.

Millions visit here each year to take in the spectacular site.

Tickets will cost just 500Y (\$5).

Food and Drink
Give your taste buds a crazy ride and try the local cuisine.
Sushi, Ramen, Rice and Yakitori will blow your mind!
Make sure you DO NOT miss out!

Cities
Tokyo is the busiest city on earth but don't let that put you off.
The buildings light up so bright at night it's almost magical.
With a mix of old and new this city really offers you an adventure.
Don't miss out!

Did you know?
Japan is mostly made up of mountains.
There is a Rabbit Island in Japan.
The number 4 is extremely unlucky.
Anti-ninja floors are a thing!

The string of islands stretches for 1,500 miles.

Moving Toy Evaluation

<p>What did you enjoy most about making your moving toy?</p> <p>I liked painting the rocket and box. I also liked that we had the materials.</p> <p>How pleased are you with the overall quality of your toy?</p> <p>Overall, I would say it has good quality seeing as we made it out of a silver-ware box.</p>	<p>What did you enjoy least about making your moving toy?</p> <p>I didn't like that it took my dad and I around 2 or 3 hours to make.</p> <p>What would you change about your toy if you were to make them again?</p> <p>I would change the thing I painted on the box and maybe the thing that is moving.</p>
<p>Do you think you chose the correct materials? Why? Why not?</p> <p>I think I use the correct materials because in the end it worked.</p> <p>How easy was it to follow your plan? Did you have to make any changes?</p> <p>It was hard to make because there weren't any instructions to make it. We changed it to have the mechanism hidden.</p>	<p>What is the most important thing you have learnt about working with cam mechanisms?</p> <p>Always use and have the right materials when making a cam mechanism.</p> <p>How well do you think your finished product meets your design criteria?</p> <p>From my point of view, it meets barely meets the criteria because it works but gets stuck and will almost definitely fall apart.</p>



Japan

Is a modern, advanced area mostly in the city Tokyo but we will get to there later. The place also contains beautiful country side with a mostly tropical climate where you can relax and enjoy sun tanning in the sun on a deck chair. Now want to come enjoy the culture of Japan now?

Attractions

The main attractions on the list is active vacations but don't worry your get a months notice before it eruption also making hot tubs made from natural resources from nature. As well as a the capital city Tokyo with robots can you believe that? Tokyo could also be able to serve 5 star food at restaurant for a reasonable price. The large, special country side where you can enjoy country life with out a busy city life.



What have Year Six been learning about this week?

WELL DONE YEAR 6! What a fantastic week of learning you have all had. We have had some beautifully written speeches, some accurate conversions of units of measure, continued progress made in the accuracy of reading skills and much, much more. We have come to the end of our Extreme Earth topic in Geography which saw us learning about tsunamis and being able to explain how they happen, and we tried our hand at graffiti in Art. In Science we are very much looking forward to seeing your projects after half term that show off all that you have learned about classification. (Don't forget to complete your End of Unit Quiz too).

We have been so incredibly proud of how you have all adapted to learning from home and how many of you have gone above and beyond with your independent learning. Next term we will be looking at the Mayans in History and Evolution and Inheritance in Science. Why not find out a little about the powerful people we will be learning about: K'inich Janaab Pakal and the man that discovered his tomb (Iberto Ruz Lhuillier) and Charles Darwin

We would like to give a big shout out to...

Chloe – for making great progress in maths this week.

Goutham – some fantastic scratch games sent in for us to try.

Hibah and Anfal – for delivering fantastic speeches in role as a veteran with powerful and emotive language throughout.

And the following children consistently engage with all assignments set to a very high standard. We are so very proud of you for not lowering your expectations and continuing to strive for excellence.

Julia, Emertha (beautiful Maths study guide too!), San, Rihan, Chloe, Ashley, Brooke, Kye, Maddox and Ben.

What's happening next week at Palmer

Monday 22 nd Feb	Assembly with Mr Soares-Mistry via YouTube (13:30)
Tuesday 23 rd Feb	
Wednesday 24 th Feb	Assembly with Mr Soares-Mistry via YouTube (13:30)
Thursday 25 th Feb	Assembly with Mr Soares-Mistry via YouTube (13:30)
Friday 26 th Feb	Live Sessions on Teams for Celebration Assembly

Science at home

With next week being half term, what a perfect opportunity to engage in some science! Below are some links to a variety of websites with a range of activities for you to explore.

Click [here](#) for some fantastic ideas for short activities based around the different topics your children have learned already and will be learning about this year.

What about some fun experiments that you can do with very little equipment?

Want to grow your own crystals? Click [here](#) to find out how.

[12 hands on activities](#) that link to topics of electricity, sound, forces, and changes of state.

[50+ activities for all ages](#) – an assortment of activities for all ages to get involved with.

[23 easy science experiments](#) that you can do at home with everyday items.

Remote Learning Engagement Information

This week we are celebrating the children who joined the live celebration assemblies this morning. It is so important for you to join your session to see your peers, teachers and share your brilliant work! Who will be the highest year group on the first Friday back to school!?



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
39%	32%	69%	63%	47%	66%	53%



This week **Year 2** had the biggest % of children joining their live celebration assembly to share their amazing hard work!