

NEWS

from the Primary Phase

Dear Parents and Carers

This half term has seen an array of achievements across the Primary Phase and there is much for our school community to celebrate!

At the beginning of the summer term, we took hold of an exciting delivery here at the Primary Phase – our very own book vending machine!

Congratulations to Annabelle and Nathan who were the first members of our community to be awarded a token to use in exchange for a book from our machine! Annabelle was chosen by her class teacher for planning and leading a beautiful class worship whilst Nathan has been working incredibly hard in maths this term! Well done to both of you for living out our mission statement!



Thursday 9th May was the feast of The Ascension. The primary phase came together to remember how Jesus ascended into Heaven to return to His Father, and that His disciples should return to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit on the feast of Pentecost. Father Denis led the children in reflecting on their roles as disciples and how they can be messengers for God in every interaction they have with others.

It has also been the turn for our Reception and Year 1 children to celebrate their own class. Our Year 1 children reflected on the theme of 'surprises' whilst our Reception children thought about 'new life'. Thank you to Father Kevin, Father Daryl and Father John for leading Mass this half term.

On Tuesday 21st May, the whole of the Primary Phase gathered together to remember Mary in a special way through a traditional 'May Procession'. May is a month where we remember Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in a special way. Mary is Jesus' Mother and, in the Catholic Faith, we believe she is our Mother too. We remember how Mary always said 'yes' to God's call. In this special month, we ask for God to help us to become more like Mary. We can do this by doing what He asks us, and following His son, Jesus.

The Worship Council led the celebration through their readings and by leading a decade of the rosary before processing out to the statue of 'Our Lady' that had been placed on the field. Mrs Byles had prepared the children so well to sing traditional songs to Mary including 'Bring Flowers of the Rarest' and 'Ave Maria'.

Our eldest child and one of our youngest were invited to crown Mary as we sang. The children joined in with such reverence and joy. Thank you so much to our family community for supporting our children to join in so fully - providing them with flowers and rosaries for the day. It was an extremely special morning but equally as wonderful was seeing children bringing their families at the end of the school day, to see the flowers for Mary and have their photos taken.





Over the coming weeks, we know that many of our children will be receiving the sacrament of 'Holy Communion'. We will be praying for each and every one of you and your families at this special time. If you would like to share a photo of your child on their special day that can then go on display at school, then please send your image to Miss Henwood at KHO@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk

As many of you will have noticed, a big hole has appeared in the school field surrounded by a new fence. This is the beginnings of our new wildlife pond! In the coming weeks, we will be putting liner on the bottom and then filling it with water. Then we will watch all sorts of wildlife arrive! Many thanks to the PTA who have helped fund it, and to Josh and his team at the Parks Foundation, who have helped enormously -they even put up the fence for us!



Lots of fun was had at the PTA quiz on Friday 19th April. The Primary Team were extremely excited to be the winners overall this time. However, the Reception parents table came armed with the best food and drink spread, complete with tablecloth. It is lovely to see the community together in this way!

Many thanks to a the hugely generous Marks and Spencer voucher donation from one of our Year 6 parents, and to the following companies for donating prizes to the Raffle that took place on the night:





A delicious charcuterie box from



Bhliveactive Family Wet and Wacky Ticket



Julia Monllor Nails - £25 voucher

www.instagram.com/juliamonllornails

A final highlight from this half-term has to be the PTA discos, which were a sell-out, with many excited children from Reception through to Year 6 attending – a wonderful time was had by all! My thanks go out to our PTA for organising the event and also to those members of staff and Year 10 students, who gave up their evening to supervise and sell refreshments!

It was a wonderful way to finish our KS2 SATs week. I want to say a very big 'well done' to our Year 2 and Year 6 children who have completed their SATs quizzes this half term. Our children have worked incredibly hard – living out our mission statement to be the very best that they can be.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank our school community for the messages of encouragement and the support I received leading up to my first marathon. In total, I raised £1,723 for Brain Research UK, a charity very close to my heart – thank you to all those who donated so generously.

I do hope that you enjoy reading about the children's achievements from this half-term in the newsletter to follow. I wish you all a restful half-term break.

AMalone

Mrs Malone

ame@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk



Primary Phase Diary Dates

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May	Half Term
W/C Monday 3 rd June – Friday 14 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Tuesday 4 th June	Forest School Commences - RBC,1SM, 2SC (Group 6)
Tuesday 4 th June	6RA Retreat Day – Southbourne, 8:20am to 2:30pm <i>(children to be dropped off and collected from the Southbourne site please)</i>
Wednesday 5 th June	6HH Retreat Day – Southbourne, 8:20am to 2:30pm <i>(children to be dropped off and collected from the Southbourne site please)</i>
W/C Monday 10 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Tuesday 11 th June	4JR Retreat Day – Southbourne, 8:20am to 2:30pm <i>(children to be dropped off and collected from the Southbourne site please)</i>
Wednesday 12 th June	4HW Retreat Day – Southbourne, 8:20am to 2:30pm <i>(children to be dropped off and collected from the Southbourne site please)</i>
Friday 14 th June	Fathers' Day Celebrations
Thursday 20 th June	Year 5 Taster Afternoon Southbourne
Friday 21 st June	Year 3 and 4 choir – Bournemouth Music Festival
Monday 24 th June	Year 2 Treehouse Theatre - Great fire of London
Wednesday 26 th June	Year 2 Fire Safety Officer Visit
Friday 28 th June	Year 6 Transfer Day
Wednesday 3 rd July	Whole School Mass
Friday 5 th July	Sports Day and Summer Fair
Wednesday 10 th July	Ethos Day
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 6 production – evening performance
Thursday 11 th July	First Holy Communion Celebration Mass- Parents of children celebrating the sacrament this year are invited (am)
Thursday 11 th July	Year 6 production – evening performance
Friday 12 th July	School Reports Go Home
Monday 15 th July - Wednesday 17 th July	Year 6 Residential - Fairthorne Manor
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 Presentation Evening
Friday 19 th July	Year 6 Celebration Mass- Year 6 parents invited (am)
Friday 19th July	School Ends for Summer Holidays

SEND News

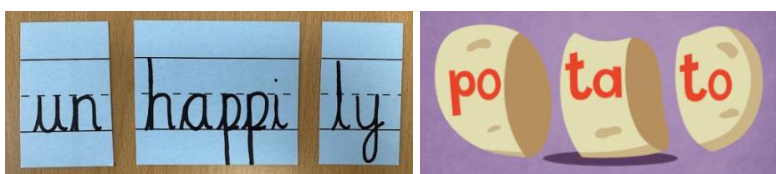
Thank you to those parents and carers who came along to our 'Spelling Workshop' on Tuesday 7th May. For those families who were interested, but unable to join us due to other commitments, we looked at a number of strategies that can help children to learn spellings and improve their spelling accuracy. These included:

1. Grouping words together in rhyming families



long /oe/ sound				
o	o_e	oa	ow	oe
go	bone	goat	bow	toe
no	phone	coat	know	woe
so	cone	float	low	hoe

2. Breaking the word up into its syllables, looking for prefixes and suffixes, and adding visuals



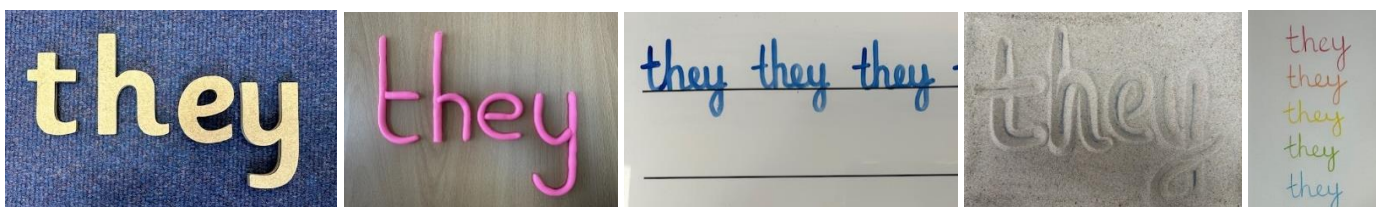
3. Saying the word in a funny way



4. Making up a mnemonic or a rap



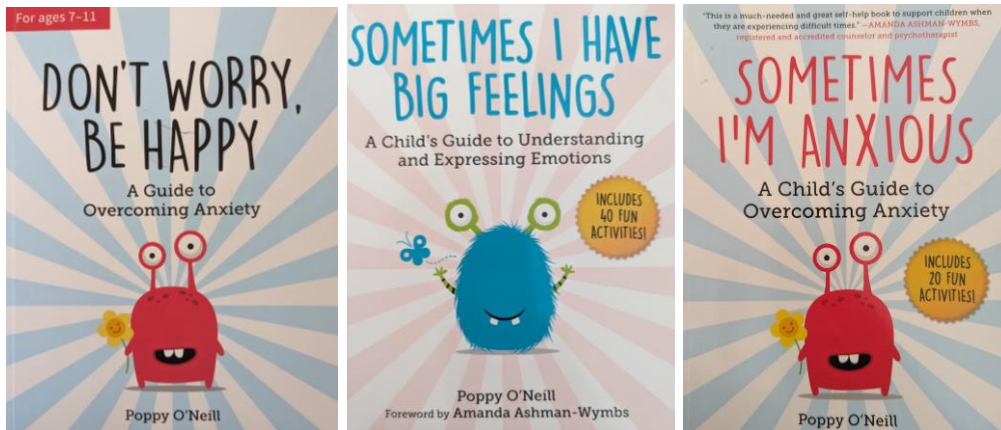
5. Using a multisensory approach to practise their spellings



We have ordered sets of resources to facilitate these strategies and are putting together spelling packs. If you are interested in purchasing one, please do drop me an e-mail. The packs cost £15 to buy, which can be added to your Parent Pay account. If your child is in receipt of the Pupil Premium grant, then we are able to support you in covering the cost. For those parents who have already requested this resource, they will be ready for collection from the school office after half-term.



This week, we held our third 'Support and Signposting' coffee morning. Thank you to those families who have been able to support this venture. It has been so lovely to see parents offering each other understanding and advice where they may have experienced similar challenges. A huge thank you to Claire, who shared with us this week a series of self-help books by Poppy O'Neil. She has found these to be a particularly positive resource for her daughter:



A big thank you also to Francy, who has been busy exploring the support systems available for parents of autistic children. Francy has found and kindly shared the following website, which is a wonderful charity offering support and a wealth of information for parents and carers of girls with ASC: <https://autisticgirlsnetwork.org/>

Our **final coffee morning** of this academic year is going to be held in the school hall on **Tuesday 9th July**, from **8:30am**. Parents and carers from our new September intake have been invited to come along too. It will be lovely for them to have the opportunity to meet and chat with parents who have been in their shoes previously and so have a first-hand understanding of the types of worries or concerns that they may have ahead of their little ones starting school.



Finally, Mrs Barrington and I are currently undertaking training in some therapeutic skills, one of which involves using sand trays to support children in processing upset or trauma. Before we can begin working in this way, we need to gather resources that the children we are supporting might choose to include in their sand tray work. We are continuing to appeal for any small world figures that you may not need any more, such as Playmobil characters, Lego men and women, any small animal figurines, dinosaurs, interesting shells or gemstones, toy cars etc. Any donations would be greatly appreciated – please hand them into Mrs Preston or Mrs Lafferty in the school office.

Best wishes,
Liz Pritchard
Primary Phase SEND Lead
EWN@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk

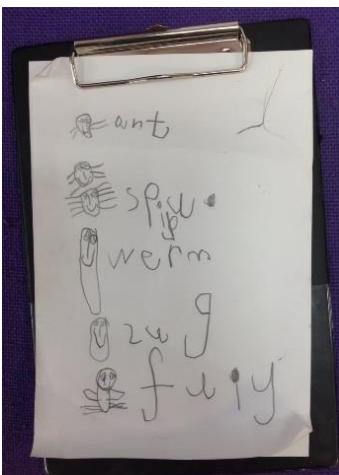
Reception News

What an action packed 6 weeks Reception have had! The half term began with our new topic 'New Life,' (stemming from our Power of Reading book, 'What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson) which started with excitement and suspense when the children were given clues about what might be delivered by the postman that day. We had a lot of interesting guesses but we finally found out that the delivery was an incubator filled with beautiful duck eggs. The children couldn't wait to observe what happened! On the second day, one of our eggs had hatched into an adorable, fluffy duckling, and was joined by a second one the next day! Our ducklings waddled around to the glee of all. Looking after the ducklings and talking about how they had changed led us to learn about the lifecycle of a duckling and then we also learnt about the lifecycle of a caterpillar.

We then started exploring our new topic, 'A Bug's life' and, what an amazing time we have had, going on bug hunts, making spider webs and watching the different mini beasts in the garden. We are lucky to have an amazing outdoor space at our school, and have been using this lots this term to look at the natural world of plants and insects. We have been enjoying our very own planting lessons in which we have planted sunflowers and Oak trees and we can't wait to watch them grow!



In RE this term, Reception have enjoyed learning about Easter and discussing how the apostles may have been feeling at different parts of the story. Our big question in RE has been, 'How can we bring hope and joy to others?' This has led to lots of discussion on how we can spread joy in the same way Jesus and his disciples did. We are now going to try to share, be kind, help our friends and help at home! We have also celebrated our first-class masses with the Chaplaincy team, Father Kevin and Father Daryl. Some children were even brave enough to read prayers. It was lovely to see so many families in our Chapel space to share the celebration. We were all so proud of the reverence the children had!



We are amazed at the progress that each child has made in their reading. We love our small group reading sessions where we have the chance to show off our reading skills and discuss new vocabulary and stories. In Phonics, we are learning to read words from phase 4 with adjacent consonants such as sport, scrunch and scam.

In Maths, we have been looking at numbers up to 20 and learning how to count to 20 and beyond. We have played dice games and sung songs to help us remember how to count to 20 and recognise the numbers. We have also been learning about how to double a number and about odd and even numbers using lots of different resources. We've also continued practising our number bonds to 10.

All of the children have worked incredibly hard this half term, with a steep progress curve. Yippee! We wish you all a very restful break,

The Reception Team x

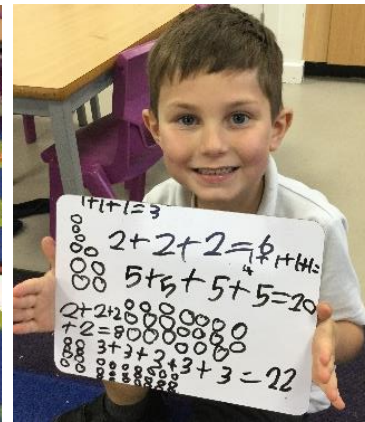
Year 1 News

What an exciting half-term it has been in Year 1! Our fantastic pupils have shown so much enthusiasm for their learning; absorbing so many new facts about dinosaurs and the significance of fossil-hunter, Mary Anning. We were fortunate enough to experience the 'Dinosaur Dome' at our local 'Science Zone'. The children were enthralled by the various interactive activities the trip had to offer and gained so much new knowledge; it really did enrich this interesting topic.

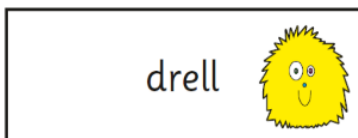
During this half-term, we have been continuing to celebrate Easter as well as entering Pentecost as per the liturgical calendar. As well as learning about the key events in the Easter story, we have considered the ways in which Jesus' disciples and Mary Magdalene would have felt and reacted to Jesus' death and resurrection. We were amazed at the empathy the children were able to show. Using our knowledge of the Easter story, we discussed what it is meant to be a 'witness', how the disciples were God's witnesses and how we can be a witness of God's work. We discussed what our reactions would be if we were a witness to the stages of the Easter story and acted these out as a class. We would like to thank all of the families who were able to attend our class masses this half-term; it was lovely to be able to share this special act of worship together with you all.



In Maths this half-term, we have been focusing on multiplication and division. We began by identifying multiples of 2, 5 and 10 and finding patterns to help us identify them. Moving on from this, we then explored multiplication and division through the use of the language, 'groups of' and 'shared between' to understand how these operations work. We used concrete and visual representations of arrays and repeated addition to really understand this concept.



Year 1 have been working incredibly hard for the past six weeks to produce fantastic pieces of non-fiction text. We began the topic by learning facts about different dinosaurs and then applying this knowledge to write sentences which included basic grammar and the use of conjunctions. More recently, the children have been learning all about the life and work of Mary Anning. They have been working towards writing a letter in the role of Mary Anning to a local villager, Mr Arkwright, telling him all about her discovery of the Ichthyosaur, which she believed to be a 'crocodile lizard' at the time. All of our Year 1 pupils should be so proud of the work they have produced; the use of exclamation marks and question marks in their writing was something they had not done before but managed to rise to the challenge!



The children have been working so hard in preparing for the 'Year 1 Phonics Screening' in June. They have become experts in reading 'alien' words. Please continue using your phonics packs over the holiday and the QR codes found in the children's yellow reading logs. If you are unsure of the pronunciation of any particular sounds please access the 'for parents' area on the Little Wandle website.

We hope you enjoy the half-term break, The Year 1 Team

Year 2 News

We began our 'Art Attack' topic with our Sparkly Starter. The children were introduced to some famous paintings and chose their favourite piece to recreate. They then got an invite to taste some cheese and see their fantastic piece of work in our very own 'Homage to Fromage'. It was great to see the children getting stuck in with trying some cheese that they hadn't had before. The children had created fantastic drawings of Johannes Vermeer's 'The Girl with the Pearl Earring', Vincent van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' and Leonardo Da Vinci's 'Mona Lisa'.



Year 2 have been enjoying reading our shared text 'William and the Missing Masterpiece'. They have loved finding out what clues William found and were able to piece them together themselves, to find the Mona Cheesa. We have looked at our main character William and created a character description. We also retold the story during our Literacy lessons focusing on using conjunctions and expanded noun-phrases. Following on from this, the children have been creating an information text about the setting of the story, Paris. They wrote all about the food and landmarks that can be seen in Paris. In Geography, we have been looking at the four countries in the UK and their capitals. The children have used their research to encourage our main character William to visit somewhere new.

During our Design & Technology lessons, we have been designing, making and evaluating a disguise for William to wear as he is travelling through Paris. The children have been looking at existing disguises and developing their sewing skills. We were so impressed with the amount of resilience we saw when the children were threading the needle.



During our Science lessons, we have been developing our Working Scientifically skills. The children have been setting up simple tests to make observations and ask questions about how or why something has happened. It has been amazing to see how much they have been enjoying Science. Last week, the children predicted and observed what happened when warm water was poured onto skittles. They also created their own mini chemical reaction by mixing vinegar with bicarbonate of soda.

In RE we have been learning about Easter and Pentecost. We have been blown away with the children's understanding of Easter and how the children could share and use what they have learnt about Easter to help others. In the first week of Pentecost, Year 2 have been focusing on what promise Jesus kept at Pentecost. They have thought about what happened at Pentecost and what the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are. The children have been busy delivering their collective worships this half term which we have all enjoyed. Annabelle did a beautiful worship and received a token to get a book from the vending machine!

All the Year 2 children have shown creativity and enthusiasm towards this topic and have made fantastic progress. They have all been fantastic at completing our Key Stage One quizzes.

Thank you for your continued support,

Year 2 Team

Year 3 News

The summer term started with the children experiencing what a typical school day would have been like in the Victorian era. After spending time learning how to properly enter the classroom and address teachers, they recited their times tables and practised their copperplate handwriting on chalkboards. The children were fascinated learning about how a cane had been used to punish even minor errors and were able to appreciate how lucky they are to attend school now and not in the past. The day ended with the children experiencing a Victorian P.E. (drill) lesson. They were so well behaved!



Following on from this day, the children went on to write diary entries about attending a Victorian school. Next, the children learnt more about the dreaded workhouse and created amazing non-chronological reports stating the amazing facts they had learnt. Following on from this, they loved learning all about Queen Victoria for their big write in Literacy and within History.

With much excitement and enthusiasm, the children have been involved in planting up a Victorian herb garden outside. This is a 'Learning garden' and is supporting the children's science and history lessons, as they learn about the parts of plants, and their life cycles. It also is helping the children to understand how the Victorians used herbs for flavouring food and for medicinal purposes. The children are being challenged to grown their own herb garden from seedlings within the classroom caring for them using their knowledge of what plants need to grow.

In D.T. lessons, the children were delighted to research in the computer room various recipes for afternoon tea and find out the origin behind the famous English tradition. They also excitedly tasted various jams to decide what would be best within the Victoria Sponge cupcakes ahead of the afternoon tea with families and friends. This for many was a great highlight with the children displaying their beautiful singing voices with songs from the well-known musical 'Oliver' as well.

When thinking mathematically, fractions have encouraged the children to develop their resilience, and to use their times tables knowledge. This is always a topic that needs a lot of support and encouragement, to help the children fully understand the tricky concepts. The children have enjoyed using practical resources and games to help consolidate this.

In RE, stained-glass windows were created reflecting the children's knowledge of symbols related to Easter. The children learnt the story of the 'Breakfast on the shore' and compared it with the stories of the 'Feeding of the 5000', and 'The last supper', discussing the message of each story, and thinking about how it affects our actions. With many children in the process of taking their 'First Holy Communion', we have discussed how Jesus is present at mass, and the importance of the 'Eucharist prayer'. It has been lovely to hear the children talking about their 'First confessions' and their excitement for forthcoming Holy Communion' celebrations.



We hope that you all have a super half term, and manage to get out and about! The Year 3 Team

Year 4 News

We have had a an extremely jam-packed half term in Year 4. The children have enthusiastically engaged with our 'Robots' topic and have thoroughly enjoyed reading Ted Hughes' 'The Iron Man'. We started with a rewrite of Chapter one, where the children explored the different literary techniques that Ted Hughes uses in his writing, and then we looked closely at Chapter 2 before writing diary entries from the perspective of Hogarth. The writing they have produced has been some of the best we have seen this year and has really allowed them to showcase their creative skills!

Within our Science lessons, the unit on electricity fits so well with our theme. The children have been exploring different components such as batteries, wires and bulbs within simple series circuits. The sound of the buzzers really added to the atmosphere of the classroom! Following this, the children then advanced their knowledge further by conducting investigations into electrical conductors and insulators whilst also ensuring that this was a fair test. This lead nicely into making our junk modelling robots (a big thank you for bringing in most of the contents of your recycling bins!) where the children designed and constructed their own robots which had eyes that lit up. Some even managed to make and use their own switch within their circuit so that they could turn their robot's eyes on and off. Safe to say, it was a rather big clean-up operation at the end.



In Art, the children have been working with Mrs Wyatt to develop their sketching skills and have been drawing various robotic features. Using their understanding of shading and texture, they were able to bring their feature to life, creating a whole class robot out of the individual pieces they had drawn. We have been blown away by their ingenuity and attention to detail.

In RE, we began this half-term by recapping what we learnt during Holy Week. The children did this by annotating these significant events on maps of the Holy Land and Jerusalem. Once this had been completed, we then moved on to our Easter unit of work where we studied Jesus' journey to Emmaus and thought carefully about how a journey can sometimes change the way we act and think, just like it did for the disciples. We then looked at where the disciples' Easter story was taking them, the Ascension, and what Jesus subsequently promised them and what he asked them to do.

This week also saw us visit the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) at the Lighthouse in Poole. We watched them play a range of orchestral pieces and learnt about the different sections that make up the orchestra. In our Music lessons leading up to the trip, the children learnt a piece of music that they were able to play on their recorders. This was a really great experience for the children as it enabled them to play with extremely talented musicians and it was a lovely way to celebrate the children's hard work from their Music lessons. Thank you to the adults who were able to help on the day and make the trip run as smoothly as it did.



On a final note, we wanted to thank our parents and carers for all of the support with times tables at home. The week after half term is when we are going to be having our Multiplications Tables Check and we are feeling confident that the children will be prepared for this. They have been working so hard to reduce their studio speeds and improve their accuracy to get as close to 25/25 as possible on their soundcheck games. Your support has really enabled our children to be successful and we do appreciate you facilitating them in their TT Rockstar mission!

Have a lovely, restful break.

The Year 4 Teaching Team 😊

Year 5 News

This half term, Year 5 have been busy learning about our Solar System as part of our cosmic topic, *The Space Race*. At the start of our topic, we looked at two opposing views of the universe: the heliocentric and geocentric models. Working scientifically, we developed our skills of enquiry by identifying questions and evidence that would need to be gathered in order to prove the accuracy and validity of these theories.

The heliocentric model assumes that the Sun is at the centre of our solar system and all other planetary bodies orbit around it. We used this research to write an explanation text by describing the Earth's movement in relation to the Sun, the creation of the seasons and the reason why we have day and night. As part of this, we explored the changing appearance of the Moon. Before writing a further explanation text, we created a model of the Moon's phases, using milky-buttons to represent each stage. We also looked at the relative sizes of the planets in the Solar System



using fruit. To aid cohesion when writing a non-fiction text, we used a variety of causal conjunctions and signposting words to indicate cause and effect, as well as practicing the skill of using a colon to introduce a list and using commas for ambiguity.



In history, we have been learning about the relationship between America and the Soviet Union following the Second World War. In particular, we have considered how the Cold War tensions contributed to the Space Race and the desire to explore more of our Solar System. Throughout our topic, we have used a timeline to record the important events, including the Apollo missions which culminated in 1969 with the historic Moon Landing.

In Art, we have been learning about the abstract artist, Peter Thorpe, and how he uses pastel and paint to create vibrant backgrounds to his Space-themed art. The children have practiced drawing rockets with oil pastels. We look forward to the children being able to create their own space-inspired artwork on canvas when they return to school after half term.

After learning about the success of the Apollo 11 mission, we explored the physical landscape of the spaceports used by both America and the Soviet Union during the Space Race. We discussed the benefits of launching a rocket on a peninsula, such as Florida, or in a vast, deserted area such as the Kazakhstan steppe. By studying the land use patterns of the UK, we then considered why we are yet to have our own spaceport and suggested a possible region for a future launch site.

In RE, our learning has been centered around the topic of *Easter*. The children have unpicked the significant events that take place during the Easter Triduum and how these events can help and guide us in our everyday lives. Towards the end of half term, we looked at how symbolism plays an important role in religion. With the children being familiar with important symbols that are used in the Catholic religion, we compared these symbols to that which are used in the Hindu religion by discussing the similarities and differences.

Year 5 have had a fantastic half term and we have been truly blown away by their knowledge and enthusiasm for our Space-themed topic.

Thank you for your continued support – we hope you have a wonderful half-term break.

The Year 5 team.

Year 6 News

This half term, Year 6 have enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Greeks with their various gods and goddesses and their many marvellous myths. Year 6 began by reading the story of Pandora's box, retold in the form of a comic strip by the author Marcia Williams. The children considered the key themes of the story before up-levelling language choices and sentence structures, rewriting the story for a Year 6 audience. We then explored the story of Theseus and the Minotaur, considering how direct speech could be used to add detail to the narrative. Year 6 independently rewrote the opening of the story, focusing on their use of language for dramatic effect.

In history, Year 6 have been busy conducting research in order to answer their enquiry question – what is the legacy of the Ancient Greeks? As part of this, Year 6 discovered how democracy was first introduced in Athens through three key institutions: the Ekklesia, the Boule and the Dikasteria. One of the greatest legacies of the Ancient Greeks was the inception of the Olympic Games. Using a range of primary sources, Year 6 identified ways in which the Ancient Olympics is similar to yet also differs from the modern day. Through key figures, such as Plato and Aristotle, Year 6 also concluded that the Ancient Greeks were known for their philosophical thinking, all of which has contributed to the lasting legacy of this ancient civilisation.

The Ancient Greeks were also famous for their many sculptures and pottery pieces uncovered during excavation works. In Art, Year 6 have been designing their own sculptures based on the Olympics using tin foil and mod roc. They have also been busy designing their own pottery vase by focusing on their use of repeated patterns as well as figurines to illustrate an event or scene.



Much of what we know about the Ancient Greeks stems from the Acropolis which towers above the Greek capital of Athens. The Acropolis, home to the Parthenon and other historical ruins, attracts millions of tourists each year. Year 6 combined their historical research with their writing skills, creating their own travel brochure with the aim of persuading tourists to visit this historical city. Year 6 thought carefully about their intended audience whilst using subheadings, pictures and bullet points to present information in a variety of ways.

In Science, Year 6 have been learning about light and how it travels to and around the world. Year 6 started by distinguishing between objects that are light sources and those that are not before identifying the direction in which light travels. We identified that light always travels in a straight line even when it is reflected using a mirror. This enabled us to explain how we are able to see different objects and how shadows will always be the same shape as the object which casts them.

We are incredibly proud of all of the efforts shown by Year 6 in what has been a very busy half-term. We are particularly proud of how everyone rose to the challenge when completing their SATs papers, consistently demonstrating their resilience and determination to live out our school mission statement of 'becoming the best we can be.'

Thank you for all of your continued support – we hope you have a lovely and restful half-term holiday.

The Year 6 Team.

Music News

This term started with the great excitement of revealing the newly refurbished music room. The site team worked tirelessly to transform the old after-school club space into a wonderful new learning environment for classroom music lessons and music extra-curricular clubs. The room is now the envy of many other local primary school music teachers!

Choirs have continued to meet weekly, working hard during the lunch hours to learn new repertoire. Members of the Year 5 choir visited the Retired National Nurses Home on Riverside Avenue, to entertain the residents before they sadly have to move to a new home. Their singing brought great joy to the residents, where their singing was described as having “raised the roof”!

Our Year 5 and 6 orchestra have been equally busy, rehearsing after school every Thursday. Following their success at the New Milton Music Festival last term, they joined forces with the secondary phase orchestra to perform with Christchurch Music Centre as part of their music festival. The children all performed brilliantly, and we are so grateful to them for giving up a day of their weekend to rehearse for the concert. A huge thank you also goes to Mr Motte for his continued support with the orchestra, at both the rehearsals and the concerts.

All of Year 4 enjoyed a wonderful visit to Poole Lighthouse to watch the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra perform (which includes our very own violin teacher Mr Sverev!) The children were treated to several orchestral pieces about the sea, as well as joining in with the orchestra for 2 items – *Out In The Blue*, including Makaton signing, and *This Enchanted Isle*, where they all played their recorders brilliantly! A great day was had by all.



Sports News

‘This Girl Can’ Sports Festival

Nine Year 4 girls recently attended a ‘This Girl Can’ sports festival at Talbot Heath School, aimed at encouraging a love of sport and lifelong participation among girls. Coaches from Talbot Heath, Dorset Cricket, Bournemouth University and Oakmedians Rugby Club introduced the girls to a variety of different games throughout the day, and we were all happy to have dry weather for the occasion. The girls had the opportunity to improve their bowling and batting in Cricket, played a variety of different relay games based around Rugby and Rounders and even had the opportunity to create their own cheerleading routines, all within a nurturing and supportive environment. The day ended with a presentation, certificates and smiles all round!



Year 3 Tennis Festival

Some of our Year 3 children were lucky enough to be invited to Southbourne Tennis club recently to experience their excellent tennis facilities. The children took part in twelve different tennis drills, all of which were run by Sport Leaders from St Peter's Secondary. Competing against six other schools, the children had to perform a variety of different skills and shots, including the forehand, backhand and different rally games. They performed excellently amongst a very high standard and really worked hard to improve their skills throughout the day! The weather stayed kind and an exciting and engaging afternoon was had by all. Well done to all our children who took part;



A future Premier League star....?!

A huge well done to Year 3 student Maddox Russ, who has recently signed a contract with Southampton Football Club to play in their academy team. Maddox has been playing with Southampton since he was 5 and has just been named player of the season for the Under 8 team. He has travelled all over the country with the academy playing against other top premier league academy teams. Before the recent match against Stoke City, Maddox was presented on the pitch, had an opportunity to meet captain Jack Stephens and even had his picture and name on the large electronic scoreboard! As a big Southampton fan, Mr Lane has particularly enjoyed hearing all about these amazing opportunities! We all wish Maddox good luck for the upcoming season and look forward to being updated on his endeavours regularly.



Congratulations to a group of our Year 6 boys – a combination of Moordown and Southbourne Swifts players all with a common interest, football! The group recently played in the St. Mary's Cup inside Southampton's ground. In total, they played 5 matches – conceding no goals for the entirety of the day and winning the final 2-0!



Congratulations also go to Malachy who was one of 4 boys to be chosen to represent Dorset at the U10 County Cup Tennis Tournament at Wootton Bassett on the 18th and 19th May. This is the 3rd year Malachy has been chosen. He competed against boys from South Wales, Berkshire and Wiltshire. Malachy is extremely passionate about tennis and trains hard throughout the year to play at such a level!

Forest School News

After such a rainy series of Forest Schools, this half term we have finally said hello to some super sunshine! We welcomed groups from RBW, 1RM and 2LM.

We began with our nature scavenger hunt, ticking off our checklists as we hunted around our wild area for natural items such as dandelion clocks and feathers. We learned that lichen is actually two or more organisms (fungi and algae) living together as one! Wow!

In subsequent weeks Years 1 & 2 enjoyed lots of old favourite activities such as balancing on our super-long slack line, den building, bug hunting, clay modelling, making animal homes and litter picking. They also spent a special session choosing their Forest School names and designing and making their own 'cookie pendant' with their chosen animal design displayed on the front.

All the children were then blessed with a visit from our resident bird expert Ollie from Year 8. He shared his incredible knowledge of birds and showed us his collection of bird feathers, eggs, as well as a blackbird's skull bone! Amazing!

Years 1 and 2 then spent a session making chocolate chip cookies and we cooked them on the fire while everyone practiced using a 'flint and steel' fire lighter!

In addition to the scavenger hunt and bird session, our Reception group had fun making animal homes for our teddies that included owls, rabbits, mice and a fox! They also took delight in making clay goblins. We then spent a session planting some baby oak trees, when we were assisted by none other than Mr Doyle!

This Tuesday the rain held off as we celebrated our final session with marshmallows toasted on the fire to enjoy along with our hot chocolate that is a regular feature in all of our sessions. We then had time to enjoy some fun activities such as giant parachute games and balancing on the slack line before reflecting on all the fun things we had enjoyed and achieved throughout this busy Forest School half term.

Enjoy the half term break and try and get out in nature for a walk- whether it's along the beach or a bit of 'forest bathing'. We guarantee it will be good for your mental health!

Mr Motte
Forest School Leader



Other News:

School Nursing Information

School Nursing Messaging service

The school nursing team are delighted to be able to provide a confidential text messaging service to the parents and carers of children and young people aged between 5 and 19. This text messaging service is called **ParentLine 5-19**. Parents will be able to gain advice from a member of the School Nursing team via text message for topics such as development, healthy eating, weight management, behaviour management, emotional health and wellbeing, toileting, sleep and more.

How it works:

- Parent/carer sends a text message to the **ParentLine 5-19** number, **07312 263131**.
- An automated reply confirms the message has been received.
- A trained healthcare professional from the School Nursing team will respond to the message between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday (Excluding weekends, bank holidays and School Holidays) within 24 working hours.
- [Find us on Facebook](#) – Dorset HealthCare School Nursing Team
- [Find us on Instagram](#) – dorsethealthcare_schoolnursing

Please note that ParentLine 5-19 will only be available during School Term times and will be closed during School Holidays and this should not be used as an emergency service - urgent help should be sought from an NHS walk-in centre or call NHS 111, or in an emergency, dial 999 or go to A&E.