



Children and adults are at the heart of our school;  
Our school is at the heart of our community.

# March Learning Newsletter

## Head Teacher Message

Whilst only in week 2 of the second spring term, there has been so much happening in school. The children have lots of exciting learning opportunities this term, and we are looking forward to welcoming parents into school later this month to share these, when we host our Fabulous Finishes.

This week, we have participated in many World Book Week events to celebrate our love of reading. Children and adults came to school today, in their pyjamas, or dressed as their favourite book character. There were lots of Harry Potters, Princesses, Superheroes and Toy Story characters to name but a few. We were also joined by coaches from Luton Town football team yesterday who came to read stories with children across school. Nursery hosted a storytelling morning with parents which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

This term Year 3 have started swimming lessons and a number of extra-curricular clubs are well under way. Year 1 and Year 4 have been on school visits, and Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 are due to do the same in the next few weeks.

Comic Relief is coming up in a couple of weeks and Parents Consultations will be hosted in the school hall on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Tickets for our Big Top Circus event on the 16<sup>th</sup> July go on sale on Monday, and tickets are still available to book on line for the Spring school discos on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend and we look forward to seeing you at school on Monday.

**Jackie Normanton**

## Cygnets

This term the Cygnets story focus is traditional tales. Our first story of the term was 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' The Cygnets thoroughly enjoyed reading this story together and retelling this story using actions. The children took part in planting their very own magic bean to observe what changes happen over time. Some of the beans have just started to sprout as the children have been caring for their beans so well! We rounded the week off by carrying out our jelly bean experiment where the children shared lots of wonderful ideas, about what they thought might happen to the jelly beans when they were put in water. Some of the ideas the children thought of were:

"I think they might turn in to something very powerful." – Summer "I think they will turn purple and green, we are like scientists." – Aston



Cygnets have had a busy second week, learning the story 'the Billy Goats Gruff.' The children celebrated Shrove Tuesday by making our own pancake batter. The children explored the ingredients and used gross motor skills to make sure all the ingredients were mixed well, we then used our knowledge to mark make what ingredients to use to make pancakes. The children taste tested pancakes, and they were a hit!

World book day was enjoyed by the Cygnets and the staff. Our stunning start was a huge success, the children loved sharing stories, showcasing their learning and performing Jack and the beanstalk to their grownups. We are so proud of all the children and their learning so far this half term.

## Cygnets

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you to nursery's fabulous finish on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of March from 9am -10am. This event will be held in the small hall of Lakeview School.

Please use the main office to gain access to this event, where a member of staff will greet you in the foyer and direct you to the hall.

Our fabulous finish topic is "somebody special to me". We would like to invite the children to bring in somebody who is special to them, to join us for a special sweet treat of tea cake and croissants. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

If you require to take your child home at the end of the event, this is ok to do so, however if you wish for them to stay for the rest of the morning session, we will be remaining open as normal. The Cygnets staff will take the Cygnets back to nursery after all adults have vacated the small hall.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your continued support and look forward to seeing you all for our fabulous finish.

The Cygnets Team



## Reception



This week we are learning all about Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have had lots of discussions about who was in the right or wrong! We also made bear ears to wear whilst acting out the story – focussing on mixing the colour brown.

On Shrove Tuesday, we learnt all about why 'Pancake Day' is celebrated and who celebrates it. We read Mr Wolf's pancakes and helped him by writing him a shopping list! We mixed batter following a recipe and added our favourite toppings to pancakes to eat. Yum!

## Year 1

The children (and adults) were so excited to go on our school trip to Stockwood Discovery Centre- they could not believe we were out of school and not doing lessons for the whole day! The Year 1 adults were blown away to see the children showing this week's visible value of respect at the museum. They were showing this value by carefully touching the fragile carriages in the museum, tidying up after themselves and respecting that some artefacts they were not allowed to touch.

Our favourite thing about the trip was walking around the beautiful gardens. Although I am sure if you ask your child what they enjoyed most about our trip they would say lunch time or sitting on the tractor!



## Year 2



## Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy start to the term with our stunning start for our new theme 'Food Glorious Food' where we will be learning all about staying healthy. In our stunning start we researched, designed and made our own smoothies using our favourite fruits.

In English, we have been focusing on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and we have had to put our character description skills to the test when there was an Oompa Loompa invasion within the school. The children worked as detectives to discover who had broken in to the school by following a range of clues which included pictures, chocolate wrappers and orange peels.

Ella even found the Oompa Loompa's skin!

The children have also been working hard to improve the appearance of the school by planting trees in our Forest School. Here is a photo of Olivia and Alice showing great team work.

We will announce closer to the time the arrangements for our fab finish as we plan to enjoy a family picnic together designed by Year 2 (Monday 28th March).





## Year 3

In English, this term, the children have been learning about three forms of poetry. They have been learning about the poet, Joseph Coelho and experimenting with Abecedarius, MORERAPS and sonnets. In each form of poem, the children have learned how to use metaphors, similes, onomatopoeia and personification to bring their poetry about natural disasters to life. After half-term, Year 3 started a new text, *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit. This is a beautifully illustrated book by the author and tells the story of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius at Pompeii through the eyes of two children, Tranio and Livia. We will be using this text to develop children's writing for character, setting description and drama and building to writing an adventure story.

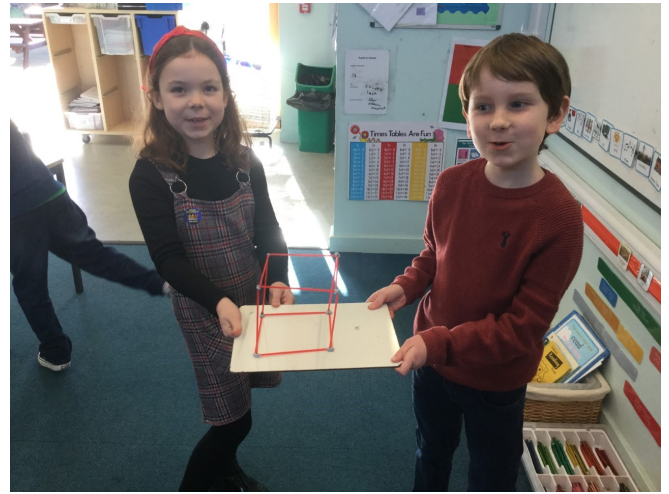
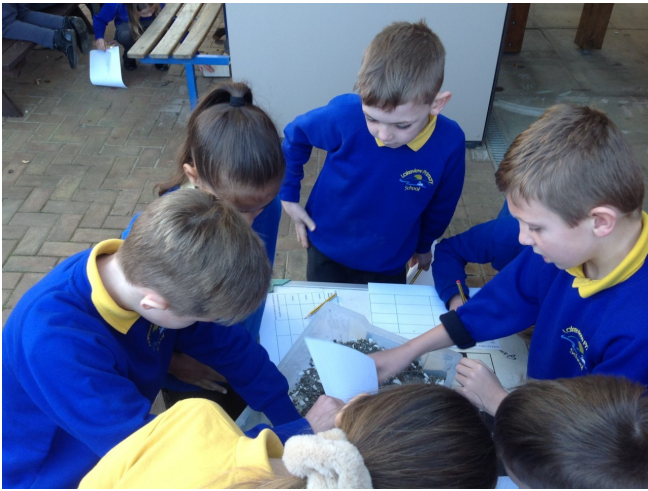
At the end of last half-term, the children completed their rocks unit of work in science. They learned about the effects of erosion, explored different soil types and considered the properties of different rocks and their uses. Finally, they became fossil hunters, classified different fossil types using real-world examples and sequenced the process of fossilisation using a storyboard. A big thank you to those children, who kindly brought in fossils from home to share with the children. Year 3 have now started learning about forces. They have explored push, pull and twist forces and they have started to learn how objects can be moved from a push from the air. They will move on to learn about magnetism. where they will explore polarity and forces that can repel and attract.

In maths, we have revisited addition and subtraction by looking at strategies to answer missing number problems as well as the inverse relationship to check their answers. The children developed their confidence in calculation through their understanding of relationships between numbers in an equation. Moving on to Time, the children found it challenging to tell the time using an analogue clock, however, they persevered and developed their understanding of the language and strategies to tell the time accurately to the nearest minute.

During this term, we welcomed visitors from 'Who is Bedford?' as they introduced the children to a new way of teaching and learning history. During this highly engaging, interactive session, the children thoroughly enjoyed following instructions through their headphones. They immersed themselves in learning about the vast amount of people who immigrated to Bedford to seek work in the brickmaking industry as well as the wide range of religions and cultures that are celebrated in Bedford.

Finally, it has been wonderful for the children to now have the opportunity to learn how to swim this term. We have seen examples of bravery, kindness and resilience as they overcame their initial fears and supported one another. We look forward to seeing them progress over the coming weeks.

## Year 3



## WORLD BOOK DAY



## Year 4

This half term, Year 4 have continued to learn about the Romans, linking this in with Italy. They have considered the differences and similarities between where the Romans came from and Britain, as well as locating different parts of Italy on a map. In Art, they have started to design their own Roman coil pots, thinking about what they would have been used for and trying to replicate some of the designs.

Last Thursday, Year 4 took a very exciting trip to the Verulamium museum in St Albans as part of their learning about the Romans. When they arrived, they had the opportunity to look around the museum, take part in a workshop all about Roman markets, and look at a real mosaic floor which had been uncovered. The market workshop involved the children dressing up in togas and exploring some of the different items that would have been on sale. They were able to handle replica artefacts and discuss what they would have been used for. In the museum, there were a variety of different artefacts on display that children were tasked with finding. They were amazed that so many had survived almost 2000 years!

“We got to see lots of ancient artefacts and touch some of them.” Jack Shotbolt (Mallards)



## Year 5

Another great term as year 5 head towards Easter. The time is going very quickly and the children have been very fortunate to have had many exciting extra-curricular activities, such as young voices and creating music on Garageband.

In English the children have been writing instructions, as we looked at imperative verbs, temporal conjunctions and how to use bullet points accurately. However, best of all, we will be making our own Viking Long boats.



While today, just for a bit of fun, we wrote a diary entry, as though we were Vikings, travelling over the North Sea.



In Maths, we have been covering the topic of position and direction, learned how to translate and reflect shapes and understand co-ordinates in 4 quadrants

In science, we will be learning about the properties and changes of materials, as we discover everyday materials and their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity and response to magnets.



Every Wednesday, we are having iPad lessons, where the children will be using the GarageBand App to create their own music. The App is free to download, if anyone wants to try at home.

In art we will be exploring Scandinavian art, starting with how patterns are made using natural materials, going on to looking at Scandinavian artists.



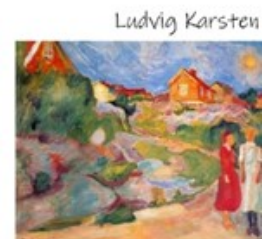
### Norway Artists



Olav Strømme



Lv



Ludvig Karsten

## Year 6

### Mayan masks

In DT, children have been showing perseverance to create Mayan masks over a number of sessions. The process has included creating a prototype and practicing different ways to join materials. Children have then designed their own mask and made this using 'modroc'. It was fantastic to see pupils demonstrating high levels of concentration to paint these carefully.



### PICTURES OF MAYAN MASKS

### Vocabulary detectives!

As part of our reading curriculum, we have been looking closely at vocabulary in a variety of different texts. We have been using strategies for understanding unknown words. The children are becoming proficient in:

- using highlighter pens to identify unfamiliar words as we are reading a new text,
- reading the sentences before and after the word to learn the context,
- thinking of possible synonyms and then 'trying them' in the place of the existing unknown word,
- choosing a synonym that they believe is closely matched in its meaning,
- using dictionary to check meaning,
- using a thesaurus to check suitability of synonyms.



### Who is Bedford?

In the last week of term, we took part in a cultural enrichment session, created by Full House Theatre in partnership with The Higgins Bedford. Children explored the heritage of Bedford and the people who live here, celebrating everything that makes Bedford the vibrant town it is today. Using interactive audio technology, this experience gave opportunities for learning across the curriculum from drama, citizenship and PS

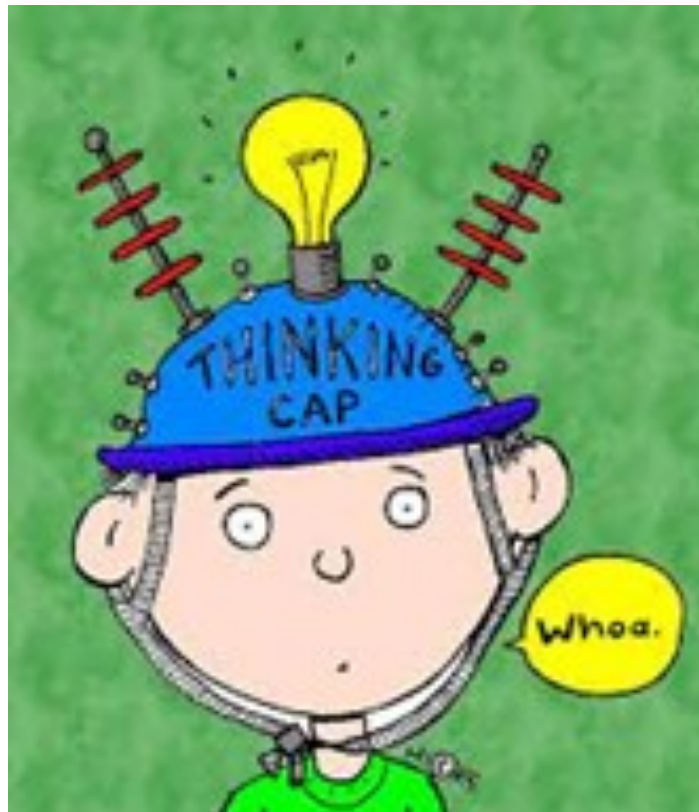
## Year 6

### **Arithmetic and mental strategies**

Using assessment of the children's existing knowledge in arithmetic, we have focused on specific areas of arithmetic that children have found challenging. This week it has been division! We have been using 'Fast maths' each day to practice rapid recall of multiplication and division facts. Ask your child for their top score this week!

### **Recount writing**

At the end of last half term, we finished our unit of English work by writing a recount in the form of a letter between two characters from our class reader, Kaspar – Prince of Cats. Children took real pride in editing and writing a final draft – they are looking forward to showing you in our fabulous finish session in the last week of term.



Year 6

WORLD BOOK DAY

