



NEWSLETTER – Friday 1st March 2024

It has been wonderful to greet the children back to school this week after half term. It sounds like a lot of children were very busy last week despite the wet and windy weather. Celebration assembly this morning saw some half term achievements being shared from across the school including a pupil in Year 3 achieving 4 gold medals and 1 silver medal from a swimming competition and a child in year 5 achieving their Tae Kwon Do 5th Kup.

This half term is a short one with only three and a half weeks left until the end of term. Looking ahead to next week, we have HSBC Bank in school where they will be delivering workshops on a range of age and stage appropriate money management learning; a vital life skill for all pupils. Thursday is World Book Day and children are invited to come to school wearing a book character costume or their pyjamas. Mrs Eaglen is setting up tents in the hall for children to access throughout the day as a different place to read in school.

I hope you and your family have a lovely weekend.

Pupil Mobile Phones

Please can we remind all parents and carers that if their child needs to bring their mobile phone into school, before the phone is brought in, our user agreement must be read and our parent permission slip signed. Any mobile phone brought into school are signed in and kept in a secure cupboard throughout the school day.

GWJS SEND NEWS

Dyslexia Support

While dyslexia is a lifelong problem, there's a range of specialist educational interventions that can help children with their reading and writing. Please see below the Dyslexia Awareness Workshops for parents / carers.

Making Learning Stick (all ages) – 27 March 2024

Supporting Maths Difficulties (all ages) – 2nd May 2024

Reading / Spelling Strategies (Primary age) – 18th June 2024

Venue: Taverham High School Time: 9:30 – 11:45am Cost: £10 per person

Please contact Laura Bates for a booking form or further information at:

Please see below strategies to support your child at home.

Read to your child

This will improve their vocabulary and listening skills, and will also encourage their interest in books.

Share reading

Both read some of the book and then discuss what's happening, or what might happen.

Overlearning

You may get bored of reading your child's favourite book over and over, but repetition will reinforce their understanding and means they'll become familiar with the text.

Silent reading

Children also need the chance to read alone to encourage their independence and fluency.

Make reading fun

Reading should be a pleasure, not a chore. Use books about subjects your child is interested in, and make sure that reading takes place in a relaxed and comfortable environment.



OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK

YEAR 3

Year 3 have returned to school ready and eager to learn!

In Maths we have finished learning about perimeter and have begun learning about unit fractions. We have sung some tuneless songs about how in a unit fraction the numerator is always 1. We have been ordering and

comparing unit fractions and used cakes to explain how in a unit fraction; the bigger the denominator, the smaller the fraction eg: $\frac{1}{2}$ is bigger than $\frac{1}{6}$.

In English we are beginning to write suspense stories based on 'The Wolves in the Walls'. We have discussed being frightened and what this does to our bodies. We have created alliterative sentences to describe the noises the wolves were making in the walls and built similes to describe the darkness.

In Geography we are finding out about weather and climate. We had long conversations about lines of latitude, the curve of the earth and distance from the sun.

In Art we are beginning to work on our collages based on the work of Henri Matisse and very much looking forward to creating some enormous pieces.



YEAR 4

In English YR4 have started our new book which is called 'Journey' and is written by Aaron Becker. We discussed our own experiences of going on a journey first before role playing Amelie, exploring how she feels and what she does when she has no one to play with. We have learnt about dialogue, metaphors and prepositions.

This week in maths we have used concrete resources to understand unit and non-unit fractions. YR 4 investigated what happens each time the denominator increases and some moved on to exploring equivalent fractions.

We have started learning about the Victorians in history, and as part of our first lesson on this topic we learnt about who Queen Victoria was and significant events that happened in the Victorian era. YR4 had a competition to see which team could order the events chronologically! They then drew and wrote a story board of Queen Victoria's life.

In Science we have started our unit on sound. We went on a sound walk around the school and then discussed how sound is made. We explored sounds of different instruments and objects, investigating what happens to the vibrations when sound becomes louder or softer.

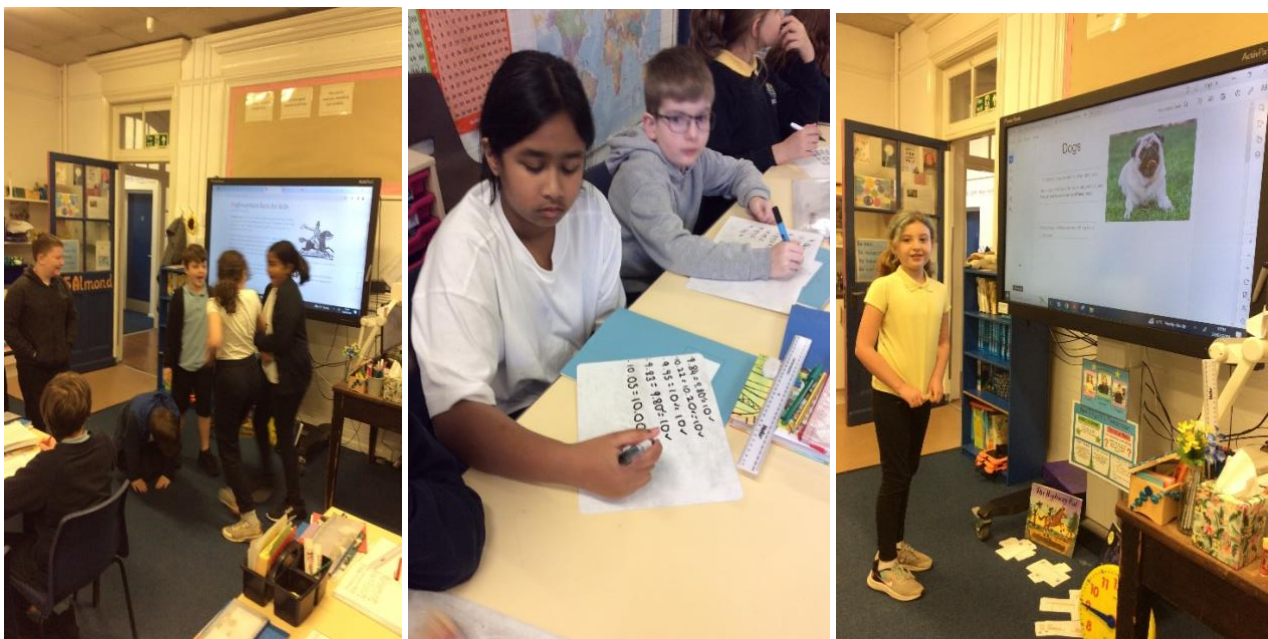
YR4 PE involved practising moving with a ball in hockey and using space effectively, as well as how to change direction with a ball.



YEAR 5

In Maths, we're learning how to round and compare decimals. We're also finding what is a tenth, a hundredth and a thousandth. In English, we're reading a poem named 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes and discovering facts about highwaymen that I didn't know before. We did a bit of drama about it which was fun as well. In Geography, our year is looking into flags, capital cities and Europe itself and in Science we're going to learn about growing and changing. These are most of the lessons we're doing this week and they're all unique and interesting.

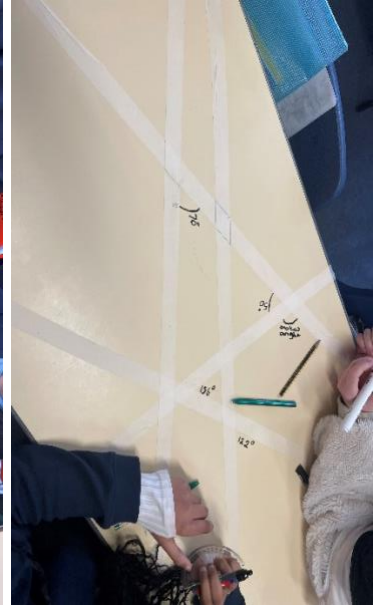
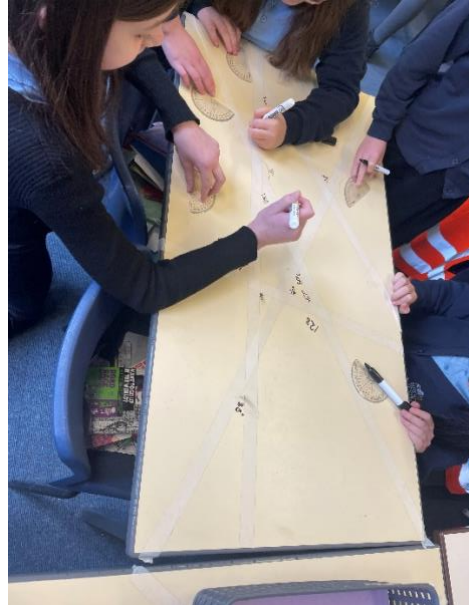
Freya Wilson, 5 Almond



YEAR 6

What a lovely first week back! Year 6 have had a great start to the new half-term. In English, we have started looking at 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness. We have created some really powerful sentences around this book. In maths, we have begun to look at angles and being able to identify missing angles. In science, we had a recap lesson on groups of organisms

ready to dive into our unit on 'Classification and Microorganisms'. On Tuesday, we continued our Samba and French lessons. We also had a nice relaxing yoga lesson for PE! On Wednesday, we looked at the history of computers in computing and we created a plan for our activist protest posters ready to make the real thing next week! Thursday afternoon was focussed on mental health in PSHE and The Ancient Mayas in history. Friday ended with a fun basketball lesson in PE.



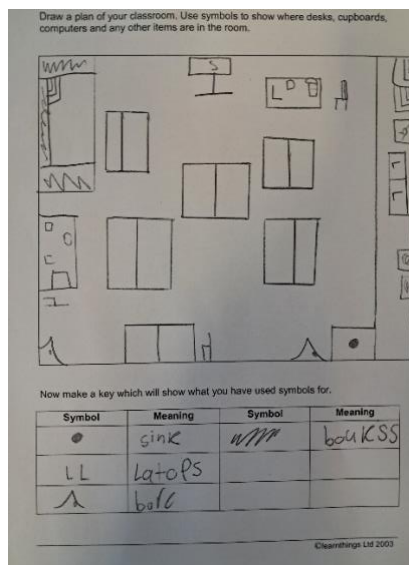
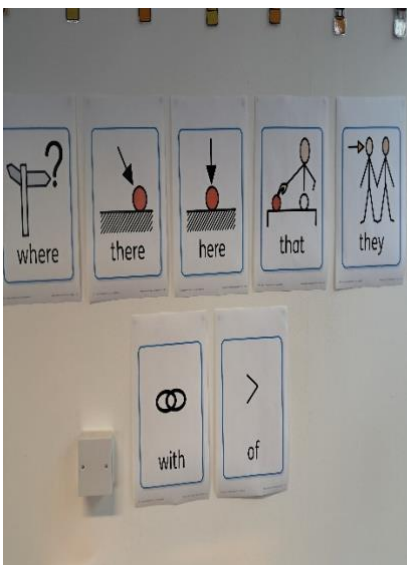
Blake Class

Look at our fabulous Blake class members showing off our silent signals! We have been thinking about how to express our views while being respectful of each other and we use our silent signals all the time, to answer questions or to give an opinion. We have started our poetry unit and children have been working hard on identifying rhyme. It is tricky when rhyming words don't use the same spelling pattern but it is helping us to spot speed sounds.

In geography, as part of our work on map skills, children created a map of the classroom and used symbols to show where key features are.

We have identified words we find tricky to spell and used Widget to create poster prompts for our reading corner. We are going to use these to help us with our writing.

A great first week back!



Our school attendance target is 95%

Our attendance certificate for the highest class attendance this week goes to **5 Almond with 98 %. Well done!**

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....