

Newsletter

Friday 11th February 2022

Reception news

This week in **Reception**, the children have enjoyed writing cards for Valentines day! They have shown great scissor skills, cutting out different shapes to decorate their cards, then used their Phonics to write the message inside.

In Maths, the children have been looking at number sequences. They have been counting forwards and backwards, and starting at different numbers other than zero, to find what comes next in the sequence. In Phonics, the children have been revisiting some of their newly learnt sounds, before moving on to some new digraphs for next term! The children have also been exploring their senses this week. They have had a magic box full of wonderful things to see, hear, smell and touch. They have been thinking of lots of different words to describe these objects.

Well done to the children for another fantastic term! We hope you all enjoy your half term break.

Year 1 and 2 news

It has been another amazing term filled with fun and hard work. We would like to thank the children and families for their continued support and we cannot believe we are already half way through the academic year.

In **Year 1** this week the children have been printmaking. They have explored the marks that can be made by printing with a range of objects. Pupils were taught how to use the techniques of stencilling and relief printing. They then combined these printing techniques to create a final piece, inspired by the work of the contemporary artist Karen Lederer.

Computing this week in **Year 2** has been on the topic of algorithms and has created great excitement. The children have followed a set of instructions to understand what an algorithm is and have

written their own using clear commands.

They had great fun testing them, as they noticed they had missed steps out which meant their partners models did not match their own. They used the coding on Scratch to observe how the simple steps made the dinosaur jump or move left and right. Then they put together their own code so a rabbit could collect carrots for a party. In Maths Year 2 have been learning about Fractions and using the vocabulary equal parts, half, quarter and thirds. They have been recognising and find a half of shapes and amounts.

Dates for your Diary

11th February – last day of term
21st February – first day back



Untitled 30
by Karen Lederer (2014)



Year 3 and 4 news

Year 3 what a week! The children have put their construction skills to the test this week during our first Design and Technology topic of the year. We have challenged the theory of famous mathematician Archimedes, who once said,

"Give me a place to stand on, and I will move the Earth." The children built simple levers and linkages, such as a seesaw and catapult, and tested them to show how everyday skills could be made easier using these mechanisms.



The children have worked hard to finish their first person stories set in a different region of the United Kingdom and focused on describing what they could see in different locations. We have also targeted the basic skills of writing such as accurate use of full stops and capital letters. After half term, we will be writing instructions using key writing techniques.



Just how brave was Sam Wu? As a year group, we reached the end of our core text 'Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark'. A book that many of the children have thoroughly enjoyed. With our added focus on reading this term, it is great to see so many of the children increasing the time they are spending reading and the improvement in their quiz scores. Keep it up Year 3!

Year 4 have had a lovely week, finishing off their multiplication and division work. After half term, they will be learning about area. In French, they have been learning how to say and write nouns for common classroom objects, learning to always use the correct article. They have also been saying and writing what they have (or do not have) in their pencil cases, learning to use the negative. During Reading this week, the children have continued to read 'Young, Gifted and Black' focusing on an environmental theme and considered the damage humans are doing to it. They have done this by analysing several poems such as 'Tree talk' and 'Arctic landscape'. In Writing, the children have finished writing their explanatory texts. We have been impressed by the children's knowledge of the digestive system, which we learnt about in Science.

Over the holidays, the children have access to MyMaths, Spellingframe, Pixl Times Tables and Pixl Vocabulary, and can of course carry on reading daily. We hope you and your families have a lovely half term.

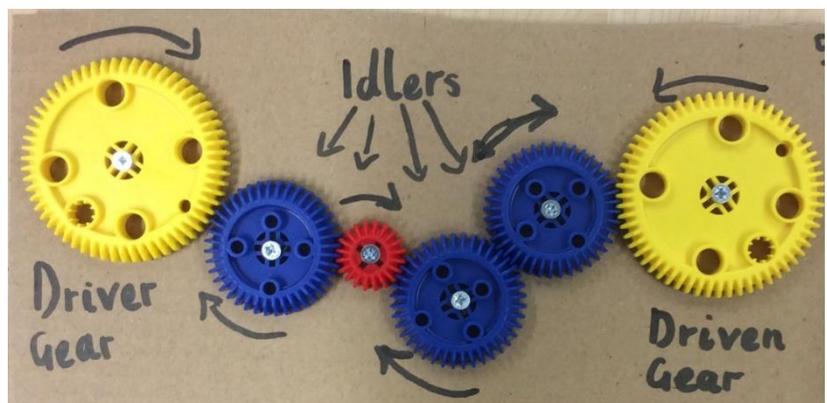
Year 5 and 6 news

This week **Year 5** have been working on pulleys and gears as part of our DT curriculum. We hope that we will have created cranes using pulleys by the end of the day on Friday! Before we could do



that, we had to learn about how

gears and pulleys work. We have made gear trains (see picture) and pulleys. We now hope that we can create a crane strong enough to pull a toy car more than 25cm into the air, keep your fingers crossed.

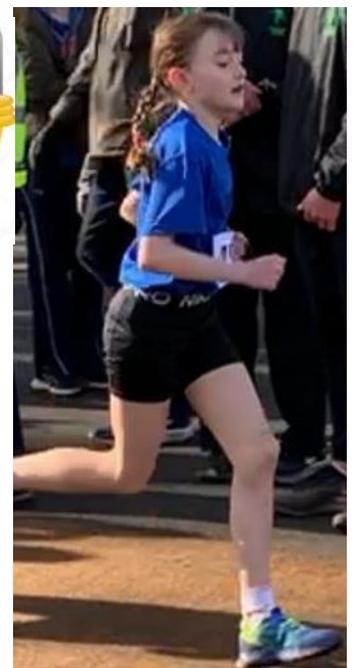


What an excellent final week of this half term! Well done to all of **Year 6** for their hard work and resilience over the last few weeks. They have enjoyed continuing to learn about volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis in their Geography lessons, as well as how mountains are formed. Inspired by this, they have written excellent newspaper reports about the recent disaster in Tonga. In these reports, children cleverly employed a mixture of formal and informal writing to show their good understanding of the difference between the vocabulary and punctuation conventions needed to achieve this. In Maths, some children have become experts at BODMAS in their Morning Maths, as well as multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. They enjoyed watching the national assembly for Children's Mental Health week, as well as participating in some of the activities linked to this: ask a Year 6 about their support hot air balloon or their personal mental health goal! Again, a big well done to all of Year 6 and thank you to their families for supporting them through the start of 2022. Bring on Spring 2!



Representing Brambleside AND Northamptonshire

A big congratulations to Sabina in year 6 who's athletics journey has taken her all the way from winning running races at Brambleside School to now representing Northamptonshire. Sabina participated in the Anglian regional championship cross country race in Ipswich last weekend. At this event she secured her qualification for the Nationals in March. What a superstar, such a big achievement. Well done Sabina.



Sports news:

KS1 - New Age Kurling!

Yesterday our year 2 Kurling team competed in a competition at Kettering Science Academy. They performed outstandingly well against 8 other teams. They finished 1st and now will go on to represent the District in the County Finals in March.

KS2 - New Age Kurling

Today children from year 4 and 6 had their chance to take part in the Kurling event aimed at older children. They won their group but lost in the semi finals, meaning they secured 3rd place overall.

WELL DONE TO ALL OUR KURLERS



Oundle Festival of Literature Finalists

Writing Competition 2022

We have wonderful news that four of our students have been nominated as finalists in the above event following submission of their work after the Christmas holidays. The finalists are Poppy, Emrys, Wiktoria and Evie. The finalists will be invited to one of the Festival Events in Oundle to be awarded with their prizes. Well done to you all, excellent work!

O U N D L E
FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE



TAKEHOME



Should everyone using our roads learn the Highway Code?



In the news this week

An update to the Highway Code has introduced a hierarchy of road users, which creates 'clearer and stronger priorities' for pedestrians. The Department for Transport claims that the changes, which are split into three main rules, have the foremost aim of improving safety for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. The changes came into force at the end of January and whilst they have been welcomed by cycling campaigners, the government has been accused, by some in the media, of not making the updates clearer and known to road users.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > What do you already know about the Highway Code? Can you ask any adults who you live with what they know?
- > Do you think it's important for everyone using our roads to know about the Highway Code? Who do you think should be responsible for making sure we know and understand the rules?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

