



25th September 2020
Newsletter



Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear all,

It's been an absolute pleasure seeing our children settle happily and safely into our new school routines and they are becoming re-engaged with their learning. As we continue to navigate our way through these forever changing circumstances, we want to thank all of our parents for their feedback. We have been overwhelmed with the amount of positive responses and thank you for your continued support. As a school, we are continuing to review and refine our procedures and hope that as we do so, that they are in support of you and your child.

As you are aware, we have had positive cases of Covid-19 that have resulted in 'bubbles' being sent home. We would like to inform you that the families are safe and doing well, and hope that all our isolating 'bubbles' are engaging in their home-learning set via their class Dojo.

Please take the time to look through the notices in this newsletter as well as all other correspondence in order to stay up-to-date with current information.



Mrs Westwood – Principal



Mrs Kaur – Interim Headteacher



Miss Prior – Interim Deputy Headteacher

Covid-19

School Update

As per previous communication in September, two bubbles were closed due to positive tests in Reception and Optimism 2.

Before opening the school, we had to undertake a number of risk assessments to ensure that our pupils would be kept as safe as possible. Our pupils have been reminded about how we are trying to keep them safe and happy.

What are Covid Symptoms?

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the symptoms above we encourage parents to get their child tested for COVID-19. (You can request a test by visiting: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or contact NHS 119 via telephone).

Thank You

Thank you for supporting our staggered dismissal times.

Thank you for waiting 2 metres apart whilst collecting children.

Thank you for demonstrating Nishkam virtues and protecting others during this strange time.

Humility: We don't know if we have Covid as it is clear that people can spread the disease before they have the symptoms.

Kindness: We don't know if the person next to us is caring for an elder or has family member battling with cancer. As many of our families sadly do.

Sacrifice: We want our school to thrive, for shops to stay open and our teachers and children to stay healthy. Keeping a distance and protecting ourselves helps everyone.



Dates for the Diary

Parent Consultations:

Parents Consultations have been reviewed to ensure a suitable, safe system is in place. This term, class teachers will be holding a 5 -10min appointment via a phone call. The phone calls will take place week beginning 12th October, 2020. You will be assigned a day and time slot for each child, which will be communicated to you via Class Dojo messenger. We shall use the phone number we have on file, so please ensure that any changes of numbers have been shared with the school office.

During the phone call, teachers will discuss how your child has settled back to school, their strengths and their next steps in core subjects. We understand that you may be keen to hear how your child did with their baseline assessments, however raw scores and the physical test papers themselves will not be shared with parents. These are internal assessments that are being used to inform the teaching and learning within school. But please rest assure that essential next steps and ways in which you can support your child's learning will be shared with you during the call.

This is a new system to us as a school and we are currently working hard on the organisation and logistics of this. As you can appreciate, these time slots are fixed due to the logistics and time restraints and we will not be able to accommodate the moving of any slots. Likewise, the teacher will have to end the appointment within the 10min bracket to ensure the next appointment is on time. Therefore, if a longer conversation is needed, they will arrange with yourself a suitable time to discuss any matters further.

Date	Event
1.10.20	National Poetry Day
9.10.20	Individual and Sibling Portrait Photos
WK/Beg 12.10.20	Parent Consultation Week (Please see above information)
9.11.20 to 13.11.20	Maths Week England
16.11.20 to 20.11.20	Road Safety Week
27.11.20	Teacher Training Day – children not in school
30.11.20 to 4.12.20	Children invited to bring in donated items for the Homeless Appeal this week

Parent Events:

Unfortunately, we will not be holding in-school parent events this term due to Covid-19 restrictions. This means class assemblies and parent workshops will not be taking place in school. However, we are looking at alternate, online options that will help us to work collaboratively with you all.

Educational Visits:

As it currently stands, we will not be taking the children on educational visits during the autumn term. However, we will be utilising the local area where it is safe to do so. Unfortunately, our annual theatre visits have been cancelled by the companies as they cannot accommodate the large number of pupils from across different schools. Residential trips will not take place this year due to government guidelines.

As a school, we will continue to review our policies and procedures in line with government guidelines and will continue to update you regarding any changes made to the above.



GET CAUGHT READING CHALLENGE!



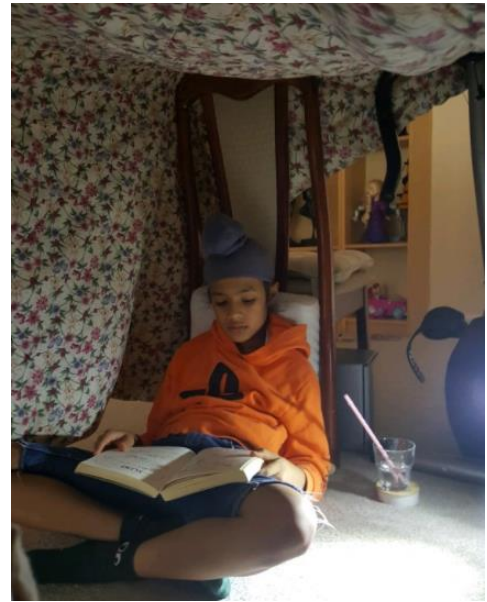
Over the Summer Holidays, we challenged you to 'get caught reading'. Thank you to everyone who took part. We are certainly all *Nishkam Readers, Life Time Achievers!* Have a look at the 'Get Caught Reading' photos that were sent through.

Gia reading... well, we think in space???



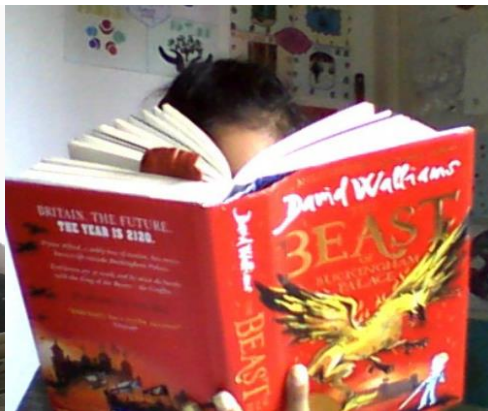
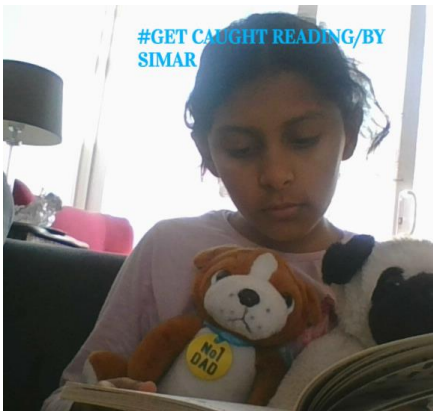
Pavneet hiding with a good book in a cupboard!

Geneve is reading a Punjabi book to her grandparents and teaching them some numbers!



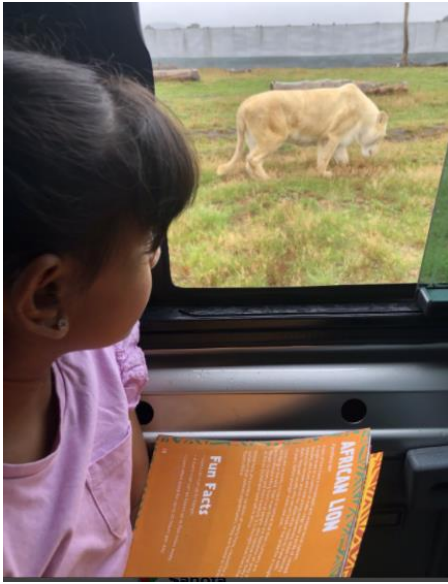
Harjap getting lost with a book in his homemade den!

#GET CAUGHT READING/BY SIMAR



Simar, Avneet and Ajeet getting comfy with a good book indoors!

Mannat reading at the Safari Park



Amreet flying high as she's caught reading!



Meeth reading on the go!



Mayati caught reading on Barry Island, Wales.

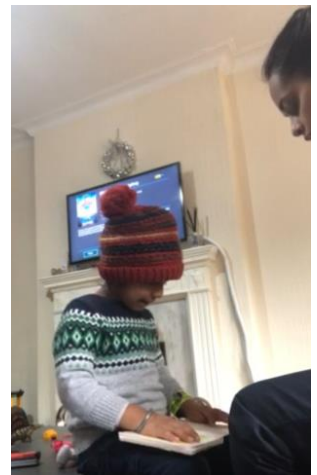


Harveen and Hari enjoying their book on a swing!

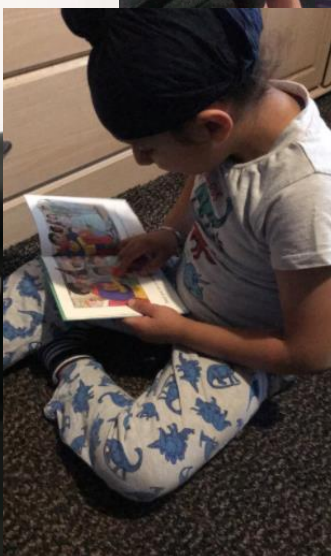
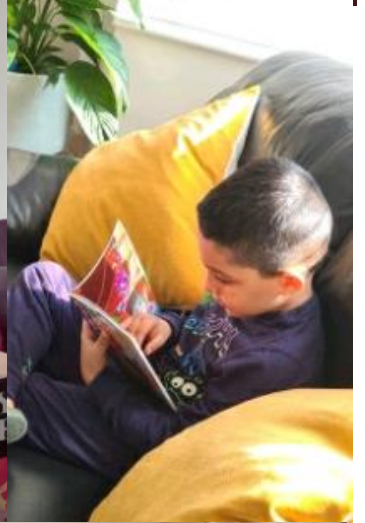
Bhavnoor enjoying reading a good book in the great outdoors!



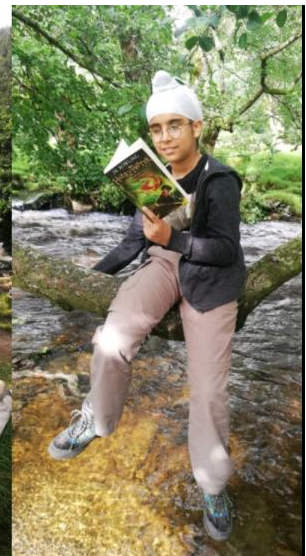
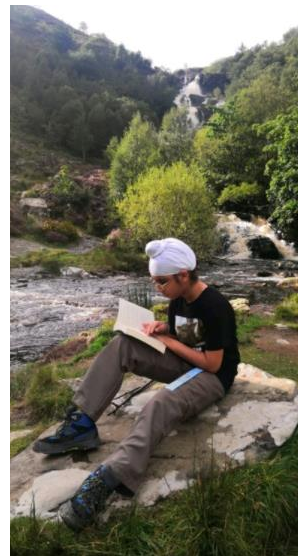
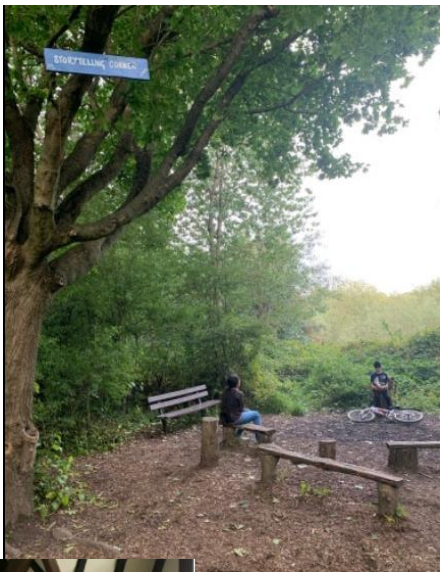
Sukhraj reading one of his favourite books. He's learnt the words off by heart so he's very confident!



Mohan, Ravneet, Avjot, Amrit, Ekampreet, Harnam, Suhkmani, Eshan, Agamjot, Veeraj, Vismadh and Simrt chilling with a good book indoors!



Harshaan reading to his sister at the story telling corner.



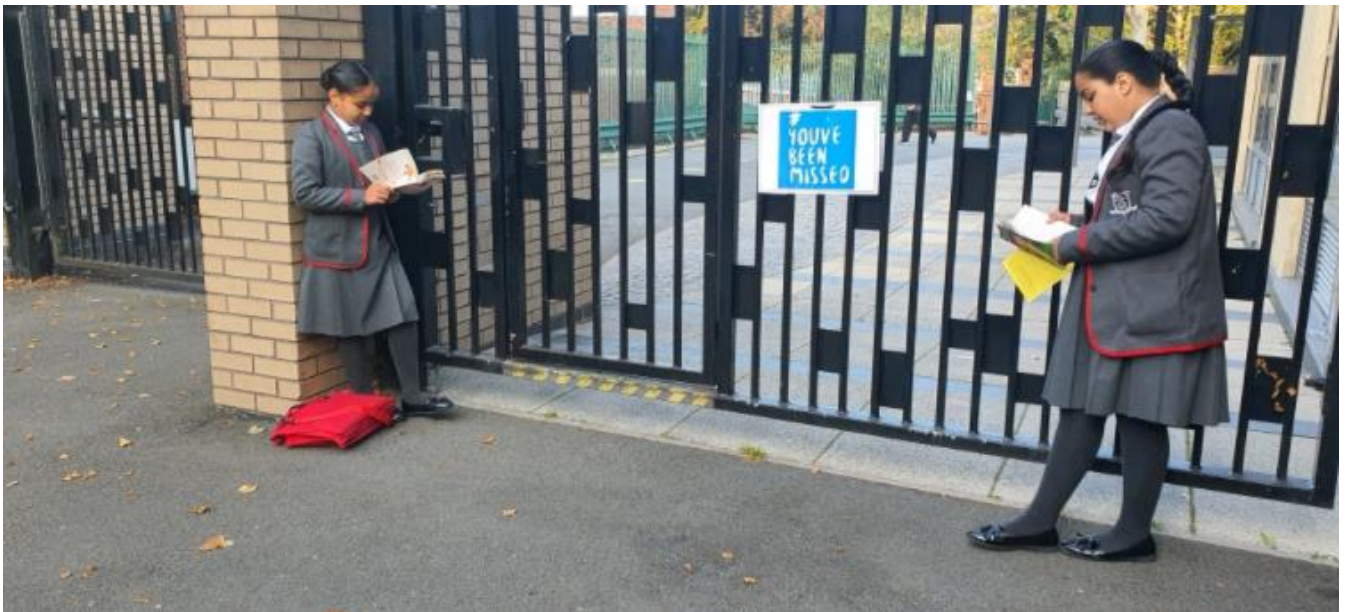
Manjot caught reading by a waterfall and up a tree in lake Vyrnwy in Wales.



Harjas reading King Lear in Shakespeare's House in Stratford.



Pavan reading back her own work!



Suhaavi and Gurpaarus not wasting any time with their reading with a before-school reading session.

Whole School Virtue - Diligence

Take the time to reflect on what diligence means to you...

'This is not your true place; you must know where that place really is. You shall come to realise the way to that place, through the Word of the Guru's Shabad. This place, here, is established by hard work [diligence], and not one iota of this [realm] shall go there with you. The value of that place beyond is known only to those, upon whom the Perfect Lord God casts His Glance of Grace. That permanent and true place is obtained in the Saadh Sangat, the Company of the Holy
GURU ARJAN DEV, SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB PAGE 256

**“Diligence
is the beginning
of BRILLIANCE.”**



'I never could have done what I have done without the habits of punctuality, order, and diligence, without the determination to concentrate myself on one subject at a time.'
CHARLES DICKENS

What our Nishkam Passport says...

Diligence is doing what needs to be done with care and attention. It springs from our desire of excellence. When we work with diligence, we give our absolute best and with love. We work meticulously in alignment with our purpose. Diligence is needed in nurturing our relationships. Diligence is deeply satisfying to our soul.

Signs of Success

I give 100% to the work I do.
I strive for excellence.
I pay full attention to whatever I'm doing.
I am conscientious and careful.
I work with love.
I give my best to parents, friends and teachers.

I am thankful for the gift of Diligence. It energises my life.

Take a look at how all of our children have been showing the virtue of diligence in their learning...

Truth

It has been fantastic to see everyone settling into their new school routine and develop their confidence to try new activities. It is lovely to be greeted with the children's smiles and excitement for the day ahead.

Our topic this term is 'Mini Me'. We have been learning to follow school rules, how to be a good listener and share our ideas. Children have enjoyed going on a listening walk, painted self-portraits and made their homes using different materials.

School day

Throughout the day children learn through focus groups with teachers, whole class activities, independent activities and free choice activities, both indoors and outdoors. Please talk to your child about what they have done at school.

Important items to have in school every day

Water bottle (freshly filled at home)
Waterproof coat (as well as a blazer)
Reading book and diary
Spare set of clothes
Wellington boots
Healthy afternoon snack

Self-care

Please encourage your child to;

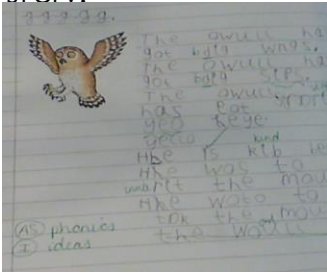
- put on their own coat and zip it up
- put their shoes on the correct feet
- go to the toilet and clean themselves independently
- feed themselves using a knife and fork
- eat fruit and vegetables
- practise their listening skills



Service

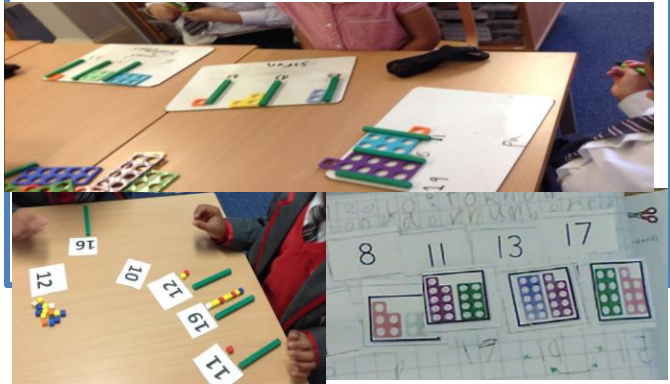
English

In English we have started work on our key text for this half term, which is "The Gruffalo". We have been learning to sequence the story, as well as describe the characters. We have created artwork inspired by the Gruffalo story. We are looking forward to more wonderful writing opportunities linked to this wonderful story.



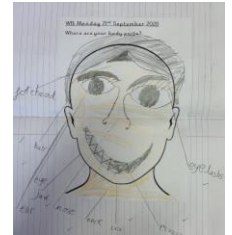
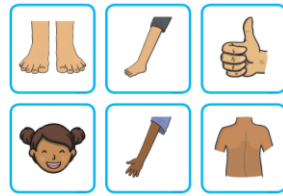
Maths

In Maths we have been learning about place value. We have learnt to recognise numbers as numerals and words. We have made numbers using objects and pictures. We have found more and less, as well as comparing numbers. We have also looked at ordering numbers.



Science

In Science we have been learning about ourselves. We have learnt about the parts of the body and what they do. We have also explored what is the same and what is different about our bodies. We have discussed our senses and how we use these to explore the world.



Art

In Art we have explored sketching and drawing. We have learnt some different shading techniques. We have made our own portraits and experimented with different media. Pablo Picasso has also inspired some of our artistic out comes.

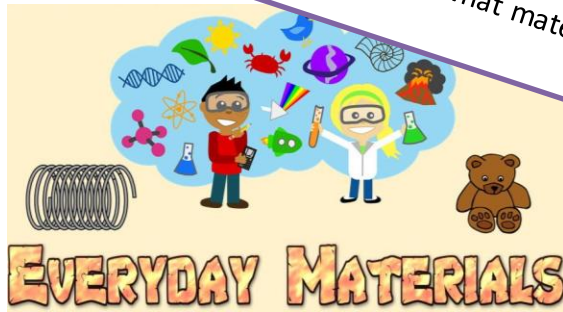


Humility

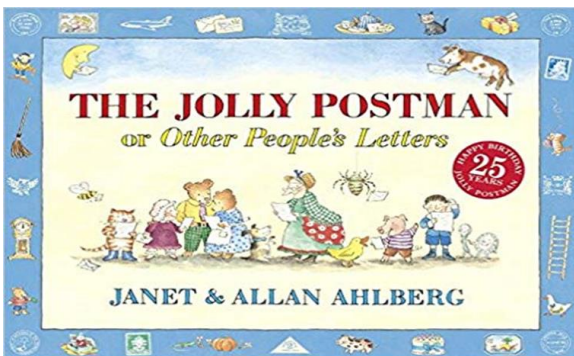
For Maths we have been looking at Number Place Value. We have been counting and representing numbers to 100. Ask me how many different ways I can represent a number.



For Science we looked at grouping and classifying a variety of materials. Ask me what an object is and what material it is made from?



In our English lessons, we have had fun exploring and analysing our new text, The Jolly Postman. We made predictions and described the postman using a range of adjectives.



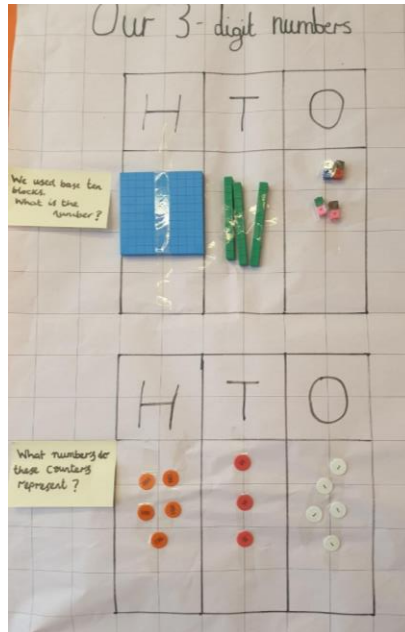
Compassion

Thank you so much for settling in so well. We have been impressed with your resilience and optimism. It has been great to see you enjoying your learning.

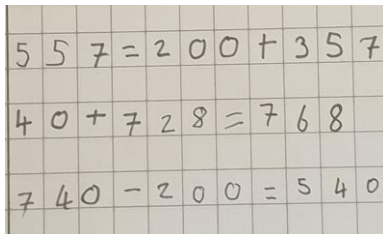


Please take a look at what we have been up to!

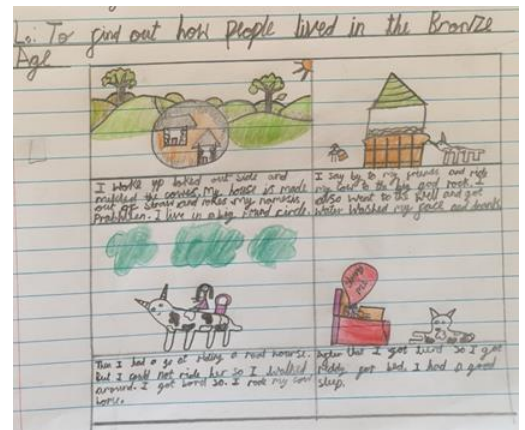
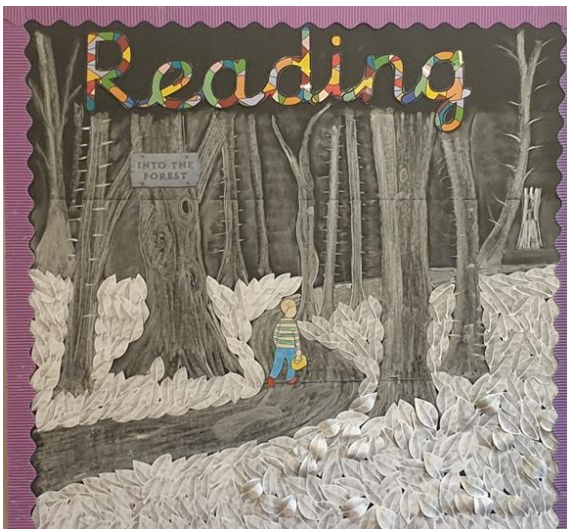
Three-digit numbers are our focus in Maths. We have been exploring different ways to represent them.



We have learnt so much about the Stone Age! We found out about prehistory, how people lived in the Stone Age, Iron Age and bronze Age.



Our book, *Into the Forest* by Anthony Browne, has sparked many discussions about similar stories. We love exploring the illustrations too!



Peter Burgess is a wonderful artist. He has inspired us to develop and improve our sketching skills.

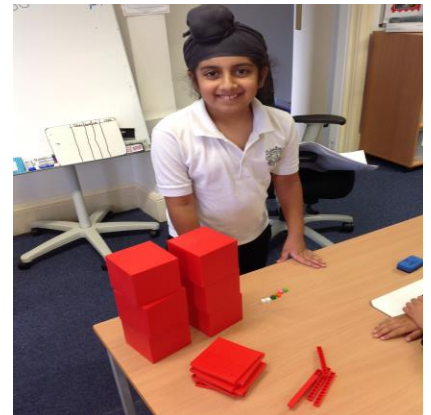
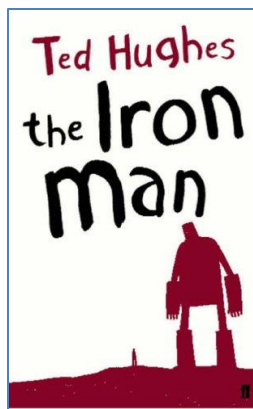
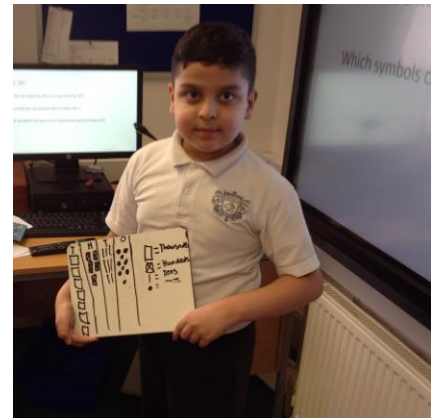
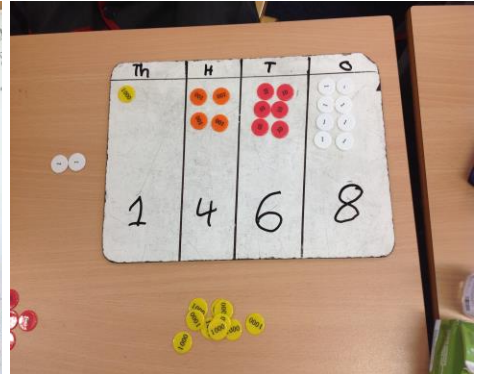
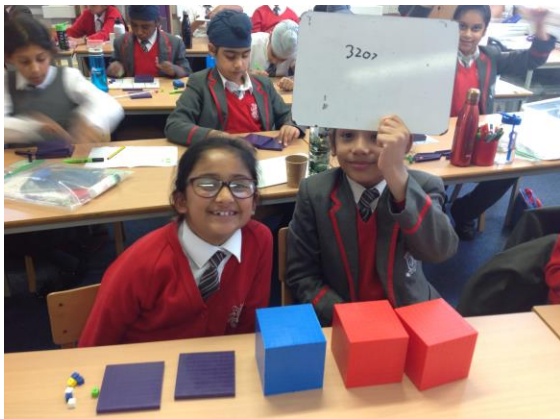


Forgiveness

There have been a lot of changes but you have all come to school motivated and excited!

We are particularly impressed with your resilience, diligence and determination. Well done to all of Forgiveness for your hard work.

Have a look at all the wonderful things we have done so far!



Contentment

It has been a strange but enjoyable start to the year. It has been a pleasure getting to know your children and yourselves. The children have settled into their new routines with ease. We will continue talking to the children about the current situation in the world with the pandemic and guide them towards using their virtues.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their support and care shown during this time.

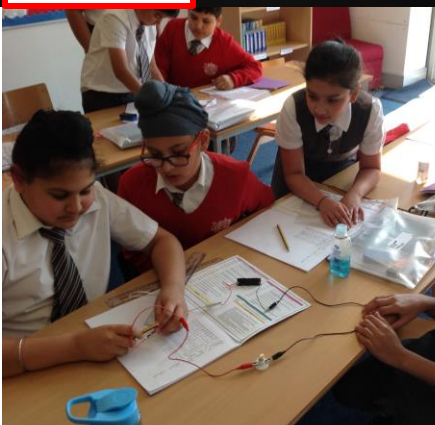
Now let's see what we've been up to in Year 5...



Maths



Hello from Year 5



Science in action!



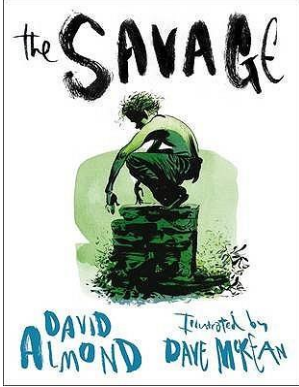
Reflection/Prayers

Please ask your child about their learning, we are sure they will have plenty to tell you!!



English

Optimism



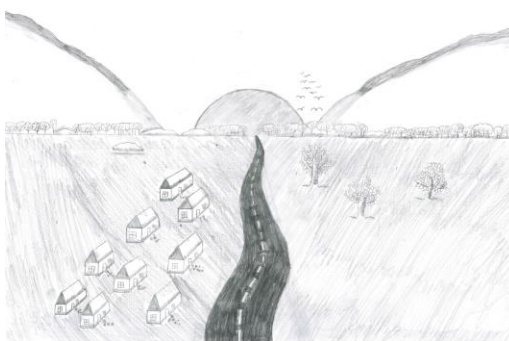
It has been a wonderful start to such a strange year in year 6. The children have settled in brilliantly; they are proving themselves to be superb role models and ambassadors for our school. From sketching on iPads for Art to creating our own electrical games using foil in science, it really has been quite creative!

In our English lessons, we have had fun reading and becoming completely engrossed by David Almond's novel 'The Savage'. We've been writing character descriptions and humorous narratives – ensuring that we use varying sentence structures so that the reader is engaged and drawn into our writing.



Darpreet (above), Simran (below), Harjap (below right).

We have been refining and developing our drawing and sketching skills in art. We studied the landscapes painted by David Hockney and John Constable and then created our own by following the rules of perspective.



In our Faith lessons, we have been exploring the virtues of compassion and diligence. We have been setting ourselves targets and goals related to focusing on how we can incorporate these virtues into our daily lives, then reflecting upon how successful we have been.