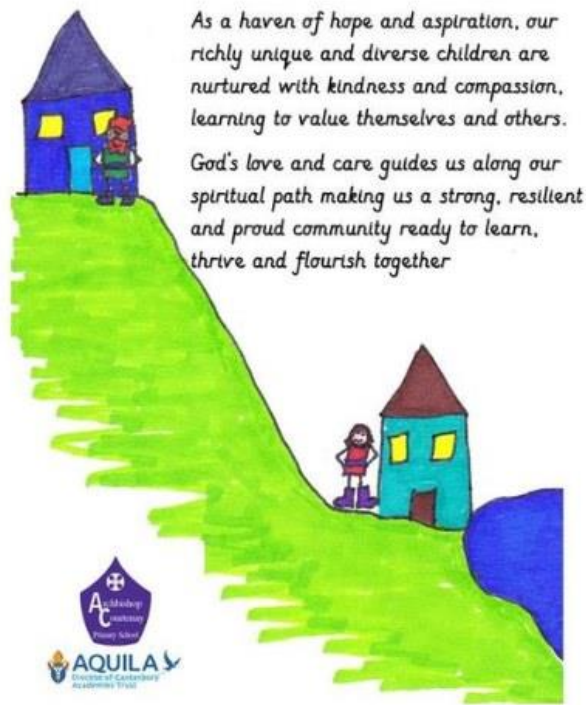




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -  
Friday 16th January FB



As a haven of hope and aspiration, our richly unique and diverse children are nurtured with kindness and compassion, learning to value themselves and others.

God's love and care guides us along our spiritual path making us a strong, resilient and proud community ready to learn, thrive and flourish together

In this issue



**Headteacher Welcome**

**Information for Parents**

**Wrap Around Information**

**Dates for Diary**

**Collective Worship**

**Reception**

**Year 1 & 2**

**Year 3 & 4**

**Year 5 & 6**

**The ABC Archie Awards**

**Contact Us**

[Headteacher Welcome](#)



Dear Families,

Although the weather has been quite dreary this week, I'm delighted to say that the atmosphere in school certainly is not! There is always so much happening in our classrooms, and the children's dedication and effort to achieve their learning targets continue to be truly fantastic.

A special well done to our Year 6 pupils who have taken part in Bikeability this week. Despite the rain thrashing down, they have demonstrated great resilience and confidence riding on

the roads. The Bikeability team were incredibly impressed with their determination—well done to all the children involved!

Our Year 4 and 5 pupils also had a wonderful experience visiting St Augustine Academy to watch their production of *Shrek*. The children absolutely loved the show and returned to school buzzing with excitement. The teachers were very proud of their excellent behaviour, especially given the rainy walk there and back—something the children said was definitely worth it! A big thank you to all our volunteers who supported this trip; without you, it simply wouldn't have been possible.

A gentle reminder about attendance: it is very important that you inform us if your child is going to be off school. Please use MCAS or phone the school office directly. While sending a message to the class teacher via DOJO is fine, please be aware this information does not reach the office, so you may still receive a follow-up message or call. If no contact is made, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Most parents follow these procedures well, but for safeguarding reasons, if we do not hear from you, a home visit may be necessary.

Finally, thank you to those who have responded to the change of age range consultation. If you haven't yet, please do take a moment to share your views via the QR code below.

Also, we have had only six responses for the girls' football club so far. If you would like your daughter to join, please complete the short form here: [Girls' Football Club Form](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

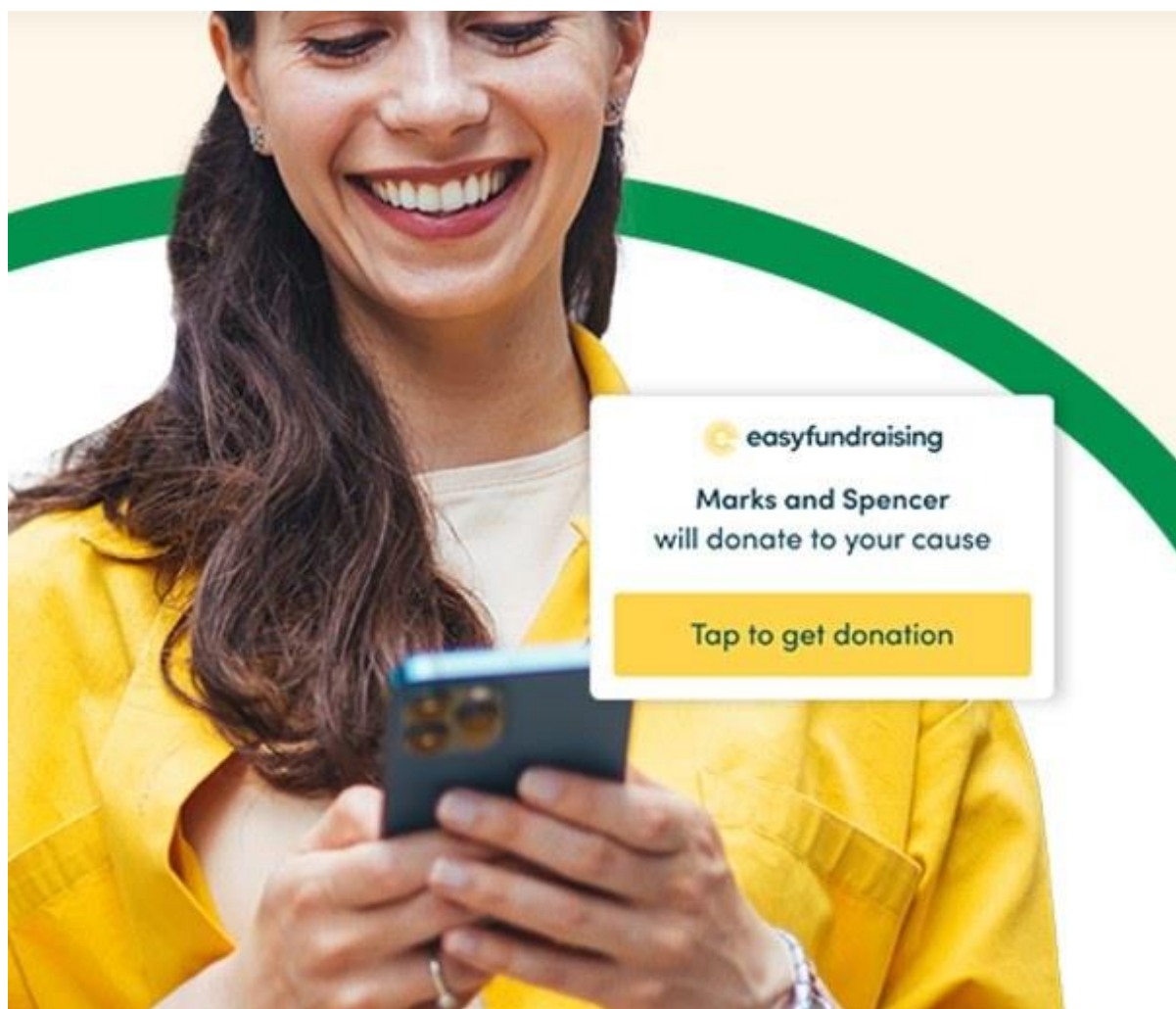
Warm regards,

Sue Heather

Headteacher



Raise Money at no Cost!



Support Our School at No Extra Cost!

As many of you know, schools are facing financial challenges, so we are exploring simple ways to raise funds. One easy and cost-free way to help is through Easy Fundraising. When you make purchases online via Easy Fundraising, the company donates a small percentage to our school—at no extra cost to you!

The more families who sign up, the more funds we can raise to support a variety of exciting projects and activities for our pupils.

Thank you for helping us make a difference!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/archbishop-courtenay-primary-school>

## SEND and Inclusion



### **Supporting Parents of Children with Special Educational Needs: How IASK Can Help**

At ABC we understand that parenting a child with special educational needs (SEN) can be both rewarding and challenging. That's why we want to highlight a valuable resource for families—IASK (Information, Advice and Support Kent).

IASK is a dedicated service that provides impartial, confidential, and accessible information, advice, and support to parents and carers of children and young people with SEN or disabilities. Their mission is to empower families by helping them understand their rights and options, navigate the often complex education, health, and social care systems, and actively participate in decisions that affect their child's education and well-being.

Key ways IASK supports parents include:

- Guidance on SEN processes: From understanding Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessments to managing Personal Budgets, IASK offers clear and practical advice.
- Emotional and practical support: Staff work in partnership with parents, providing reassurance and helping families to advocate effectively for their child.
- Workshops and resources: IASK runs training sessions and provides materials to help parents build their knowledge and confidence.
- Advocacy: Where needed, IASK can support families in meetings and appeals, ensuring their voice is heard.

IASK's approach is rooted in the principles of impartiality, confidentiality, and respect, ensuring that every family feels supported and valued.

To learn more about IASK and access their services, parents can visit their website or contact them directly. Together, we can build strong foundations for every child's future

<https://www.iask.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

## Wrap Around Information



### **Wraparound:**

<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk>

**Breakfast** (7:30am-8:30am) £4

**Social Club** (3:15pm-4:15pm) £3

**Wraparound** (3:15pm-6pm) £12

Tax-free childcare vouchers = 20% off

Universal credits = claim up to 85% back

### FOR SUPPORT CONTACT:

archbishop-courtenay@cbfs.uk

01444 523 335

## Dates for Diary



- Wednesday 21st January - Choir Young Voices
- Thursday 29th January - Non-Uniform Day (Play Rangers)
- Tuesday 3rd February - UKS2 Netball Match - Allington
- Friday 6th February Reform, Restore, Respect - Year 6
- Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day
- Friday 13th February - Last day Term 3
- Monday 23rd February - Term 4 Begins
- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Friday 6th March - British Science Week begins



2 - The Play Rangers would like to raise money for some special OPAL play equipment (giant Lego, large wooden blocks, balance boards and push along scooters) . They would like to raise £652! To start the fundraising off, we are going to have a non-uniform day on Thursday 29th January.

## Collective Worship



This week in Collective Worship, we explored themes of celebration, family, and guidance.

We started the week with our Worship Warriors leading. They helped us learn about how people celebrate the births of their babies and the special Christian ceremony of baptism. We linked this to the story from the Bible when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus at the Temple, offering two doves as part of the celebration. The children enjoyed thinking about how families show love and thankfulness during these important moments.

On Wednesday, Jen led Collective Worship, focusing on the idea of being lost and how it might feel. We reflected on the story from Luke 2:41-52, where a twelve-year-old Jesus gets lost in Jerusalem after the Passover festival. Mary and Joseph searched for him for three anxious days before finding him in the Temple, discussing scripture with the teachers. The children were fascinated by how wise and thoughtful Jesus was, and how he explained, “*Did you not know I must be in my Father’s house?*” This led to discussions about how we can feel when we are lost and the importance of listening, helping, and looking out for one another.

## EYFS: Darling and Rashford



It has been another exciting week in EYFS, filled with creativity, exploration, and learning through play!

### **Drawing Club:**

We listened to the story *The Emperor’s Egg* and learnt lots of interesting facts about penguins, especially the Emperor penguin. We began by drawing our own Emperor penguins and describing them. Many of the children thought the Emperor penguin was kind, caring, strong, and brave – wonderful qualities to celebrate!

### **Adventure Time:**

During our adventure session, we imagined we were tiny penguin chicks hatching from our eggs. We then thought about what we might do on our first adventure as a baby penguin. Some children imagined sliding on their tummies, while others chose to go and make penguin friends. It was fantastic to see their imaginations at work!

**Maths:**

This week, we explored mass and capacity. We used balance scales to compare the weight of different objects, using vocabulary such as heavy and light. We also looked at capacity, using words like full, half full, half empty, nearly full, nearly empty, and empty. Children had lots of fun filling and comparing containers to explore these concepts practically.

**Topic:**

In topic time, we explored the similarities and differences between the Arctic and Antarctica. We discussed the weather, landscapes, key features, and the animals that live in these unique regions. This helped the children develop their understanding of the world around them.

**P.E.**

In P.E., we focused on low shapes, exploring how our bodies can show different balances in low positions. We then worked with partners to create balances and shapes together, building teamwork, coordination, and spatial awareness.

It has been a week full of curiosity, creativity, and physical activity. We are so proud of how engaged the children have been in all areas of learning!

## Year 1 & 2 Rowling, Attenborough and Frank



What a wet, soggy, and busy week it has been here at school! Despite the dreary weather, our classrooms have been buzzing with excitement and learning.

In **Maths**, Attenborough class has embarked on a new topic focusing on addition and subtraction within 100. The children are enthusiastically exploring related facts, and they are becoming quite adept at adding and subtracting ones. It's wonderful to see their confidence grow as they tackle these challenges. Meanwhile, Rowling class has been busy understanding number lines from 0 to 20. They are making great strides in visualising numbers and their relationships, which is essential for their mathematical development. Frank class has continued their exploration of money, delving into the value of coins and notes. It's fantastic to see them engaging with real-life concepts, and they are becoming savvy little shoppers!

In **P.E.**, the children have continued their dance topic, focusing on the theme of 'growing'. They have been developing a delightful 'plant' dance, and I must say, we have seen some budding, graceful dancers emerge from this creative endeavour. Their enthusiasm and energy during these sessions are truly infectious, and it's heartening to witness their teamwork and expression through movement.

In **Science**, our young explorers have been investigating mammals. They have been learning about what defines a mammal and identifying various types of animals that fall into this category. The discussions have been lively, and it's clear that the children are fascinated by the diversity of life around them.

In **R.E.**, we have taken the time to wonder about how the Gospels guide Christian beliefs about God. This reflective exploration has encouraged the children to think deeply about

faith and values, fostering a respectful understanding of different beliefs. It's been a joy to see them engage with such profound questions and share their thoughts in a supportive environment.

As we continue to navigate through this busy term, we are incredibly proud of the progress our children are making across all subjects. Their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning are what make our school community so special. Let's keep encouraging them to explore, question, and grow!

## Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst



This week Year 3 and 4 have had a really exciting and busy week.

We started the week with our PE lessons and were developing our basketball and dance skills in our lessons. In science we have been observing fossils and considering how and why they are formed and why some places are very rich in fossil evidence.

On Wednesday this week all children across LKS2 had a "History off the Page" workshop where we learnt about life in Roman Britain. I think we can all agree that the Romans brought some great ideas and engineering to Britain like roads, buildings and mosaic floors with underfloor heating - but thankfully, bathing and toileting habits have moved on significantly and we were all glad we don't need to use a shared sponge on a stick!

Year 4 visited St Augustine's Academy to watch Shrek the Musical on Thursday and were a credit to the school, whilst year 3 stayed at school - don't panic year 3 - you have something special arranged for later in the year, so you aren't missing out!

**Reminders:**

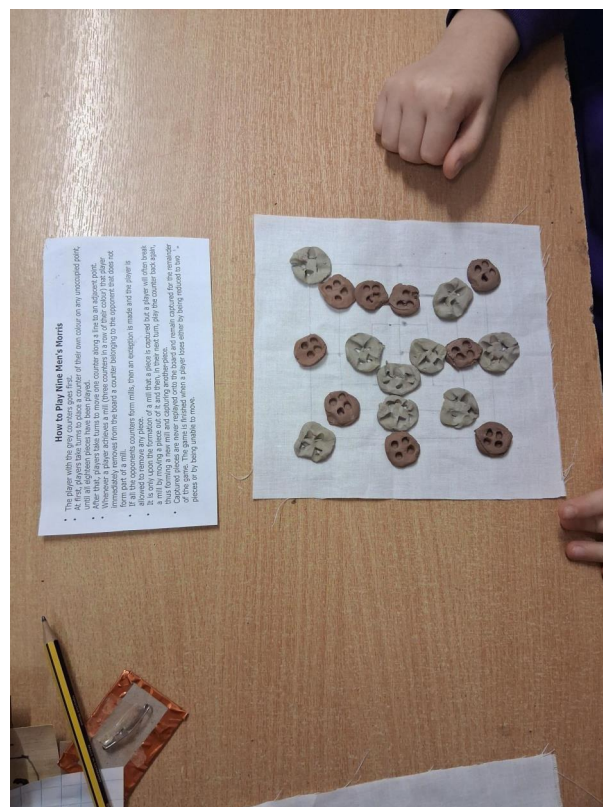
📖 This week has been VERY wet and we have experienced lots of rain. Pupils are expected to come to school with a coat - it is winter and temperature vary daily.

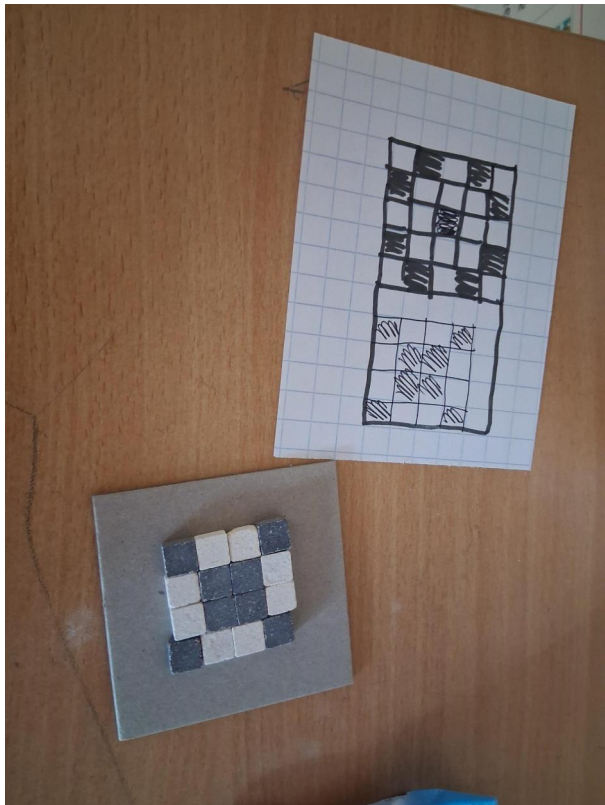
📖 Children should also be taking home and returning to school daily their reading book and reading record. It is our school expectation that pupils read at home 4 time a week. Successful readers earn tickets for the end of term book draw and a chance to get a reading book from the vending machine - so keep reading! We have lots of tickets in jars in each class already!

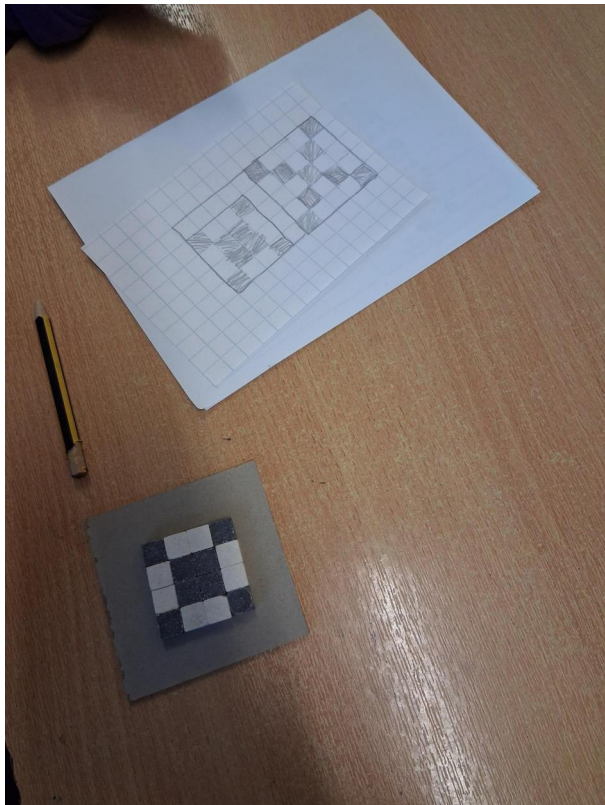
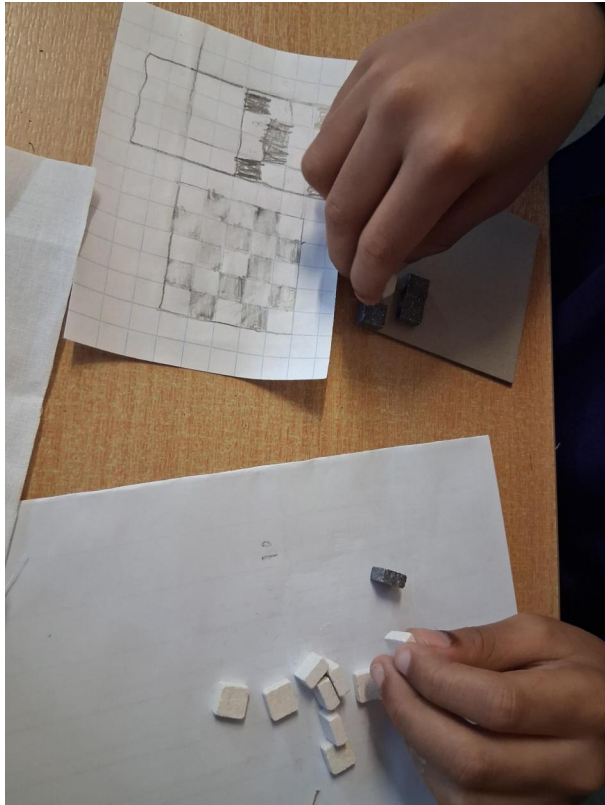
🏃 PE is on a MONDAY for LKS2. Children should come to school in their SCHOOL PE KIT - correct kit earns each pupil a house point for their team. School PE kit is: House coloured t-shirt, black shorts, black tracksuit suitable sports trainers. For dance in the hall grippy socks can be worn, especially if lessons happen after lunch.

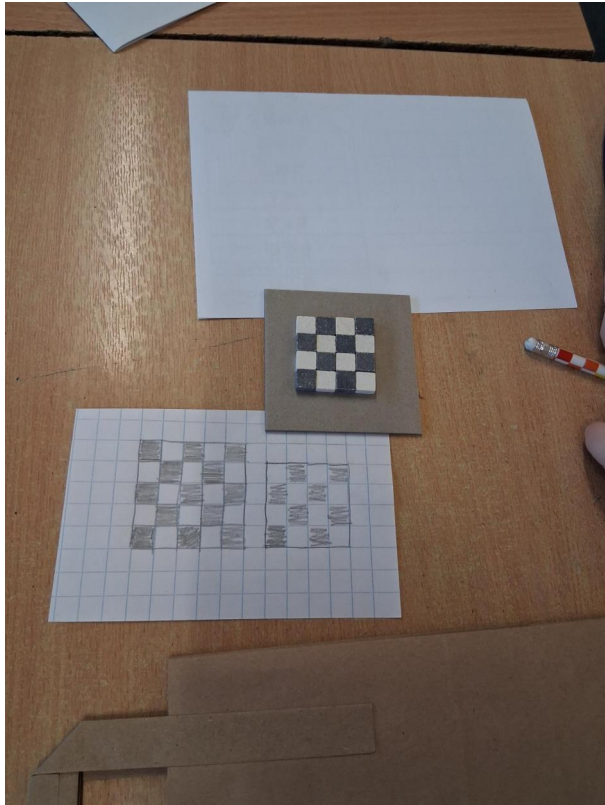
Have a wonderful weekend

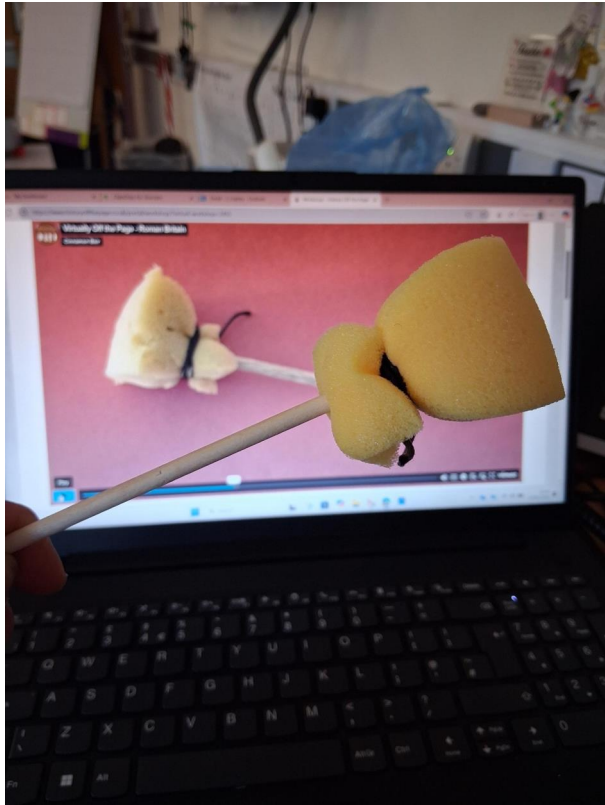
LKS2 Team

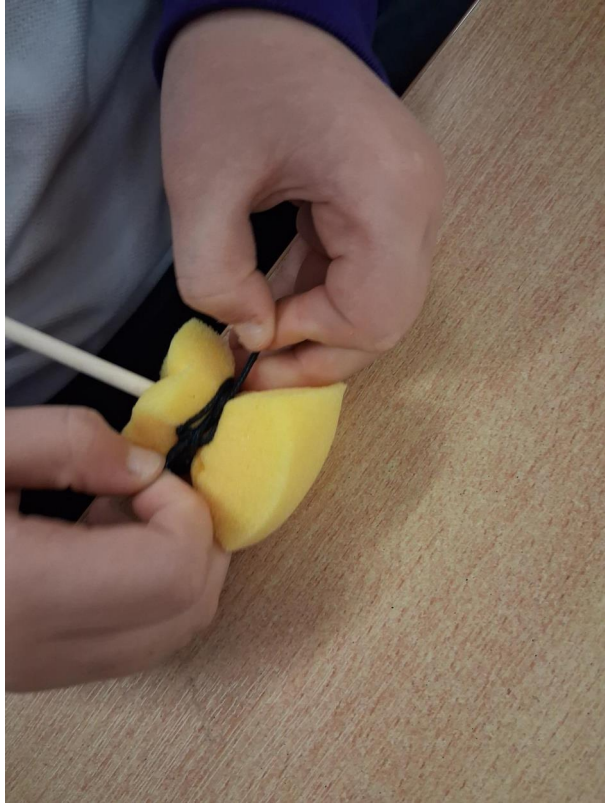


















Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



What an amazing second week back at school!

A quick reminder about **school uniform expectations**. Please ensure that children are wearing the correct school uniform every day. Stud earrings only are permitted, hair should be tied up if it is long, and children should not be wearing make-up. We would also like to

remind you to support your child in **completing their homework on time**, as this plays an important role in reinforcing learning from the classroom.

In **English**, the children have created their own poems based on **Norse mythology** this week. They worked hard to include **expanded noun phrases, powerful verbs, similes and repeating phrases** to make their writing more descriptive and engaging. The quality of creativity and vocabulary has been fantastic.

In **Religious Education**, we continue learning about **Humanism**, developing our understanding of what Humanists believe and the values that are important to them.

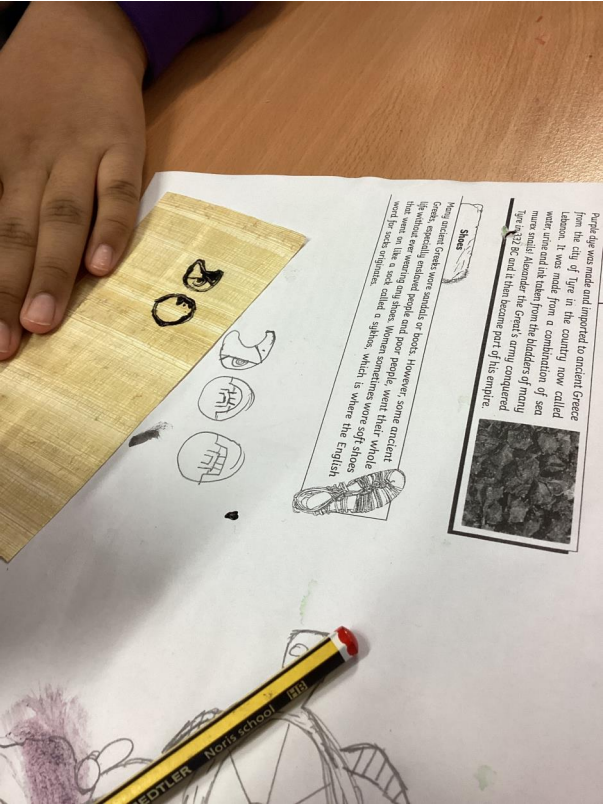
In **PE**, we are continuing our two topics: **Football and Dance**. In football, the children have been developing their dribbling and passing skills, while in dance they are thinking carefully about music, themes and counting in sets of eight to structure their routines.

In **Science**, the children experimented with creating **simple electrical circuits** and tested different materials to see whether they could conduct an electrical current. They showed great curiosity and worked well as scientists to make predictions and record their findings.

On Friday, we had our amazing **Mayan Workshop**. The children thoroughly enjoyed making clay pots, creating beautiful headdresses, painting temples and writing their names using symbols. We also learned about **Mayan gods** and discovered how **chocolate was an important part of their civilisation**. It was a fantastic hands-on experience and the children were highly engaged throughout the day. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We would also like to congratulate our **Year 6 children** who have taken part in **Bikeability**. They have all done extremely well and should be incredibly proud of themselves for developing their road safety and cycling skills. Certificates will be sent home soon.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

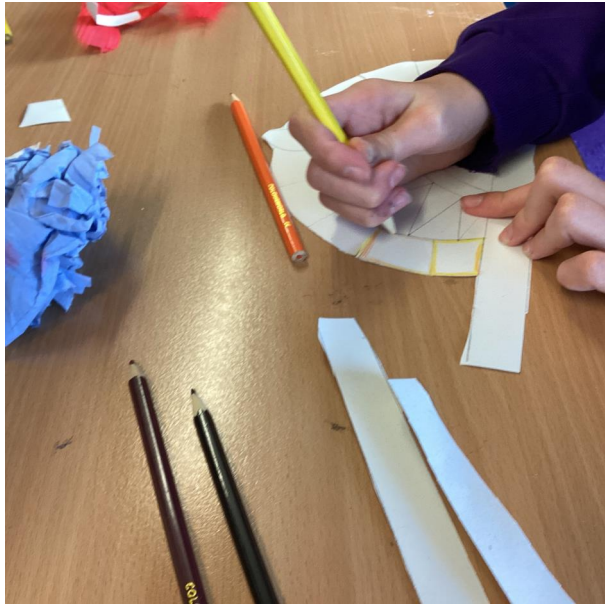


Purple dye was made and imported to ancient Greece from the city of Tyre in the country now called Lebanon. It was made from a combination of sea snails, urine and lye taken from the bladders of many live fish. Around 4000 BC the Great's army conquered the city of Tyre and then became part of his empire.



Shoes  
 Most ancient Greeks wore sandals or boots. However, some ancient Greeks especially in the mountains and in the north, wore sandals made of animal skins. Women sometimes wore soft shoes made of wool or silk.





The ABC Archie Awards





*3 - Last week our four Archie's were awarded to the following children:*

***EYFS:** Emilia M-C for always following the school values*

***KS1:** Sienna for always helping her friends and adults*

***LKS2:** Tebama for always following expectations and demonstrating the school values*

***UKS2:** Nigella for always being a star pupil*

*This week our four Archie's have been awarded to:*

***EYFS:** Emilia F for always showing kindness and compassion*

***KS1:** Lovan for showing respect to everyone and being honest*

***LKS2:** Marwa for being kind and welcoming to new pupils*

***UKS2:** Cobie for always showing compassion and friendship to everyone in school*

I wonder who will win the Archie's next week?

## Contact Us



**We are here to help you so please never be afraid to get in touch**

Archbishop Courtenay Primary School

Eccleston Road

Tovil

Maidstone

ME15 6QN

01622 754 666

Office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk

Headteacher@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk

Visit us on the web at <https://www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk> or via Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/ArchbishopCourtenay>

