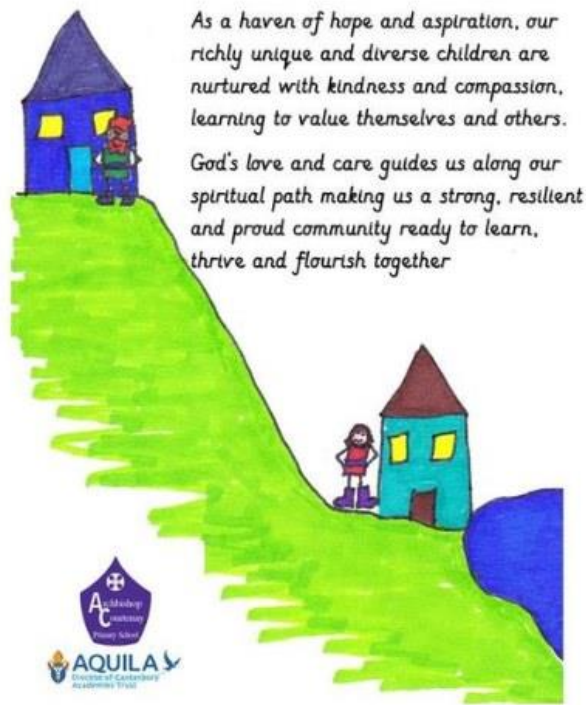




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -
Friday 27th February



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

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[Headteacher Welcome](#)



Dear Families,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term break. It's wonderful to be back at school, ready to continue our learning journey together.

The first week back has been jampacked with excitement as the children begin their new topics for Term 4!

Thank you to all the parents who completed our recent school questionnaire. Your feedback is invaluable and helps us to continually improve. We are very pleased with the results and delighted to share that 100% of parents have stated they would recommend our school— thank you for this fantastic endorsement.

It was also lovely to see so many families attend this week's Outstanding Achievement Assemblies. These special occasions allow us to celebrate not only children's academic successes but also their social and emotional achievements. A reminder that parents are invited to attend these events via email invitations, so please watch out for these. If you are unavailable to attend, do let us know so we can postpone presenting your child with their leaf. If you don't reply to the email, Mrs Freed will kindly follow up with you to ensure you don't miss out.

We look forward to sharing the full questionnaire results with you next week and continuing to work together to provide the best possible experience for all our pupils.

Don't forget next week is parents' evening - have you got an appointment? If you haven't don't panic, contact the office Monday!

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and partnership.

Sue Heather

Headteacher



Parents and school staff share the same goal: for every child to be happy and enjoy coming to school. No one wants to make life difficult or cause upset intentionally. We all understand that sometimes mistakes happen, and this can be frustrating and upsetting for everyone involved.

Many of our staff are parents and grandparents themselves, so they truly appreciate how mistakes can affect feelings. Please be assured that we will always do our best to listen, apologise when needed, and work with you to find positive solutions.

At the same time, we kindly ask that interactions remain respectful—abuse, shouting, and rudeness are never necessary. Our entire school community is committed to doing their very best, and together, we want to keep our school a welcoming haven for all.

If you ever want to resolve a concern, Parentkind has created a helpful checklist to support you—please click on the link to access it. However, our door is always open, so feel free to pop in for a chat, and we will be happy to help.

[Parentkind Checklist](#)

The ABC Archie Awards





Term 3 week 6

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

EYFS: Ahmed for always being kind, helpful and thoughtful

KS1: Maria for always being kind, helpful, polite and being a great role model

LKS2: Baran for always sharing the school values and being a kind role model to others

UKS2: Kairo for showing great determination and aspiration towards his learning

Well done everyone and I wonder who will win the Archie's next week?

Term 4 week 1

This week our four Archies have been awarded to:

EYFS: Nora for always being so friendly and polite

KS1: Charlie for always being polite and helpful

LKS2: Oscar for always checking in with friends and adults and making sure everyone is OK

UKS2: Zahra for always being kind and caring

Well done to everyone and I wonder who will win the Archie's next week?

Lockmeadow Mural



Before Christmas, we were given the exciting news that our school had been chosen to work with a local artist to create a mural that will be displayed outside Lockmeadow, overlooking the river. Mrs Hawks met with Laura, the artist, to learn more about the project and was

thrilled to discover that the mural would be made entirely from recycled bottle tops — and that the children would play a key role in designing it!

We immediately began collecting bottle tops and were amazed to gather over 1,000. Our talented pupils then created a range of beautiful river-inspired designs, full of colour, creativity and imagination. Laura used these ideas to help shape her final design, ensuring the children's contributions were at the heart of the project. Today, Laura visited school to work with our KS2 children to begin bringing the mural to life. The task was no small feat — carefully placing around 1,000 bottle tops onto the design using sticky dots!

The children worked diligently and enthusiastically, taking great care to position each bottle top correctly. They were delighted to spot elements of their own designs reflected in the finished piece. We think the mural looks wonderful and are incredibly proud of the creativity and teamwork shown by our pupils.

We will keep you posted on when the mural is installed so that you can visit Lockmeadow and see this fantastic community artwork for yourselves!



















My Happy Mind



We are incredibly proud to announce that Archbishop Courtenay Primary School has been successful in our mission to achieve Bronze Accreditation Status with My Happy Mind! We are thrilled with this recognition award for all the hard work the staff and children are doing and by how much everyone is embracing a positive mental attitude to all aspects of their lives. Well done to all of the Happiness Heroes who played a very important role in helping Miss Copley to collect and collate all of the evidence from across the school that went into our presentation and for working together as such a great team!



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



- **Tuesday 3rd March - Parents Evening**
- **Wednesday 4th March - Parents Evening**
- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Thursday 5th March - Netball Match - ABC v Snodland (home)

- Friday 6th March - British Science Week begins
- Thursday 12th March - Year 6 Online SATs Stress Assembly
- Friday 13th March - Mothers' Day Breakfast




ABC PTA Presents
Mother's Day Event
Friday 13th March 2026
8.45am

For Mummies, Nannies, Aunties or special female's in your life.
Last year some of our lovely mummies asked for an event
similar to our Father's day event.
You asked and we listened!



Bacon or Sausage Roll
with tea, coffee or cold drink
£5 per Adult £2 per child

You can purchase tickets online
via MCAS. The closing date will be
Friday 6th March at 12pm (we
need to order supplies). Limited
spaces available, first come first
served basis.

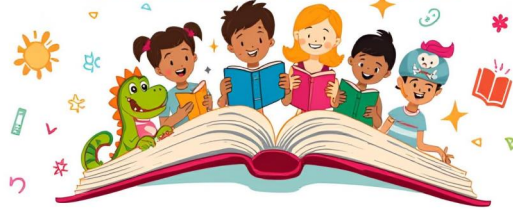


World Book Day



WORLD BOOK DAY
5 MARCH 2026

Enter our World Book Day Competition!
Deadline is Thursday 5th March.
Prizes to be won from our vending machine!



Create a story book character using an egg carton!



1 - WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

World Book Day



WORLD BOOK DAY
5 MARCH 2026

Dress as your favourite book character!
Bring your favourite books to school.



Reading for Pleasure
5th March 2026

More details to follow soon.

2 - WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

OPAL Play



We still have many new areas we want to set up for the children from a new woodland walk, to sandpits and water play!

How can you still help? Things we would still love to have...

- cable reels
- tractor tires
- lorry tarpaulin
- wooden hat rack
- role play hats, microphones and fancy dress
- Easter themed items for next terms role play area
- Sandpit toys (shovels, spades and buckets)



Collective Worship



This week in Collective Worship, we have been thinking about the question: What is a hero?

We began by discussing what makes someone a hero. The children shared thoughtful ideas such as being brave, helping others, showing kindness, standing up for what is right and never giving up — even when things feel difficult. We talked about how heroes are not just found in storybooks or films, but can be real people who make a difference in the world around them.

We then explored why Christians believe that Jesus Christ is a hero. The children learned that Christians see Jesus as a hero because he showed love, forgiveness and compassion to everyone — especially those who were poor, unwell or left out. We talked about how he helped others, taught people to love one another, and was willing to make big sacrifices for others.

Jen shared a brilliant connection during our discussion. She explained that what she likes about the Marvel Comics heroes is that many of them started with difficult beginnings. We thought about characters who faced challenges, felt different, or went through hard times before discovering their strengths and choosing to use them to help others. We linked this to Jesus' life — Christians believe he was born in humble surroundings, not in a palace but in a stable, and that he faced challenges, rejection and suffering. Yet, despite this, he chose to respond with love and forgiveness. This helped us to think about how heroes are not people who have perfect lives, but people who show courage, resilience and kindness even when life is hard.

We also discussed how over the coming weeks we will be learning about “ordinary” people who are heroes in everyday life — people who may not wear capes but who make a real difference through small acts of bravery, care and determination. The children are already excited to think about who their own everyday heroes might be.

Alongside our learning in worship, we were delighted to celebrate the children's successes in our Outstanding Achievement assemblies this week. It has been wonderful to recognise their hard work, positive attitudes and personal achievements both in and out of school. We are so proud of their efforts and the way they support and encourage one another.

It has been a thoughtful and inspiring week in Collective Worship, and we look forward to continuing our learning about heroes next week.

EYFS: Darling and Rashford



It has been absolutely **lovely to welcome the children back for Term 4!** We have even been treated to some sunshine, which we have made the most of in our outdoor area. The children have enjoyed being back together and have returned with such enthusiasm for learning.

Drawing Club – *Jack and the Beanstalk*

In Drawing Club this week, we focused on the traditional tale of **Jack and the Beanstalk**. The children loved pretending to be the giant and using their biggest, deepest voices to boom, “*Fee Fi Fo Fum!*” — there were some very convincing giants in the classroom!

We explored the characters of Jack and the giant, thinking carefully about words to describe them and discussing how different they are. The children came up with some fantastic vocabulary. When thinking about setting, we drew the giant’s magnificent castle in the clouds, filled with wonderful details. During Adventure Time, we let our imaginations run wild as we imagined what we might find at the top of the beanstalk — as always, the children amazed us with their creativity!

We have been incredibly impressed with the children’s writing this week. They are becoming much more independent and are showing real enthusiasm and confidence. During child-initiated time, we have seen lots of purposeful writing for different reasons, which has been wonderful to see.

Maths – Comparing and Measuring

In maths, we have been comparing length and height. We linked this to our story by comparing Jack and the giant, as well as different sized beanstalks. The children used key vocabulary such as *taller*, *shorter*, *longer* and *shorter* confidently.

We then moved on to measuring and explored non-standard units of measurement, using cubes and paper clips to measure different classroom objects. The children worked carefully and enjoyed finding out how many cubes tall or long different items were.

R.E. – Salvation

In R.E., we began our new topic for the term: Salvation. We started by discussing what we already know about Easter and how we celebrate it. The children shared their experiences thoughtfully and drew pictures to show how they celebrate Easter with their families.

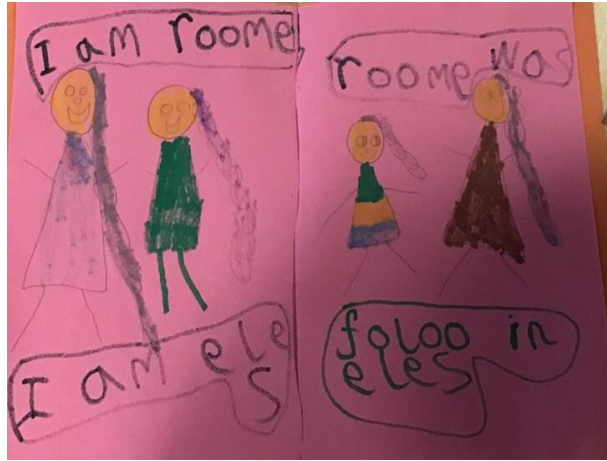
Topic – Growing

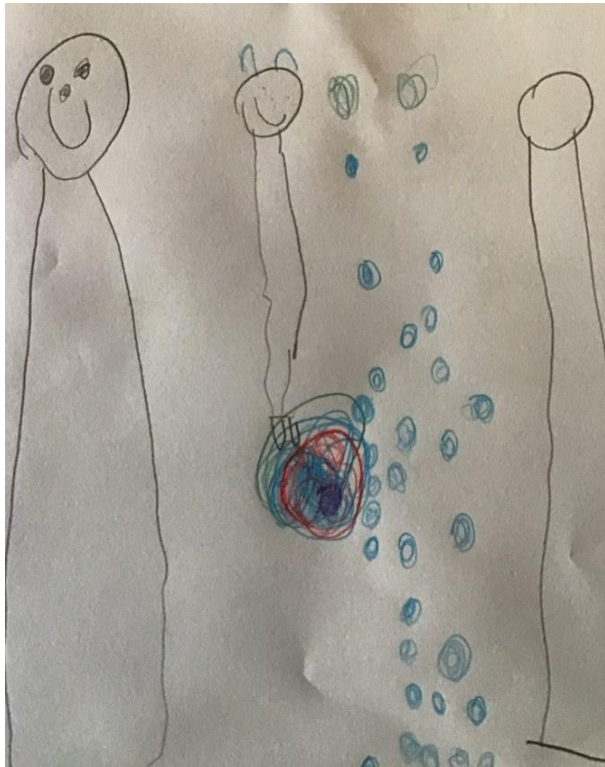
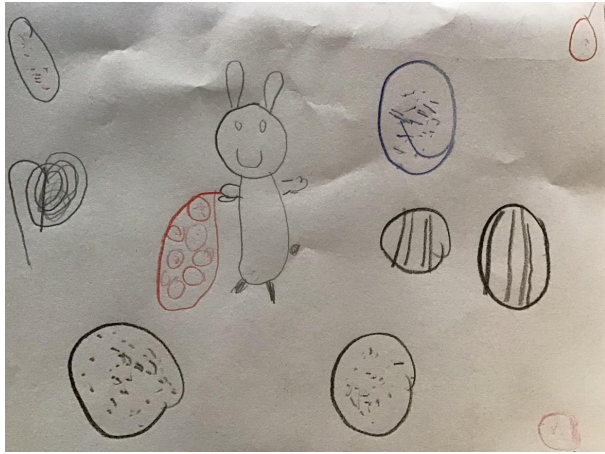
In our topic work, we have been learning about what seeds need in order to grow. The children created lovely posters explaining that seeds need water, sunlight, soil and time. To finish the week, we planted our own seeds and are very excited to watch them grow over the coming weeks!

It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we are so proud of how settled, enthusiastic and independent the children have been.

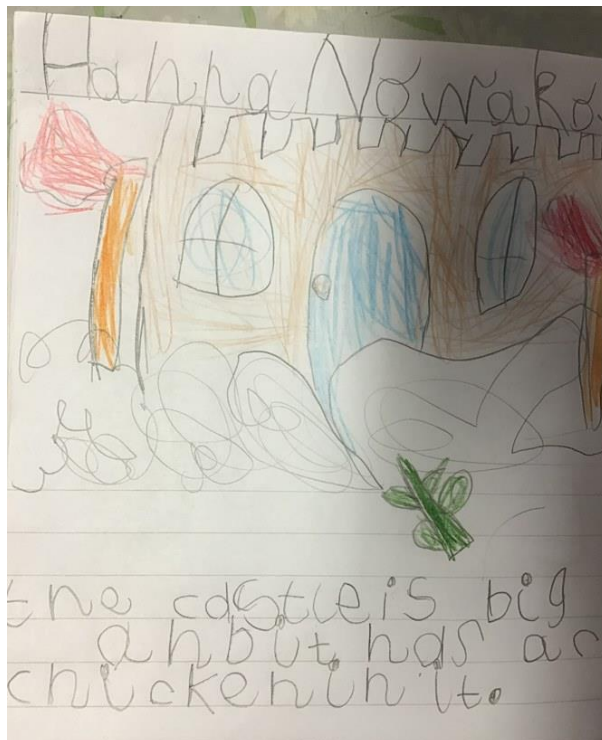
Have a wonderful weekend! 🌞



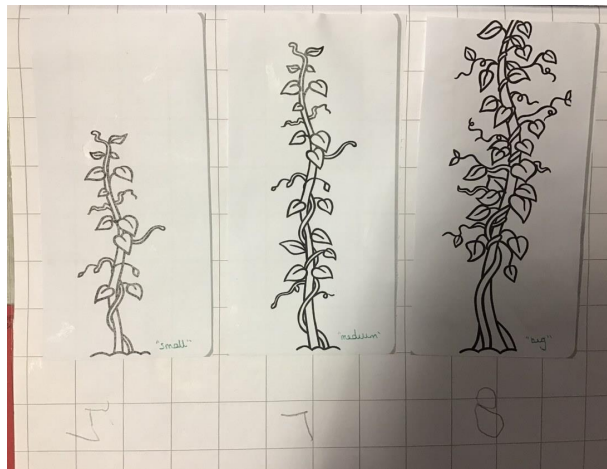
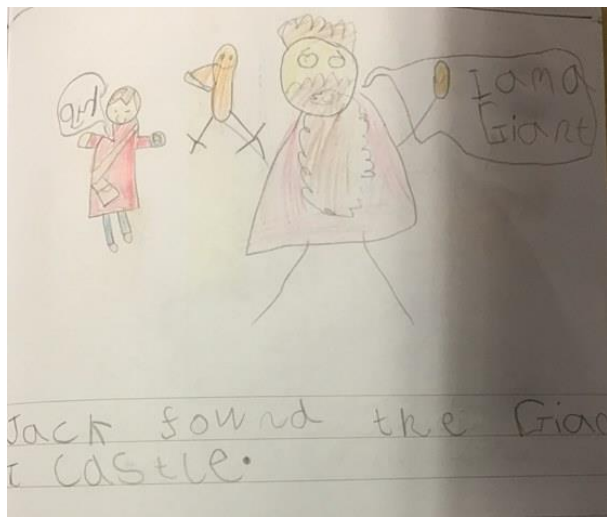
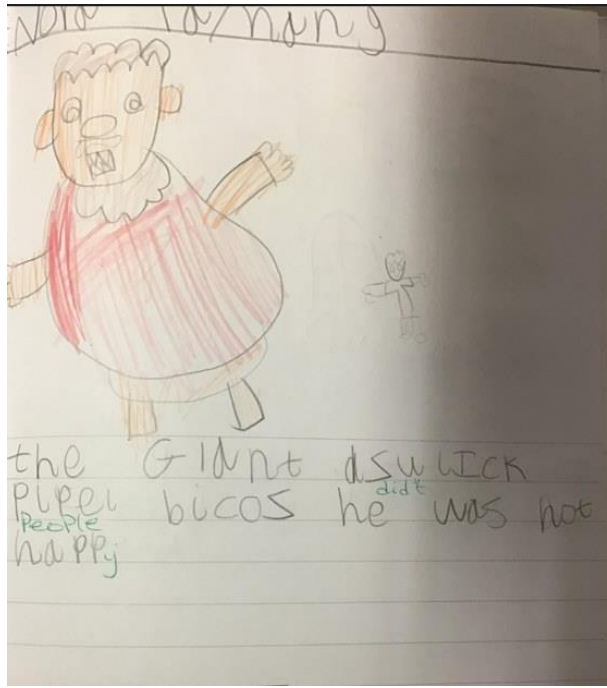




NEE
RED
RALPH
WELLS



The castle is big
and has a
chicken in it.



Year 1 & 2 Rowling, Attenborough and Frank



What a bright and sunny start to Term 4 we've had, even if the warm sun only made a brief appearance! The children have jumped right into their learning adventures, and I'm excited to share some highlights from the week.

In Frank Class, our curious quest took an unexpected turn when we encountered the slobbering slime! The children's imaginations soared as they collaborated to create a story about how to overcome this sticky situation. It was wonderful to see their creativity in action, and I can't wait to read their finished tales.

Meanwhile, in Rowling and Attenborough Classes, the students faced a rather dangerous creature—the infamous spider dragon! This fearsome beast threw them into a dungeon, and the children had to devise a clever escape plan with the help of their faithful friends. Their teamwork and imaginative thinking led to a successful escape, showcasing just how resourceful they can be when faced with a challenge.

In Maths, the learning continued to flourish. Frank Class has been diving into the world of measuring length and height, exploring the differences between metres and millimetres. It's been fantastic to see them grasp these concepts with enthusiasm. Over in Rowling Class, the children have been estimating numbers on a number line up to 50, gaining a solid understanding of one more and one less. Attenborough Class has wrapped up their topic on addition and subtraction, mastering the complexities of exchanging when adding or subtracting two-digit numbers. Their progress is commendable!

Physical Education has also been a highlight this week. Outdoors, the children have been honing their throwing and catching skills, which has been a lot of fun. Indoors, they've been

exploring large movements as they act out various zoo animals in their new dance topic. It's been a joy to watch them express themselves through movement and creativity.

In Religious Education, the children have embarked on a new topic that delves into the significance of Easter for Christians. They are pondering the meaning of salvation and what it represents in their lives. It's heartening to see them engage with such profound questions, fostering a sense of curiosity and understanding.

As we move forward into the term, I encourage everyone to continue nurturing this spirit of inquiry and creativity. The children's enthusiasm for learning is truly inspiring, and I look forward to seeing how their adventures unfold in the coming weeks. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement at home; it makes a world of difference in our students' educational journeys.

Year 3 & 4 Jobs, Shakespeare and Pankhurst



Welcome back to Term 4 and to the sunshine!

At the start of the week we had our Term 3 OAA assembly and it was wonderful to celebrate so many children and hear all of the wonderful things they are doing in their classes. As Mrs Heather summarised - school isn't all about the academic subjects, it's about providing our pupils with opportunities to shine, develop and grow! Well done to everyone who was awarded a leaf. Our next OAA assembly for term 4 will be on 30th March - I wonder who will get their leaves next?

We have had a very positive start to the term. Miss Copley and Miss Rowland took a sample of Year 4 English books to the Aquila Moderation and were delighted by the positive

feedback and comments from fellow year 4 teachers about how neat and smart the books looked - how the children took such pride in their presentation and handwriting and how brilliant the spelling was! We do have writing points to address and tweak and will be working on these throughout the term.

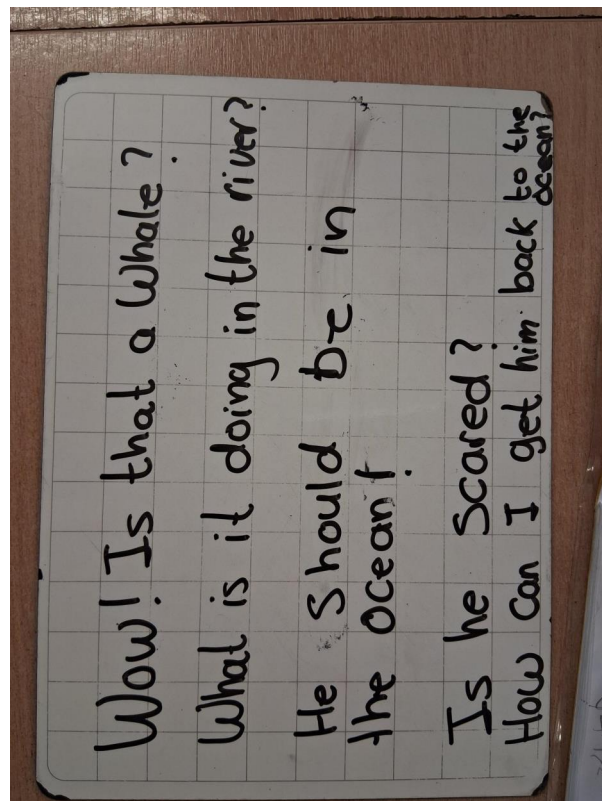
📖 In English we have started our new text: Big Blue Whale and our partner text This Morning I met a whale. The children have been using their reading VIPERS skills to think, question and reason about whales and how human interactions can affect these great ocean bound creatures.

1 2
3 4 In Maths we have started to look at our first Fractions topic. I wonder where children see and use fractions in everyday life already?

🔦 In Science we have started our studies on Light and the sun made a very welcome appearance for what feels like the first time this year!

✝ In RE we are continuing with our Sikhism studies and moving our thoughts to how, where and why Sikhs worship and what is special about this. We will be comparing Sikhism to other world religions and looking for similarities and differences between them throughout the term.

🏈 In PE we have started our units on Tag Rugby and our second Dance unit focusing on Weather. Please for safety reasons can children wear correct school PE kit including trainers, remove earrings and tie long hair back securely on Monday's. These measures will help to ensure lessons can be run safely and prevent injuries.







Year 5 & 6 Simmonds, Curie and Luther-King



We have had a fantastic start to our new topics this week in UKS2 and the children have shown great enthusiasm in their learning.

English

In English, we have started our brand new book *Malala's Magic Pencil*. Over the coming weeks, we will be learning about Malala Yousafzai and using this text, alongside other supporting texts, to help us understand how to write an autobiography. The children have already begun exploring her life and thinking about how important events can be organised clearly and thoughtfully in autobiographical writing. We are looking forward to seeing how their writing develops throughout this unit.

   PE

In PE this week, Year 5 have continued swimming for their final term of sessions — we can't wait to see which badges they achieve!

All children have also started learning the sport of Tag Rugby. They have enjoyed developing their skills, particularly learning how to throw a rugby ball in a backwards pass and practising pulling each other's tags in a safe and controlled way. It has been great to see their teamwork and communication skills developing.

Geography

We have begun our exciting new topic on Volcanoes and Earthquakes. To launch our learning, we carried out a fun experiment using custard and chocolate. The chocolate represented rocks and the custard represented the moving Earth, helping the children to visualise how the Earth's crust shifts and moves. It was a memorable (and slightly messy!) way to introduce some important geographical concepts.

DT

This week, we also started our new DT project where we will be designing and making our own fidget spinners. We began by looking at existing fidget toys and discussing how they are similar and different. The children carefully evaluated their designs, materials and purposes. We then carried out some market research, gathering each other's opinions about what makes a successful and appealing fidget toy. This will help inform the children's own designs in the coming weeks.

Art Workshop

On Thursday, all of KS2 took part in a special art workshop. The children created a collaborative piece of artwork inspired by the River Medway using recycled bottle tops. It was a fantastic opportunity to be creative while thinking about sustainability, and the children thoroughly enjoyed being part of such a fun and colourful project.

Important Dates

Next week is Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. Please make sure you book an appointment, as this will be the final Parents' Evening of the academic year.

On Thursday, we will be celebrating World Book Day. It would be wonderful to see the children coming into school dressed as characters from their favourite books. Costumes do not need to be bought — many brilliant characters wear everyday clothes. For example:

- Harry Potter (school uniform and glasses)
- Matilda (blue dress and a book)
- Tracy Beaker (casual clothes and a big personality!)
- Gangsta Granny (floral dress and glasses)

- The Boy in the Dress (football kit or everyday clothes)
- Billionaire Boy (smart clothes)
- Mr Stink (old coat and scarf)

We can't wait to see the children's creativity shine!

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening 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>

